

# THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 8 Volume 20

Lanchester, August 2019

For contact information, see page 2

## DURHAM ANNUAL BRASS FESTIVAL CEILIDH



*Scottish band 'Reel Brass' provided lively music and organised the Ceilidh dancers.*



*The appreciative crowd listening to the music.*



*'Loud Noises' entertained the crowd with some great trad jazz.*



*The Ceilidh in full swing. See article on page 3.*

## ON THE PULL



*The Lanchester Wildlife Group with the Wear Rivers Trust volunteers spent a productive afternoon in August clearing a mass of Himalayan Balsam near the Smallhope Burn. A BIG THANK YOU to those involved. If you would like to help, contact [lanchesterwildlifegroup@outlook.com](mailto:lanchesterwildlifegroup@outlook.com).*

## IS THIS LANCHESTER'S BIGGEST SUNFLOWER?



*Paul and Josh with a 10 foot sunflower in Burnhopeside Avenue.*



# 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  
Development of the Pastures (South of the Paddock) recently began, first with some fencing to protect boundary tree roots and then removal of the site's topsoil. Objectors to the scheme will take little pleasure from being proved right so soon, but, with the recent rain, this has had the predictable effect of surface water affecting three properties at the lower end of the site, and spilling onto Ford Road. A dam and ensuing pond were constructed as a temporary mitigation measure. It is of course very small compared to Ulley reservoir, which might possibly reassure residents of Ford

Crescent who would be affected should it fail. Northumbrian Water said this was a matter for Durham County Council. They put me in touch with Building Development, who said they would pass the matter on to Planning. My suggestion to the Planners that the developer be required to prioritise the promised permanent mitigation measures has yet to be acknowledged. Meanwhile the removal of topsoil continues.  
*Name and address supplied*

Dear Village Voice  
I would like to express my very sincere thanks to the two gentlemen who came to help me when I had a very nasty fall outside the shops in Front Street. I was badly shaken and very much appreciated the care and attention they gave me. Two True Gentlemen - Thank You!  
*Anne Scott*

Dear Village Voice  
I write in support of the article 'Another 70 years of National Health' (Village Voice, July 2019). Having lived in numerous places in the North East over the last 30 years, I feel compelled to praise Lanchester Medical Centre. My husband and I moved permanently to the village in 2016 and are delighted to have access to such an excellent surgery. It by far outweighs any of the other practices I have been registered with over the years where I regularly had to wait over two weeks for an appointment. The practice is proficient and all staff are friendly, welcoming and professional. Despite the very real confines facing GP surgeries as highlighted in the article, Lanchester Medical Centre delivers an excellent service, and against all odds, continuity of care. The village is lucky to have such a practice on our doorstep.  
*Liz Jordan-Smith  
Director, Hutchinson Cartwright Ltd,  
Lanchester*

## THE VILLAGE VOICE

## IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

Dear Village Voice  
From January 1989 Lanchester Local History Society published an annual journal. Most folks think there were only 7 produced. If that is the case then I have every one with the exception of No 5. If anyone thinks they may have that one sitting on a shelf, the group would love to either have it or have permission to make a copy. Our plan is to digitise the papers and make them available on the Lanchester pages of

Durham County Local History Society website. This will allow many more people to access some interesting snippets of local history before the march of time sees such papers lost as houses are cleared into the vast waste bins of recycling. Thank you and if you think you may have the missing journal or any other LLHS artefacts, please get in touch.  
*Marian Morrison, on behalf of Lanchester Local History Society  
(Email: marianmorrison@btinternet.com)*

### Community Draw

The winning number in the Community Draw for July was 54. The draw was made by Jane, a volunteer for the Community Centre.

View the Village Voice online (including past issues) at [www.lanchester-villagevoice.co.uk](http://www.lanchester-villagevoice.co.uk)

## How to contact the Village Voice

To advertise, email: [voiceadverts@gmail.com](mailto:voiceadverts@gmail.com) or telephone Lynda on 07851 775297. Please do not use this number for matters relating to content.  
General and news enquiries, email: [lanchestervillagevoice@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lanchestervillagevoice@yahoo.co.uk) (please include Village Voice in the Subject line).

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## WEDDING CELEBRATIONS

The wedding of Nicholas David Laverick and Kathryn Winship took place on Friday 26th July. Friends and family held at Burnopfield attended a lovely Cricket Club. The celebrations were All Saints' Parish Church greatly enjoyed by everyone.



*Kathryn and Nick on the village green after their wedding.*

## NEW PRIEST FOR LANCHESTER

The Bishop of Durham is very pleased to announce that The Rev'd Lesley Sutherland, currently Assistant Curate of Cornforth and Ferryhill, has been appointed as Priest in Charge of Lanchester, Burnhope, Harelaw and Annfield Plain.



*The Rev'd Lesley Sutherland who will be Priest in Charge of Lanchester, Burnhope, Harelaw and Annfield Plain in October.*

She will be licensed by the Bishop of Jarrow on Monday, October 21st at 6.30 pm at Lanchester All Saints' Church.

Lesley Sutherland, 57, was born in the North East and lived in Hetton le Hole before going to Oxford University. She qualified as a barrister in family law and practiced for 28 years before turning to ministry.

She is married to Ian. At her ordination two years ago she said: "For

many years I had an attraction to church which I didn't understand; I loved the music, the liturgy, the culture of church but would not admit to the existence of God. In 2005, I had a full-blown religious experience whilst getting married; by the end of the service God had spoken to me, telling me that I was to offer myself for ordination. It took me another seven years of attempting to bargain with God before I understood I had to do it."

*Neil McKay*

## BRASS FESTIVAL CEILIDH

A ceilidh in a car park may seem an unusual concept, but dozens of locals from toddlers to grandparents enjoyed such an event outside Lanchester Community Centre.

The sun shone for the Brass Bus ceilidh and concert on the evening of Tuesday, July 16th, which was part of the successful

Durham Brass Festival run by Durham County Council. Seats were placed in the car park in front of the stage by the Community Centre, and refreshments included hot dogs and tea and coffee. Music was provided by two bands, Reel Brass and Loud Noises, who had travelled from Leeds.

Scottish street band Reel Loud Noises also brought a trad jazz feel to the proceedings, and both bands were warmly applauded by an appreciative crowd. *Neil McKay*

**Photos on front page**

*Neil McKay*

**Photos on front page**

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# NEW DEFIBRILLATOR

A defibrillator has been installed in the centre of the village for the benefit of the community. The defibrillator is located on the outside wall of the pharmacy on Front Street making it available 24 hours a day. Many thanks to Lanchester Pharmacy for allowing the defibrillator to be located here. The defibrillator has been funded by Lanchester Parish Council with a very generous donation from Mrs Viv Watson and Mr Colin Watson who live in the village. Many thanks to Viv and Colin for their kind donation towards this valuable community facility. An awareness session has been arranged to understand how the defibrillator can be accessed and used. This awareness session run by the North East Ambulance Service will take place on Tuesday 17th September between 2 pm - 4 pm at Lynwood House, Durham Road, Lanchester. Please ring Sally on 01207 520146 if you would like to book a place.



Colin and Viv Watson with Keely and Abby from Lanchester Pharmacy pictured with the new defibrillator.

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## MANOR GRANGE PLAY AREA

Lanchester Parish Council is considering a project to improve the play facilities at Manor Grange Play Area. The project, which is in the early stages of development, would include relocating the play area down the field and providing a more accessible and improved play facility for children aged under 12. In order to ascertain the demand for an improved

play facility the Parish Council intends to deliver a leaflet/survey sheet to houses surrounding the current play area. It is hoped that this survey will provide information and feedback on the potential usage of the proposed play area. It is planned to deliver this information to houses at the end of September. Please look out for this

leaflet and let us have your comments. It is important that if the project is to progress that we know it will be well used. If you would like to register your support for the proposed play area or have any comments to make please contact Sally Laverick, Clerk to Lanchester Parish Council on 01207 520146.

## BRASS PLAYERS NEEDED

Can you play a brass instrument or maybe you would like to learn? Lanchester Brass Band has

suffered the loss of a number of players recently and urgently needs to recruit more members in order to fulfil engagements and ensure the band's future. You may be a player looking to play with other musicians or perhaps you have played in the past and would like to take it up again? Our most urgent need is for cornet and bass players, but we have flexibility within the band

and will welcome any brass instrumentalist with open arms! If you have never played a brass instrument but would like to learn, we would still like to hear from you as tuition can be given. If you are interested, the band rehearses on Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons at Croft View so please come along, or telephone Susan on 07496502775.

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## WATER WORKS

Following torrential rain on Saturday, July 27th, a burst water main occurred at the junction of Ford Road with West Drive, Lanchester.

This led to Northumbrian Water spending one week repairing the water main and resurfacing the road. It involved traffic lights at the junction and for one day - Friday - the closure of the junction into and out of West Drive.

A Northumbrian Water spokesperson explained on Friday, August 2nd, "We were made aware of a burst water main pipe on Ford Road, near to

the junction of West Drive last Saturday, which our technicians repaired the same day and managed to maintain customer water supplies. We have temporary traffic management in place, while we work closely with Durham County Council, to repair and reinstate the road following the burst. We would like to thank customers for their ongoing patience while we complete this essential work as quickly as we possibly can."

*Neil McKay*



*Work to repair the burst water main and resurface the road on Ford Road, at the junction of West Drive.*

## SUMMER NEWS FROM YOUR COMMUNITY CENTRE



Hope you are having a fun summer so far! We have had a lot going on such as the Children's film club

which has been well attended and enjoyed. Remember to check out our Information Point to see what's available. The weekly 'Computers for All' sessions have now ended. We would like to thank Christine, Frank and Neville for all of their hard work over the years teaching us how to use our computers.

Further refurbishments have been taking place. The car park now has its spaces marked with lines which should help to ensure that cars are parked in a more orderly fashion. The Ladies toilets refurbishment should be completed by the end of August. Are you an individual; a business; an education establishment; etc? Are

you looking for a great venue to hold a training session; a conference; meetings; interviews? Do you want the flexibility to be able to book a room by the hour and still have the use of great facilities? Then give us a call on 01207 521 275, or email us at [lanchestercommunity@outlook.com](mailto:lanchestercommunity@outlook.com), we are here to help. We have three Meeting Rooms and a Conference Room that can be booked at very reasonable rates and all available to book by the hour.

Community Centre and become a 'Friend'. It's only £2 per month or £24 one off payment, contact us for further details. There is always a lot happening and so many ways you can keep up to date with what's going on, such as checking the Information Point; follow us on Facebook 'Lanchester Community Centre'; Instagram #lanchester\_community\_centre; check out the website - [lanchestercommunity.wix.com/lanchester](http://lanchestercommunity.wix.com/lanchester), or call in and have a chat. You are always welcome. See you soon.

Why not show your support for your

## LONELINESS UPDATE

### Back to basics

How often do you feel lonely?  
How often do you feel that you lack companionship?  
How often do you feel left out?  
How often do you feel isolated from others?  
Sometimes we can all take some things for granted, get set in our ways, play safe and do things the same way we have always done them. Things like sitting in the same seat, alongside the same person and talking to the same familiar faces. When often to take ourselves out of our own particular 'comfort zone' whilst being slightly

uncomfortable at first, has the potential to deliver rich rewards, enrich our life experiences and give us a new commitment, energy and passion to do things slightly differently. Your answers to the four questions above provide you with an opportunity to do just that - to identify things that you might choose to do differently in the future which may also have a beneficial impact upon your emotional and physical wellbeing. Taking that little bit of extra time to relax and reflect and set yourself up for the week ahead might help you to work

through how to more fully share things and experiences socially with others, especially those who you might not know so well. Choosing to sit somewhere else immediately changes your outlook and speaking to somebody new opens up all sorts of new horizons. Ordering a different meal and drink and listening to a different piece of music can all help, too. Walk a different route to and from the village and see what new things you can discover from your surroundings. Often, the little things in life make the biggest difference.

*Alexander*  
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# ANOTHER YEAR OF STRONG A-LEVEL RESULTS FOR ST BEDE'S

It has been another excellent year for results at St Bede's Catholic Sixth Form College. Overall, 9 students achieved 3 A\* or A grades this year (approximately 10% of the cohort). 54% of A-level entries scored A\*-B grades - a figure well above the government's expected target for this year's cohort - and an overall pass rate of 99.6% (again above the national average). A-level results at St Bede's have been consistently strong, securing students' places in the country's

top universities. Headteacher, Neville Harrison, is delighted with this year's results. He said: "I am absolutely thrilled with the results that our students have achieved. A-levels are more challenging and more rigorous than ever and our students have worked incredibly hard throughout their two years of study to achieve their very best. On behalf of the governors and staff, I wish to congratulate each and every one of them. I am also incredibly proud of

our wonderful team of specialist A-level teachers, whose exceptional curriculum knowledge has ensured that our students have achieved the very highest grades and accessed many of the Russell Group universities." Some outstanding individual performances this year include - Head Girl Abbie Lambert, who achieved A\*AAB in Maths, Further Maths, English Literature and Physics. Abbie is going to study at Princeton University in the US.

Twins Bethany and Sarah Orr both achieved A\*AA and an A\* in EPQ (Extended Project Qualification). Sarah is going to study for an MA in Biomedical Science at Newcastle while Bethany will study Modern Languages and Culture at Sheffield. Will Spence achieved A\*AA in Maths, Further Maths and Physics. Will is going to Edinburgh to study Maths. Maya Dunn achieved AAB in Maths, Chemistry, Further Maths and Physics. Maya will be

studying Engineering at Warwick. Head Boy Sean Williamson achieved AAA and an A\* in EPQ. Sean is going to study Law at Durham university. Headteacher, Neville Harrison, added: "Whatever our students have chosen to do, be it university, an apprenticeship or into employment, we wish them every success and happiness for their future and we hope they cherish many happy memories of their time at St Bede's Sixth Form College."

## LIVE THEATRE WITH THE EP SCHOOL 'Ocean World'

At almost 6.30 pm on the evening of July 11th, the atmosphere in Consett Empire Theatre was electric with excitement,

enthusiasm, and anticipation. The EP School were about to perform their Annual end of term musical which this

year was 'Ocean World'. Every pupil in the school was involved in the production in some way which is no mean feat and takes a tremendous amount of organisation, but Mrs Davis and her team of teachers are masters of their craft and everything came together marvellously to make a wonderful performance of this musical. The story and necessary facts were narrated by different pupils at the appropriate times in the performance and the audience were made aware that two thirds of the earth's surface is covered with seas and oceans. The musical raises the question 'Who cares what becomes of the ocean?'

Today, environmental issues are a great concern and the danger is that the earth's resources are being exploited, which will inevitably lead to the destruction of all marine life. 'Ocean World' is a cry for help on behalf of the inhabitants of the sea. The story revolves around a female humpback whale, who invites the audience into her underwater home. She shares her joy when she gives birth to her calf but as the two begin their journey back to northern feeding grounds, man's threatening presence soon becomes apparent in the form of coral mining, whaling ships, commercial fishing vessels, oil spillages, nuclear and industrial waste. The

message of 'Ocean World' is that if man continues to misuse the sea, he will destroy the life in it. This message was brought to the audience through the drama and the singing of many word perfect songs. The two main characters, the whale and her calf were taken by Francesca Steele and Rachel Steele and their singing was absolutely beautiful and their whole performance captivating. Mention must be made too of the excellent colourful costumes. Congratulations pupils, Mrs Davis and all the staff and helpers, for producing such a thought provoking, excellent musical which delighted everyone in the audience. Thank you!  
*Brenda Craddock*

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# SUMMER FAIR AT THE EP SCHOOL



Mr Henderson getting wet in the stocks. More photos on back page.

## GIBSIDE SINGERS CONCERT

On July 13th the Parish Church was the venue for a concert entitled 'Music for a Summer Evening' and it was a lovely evening enjoyed by over one hundred people. The concert was given by 'The Gibside Singers' conducted by their Musical Director Mrs Doris Williams, who is well known in the area. She lives in Stanley and has extensive experience of conducting choirs and extensive knowledge of all aspects of music. 'The Gibside Singers' are a female choir with a membership drawn from a wide area, covering County Durham, Newcastle, Gateshead and Northumberland. The choir is named by permission of the late

Queen Mother and the late Earl of Strathmore and is one of the North East's most successful and popular choirs. It performs concerts throughout the North East, and was privileged to sing for Prince Charles when he visited Gibside Chapel a number of years ago. The choir repertoire is extensive and covers all styles, from traditional to musicals, opera, classical, sacred and even a sprinkling of 'modern'. That is why the programme was so varied and delightful and absolutely enjoyed by the audience. Doris always has a guest artist in her concerts and this year it was James Draper who lives in

Lanchester and has just graduated from Durham University, with a very good degree in music. His tenor voice is outstanding and he received great applause for his performance. He is a very talented young man and we wish him well as he pursues a future in music. The accompanist for the choir David Scott BEM, is a very talented musician and is principal organist at Brunswick Methodist Church in Newcastle where he also accompanies Newcastle Male Chorus which Doris also conducts. It was a lovely evening of music which everyone enjoyed and the wine and nibbles at the interval were very enjoyable too!

Brenda Craddock

The morning was dull but warm and did not affect the enthusiasm of all those involved in the setting up of stalls and equipment in the grounds for the EP School's Summer Fair. There were all kinds of activities to keep everyone occupied and happy, including of course the hot favourite of throwing water at the teacher in the stocks. What good sports the teachers are! Mr Henderson and Mr Taylor have done it so obligingly for years. Well done to them!

There was a huge Bouncy Castle slide and the lovely cup and saucer roundabout which is always popular. A new idea was a crazy golf pitch, which certainly drove one or two people crazy, as it was very hard to do.

There was a chance to practise tennis skills with the tennis ace Mr Dennis Laycock, or football skills with a member of staff. There were shrieks of delight from the water slide - the more bubbles of foam there were the more the pupils loved it. Great fun.

There was a good selection of stalls, among them, tombola, books, guessing games, toys, sweets, 'hook a bag' toiletries, to mention only a few.

Nothing could dampen the spirits of the large number of people who attended the fair, not even the sudden heavy downfall when the fair was nearing its end. Everyone will be back for more next year!

Brenda Craddock

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Doris Williams and her choir, The Gibside Singers.

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# CHRISTIAN AID WEEK in Lanchester and Burnhope

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# QUILTS AT BELSAY



The Wednesday Needlecraft group enjoyed a fine day at Belsay Hall, looking at the exhibition of quilts from the Durham, Tyne & Wear and Northumberland region of the Quilters' Guild.

## MUSICAL MEMORIES

Places mentioned in song titles

We met in Lynwood House in August, and welcomed several new friends, besides seeing the familiar faces who had joined us on previous occasions. We shared tea and biscuits and enjoyed a gossip while attempting a quiz about various famous

places across the globe. We greeted everyone with our Welcome song and did some warm up exercises to prepare for the singing about places mentioned in the words of songs. By now, firm friendships are being formed and there's always a very

strong feeling of fellowship and good humour, besides great enjoyment in joining together in song. Everyone is welcome at these events, you don't have to be a good singer, so come along and bring a friend!

Maisie Raine



We made a lot of noise dancing and singing to 'Viva Espana'.

# PIRATES OF PENZANCE

The Methodist Church was the venue on Thursday 18th and Friday 19th July for the Annual Summer Concert of Lanchester Choral Society. A memorable evening is always assured and this year was no exception. David Hughes, as Musical Director, is a master at creating a performance of excellence and the concert version of 'The Pirates of Penzance' was a huge success from start to finish. The enthusiasm of all the participants was catching and the audience was caught up in both the singing and drama of the performance.

All the guest artists were exceptional in the way they played out their characters and sang with just the right mix of frivolity and sensitivity. It goes without saying that each of them, Anna Foster, Ella Foster, Andrew Fowler, Paul Smith, Ian Gray and Jim Morgan have exceptional singing voices and impressive musical backgrounds. This of course had a bearing on the high quality of their performance, and their convincing portrayal of the characters they were playing. The singing was accompanied by a small

but very competent orchestra, who are all local musicians. Bill Gray was the piano accompanist. Lanchester is very blessed to have so many talented musicians giving the village so much pleasure. Long may that continue! The applause was loud and long at the end of the evening and the audience left the church uplifted by the performance and inspired by the dedication of the choir and their conductor. It was such a wonderful, entertaining evening. Thank you one and all!  
*Brenda Craddock*



*The Major General - Andrew Fowler.*



*The three main characters: Pirate King, Mabel and Ruth.*



*A very full house for the Choral Society performance.*

# DEMENTIA FRIENDS CHAMPIONS INDUCTION

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## WALKS WITH BROCK



Good day to readers of the Village Voice. As most of you will know by now, my name is Brock. I am a Jack Russell cross who gets cross when he doesn't get his fair share of walks. Which to be fair to my Human, doesn't often happen.

The walk I am about to describe today involves me being put in my basket into the back of the car for a half hour drive to Wylam in Northumberland. I usually don't mind a car journey because it often means I am off somewhere interesting, and this was no exception.

The Human parks on a side road near a pub called The Boat House - now there's a surprise - which is near the railway station. I am

put on my lead and we cross railway tracks before turning right, across a car park and then onto a footpath which is part of something called Keelman's Way. It runs alongside the River Tyne, and we set off in the direction of a place called Newburn.

I am quite happy because there are lots of interesting smells alongside riverbanks. Nevertheless I am put on my leash again when we pass a golf course - Ryton - before we come to a nature reserve.

We keep walking with the river on our left for about an hour and ten minutes, which is pretty good going for both myself and the Human. The footpath is firm and the route is flat so he doesn't get too red faced.

Eventually we come to an iron road bridge which we cross after climbing a short flight of steps. This takes us across the Tyne into Newburn, where we come

to a country park with a café which offers doggy titbits. There is also an ice cream van there.

We then proceed to walk back towards Wylam on the other side of the river, which I think is a splendid idea because there are more smells to explore and the occasional duck to chase. On the way back to Wylam we pass yet another golf course on the right called Close House - I could not agree more with the Human who described golf as a good walk spoiled, especially as I am not allowed on these greens - then we eventually come to a white cottage. Apparently someone called George Stephenson lived here at one time.

We get back to Wylam about two and a half hours after setting off, and cross the road bridge there back towards The Boat House. I can sense the Human's step quickening as he leads me into the bar, where there is a sign welcoming dogs with well-behaved owners.

There he asks for something called Black Sheep which comes in a pint glass. This is immensely puzzling to me, as I thought a black sheep was a creature I was expressly forbidden to chase, but such are the mysteries of humankind. Anyway, after such a long walk we were both ready for a sit-down.

## OUT AND ABOUT THE WITCHES OF WASHINGTON

Washington was designated a new town in 1964 and is divided into a number of 'villages' bearing the names of the original settlements. Oxclose was a farming village, its cottages surrounded by fields. It was a friendly place, but one stone cottage was given a wide berth by everyone. It was believed the old woman living there was a witch, she was often seen wandering at night, collecting herbs and muttering to herself. No children played near her garden and their parents took care to leave presents of bread or eggs on her doorstep, to keep the old lady content.

One winter's day, a farmer decided to go hunting and trudged through the thick snow which had fallen in the night. Suddenly, there jumped in front of him the biggest hare he had ever seen. In a flash the farmer aimed his gun and fired. The hare disappeared among the trees and the farmer followed. He soon found proof that the animal had been wounded, several blood stains marked the snow. He followed the trail, and was surprised

that it led him back to the village. The farmer found himself at the cottage of the suspected witch, he followed the blood into her garden, he knocked on the door, and it swung open. He was horrified to find the witch bathing a wound in her foot. She cursed him and said he would never harm another animal again, and she was right, the farmer never managed to shoot another living thing!

Another Washington witch, Mally, asked a local boatman to take her down the river Wear. The man refused, a bad storm was approaching. Mally promised him that no matter how bad the storm, he would be safe, so the boatman agreed to do her bidding. The storm began, howling around the small boat and the man feared they would both drown. But something strange happened - the water around the boat was calm and placid. The boatman glanced behind him but there was no sign of Mally. Instead, in the boat's stern, there sat an enormous black cat, whose unblinking stare seemed to be calming the river around them. They came ashore safely - and Mally calmly resumed her human form.

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# LANCHESTER FLOWER CLUB

The ladies of Lanchester Flower Club and friends, thirty three of us in all, enjoyed a lovely summer outing on Wednesday 17th July to Kiplin Hall Gardens North Yorkshire. The weather was lovely. Everyone enjoyed the gardens and many strolled around the lake. Then we went on to The Black Bull at Moulton where we all enjoyed a lovely meal in a private room. We were so very well looked after by friendly and efficient staff. We had our usual raffle, returning home at 6.30pm.



*Flower Club and friends, thirty three of us in all, enjoyed a lovely summer outing.*

## THURSDAY CLUB



*Louisa in costume as a Tudor lady.*

At our last meeting we listened in amazement as Louisa Gidney told us how the 'Tudor Housewife' managed her day to day life. We are so used, these days, to being able to go out shopping or even just going online to get whatever we need. All food items had to be grown or acquired before being cooked, definitely no ready meals. Clothes not only had to be made, but the material or wool had to be spun or woven. Everything went right back to basics. They

certainly hadn't got the option of an M&S - and how would we manage without the option of being able to return goods! Unimaginable for most of us, a totally different world. Louisa brought with her a wide range of items which would have been easily recognised in Tudor times - we needed a lot of them explained. It was a fascinating talk and very enjoyable, which ended with a vote of thanks to our speaker and finally coffee, biscuits and a good natter.

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## SATLEY WI AUGUST REPORT

We have had three outings this month and have been very lucky with the weather. The first was to the Gala Theatre to see their stage school production of Chicago which was brilliant and left one of our members especially proud as her granddaughters had leading roles. We also enjoyed a garden party,

which was hosted by one of our members, where we enjoyed cream scones and cakes accompanied by Pimms and lemonade followed by tea or coffee (see photo on back page). It was a lovely opportunity to chat amongst ourselves and to discuss future plans. Finally we had a lovely

afternoon at Lanchester Garden Centre where we had booked the private dining room. We were well looked after by the staff who provided a variety of enjoyable meal options for us. As the weather was pleasant we took the opportunity to look around the gardens and shops before departing.

## HISTORY WALKING TOUR

Lanchester History Society members enjoyed a most illuminating and fact filled walking tour of Whickham recently. Whickham local Richard Pears brought the historical timeline to life from the 1700s to the present day presenting the various houses and people with their many stories. Did you know Whickham was once the UK capital of coal...?! Just goes to show, there's often more to the things on your doorstep than immediately springs to mind.



Originally a Rectory, dated 1713, with arms and monogram of Nathaniel Crewe, foundation stone laid by Robert Tomlinson, Rector of Whickham, which after 1922 became War Memorial Cottage Hospital.

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### Chicken and Apple Pot

Sometimes it's good to have an easy, dependable dish so that you can go out for the day, leaving something you prepared and left in the slow cooker, ready for your return.

#### YOU NEED

1 tbsp olive oil  
4 chicken portions  
1 onion, chopped  
2 celery sticks, roughly chopped  
1½ tbsp plain flour  
300 ml/10 fl oz clear apple juice  
150 ml/5 fl oz chicken stock  
1 cooking apple, cored and cut into quarters  
2 bay leaves  
1-2 tsp clear honey  
1 yellow pepper, de-seeded and cut into chunks  
Salt and pepper

#### To garnish

2 medium eating apples, cored and sliced  
1 tbsp melted butter  
2 tbsp demerara sugar  
1 tbsp chopped fresh mint  
1) Heat the oil in a heavy-based frying pan. Add the chicken and cook over a medium-high heat, turning frequently for 10 minutes, until golden brown. Transfer to the slow cooker. Add the onion and celery to the pan, and cook over a low heat for 5 minutes, until softened. Sprinkle in the flour and cook for 2 minutes, then remove from the heat.  
2) Gradually stir in the apple juice and stock, then return to the heat and bring to the boil. Stir in the cooking apple, bay leaves and honey and season to taste.

Pour the mixture over the chicken, cover and cook on low for 6½ hours, until the chicken is tender and cooked through. Stir in the pepper, re-cover and cook on high for 45 minutes.  
3) Shortly before serving, preheat the grill. Brush one side of the eating apple slices with half the melted butter and sprinkle with half the sugar. Cook under the grill for 2-3 minutes, until the sugar has caramelised. Turn the slices over with tongs, brush with the remaining butter and sprinkle with the remaining sugar. Grill for further 2 minutes. Transfer the stew to warmed plates and garnish with the caramelised apple slices and the mint. Serve immediately.

# LANCHESTER WI IN AUGUST

Our meeting on August 5th welcomed 2 new members and 7 visitors and was opened by President Marie Murphy who reminded new members that events were planned at WI House, to feed newcomers information and news. Marie informed us that the Crocus Scheme will go ahead with bulb planting on the green in October. Our next Coffee Morning will take place on October 10th and members were reminded that bottles, in bags, will be needed for our Bottle Tombola, which had been a great success last time - any item in a bottle will be welcomed, from wine to sauce, from shampoo to juice. We also plan a cake stall and a raffle, and all members and their friends are welcome! Please bring your bottle to September's meeting. The

November 4th meeting will be replaced by our Birthday Outing, to Headlam Hall, where we will have a cooking demonstration and lunch - a £10 deposit is needed at next month's meeting, with the balance due in October. We look forward to our visit to Sunderland mosque and to Kynren next month.

Jean Dougherty offered a lovely reading from the Woodland Trust and three members were successful in our raffle. Our speaker was Paul Shepherd who talked about his experience of keeping bees and making honey. He charted that over the last years, bee numbers had been greatly reduced through a variety of changes in the natural world, and bees serve as a barometer of environmental health. There is some evidence



Paul Shepherd shared some fascinating facts about bees and honey.

that there may have been improvement in their numbers recently, and this is good news. Paul was informative and interesting, describing the roles of different bees, and the personality of the Queen Bee. If she is happy,

the hive is easier to manage, but if she is bad tempered, the rest of the hive are more aggressive. Bees have clever ways of working together to feed and protect each other, and to guard the colony. A scout bee flies back to the

hive after finding a supply of flowers and performs a 'waggle dance' to pass on the information to the other bees. Ann Carr gave Paul our vote of thanks for his interesting presentation and the evening ended with tea and biscuits.

## LANCHESTER WI EXPERIENCE A VERY DIFFERENT OUTING



We gathered together and heard a little about another religion and way of life - very interesting!

It's well known how much the ladies of our WI enjoy outings - to stately homes, to experience craft sessions, or visiting the theatre. We also enjoy the opportunity to learn about other cultures, and on September 7th, we were invited to Sunderland mosque to be given a tour and a talk about the Islamic religion and its people. We watched the afternoon prayer ritual,

and then the Imam described some of the beliefs and a way of life very different to our own.

We found it fascinating and thank everyone for their kindness and hospitality.

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# ALL SAINTS CELEBRATES ANOTHER ACADEMIC YEAR



The performance was opened by the brass section who played 'Boogie Shoes'.

The end of another academic year is always marked in All Saints' RC school with a very popular music assembly, showcasing the musical talents of their pupils, and enjoyed by many families and friends. On July 16th, the school hall was packed with all the students, staff and families. The programme began with the brass players performing 'Boogie Shoes' and there followed a selection of exam pieces, tunes from musicals, and traditional familiar themes. The guitar group also brought their programme up to date by including some 'gaming' pieces of music as well as a selection of James Bond themes and film music by John Williams. The enjoyment and the confidence of the young musicians was obvious, and what was also very evident was the support they offered each other, listening carefully and applauding generously. Another successful performance from All Saints' Primary School - enjoy your holidays everyone!

Maisie Raine

# COUNTY DURHAM'S FIRST CLIMATE CHANGE TEACHER

Dawn Henderson, teacher of Geography at St Bede's, is the first teacher in County Durham to be a UN accredited Climate Change Teacher. Dawn can now deliver up to date climate change lessons to all pupils at St Bede's Catholic Academy and plans to share best practice over the coming months with all teaching staff, so that they too can take part in this new innovative programme being trialled in UK Schools. Dawn said, "Climate change isn't something that happens to someone else, somewhere else on the planet. It affects all of us. Our pupils have experienced some of the effects of climate change with the extreme weather that has been happening over the past few years, floods, heatwaves and storms. I enjoy leading conversations with pupils about the issues surrounding us and engaging them in dialogue about the causes of climate change and what we can do to mitigate and adapt to our changing climate. By doing the UN course on climate change it gives me more authenticity to be able to lead these discussions." Headteacher Neville Harrison said, "The stewardship and protection of our planet is the single most important issue facing us today. I am absolutely delighted we now have a fully accredited Climate Teacher Expert on our staff. Our students and staff will benefit immensely from Dawn's deep subject knowledge on this profound environmental problem".



Dawn Henderson with her certificate from the United Nations.

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# BOWLS REPORT

## Great finish

The season long battle between Lanchester's Monday bowling team and South Moor to finish second ended with Lanchester victorious. Once again Dipton won this league as they do every year but finishing second is our best position since 2015. We got off to a good start in May but dropped off a little in June before finishing strongly with an 8-2 victory away to South Moor, being the decisive game. Our Tuesday team finished in 5th place, our best finish since we adopted the policy of making this team a development team, well done. The Wednesday afternoon team looks like finishing in a mid-table position which is great

for us as we have only just joined this league and did so more to give people a game rather than try to finish top. The Wednesday evening team continues its improvement only losing three matches all season, however the Saturday team has had a patchy year and is looking to a mid-table position. We have had two very enjoyable friendlies, one against the Honorary Vice-Presidents and another against our old friends Birtley. Finally I am pleased to welcome more new members into the club, we hope you enjoy your bowling with us. The club's finals day is scheduled for Saturday 7th September - come and watch.

## TABLE TENNIS NEWS

The Lanchester A team were promoted to the 2nd division of the Sunderland Winter League finishing second! The B team were runners up in the League

open handicap. We're all looking forward to more successes beginning at the start of winter leagues in September.

See photos on back page.

## LADIES WHO LUNCH

We've just been back to one of our favourite eateries - one that never fails to please on all accounts. It's not far away, we always get a warm welcome back, they have a super round table which seats us all AND the food is invariably excellent both in taste and choice. We did, in fact, go to Finbarrs in Durham. They have an 'a la carte' menu but we generally eat off their set lunch menu which retails at 2 courses for £19.50 or 3 courses for £22.50 plus a 10% tip added to the bill. Not a cheap option, but then, really good things mostly aren't.

We had for starters Spiced aubergine, salad, yoghurt and homemade flatbread and King prawn Caesar salad with a dough crumb. Mains were 6 oz rump steak with fries, rocket salad and Cafe de Paris butter, Roast chicken breast with leeks, wild mushrooms and toms and Fish cakes with buttered spinach, French fries and parsley cream. Puds were Raspberry tart with fresh raspberries, Strawberry trifle and Chocolate cappuccino cup. It was a lovely meal made all the more enjoyable as it was eaten with friends. We shall quite naturally be back!

The Gourmet Girls

# LANCHESTER CRICKET CLUB ALL STARS

We've reached the end of our first year of All Stars cricket at Lanchester Cricket Club. It's been a successful event and attended by over 50 children from the village and surrounding areas. Each week the children were taught the basic skills of the game including team work and communication. The children that

participated were excellent and it was great to see their skills develop over the weeks. Sadly this year was hampered by the curse of the Friday rain, however the weeks that it rained during our sessions, the children carried on regardless. A big thank you should go out to the All Stars Activators (Ben, Ben, Gaby, Kath, Alasdair

and Andy) who gave up their time to run the sessions and helped make everything run smoothly. We hope that these sessions have enthused a new generation of Lanchester cricketers and we also hope to see them in and around the club for the remainder of the season.  
Ben Garside



The large group of children eager to learn how to play cricket.

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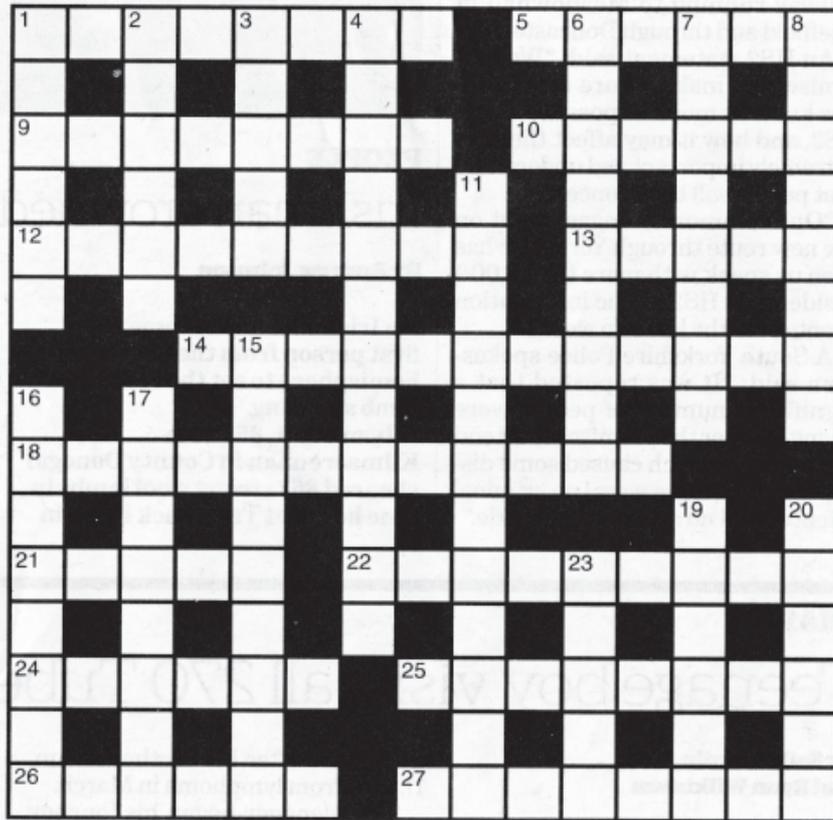
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# CROSSWORD 160



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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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## ACROSS

1. Apply ice to smoker's gadget (4,4)
5. Concerning teeth (6)
9. At rest (2,6)
10. Leave (3,3)
12. A bald ape's major blunder (1,3,5)
13. Shrub with sword-like leaves (5)
14. Happening simultaneously (12)
18. Tentative (12)
21. South African province (5)
22. Cool, calm and collected (9)
24. Surgical procedure seen in theatre pantomime (6)
25. An Asiatic (8)
26. Diminish (6)
27. Upsets (8)

## DOWN

1. Deer seen in watch it alfresco scene (6)
2. Concerning the main artery (6)
3. To do with the Pope (5)
4. Deferral (12)
6. Ha! see my MP for lung problem (9)
7. A cue Otto takes as overcritical (3,5)
8. Ready to rent (8)
11. Man-made narcotic (8,4)
15. No lees are newly available (2,7)
16. New born (8)
17. Immaculate (8)
19. Group of seven (6)
20. Sacred songs (6)
23. Competition (5)

## ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 159

### ACROSS

1. refrain
5. juniper
9. banjo
10. testament
11. fatalistic
12. roll
14. call it quits
18. a merit badge
21. teak
22. tut-tutting
25. remainder
26. Iraqi
27. doddery
28. tantrum

### DOWN

1. rebuff
2. finite
3. apoplectic
4. notes
5. justified
6. neat
7. Pretoria
8. ruthless
13. equestrian
15. Labour Day
16. tattered
17. becalmed
19. mid-air
20. ageism
23. tarot
24. dire

## CROSSWORD 159

There were 17 entries in last month's crossword competition. Congratulations to Kate Lawrie 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.

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

## JOB WELL DONE

Sometime around the year 2000 a group of computer enthusiasts got together to provide a service to the village. Computers 4 All was the name used. Some amateurs became involved with home computers in the 1980s and office desk units began appearing around the same time. By 2000 home computing was not in its infancy but probably in its adolescence. Many people in the village were getting their first computers and were unsure how to get the best out of them.

Along came Ken Gardiner and his team of volunteers, John Wills, Harry Taylor, Bill Eckford and Liz Smith. Initially they held three drop-in sessions a week at the Community Centre to assist villagers and the staff at the Centre. Later the baton was passed to Christine Monaghan

who has led the project since 2001. She introduced some informal lessons including the then fledgling digital photography. Her helpers included Ray Fenwick, Frank Redfearn and Neville Hartley with invaluable voluntary technical support from Ray Price who traded as Crashbusters.

As people in the village became more proficient the number of visitors diminished and the sessions dwindled to one per week. Now the remaining volunteers, Christine, Frank and Neville, have decided their job is done and have wound up the project. The village and all who have benefited from their assistance owe them a vote of gratitude. A fine example of the village helping each other.

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### **Lanchester Medical Centre**

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The charity relies completely on public donations to provide some 40,000 patient journeys each year, which are operated by over 350 dedicated volunteers. Founder, Brian Burnie, 74,

## DAFT AS A BRUSH CANCER PATIENT CARE

is taking the Daft as a Brush charity nationwide by walking the entire coastal path of Great Britain and Ireland in 2 years. His epic 7,000 mile walking challenge is made even more difficult by the onset of Parkinson's disease.

Living in a converted double decker bus called 'Bluebell', Brian and his wife Cheryl, have met with many MPs, MSPs, medical professionals and hundreds of well-wishers, many of whom have close associations with cancer. To date, Brian has walked over 3,200 miles around the coastline of Scotland, Cumbria, Lancashire, Merseyside and North Wales. Recently Brian

arrived in Dublin to continue his 7,000 mile walk around Great Britain and Ireland.

On their return, the charity aims to create over 1,000,000 free patient journeys by opening various 'hubs', replicating the service in the North East.

Discover more about Daft as a Brush Cancer Patient Care by visiting [www.daftasabrush.org.uk](http://www.daftasabrush.org.uk). Daft as a Brush Cancer Patient Care, Great North Road, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 2DR. Tel: 0191 2855999.

More information about Brian's epic challenge is available at: [www.bluebellbus.org.uk](http://www.bluebellbus.org.uk).



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# WHAT'S ON?

## Lanchester Flower Club

The next meeting will be held in Lanchester Community Centre on Wednesday 25th September 2019 at 2 pm. Members and visitors are welcome.

The demonstrator will be Kath Gibson, her theme will be 'Myths and Legends'. Should you need any information please do not hesitate to contact Helen Tomlinson 01207503667 Chairperson or Lestrine Kelly 01207 521494 Secretary.

## Willow Burn's Friday Social

Do you care for someone or do you know someone who does? Are you looking for somewhere to go together? Get together with friends old and new, every Friday from 1.30 pm - 4 pm at Willow Burn's Friday Social. Everybody welcome.

Refreshments are available to purchase in the Willows Cafe. Simply drop-in or give us a call for further information: 01207529224 willow-burn.co.uk/event/willow-burns-friday-social

## Community Centre

### Tea Dance

The Tea Dance will resume on Thursday 26th September from 1.00 pm until 3.00 pm.

### Whist Drive

Every Wednesday 2 pm-4 pm, Meeting Room 2.

### Mahjong

Thursdays - Meeting Room 1, 10 am - 12.

## York Shopping Trip

The Christmas Shopping Trip to York this year will be on Saturday 30th November. If you are interested contact me, Brenda (01207 520749 steve24c07@aol.com).

## Art Exhibition

Lanchester Art Group will be holding the **Annual Exhibition of painting** during the weekend of October 19th-20th in the Community Centre, 10 till 5 both days, 50p admission. As well as over 200 pictures to view and buy, there will be cakes, sandwiches, teas and coffee! See you there.

## Paradiso Social Club

The next Social will be held on Sunday 8th September at 7 pm in the Main Hall of the Community Centre with the usual raffle, refreshments. Screening of the film at 7.30 pm. The film we are showing is 'Bohemian Rhapsody'. Ticket entry: £2.50 members £3.50 occasional visitors £2 young persons Ticket covers entry to raffle, refreshments and film. All are welcome.

## Local History Society

Subject: AGM followed by 'Behind the Lines' Date: Friday September 6th Time: 7 pm Venue: Lanchester Community Centre. Spennymoor Local History Society commissioned this short film (one hour in length) to celebrate Sister Kate Maxey, a shopkeeper's daughter from Spennymoor, who was honoured with an International Red Cross 'Florence Nightingale' medal for her services in WWI.

For more information contact the History Society, email marianmorrison@btinternet.com

## Crafty Coffee Morning

Come and join us as we meet together again on September 10th at Lanchester Methodist Church at 10am to 12 and then every second and fourth Tuesday.

Knitters and Crocheters always needed but everyone is welcome for coffee and a chat regardless of craft ability!

In the past year we have made premature baby clothes, older baby clothes for Syria, Trauma teddies, Tweedlemuffs, hats for refugees among other things.

There is no charge but donations are accepted towards postage and refreshments. The important thing is the fellowship and friendship we share while carrying out this worthwhile task.

Why not call in for a coffee and see what we are doing. Donations of wool also appreciated.

For more information contact Jennifer Nairns 01207520515.

## Cuppa and Company

The next meeting will be at Lynwood House on 10th September, 11.45 onwards.

All welcome, just a reminder lifts are no longer provided.

## Cricket Club September Fair

Sunday 22nd September, there will be a Summer Fair at the Cricket Club. There will be a number of children's showground rides and other attractions from 1 pm - 6 pm. There will be craft stalls, cake stands, pop up street food and other home food outlets. The Bar will be open for refreshments.

## Cuppa and Chat

Cuppa and Chat is back. Please come and join us in All Saints' RC Parish Centre. All ages welcome, toys and craft for babies and under 5s. Cakes, scones, cuppa and good chat. Every Tuesday starting 17th September. This is a chance for young parents to make new friends.

Enquires Andrea Stoddart 520291 or email mikeandrea1@btinternet.com

## Library Book Club

On Monday September 30th from 2.30-3.30pm, the group will be discussing 'Paris for One' by Jojo Moyes, a collection of short stories. If you have read this book, come along and join the discussion.

**On Thursday** September 19th from 5.30-6.30pm, the discussion will be 'Whistle in the Dark' by Emma Healey. If you would like to join this group, pop into the library, pick up this book and join the discussion.

### Chatterbooks

Will be held on Monday September 9th from 3.45-4.30pm.

Children aged 5-11 years old have the opportunity to read and take part in activities relating to the book of the month. Places are limited so please contact Zena or another librarian at the library or contact 03000269514.

**Toddler Time** - Sessions for Under Fives, every Thursday between 2 and 3 pm. Come along to this social time for you and your child to enjoy music, songs and rhymes.

## Junior/Family Wildlife Group

Our next meeting will be on Sunday 15th September. Meet at Malton at 10.00 am.

## Table Top Sale

All Saints' Parish Church are holding a Table Top Sale in aid of Church Funds at 1 Deanery Cottages on Saturday 21st September from 9-30 till noon.

This is a good reason to clear out your attic or garage (you know you have been waiting for an opportunity).

There are spaces available for 20 tables for a £5.00 fee. Bring your own table or hire one for an additional £1.00. There will be two general tables for donated items which will be sold in aid of Church Funds. Large heavy items can be dropped off at the bottom of the drive. **PLEASE NOTENOPARKINGIS AVAILABLE.** Setup after 8am.

Please note all unsold items to be removed by owner before 12.30.

Book your slot by ringing Sue Smith (01207) 520031. Tea, Coffee and scones available on the morning. We hope to see you there.

## Thursday Club

The next meeting of the Thursday Club will be on September 19th at 1.30pm in the Small Hall of the Community Centre. Our speaker will be Prof John McCabe speaking about 'Japan - Behind the Fan'.

## Wildlife Group

The next meeting on Tuesday 10th September with Lizzie Maddison and the subject is Flora and habitats of the North Pennines. Meet at 7.30pm in Community Centre dining room.

## Satley WI

Our next meeting in Satley Parish Hall is on September 9th at 7.15. Our speaker will be Dr Ray Lowry whose talk is entitled 'Laughter is the best medicine'. Please feel free to join us.

## Musical Memories

Our September meeting will take place on Wednesday September 25th. As usual, Lynwood House will host the event, which lasts from 2.00-3.30pm. A warm welcome is certain, whether you haven't joined us before, or visit us regularly. We offer some fun, good conversation, tea and biscuits and of course, lots of singing!

## Canny Cafe

All Saints' RC Church Canny Cafe will be serving a light lunch in the Parish Centre on Wednesday 18th September 2019 11.30 - 1.30 pm. These are amended times to coincide with Village Bus timetable. If you know of someone who would like to come and you could offer a lift that would be appreciated. We serve a selection of sandwiches and cake. There is no charge but donations are always gratefully received. Hope to see you there.  
Enquiries: Andrea Stoddart 520291 or email: mikeandrea1@btinternet.com

## Lanchester WI

Our next meeting will be held on Monday September 2nd, when Dr Jared Johnson will tell of his '25 Years at the Chalkface'. The competition is to retell an amusing memory from your schooldays. Members are reminded that contributions for our next Coffee Morning on October 10th will be welcomed at the meeting. We are holding a Bottle Tombola and any kind of bottle, in a bag, will be appropriate - wine, sauce, shampoo etc. If we all get involved, we'll be certain of a great response. Contributions to our cake stall and items for a raffle will also be gratefully accepted. Our Birthday Outing to Headlam Hall is being planned, and a deposit of £10 needed at September's meeting.

## Lanchester Social Club

Free Live Entertainment in the Lounge Bar from 9 pm every Saturday:  
7th September - Lee Paul  
14th September - David Bryan  
21st September - Chelsea Brooks  
28th September - Robert Black

## CRICKET NEWS

At the time of writing, there were four games remaining and both the firsts and seconds lead their respective divisions. The firsts are just a few points in front, mainly due to having had more games rained off than their challengers. In the month, they beat Consett and Lintz, were rained off twice and most recently lost to Tynedale. They struggled to 147 on a wet Consett wicket but then contained the home side to 134, with Greg Halliday conceding only 15 runs off his 9 overs. The Lintz game was similarly tight, Lanchester making 191, Gohery and Halliday making fifties and then bowling Lintz out for 172,

all four bowlers contributing with wickets. After the washouts, Lanchester didn't make enough with 194 and Tynedale limped past that total losing 8 wickets for 36 after the openers put on 140. The firsts had a couple of disappointments in the cups, losing a final to Shotley Bridge in the last over and then losing a semi final at Newcastle City the following day. The seconds are looking comfortable, following wins over Consett, Lintz and Tynedale, with two washouts. Against Consett, they easily chased down 164, Chris Ramshaw making 70 and Nav Ahmed unbeaten on

61. Lintz were restricted to 145 and then 30s from Green, Ramshaw and Ahmed did the trick. Finally, they made 183 at Tynedale, Ramshaw making 62 and Reynolds 64 and then bowled the opposition out for 117, Charlie McPhail taking five wickets.

The thirds are safe from the threat of relegation following four consecutive wins, including a maiden century for teenager, Mattie Butler against Percy Main, where they racked up 234 and chasing down 208 against Hetton Lyons. Their final game is against league leaders Fenham Falcons on 1st September.

## JUNIOR REVIEW

At the time of writing, due to the bad weather, the under 18s and the under 13s are waiting to play much postponed cup finals, however the league seasons are all done. The under 18s rarely played, with four of their six games rained off. Only the first two got played and they lost those. However, in the cup they beat Leadgate and Stocksfield and will play Greenside or

Burnopfield in the final. The under 15s finished fourth in the league, again losing three matches to the weather. They only lost twice in what was a good season considering none of the players are 15 yet. The under 13s came closest to winning the league, finishing just behind Beamish, however if they had been able to play the same number of games as Beamish, they

could have won it. They have the chance to put things right when they face Beamish in the cup final.

The under 11s finished sixth, which was a great achievement considering how many of the team were new to cricket. Hopefully some of the many new starters who tried All Stars will progress to play in the side in future.

## OSCA WINNER

The Outstanding Service to Cricket Awards (OSCA) were presented in July and Lanchester were delighted to find that long serving groundsman, John Bell was a much deserved winner of one of the awards having been at the heart of Lanchester Cricket Club for 38 years, as Groundsman. There will not be a day in the spring and summer months when John is not working on the ground. He tends to the pitch, the outfield and surroundings to make sure that every game is

played in tip top condition. As a small village club, we have 3 senior teams and 4 junior teams and the newly added All Stars, so there can be games on most days of the week. However, John's hard work means that players, umpires and spectators will be guaranteed a perfectly prepared pitch every time. Whilst his commitment to the club is unprecedented, John also helps the local primary schools by preparing the football field for their sports days, marking out running tracks. Away

from his hard work, John is also a great role model for younger members of the club, imparting knowledge, stoic wisdom and some tongue in cheek humour, to give them something to aspire to. John represents the spirit and ethos of what local cricket is all about - a dedication to the continuity of village life and without a half a lifetime of commitment, village clubs like ours would not exist. John would just modestly say, "I've got the best job in the world."

John was presented with the award before the

Durham T20 v Northants by Durham Chief Exec Tim Bostock. Lanchester Chairman Neil Graham said "All members of the club

are delighted that John's hard work and commitment to the club over many years has been recognised at a prestigious event."



Well known Lanchester C C groundsman, John Bell. See also picture on back page.

# LANCHESTER TABLE TENNIS CLUB



Lanchester Table Tennis Club members in action in the Community Centre. The photo reflects the mix and usage of the tables and the Centre. See report on page 15.



After winning their first competitive match, the squad enjoyed a night out in the 'Toon' at Lane7, burgers/pizzas and fizz!! A fitting end to the season proper. Coaches Steve Witty and Frank Clarke chaperoned.

## SUMMER FAIR AT THE EP SCHOOL



Ride in a tea cup.

See article on page 7.



Happy smiling faces at the water slide.

## SATLEY WI GARDEN PARTY



Satley WI Ladies enjoying their Garden Party. See report on page 12.

## OSCA WINNER



John Bell of Lanchester Cricket Club being presented with his award by Tim Bostock. Story on page 19.

## NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any articles for the next edition of the Village Voice by Tuesday 17th September. The deadline for adverts is Friday 13th September.

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