

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 5 Volume 17

Lanchester, May 2016

For contact information, see page 2

79 HOUSES IN LATEST DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL



Site Plan provided by Esh Developments

Once again, the village is being subjected to a seemingly endless onslaught of new housing proposals. Esh Developments (formerly Lumsden Carroll) staged a 'public consultation event' (the fourth we have had in the last 2 years) in the Community Centre on 22nd April to outline their proposals for a

development of 79 houses on land to the east of the A691 road from Howden Bank across to, but not including, Paste Egg field. The properties planned range from bungalows to 5 bedroom detached houses and include 20 to 25% affordable homes, but also 15 high tech Timber-frame Swedish 'Trivselshus' houses.



Liz Smith, left, and Ann Dawson, viewing one of the display boards showing the development of housing on the bypass, with the Managing Director of Esh Developments, Geoff Woodcock.

The site is planned in two parts - 69 houses will be accessed from a new entrance on the A691 and 10 larger properties accessed through the existing Bishops Meadow entrance near the garage. The plans include a public car park for 30 cars with pedestrian access to the village via a toucan crossing with central island over the A691. At the eastern site boundary in the upper two fields,

they have allocated a 'community meadow' as a recreational space for village use. Clearly vehicle access at the main entrance is an issue on the busy A691, but no civil works (roundabouts, traffic lights) are planned, only a ghost island (central carriageway marking) to ease access into the site from the south. Leaving the site to travel north will be less easy! Flooding is always an issue for the village,

so this topic was receiving close scrutiny, particularly in view of the site location. The developers, however, are claiming that their sustainable drainage system will reduce the surface water flow to lower than the current greenfield run-off rate of 10 litres/second.

The developers are looking to submit a formal planning application this summer, following a review of all comments.

RED CROSS SHOP CELEBRATES 25 YEARS IN LANCHESTER

Brenda Gibson and Joyce Burt, surrounded by a group of volunteers from the shop, are seen cutting a cake to celebrate the Red Cross shop being open for 25 years in the village. The cake was baked by Anoushka from Hanley and Swinbank. Brenda who has been involved with the Red Cross for over 40 years decided to open a shop in the village in 1991 at 2 Croft View. To recruit volunteers she gave a talk at the

Community Centre and signed up 19 people, one of which was Joyce who became Assistant Manageress. The number of volunteers soon rose to 38. In 1997 the shop moved to its present location and goes from strength to strength due to the continued support of the village and volunteers. Brenda retired after 21 years as Manager but continues to help regularly in the shop, and Tracey Dobson became Manager.



Brenda Gibson and Joyce Burt cutting the cake



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
Walking on the Railway track and local roads around Lanchester is a bit depressing due to roadside litter dropped from cars, a sad by-product of fast food packaging and cheap lager.
It's clear from the type of litter that it's mainly dropped by young people, so to any teachers

reading this, please point out to your pupils why they shouldn't grow up to be litter louts. Who knows, it might sink in. I pick up litter while walking, but never see others doing the same. Perhaps if others were to pick up only 1 or 2 bits of litter each time they go out for a walk, then the problem could be much reduced. Philip James

Community Draw

The winning number in the Community Draw for April is 30. The draw was made by M Fleming.

How to contact the Village Voice

To advertise:

Contact John Hurran, Advertising Manager
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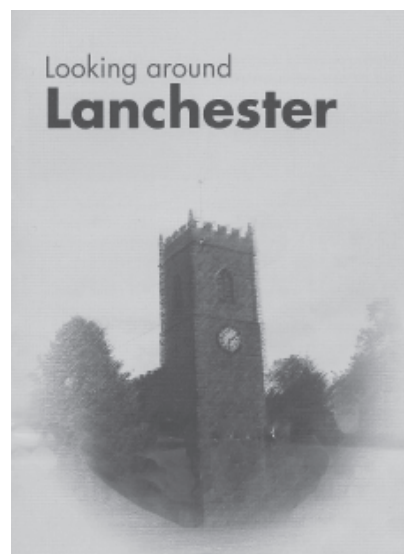
A few pamphlets have appeared on the coffee table in Lynwood House. The title is 'Looking around Lanchester'. It describes a short walk around the village and gives some interesting details of the village's history. It says "This leaflet has been produced working with local people including members of local community groups". All well and good you might say, but who is going to see it?

The Village Voice is unaware of any publicised release for the pamphlet, it does not appear to be available on the internet, it is not on show in the library or the Post Office and has

no obvious distribution point for visitors to whom it is probably targeted.

The leaflet does not say who produced it, although checking out the charity reference number, it does

appear to have come from Groundworks, an organisation that does a lot of good conservation work in this area. According to the pamphlet funding for the printing has come from



Look out for this leaflet

The Mineral Valleys Project, Natural England and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The Village Voice wonders if this money could have been better spent on other things.

Village Voice Saved

Last month we wrote of the potential closure of the Village Voice if an Advertising Manager could not be found. Fortunately the article has had a positive response. Discussions are taking place and new contact details for

advertisers will be published next month. Thank you very much to all those who responded. Please note we are always open to people who would like to join our reporting team to report on village events.

Apology

With reference to the Arthur Maughan Retirement article in our April edition, we apologise for a typing error which recorded that £35,000 was raised in the first three years. This should have been £350,000.

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MILITARY WEDDING

Luke and Laura Facey were married at All Saints' Catholic Church, on 16th April.

Thank you to Canon Spence for the lovely service; to Margaret Woods for the beautiful flowers and all her work. Thank you to Bill Gray for the wonderful music, to Keith and Pauline at The Old Post Office B&B for making us so welcome and hosting us brilliantly, to Neil and everyone at Hanley and Swinbank for the delicious food, to Lanchester Community Centre for the great venue and most importantly to our families for their amazing support and for making it a truly fantastic, community focused day!



Luke and Laura Facey making their way through the Military Guard of Honour after their Wedding Ceremony at All Saints' Catholic Church.

MARGARET BROWN'S 80th BIRTHDAY



Margaret Brown cuts her birthday cake alongside son Paul, left, and husband John.

Margaret Brown, Mothers' Union Branch Leader, celebrated her 80th birthday in some style. Her family produced a fantastic surprise for her - a Mediterranean Cruise! On the actual day of her birthday they were in Marseille, and after a ride on a ferris wheel enjoyed a celebration lunch at the local Hard Rock Café, where it was revealed that copious amounts of Buds and

whisky were consumed! Later that evening on returning to the P&O liner, Oceana, a large cake and balloons were set at their dinner table. All this was revealed by their son, Paul, at a gathering at the Chapter House, where the congregation from All Saints' Parish and friends, were invited to drop in and share cake and champagne with

Margaret during Saturday afternoon of April 23rd. Paul's speech on that occasion was both emotional and extremely humorous, and it is likely that some of the revelations above should be taken with a very small pinch of salt! The magnificent cake was made and iced by local person and friend of Margaret, Ethel Armstrong.

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COMMUNITY CENTRE SPRING FAIR



A group of village people admiring the handmade crafts stall.

The Fair took place on Saturday 30th April and did not seem to be so well attended as usual. About 25 tables were spread around the two halls and the coffee room.

There was a huge variety of high quality craft stalls including one or two different ones from previous Fairs held at the Centre. To name but a few there were: an Aloe Vera natural products table; herbs; toiletries; photo frames;

jewellery; cards and jigsaws. Something new was a vast display of Scentsy products, which included a large variety of oils and diffusers for sale.

Erin Densham and Emily Dewar, both students at St Bede's, were raising money on their homemade cake stall for their forthcoming World Challenge which entails a visit to Tana, the capital of Madagascar. They are aiming to raise £4700 by this summer to make the

visit and will undertake charity work whilst they are in situ.

The Fair was excellent with all tables very professionally displayed and hopefully profitable. It was a convivial occasion which gave our villagers an opportunity to view and purchase some excellent products. The Community Centre contributed to the Fair with a raffle and sale of refreshments.



St Bede's students, Erin Densham and Emily Dewar with their homemade cake stall, raising funds for their World Challenge.

WHY DOES THE VILLAGE NOT SUPPORT ITS COMMUNITY CENTRE?

For the second time in a few months, the Community Centre has had to cancel an event due to lack of support. In April, a performance of 'The Kingfisher' by the Library Theatre Company of Leeds had to be cancelled as insufficient tickets were sold and in May an evening of songs and stories by Fool's Gold was cancelled because only a handful of tickets were sold. The events were well advertised with posters around Lanchester and they appeared in the What's On page in the

Village Voice. Events by village societies get support. Will people only come to an event if someone personally badgers them to buy a ticket? The Village Voice knows many people in the village attend similar events outside Lanchester so why not support their local Community Centre when it puts on evenings such as this? We often hear that the village has a community spirit but is this really true? The adage 'use it or lose it' is a very real one.

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QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Lynwood House celebrated the Queen's birthday in style but as Linda Bell, who did most to organise the event, said this was mostly about the residents themselves having a good time. The hall was decked out in union flags (inevitably made in China) and a sumptuous buffet was supplied by Hanley and Swinbank. After the meal, as the wine flowed, the residents together with friends and relatives were serenaded by Tony St John who was making a welcome return. An absolutely huge raffle was held to benefit LiverNorth, a patient support group run by volunteers. Prizes were donated by Tony at the PostOffice, The Gift Shop, Lanchester Pharmacy, Jed's Hardware Store and residents. Thank you so much Linda, Mary, Margaret, Janet and all the residents, friends and relatives who helped and came to enjoy themselves.



Residents, family and friends gathered in the lounge in Lynwood House to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday with a sumptuous buffet, a birthday cake and wine for the toast.



Linda Bell, who did a wonderful job of organising the event, seen here cutting the birthday cake.

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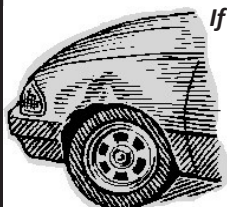
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LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from the Meeting held on 10th May 2016

Minutes

Ordinary Meeting on 12th April 2016 - approved.
Planning Meeting on 14th April 2016 - approved.

Lanchester Flood Alleviation Scheme

Simon Longstaff from Durham County Council and Phil Marshall from the Environment Agency attended the meeting to present information on the proposed Lanchester flood alleviation scheme. A multi-agency approach to address all sources of flooding is being progressed. The proposed scheme would include works at the entrance to the Alderdene culvert. It is likely that the full scheme will take several years to implement, due to the complex nature of multi-agency working and funding securement. Members discussed the proposals and expressed concern over the timescales proposed. A more immediate action will be the installation of 60 metres of Beany blocks in Front Street to take more water into the drains. Beany drains are less likely to be blocked by debris. This work is to take place shortly.

Police Report - PCSO Lisa Jackson and PC Ian Nelson attended the meeting and presented the report. The Neighbourhood Warden reports for February and March were received.

Correspondence

1. Letter of thanks for donation - Lanchester Parochial Church Council - letter received.

2. Letter of thanks for donation - All Saints Catholic Primary School - letter received.

3. Durham County Council - potential surplus declaration - Chapmans Well Reclamation Site - information received.

4. Durham County Council - potential surplus declaration - Malton Colliery Reclamation Scheme - information received.

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

Dates and times for the next PCC and AAP meetings were provided.

Neighbourhood Plan

Work continues on the Heritage Audit which should be completed by the middle of July. A meeting to discuss and agree the significance of the assets has been arranged. A draft document should be available at the beginning of July. The Conservation Area Appraisal is to be approved by the County Council in the near future. The second topic based questionnaire was administered during February. 307 returned questionnaires have been received and inputted onto Survey Monkey. A basic quantitative and qualitative analysis has been circulated. Further work is needed on the textual responses. A grant application is being progressed with Locality for £5000.00 to appoint a consultant to assist with the next stage of the plan. The next stage will include producing a 'Topic Paper' for each objective/area of the plan. This will include pulling together all the evidence and information available to produce options to achieve the plan objectives.

Newbiggen Lane - Planning Appeal
Members considered the report prepared by Mike Wardle which gave information on the

recent planning appeal. Mike Wardle was thanked for attending the appeal and for speaking on behalf of the Parish Council. Members discussed the substantial amount of work undertaken by members of the community. It was agreed that a letter of thanks is sent to these individuals.

Review of Parking Facilities

Durham County Council are currently consulting with residents and businesses in Front Street on parking proposals. It was agreed that a response is made to the County Council suggesting that the time limited parking all carries a 2 hour maximum and asking for confirmation that all properties in the proposed area have received correspondence.

Park House Play Area

Members were informed that it has been necessary to arrange for some ground works to be undertaken at Park House to address the damage done over recent years by moles.

Insurance Renewal - agreed.

Internal Audit Report 2015/16 - received.

Financial Year 2015/16 - End of Year Accounts

The Council agreed the financial position for the end of year and accepted for certification the Annual Return - Accounting Statement and the Annual Return - Annual Governance Statement.

Financial report - discussed and approved.

Accounts for Payment - approved.

The next Ordinary meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 14th June 2016 at 7.15 pm at Lynwood House.

POLICE REPORT

Antisocial behaviour is the current trend identified in the village. This is due to information that local young adults are congregating under the bridge behind the Kings Head Public House to smoke cannabis. Information from the public has helped us to identify those responsible, therefore officers are now proactively patrolling the village to locate those involved in order to conduct stop-searches. Patrols are continuing in our usual hotspot areas to deter youths targeting these areas again and causing issues for local residents and businesses.

With the recent warmer weather we have been busy hosting free bicycle marking events in our primary schools. This

month both Lanchester EP School and All Saints' Primary were visited. All the pupils who brought their bicycles and scooters into school received a free set of bicycle lights and a reflective armband. Since the initiative began we have so far security marked 270 bicycles in Lanchester, which is the highest of any ward area in Consett. On Sunday 12th June PCSO Lisa Jackson will be hosting a free bicycle security event near the Lanchester Valley Walk at Newbiggen Lane between 2-4 pm. Everyone who comes along will receive either free bicycle lights, locks or reflective products.

Allotment Watch has been launched recently within the Consett area. The initiative involves allotment owners joining our Keep In The Know

system where they will receive regular emails containing crime prevention advice and information of recent crime trends to help prevent them becoming a victim of crime themselves. Once signed up, every allotment owner receives posters to display in the area of their allotment to deter criminals as well as a 10% discount voucher for Lanchester Hardware. If you would like to join the scheme please telephone PCSO Lisa Jackson on 101 or email lisa.jackson@durham.pnn.police.uk. If anyone has any problems or concerns regarding issues within Lanchester please do not hesitate to contact PCSO Lisa Jackson or PC 2058 Iain Nelson on 101 who will be only too happy to help.

PCSO 6780 Lisa Jackson

A MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE ...

This month David Cameron is holding an anti-corruption summit in London. Important issues on the agenda will be corruption across the globe in governments as well as business, tax avoidance, the impact of corrupt money and money laundering in our economies worldwide. These are issues that I have spoken about in Parliament and I am really hoping that this summit will begin to address them.

The unsavoury facts are that Governments across the world are currently presiding over a global economy in which inequality has reached crisis point. Oxfam published a report in advance of the summit called 'An Economy for the 1%'. This report tells us that the richest 1%

have more wealth than the rest of the world combined and that power and privilege is being used to skew the economic system to increase the gap between the richest and the rest. It advises that a global network of tax havens exist across the world, including here in the UK, in our Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories and it contributes to the richest being able to hide \$7.6 trillion. This contributes to cuts in public expenditure here and across the world.

62 individuals are now wealthier than the world's poorest 3.5 billion people. Those same 62 people have seen their wealth increase by \$542 billion since 2010 whilst the poorest 10% of the world's population have

seen their annual income rise by just \$3 in 5 years. Many of us believe that this is wrong and unsustainable and it needs to change.

Companies with household names in the UK routinely employ techniques and tax havens to avoid what they regard as their tax burden, but it is developing countries that are hit hardest by tax havens that fuel the inequality crisis and effectively wipe out any benefits they would have received from international development funding. Global corruption and tax avoidance is something Governments across the world can come together to address. We all have high hopes that this summit will begin to make a difference.

Pat Glass MP

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER ELECTION RESULTS

The number of votes cast for each candidate was as follows:

Ron Hogg (Labour)	50,915
Peter Cuthbertson (Conservative)	18,797
Craig Martin (Liberal Democrat)	10,060
Rejected votes:	1,569
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MURDER MYSTERY SOLVED!!

At least that's what 4 of the 16 tables which crammed into the Methodist Church on 23rd April were able to claim when they pronounced that Brigadier Balderdash was the murderer (and they got the motive right as well).

The Murder Mystery Supper set up by the Church Leadership Team raised a fantastic £750 towards the church's charities 2015/16; namely Cancer Research, ME in the North East, and the Bible Society's work in Cambodia. The 4 course

supper, which catered for over 140, was organised by Dianne and Fred Emmerson and ably supported by church members. This was the basis of the evening around which the acts of the drama at Merkister Hall were splendidly produced and performed by a team from Lanchester Choral and Operatic Society.

The evening was a real 'Village Community' event and was well supported by members from both the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches in the village as well as folks who had simply seen the posters and come along for an enjoyable evening.



Choral and Operatic Society members enjoying their performance at the Murder Mystery Supper.

Indeed a good time was had by all judging by the many positive comments received by the Church.

Many thanks to all who worked so hard to provide such an entertaining event.

HADRIAN CLOG EVENING

Wow! Social history with a twist or should I say a straight shuffle. Members of Hadrian Clog, a

traditional clog dance group from around the Tyne, entertained us with their dances and an

excellent presentation on the history of clog dancing in the North. Did you know that the earliest

clogs were found in the tenth century?

Clogs were traditionally worn by labourers, farm-workers, miners, fishermen, bargees and mill workers; the sound of the miners going to work was described as the 'coalhole cavalry'. Each town had a clogmaker. There was a sport of clog fighting, thankfully deemed illegal and there are records of convictions for manslaughter!

Different styles of clog and hard shoe dances emerged around the northern parts of England, Westmoreland, Lancashire, Durham and Northumberland. Bargees on the Liverpool Leeds canal had their own style too. Clog dancing was seen in the music halls before tap dancing emerged in the early part of the twentieth century. The Victoria and Albert Museum has an interesting artifact of Don Leno's Clog Dancing Belt, (like a Boxing title) and competitions are still an event. A research team in Newcastle are

recording all the dances to keep the tradition alive too.

The presentation included a photograph showing miners at an intersection down the mine dancing accompanied by a violinist. Other clips showed dancing at the Skipton Basin Clogfest, of a 'horse' and a 'green worm'.

The Hadrian Cloggers were accompanied by an accordion, squeezebox and taped music. The dancers included 2 mothers and daughters (aged 9 and 11), they were as proficient as the adults. The group can be seen 'Dancing the Wall' between Newcastle and Lanercost in July 2016 and also attend Beamish museum regularly. More information can be found on their Facebook page.

Members of the History Society tried on the clogs which were very comfortable and managed a shuffle or two and everyone enjoyed this unique evening of social history and dance.



Hadrian Clog, performing for the History Society.



History Society members trying out a clog dance.

A GARDEN FOR EMMA

Tuesday May 10th of Emma Bell, a dearly loved student at All Saints' Primary School. Her year group, Year 6, are now preparing to leave for their

secondary school and they wished to leave a lasting memento of their friend by planting a garden in the school grounds. Flowers of purple and pink were chosen to represent Emma's favourite colours and her family and all her class mates were present to watch the first plants put in place. Her love of wildlife was also remembered by

the kind gift of a large wooden fox from Lanchester Garden Centre and this was promptly named Harry, after Harry Styles, Emma's favourite singer.

This was a sad, but at the same time, a happy occasion as Emma's family and friends came together to remember her and to leave a lovely, lasting memory of a much missed little girl.



Emma's Dad and brother Charlie planted the first flowers in her favourite colours.



Emma's brothers watch the first plants placed in Emma's Memorial Garden.

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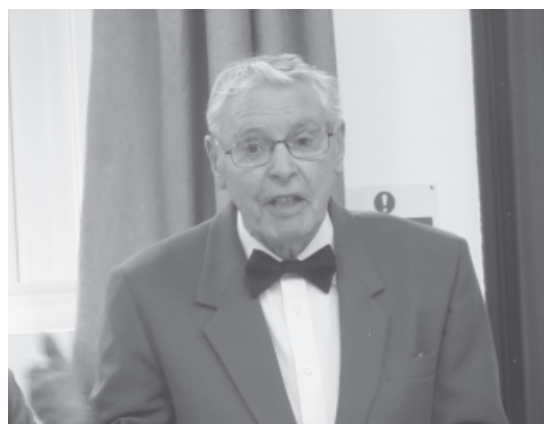
The Patrons' Night of the Lanchester Male Voice Choir is always enjoyed by the many patrons who attend. Harry Carr and his merry men always sing with sincerity, good diction and very good harmony. As always their programme was varied and interesting and there were many well known songs for us to enjoy, as well as new ones, which gave much pleasure. The opening songs were Gilbert and Sullivan's Pirates of Penzance and the Hippopotamus song, of Flanders and Swan fame, and were very entertaining. The very

lovely, touching song 'Bring Him Home' from 'Les Miserables' brought a tear to more than one eye, and 'You Raise Me Up' certainly raised an emotional reaction, as that song always does, when sung very well. On a livelier note 'There is nothing like a Dame' from the musical South Pacific was sung with gusto and conviction and several lips could be seen moving silently, as some of the audience joined in. Interspersed with all the lovely singing were solo items sung by Ian Tute with his guitar performing a Jake Thackray favourite, 'Sister Josephine', Peter Bridgewater, Gordon Knighton and finally Ken Dixon, who sang one of Ivor Novello's lovely songs 'Shine Through My Dreams'. Noreen Bridgewater also gave us one of her beautiful recitals on the



The delicious buffet supper.

piano. She is of course the resident pianist for the choir and as I have said many times is a very talented pianist. After the singing programme, there was an excellent buffet provided by Crinnions and a good raffle ended the evening. Thank you again Harry and your super choir for a most enjoyable evening. Brenda Craddock



A warm welcome from Mr John Wills, Chairman.

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LANCHESTER WI IN MAY

Our May meeting was as busy as usual, starting with a welcome from President Marie Murphy and a reminder that we must now vote to adopt the Resolution we'd like to see carried forward for further action. The result will be announced at next month's meeting. Further news items included the need for WI Climate Change Ambassadors, Planting a Bra competition and a Get Together for new members in the County. Ten members from Satley WI will be joining us for our Strawberry Supper in July. There was news of various performances by theatre groups and a report was made regarding the AGM in April. There were accounts of successful excursions recently made, the great performance of our Quiz team and reminders regarding future events, all detailed on the Information Table.



Jill Swift brought us a wonderful selection of her Jewellicious jewellery.

Payment is now due for our Summer Outing on July 6th and members were reminded about our Birthday outing to Castle Howard. Raffles were won by Irene James and Ann Grosvenor, with Cynthia Pearson and Ann Grosvenor successful in our handmade jewellery competition. We said a sad goodbye to Angela Velleman who is moving to Africa; her hard work

and acute sense of humour will be greatly missed!

Our speaker was Jill Swift, who brought a treasure trove of her own 'Jewellicious Jewellery'. Jill has always possessed a passion for creating beautiful things. She has experimented with several different materials, developing and evolving her skills and producing a wide variety of beautiful

objects. She moved on from personalising her jeans as a young girl, to making cards, tried her hand at producing traditional clippy mats and designed hair slides, tiaras, hair bands etc for weddings and proms. Her latest venture is silverwork and Marie Murphy thanked her warmly for bringing so many beautiful items for us to see.

SATLEY WI

Our May meeting was a members' night and faith supper. Lynda Horn, our President, welcomed members and introduced the evening entertainment. Members had organised a quiz and Chinese bingo to entertain the committee. This provided a great deal of laughter. This was followed by a lovely well catered faith supper. An enjoyable evening was had by all.

We are looking forward to our Skipton outing on 26th May. Our next meeting is 13th June when Simon Raine will talk about artisan cheese making.

The competition will be three cheese scones.

Our meetings are held the second Monday of every month at Satley Village Hall at 7.15 pm. Anyone will be warmly welcomed, just come along.

DO YOU RECOGNISE THESE BOYS?



Our son Stuart Kelly is 40 years old in May and I have come across this photo of the boys he played football with in 1983. Quite a few of the boys will be 40 this year and many of the others in the picture including his brother Paul were 40 years old last year. Can the boys in the picture recognise themselves or maybe can mums and dads recognise their 40 year old sons? The gentleman who ran the teams was Ian Hole who still lives in the village. Lestrine Kelly

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LANCHESTER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY UPDATE

First of all apologies for the lack of updates recently. It has been a busy time for the committee planning the Summer Show! We have been fundraising over the winter months so we can put on an even bigger and better show for 2016. We hope we have listened to last year's feedback and we will be putting many suggestions in place including liaising with the council to improve the walkways to the show field on show day. We are pleased to confirm we have a number of new attractions already booked, such as popular attraction 'The Drakes of Hazard', who will be performing in our new all day public demonstration ring. Hall Hill Farm is kindly supporting the show this year and

bringing its popular sheep racing too!!! We will also have a full rabbit show which should be a welcome addition to last year's fur and feather. We will see the return of our dog agility demo and the traditional hunt parade. We will also have a large farmers market and craft trade stand tent as well as even more outdoor trade stands this year. Bescot Motors will be there with their full range to check out. We also have Alpacas, Animals about Town and Crazy Creatures for everyone to experience! The industrial tent has expanded this year to include an adults section so I really hope we get lots of local support and people enter the classes this year. Our Lanchester guides will be there again too with face painting and

crafting tent and again we have the vintage tractors. We will have all the horses and the showjumping too. We are putting on a FUN dog show for everyone to enter with their family pets, plus we have lots of fabulous on-site catering. We are still working on adding even more attractions and are working very hard to make it a really good fun day out for all the family. Ticket prices remain the same at £5 entry for an adult and £3 for a child making us the best value agricultural show in the area. Please check out our website www.lanchesteragricultural.com or check out our Facebook page. Just search for Lanchester Agricultural Society and ask to join the group to get all of the exciting updates.

VINTAGE TRACTOR EVENT



*Left to right: George Bell; John Briscoe
and David Hopps.*

This event should have taken place a fortnight earlier but had to be postponed until 23rd/24th April, due to wet ground conditions. The venue was the farm adjacent to Burnhopeside Hall and the ground was fairly firm with the weather changeable. At least

twenty people with their tractors turned out and seemed to be thoroughly enjoying themselves. In fact, when asked, retiring Chairman David Hopps, said, "We are having a Play Day". And play they did with many furrows ploughed over three very large fields.

Brian Hunt, known in the area for his fundraising attributes has taken over the chairmanship of the Vintage Tractor Club and the next event will take place at the end of May at a venue in Lanchester, yet to be decided. Charitable funds will be raised at this forthcoming event.

LANCHESTER FLOWER CLUB

'Helen our Chairperson warmly welcomed everyone to the April monthly meeting which was held on the 27th. The demonstrator for this month was Katie Jane Pridmore who has visited us previously and is probably one of our youngest demonstrators, she is also a very confident and capable flower arranger. Katie produced some lovely colourful arrangements, all so different which were raffled at the end of the demonstration to the delight of the winners. Katie Jane regaled us with her wedding plans as she is to marry in July. She painted a lovely picture of the flowers and outfits she is having on her big day. Once again the ladies of the club enjoyed a relaxing and very entertaining afternoon.

Tea and biscuits were then served along with convivial conversation. We look forward to the return of Katie Jane Pridmore and to hear all about her wedding day and see her wedding photographs.

There are thirty of us all looking forward to our June outing which is now arranged with lunch at Blackwell Grange and a visit to Val Guest's Open Garden with a demonstration included. We will meet at the village green/Cooplands at 10.45 am to leave the village no later than 11 am.

If anyone would like any information about the Lanchester Flower Club just contact one of the numbers mentioned on the What's On page. New members or visitors are always welcome.



Katie Jane Pridmore with her arrangements:
'Beauty is in the Eye of the Beholder'

BEER FESTIVAL 2016

As you read this, the Beer Festival will be in progress so let's hope the weather is good and you are enjoying the event. Therefore I'll just say a big thank you to the following sponsors: Life@Durham Gate as main sponsor, Sustain Landscapes as glass sponsor, Turner and Townsend as Programme sponsor, Durham Workspace as Marquee sponsor, Pip Stop as wine supplier, Hanley and Swinbank are supplying the food, Sanderson and Weatherall, DWF, Unique Speaker Bureau, Alby Driving, Advanced Financial Planning, Alexander Lettings, John Bell, Harlands Accountants, Lanchester Dairies, Rebrand Design, Talking Heads, Ward Hadaway, Melanie and Mark Atkinson, Gary

McPhail, Banks Group, Buckley Burnett, A, J & G McConnell, Safeguard Security, Chemtech Env Services, Doug Ellison, Elddis Transport, Santander, Space Group, New Image, Gary Hall Windows and Conservatories, Tony Dumighan and Andrew Rutter, Black Bull, NESMA, Talking Heads, Olivers Tree Services, Enterprise Mentoring, Westlands Dental Studio, Express Minimix, Premier Kitchens and soft drinks by Nav Ahmed. There may be others after the submission deadline so apologies to them. A big thank you to everyone who comes along to the event; we hope you enjoy it and a thank you to all those at the club who have put the event together and those that will be working on the event.

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GREENCROFT ART GROUP AT WILLOW BURN



Left to right: Kathleen Proudlock, Maureen Peacock, Doreen Welch
(Secretary), Edith Parkinson and Margaret Batty.

Greencroft Art Group held their very first exhibition at Willow Burn Hospice Day Centre on Saturday May 7th - 21st. Approximately 50 excellent exhibits adorned the walls and tables in the main hall. Together with these, there were cards designed by members of the group, crafts and beautiful flower arrangements for sale, as

well as refreshments for visitors. Paintings were for sale at very reasonable prices with 40% being donated to the hospice. Greencroft Art Group has been established for some 18 years and describes itself as a group of keen friendly amateurs who enjoy art. They do not have a teacher but encourage each other in all their work. They do

occasionally hire a tutor for informative and interesting workshops. They currently have 18 members but do invite new members to join. The meeting place is at Annfield Plain Methodist Church, every Monday between 1.00pm-4.00 pm, where newcomers will be made very welcome. The Secretary is Doreen Welch.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Lasagne

This popular recipe is straightforward and the result is much tastier than a frozen version. To make a vegetarian dish, substitute Quorn mince for the beef.

Serves 4-6

Olive oil, 1 tablespoon
Lean minced beef, 450g (1 lb)

Onion, 1, chopped
Garlic cloves, 2, crushed
Chopped tomatoes, 2 x 400g cans

Italian mixed dried herbs, 1 tablespoon
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Lasagne sheets, 6-8 (choose those that don't need pre cooking)

Cheese sauce
Milk 450 ml (¾ pint)
Plain flour 40g, (1½ oz)
Butter, 25g (1 oz)
Mature Cheddar cheese, 150g, (5 oz), grated

1) Heat the olive oil in a large saucepan, then over a high heat, add the mince, a handful at a time. This is important, as it seals and browns the meat for a good flavour.

2) Add the onion and garlic and cook gently for 3-4 minutes, then add the chopped tomatoes. Bring to the boil then reduce the heat. Add the dried herbs, simmer for 15-20 minutes without a lid, to reduce the liquid. Season to taste.

3) Preheat the oven to 180 C, 350 F, Gas 4.

4) To make the cheese sauce, put the milk, flour and butter into a saucepan and heat, whisking constantly with a wire whisk until the sauce boils and thickens. Turn the heat to low and cook gently for another minute. Remove from the heat and add half

the grated cheese. Stir thoroughly, so that the heat of the sauce melts the cheese - there's no need to return it to the hob. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

5) Pour half the mince mixture into a large rectangular baking dish. Cover with half the lasagne sheets. Spoon over half the cheese sauce and spread over the lasagne. Repeat the layers, finishing with the cheese sauce. Sprinkle the remaining cheese on top.

6) Bake for 45-50 minutes, until golden brown. Serve with salad and crusty bread. This freezes well, so you can make an extra one to eat later. Just freeze as soon as you can, transfer to a polythene box and freeze for up to 2 months.

THURSDAY CLUB

At our May meeting we welcomed two visitors whom we hope had an enjoyable evening with us and we look forward to seeing them again in the future.

Our speaker for the evening was Norman Kirtland who gave us an illustrated talk about the 'Customs of Victorian County Durham'

concerning Births, Marriages, Deaths and a lot more besides. We were taken through the good, bad, ugly and sad times of this era. The talk was interspersed with a 25 question quiz for which we all had the answers but not necessarily the right ones. A great talk, which was not only interesting and informative but, in parts,

had us all laughing in the aisles!

We indulged in a little retail therapy by way of a very tempting jewellery display. Members donated their unwanted jewellery and all monies raised goes towards our fund for the Great North Air Ambulance. We ended the night with tea/coffee/biscuits and a good chat.

THURSDAY CLUB MEMBERSHIP

We members are a little puzzled at a rumour circulating that membership of the Thursday Club is by 'Invitation Only'. Nothing could be further from the truth. So, if any ladies are interested in joining us, all you have to do is come along to one of our

meetings and, if you like what you see and what we do, membership is currently £12 per year with no extra affiliation fees.

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LADIES WHO LUNCH

Last time out we were in Durham at the Duke of Wellington at Nevilles Cross. Warm, comfy ambience, lovely, friendly staff who provide a quick attentive service from the table as well as having to order at the bar, which is good for memories that don't always work so well.

As well as their main menu they have an extremely good value 2 course set menu for £6.99, which some of us used.

We sampled Beer battered whiting + chips, Macaroni cheese with garlic bread, Naked house salad with

salmon + one with bacon, Steak + Doombur pie with creamy mash + veg, Oven baked salmon with citrus herb crust and Scampi + chips. For puds it was Bakewell tart + custard, Baby crème brûlée + coffee, Salted caramel cheesecake with whipped cream, Belgian chocolate + butterscotch sauce + Eton mess.

Folks eating the herb crusted salmon found it a little dry but the rest of the food was good and we really enjoyed it. We would definitely go back - they give you Smarties with your coffee!

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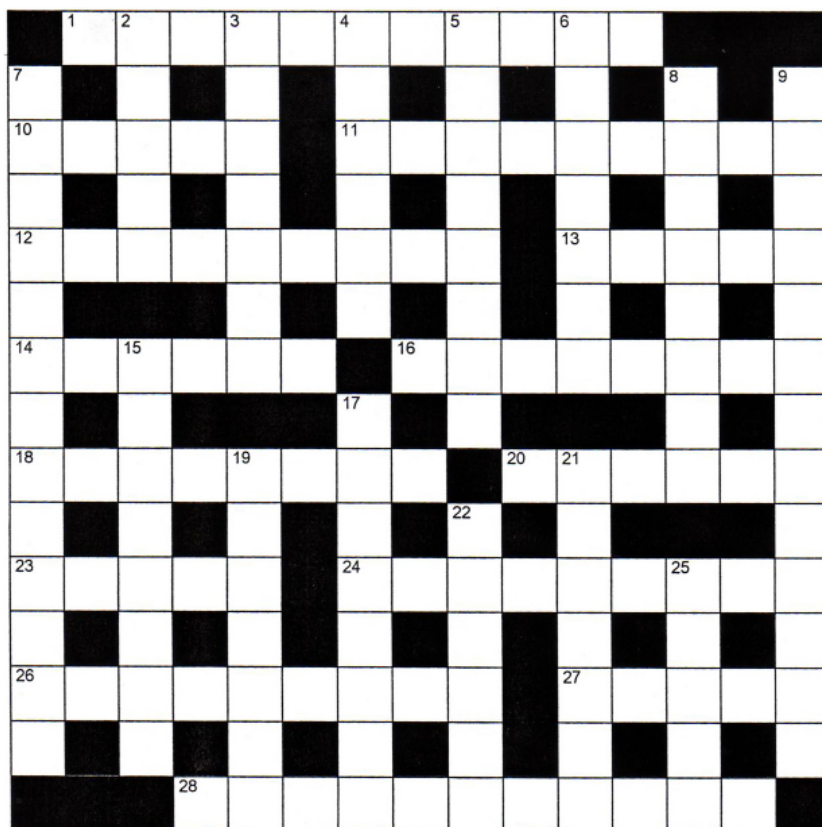
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CROSSWORD 121



ACROSS

1. "Neat and tidy" growled Mole (4,7)
10. Shelter (5)
11. Not what it seems (9)
12. Insecticide made by Murphy (ret.) (9)
13. Gloss (5)
14. Natural poser ? (6)
16. Rape, kale, cabbage etc. (8)
18. Resident of Toronto perhaps (8)
20. Concerning stars (6)
23. Do something about (3,2)
24. Fierce SAS cook meal (9)
26. Travel far and wide (9)
27. I.e. (2,3)
28. To be precise (2,1,8)

DOWN

2. Young eel (5)
3. Cough mixture (7)
4. Goes with moped, horse and bike (6)
5. A romance being filmed (2,6)
6. Reveals (7)
7. Vacillate (4,3,6)
8. More appropriate (8)
9. Ugly Janet Peat becomes wealthy American art collector (4,4,5)
15. Gift (8)
17. Anti-coagulating medicine (8)
19. Underground cell (7)
21. Goes with fly, omelette and onion (7)
22. I m p o s e d settlement (6)
25. Short period (5)

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 120

ACROSS

1. pleasure seeking
9. extract
10. emotion
- 11,15. spaghetti junction
12. Mali
13. pliant
15. See 11
18. convener
19. fiancée
22. lice
23. righteous
26. power up
27. inertia
28. of no consequence

DOWN

1. press-up
2. extra
3. sea-change
4. rotate
5. specious
6. Eton
7. imitation
8. gentian
14. Ian McEwan
16. Cointreau
17. terrapin
18. calypso
20. enslave
21. ignite
24. Orton
25. croc

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.

LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU ANSWER

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

CROSSWORD 120

There were 17 entries in last month's crossword competition.

Congratulations to Helen Taylorson of Broadoak Drive who was the winner in the draw and will receive the £10 prize.

SUDOKU

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

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

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GOOD START FOR BOWLING CLUB

The bowling teams have got off to a good start this season. Two 8-2 wins in the first two games for the Saturday team were matched by the Monday team who also won their first two games. Our Tuesday team is the team where we give some inexperienced bowlers the chance to develop. Last year this team struggled, but hopes are high for an improvement. While they went down in their first game they were not disgraced and they quickly bounced back the following week with a strong win away at South Moor. The Wednesday team has only played one game so far. They found Pelton Fell, who always field a strong team in this league, too strong for them. Off the green the news is also good with the club having a healthy membership and all teams oversubscribed, which means a headache for the selectors but bodes well for the future of bowling in Lanchester. There is still time to take up bowling. The club has sessions on Thursday afternoons for new bowlers where you can learn the fundamentals of the game and have a 'Roll-up' with some of our members. Check out our website.

ANY OLD BOWLS?

The Bowling Club desperately needs some small bowls. Some bowls belonging to the club have been removed from the pavilion. If you have them could you please replace them. This loss has left the club short of smaller bowls to introduce new bowlers to the game. If anyone has any bowls of size zero, one or two that are no longer used, would they consider donating them to the club or selling them at a reasonable price to new club members. Please ring 01207 529001.

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CRICKET NEWS

Four weeks into the season the firsts have been in fine form. They opened on a horrible day at Leadgate batting first and making 187. They then made short work of their opponents with Greg Halliday 4-15 being the pick. The second match was a victim of the wet weather but the next saw us beat Swalwell for the first time in 13 years. Graham Brinton and Gareth Wade took the first six wickets and then Greg Halliday finished off the tail taking 3-3 in four overs. Ponteland were next up and were comfortably beaten, chasing down 226. Dan Nicotra made his mark taking five wickets and scoring 91 with great support from Dan Storey (71).

The seconds have lost all four games to date, though Chris Ramshaw scored 74 against Bedlington. We

struggled to 139 against Shotley Bridge, but Shotley passed our total with three balls to spare. We set Swalwell a decent target of 169 but again we found an opposing opener in top form. At Ponteland, despite a fine 75 by Mark Small, we lost out by one wicket in the final over.

The thirds have yet to play.

The under 18s have played twice beating Leadgate at home after losing their opener at Ryton. Against Leadgate, Lanchester made 109 for 7 with David Selby top scoring on 31. Selby's good night continued as he took three wickets in an over, finishing with the impressive figures of 4-4.

The under 15s took champions Whickham all the way in the Willis Elliott Cup, only losing in the final over of a freezing

night. Keanan Proctor 39 and Mattie Butler 30 took Lanchester to 100 without loss in their reduced 15 overs. Unfortunately the 15s had to concede at Swalwell due to a number of absences.

The under 13s met Swalwell in the league cup. Lanchester lost both openers cheaply and were never able to make up for that loss. In their first league game they played Shotley Bridge and our young side were easily beaten.

The under 11s got off to a flier beating Ryton in the first round of the cup, Charlie McPhail taking a hat trick, and then beating Swalwell in the league. In the cup second round there was another easy win against Blaydon. Seven of the eight man team scored 20+ and took plenty of wickets when bowling.

WWW.THEPIPSTOP.CO.UK

Bespoke Tastings at The Pip Stop

We offer bespoke private tastings for 8-10 people Monday-Thursday evenings or a Sunday afternoon in our store.

Prices start from £10 per person. For more information and to discuss your requirements please contact us.

01207 523555

info@thepipstop.co.uk

WHAT'S ON?

Open House

Join us in the Chapter House of the Parish Church on Thursday 2nd June, 11.30 am to 1.00 pm.

Vintage Tractor Club

Meet on Wednesday 1st June at 7.30 pm in Lanchester Social Club.

Country Market

The next market will be on Saturday 4th June from 10 am until 12 noon in the Methodist Church.

Mothers' Union

The speaker at the meeting on Wednesday 8th June, 7.30 pm in the Chapter House, is Richard East with another of his talks about the Prison Service.

Community Centre

The Community Centre will be holding a coffee morning on 9th June from 9.30 - 11.00 am.

Lanchester Writers

Lanchester Writers meet in Lanchester Library every Tuesday 2 - 4 pm. during school term time. New members are welcome.

Summer Fair

The Summer Fair for Lanchester and Burnhope Churches will be held at the Chapter House at 9.30-11.30 am on Saturday, June 18th. The theme is Sunshine and Strawberries and as well as the Grand Summer Draw there will be many inviting stalls including: Cakes, Jams, Preserves, Bric a Brac etc. Coffee/ Tea and a Strawberry Scone will cost £1.00. There will be a free drink and treat for children. Do come along- everyone is welcome.

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Short Circuit Walks

Venue: **Waskerley Way**
Date: June 11th
OS Ref: NZ057471
DH89DE

Miles: 6
Leader: David Armstrong
Phone: 01014604994
At junction of A68 and A692 (from Consett/ Castleside to NE), take the narrow winding road which goes SW and follow 4 miles to cattle grid. Park here with Smiddy Shaw Reservoir ahead. (If you reach the Honey Tree Treatment Works you have gone too far.

Melrose Weekend

Date: June 17th - 20th
For further details and possible vacancies contact Owen and Pat Oliver on 07932671311.

Family Ceilidh

1st Lanchester Guiding are holding a fundraising Family Ceilidh in conjunction with Lanchester Agricultural Society in order to help raise funds for the 2016 show! The event will be held at the Lanchester Community Centre on Saturday 4th June. The event starts at 7pm and is supported with popular band 'The Moorcocks'.

Junior/Family Wildlife Group

Our next meeting will be on Sunday 19th June Derwent Valley Butterfly Bridge. Meet 9.30am in the Community Centre Car Park.

Lanchester Library

The library offers Songs and Stories on Thursday afternoons from 2-3 pm. All children under 5 years are welcome.

Lanchester Flower Club

The next meeting will be the first of our Open Evening Meetings on Friday 24th June 2016 at 7 pm in Lanchester Community Centre.

The Demonstrator is the very well-known Margaret Earl and her theme will be 'Travel'. The cost of a ticket is £7 and there will be tea or coffee with light refreshments. Everyone is welcome. If you need a ticket contact Helen Tomlinson 01207 503667, Lestrine Kelly 01027 521494 or Nora Jenssen 01027 520574.

There are thirty of us all looking forward to our June outing which is now arranged with lunch at Blackwell Grange and a visit to Val Guest's Open Garden with a demonstration included. We will meet at the village green/Cooplands at 10.45 am to leave the village no later than 11 am.

If anyone would like any information about the Lanchester Flower Club, just contact one of the numbers mentioned above. New members or visitors are always welcome.

Thursday Club

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 16th June at 7.30 pm in the Community Centre Main Hall when Dr Craig Barclay will be giving a talk on the Oriental Museum and its collections. See you all there.

Local History Society

Friday June 3rd at 7 pm. Faith Supper and social evening at a member's house to see their historic home. For more information, contact mariannorrison@btinternet.com.

Lanchester WI

We next meet on June 6th, at 7.15 in the Large Hall of the Community Centre. The results of our Ballot for the WI 2016 Resolution will be known, and our Summer Outing to Skipton needs to be paid at this meeting. There are several visits planned and suggestions for trips which can be organised by members for themselves - all details are displayed on the Information Table during meetings, so please keep up to date with everything. Many thanks to the volunteers who help in so many ways - your help is greatly appreciated and new members of the team are always welcome! Our speaker next month is Roger Barrell describing 'Life as a Royal Bodyguard'. The competition is 'Who would YOU guard?' and some interesting choices are expected!

Early English Organ Music

Dr Ian Brunt on the organ at Rowley Baptist Church, Rowley Chapel, near Castleside, County Durham
Saturday 21st May at 7.00 pm
'The Chronicles of Matthew Paris'
English Organ Music by John Redford, Philip ap Rhys, Tallis, Blitheman, Cosyn, Orlando Gibbons and Thomas Tomkins, on the c. 1794 original chamber organ by Henry Bevington.

Interval refreshments with a Programme Offering as a Retiring Collection.

Wildlife Group

Our next meeting will be an outdoor meeting on Tuesday 14th June at 7.00 pm. Meet in the Community Centre car park for an outing to Derwent Reservoir.

Willow Burn Events

Gardeners, we desperately need your help! Our Summer Fair is on 2nd July and we need help with our plant, gardening and produce stall. Do you have any plants or homemade produce you could donate for our fair? Or do you know of any local businesses who could be willing to support us? Please get in touch on 01207 523 900. Thank you for your help.

Summer Fair

Come along and enjoy a fun-filled day at our Summer Fair on July 2nd Hot and Cold Refreshments, Tombola and Raffle, Crafts stalls, Home-made Cakes and much, much more ... a great day for all the family! If you are interested in holding a stall at this fair please contact us for more information asap to secure your place - space is limited!

For more information or to buy raffle tickets contact: 01207 523900 or email: fundraising@willowburnhospice.org.uk.

Library Book Club

The next discussion is on Monday June 27th at 2.30 pm. We will be discussing 'Wedlock' by Wendy Moore, a biography of Mary Eleanor Bowes of Gidside. 'Splendid ... as gripping as any novel' Daily Telegraph.

Satley WI

Our next meeting is 13th June when Simon Raine will talk about artisan cheese making. The competition will be three cheese scones. Our meetings are held the second Monday of every month at Satley Village Hall at 7.15 pm. Anyone will be warmly welcomed, just come along.

KILLHOPE RELIABILITY TRIAL

About this time of the year Houghton le Spring Cycle Club official, Dave Cummins, organises a huge cycle ride for clubs in the region which begins and ends at Lanchester Community Centre. This year's event took place on Sunday 24th April in good conditions for cycling, little wind but cool and cloudy. Sixty riders took part this year.

The ride started between 8.30 am and 9.00 am and the round trip was 102 km, under Audax rules.

The route is demanding with over 1800 metres of hill climbs with steep descents at Muggleswick, Rookhope, Killhope Cross and just before Rowley. The route is full of check points and there is plenty of advice given about dangerous bends etc. The route summary is as follows:

Lanchester - Muggleswick
Edmundbyers - Blanchland - Allenheads
- St John's Chapel - Brotherlee - Crawleyside
- Lanchester.



They are off. Cyclists leaving the Community Centre.

Plenty of marshals are on duty and the bike shop at Nenthead is always open for repairs, spares and bike food, as is the pub for

alternative refreshments. Lunch is taken at Hemmel Café, Allenheads. Riders returned to the Community Centre

during the afternoon where they were offered free food and drinks. (See additional picture on back page)

ACE OF A DAY FOR TENNIS CLUB



The 'Tennis Factory' being used by the younger players.

As part of the Lawn Tennis Association's Great British Tennis Weekend initiative, Lanchester Lawn Tennis Club hosted an event on Sunday 15th May at the grass courts on Ford Road.

A wonderful fine day saw over 80 people of all ages, from 3 years to 86, attend and enjoy the experience of playing tennis on a grass court, absolutely free. With equipment available if required, and light refreshments on sale, players were able to participate in fun activities such as Family, Mini, Cardio and Free Play tennis and the 'Tennis

Factory' was set up for the younger ones to use.

It was gratifying to be able to introduce tennis and the club to so many new faces.

Coaching continues at the club on Monday evenings from 4.30 pm. Any further information can be obtained from Dennis on 07960494442 or email den.lizjane@gmail.com.

(See back page for further picture)

LANCHESTER THIRD IN NATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FINAL

On Saturday 7th May a team of three boys from Lanchester Boys Brigade took part in the BB National Table Tennis final in Belfast. Sam Hume, Matthew Grimes and Sam Grimes were this year's team that made it three spots in the finals in the last three years. They were to compete against teams from England, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

The team flew into Belfast on the Friday night and were given a lift to the venue by the event organisers on the Saturday morning.

The team performed well in their group and made it to the semi finals. For the second year running they met a team from Kempston in the semis and amazingly as in the previous encounter the scores were neck and neck with Kempston coming out winners 5 matches to 4. The boys were very disappointed as the crucial match was very close with Sam Hume almost giving the unbeaten Kempston captain (18 year old Edward Simms) a nasty surprise when he went 2



Matthew Grimes in an intensely contested match.

nil up before being pegged back by some very determined play. As with the previous year the team had to rally and won a convincing playoff

for third spot with Kempston going on to be the eventual winners. The team celebrated the following day with a visit to the Titanic museum

before flying back home. Next year's tournament is in Liverpool. Maybe it will be fourth time lucky!! (More pictures on back page)

KILLHOPE RELIABILITY TRIAL



Riders from Barnsbury Club, Whitley Bay almost ready for the 'off'. (See page 19 for report)

LANCHESTER THIRD IN NATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FINAL



Boys Brigade Table Tennis Finalists.



Sam Hume in exciting action. (See page 19 for report)

ACE DAY FOR TENNIS CLUB



Enthusiastic cardio session for the members to enjoy. (See page 19)

NEW COACH FOR CRICKET CLUB

Daniel Nicotra, 19, has taken over as coach at Lanchester Cricket Club. He is a student at the University of Technology, Sydney, Australia, and plays for Blacktown Cricket Club. He arrived recently and will be coaching various teams at Lanchester, whilst offering 1-1 coaching sessions for youngsters for the rest of the season.



Australian Daniel Nicotra, 19, takes over as coach at Lanchester.

NEXT DEADLINE

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

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