



Memory garden, with artist Faye Allison who created the flowers (full story on page 10)



Fundraiser for Ukraine (page 4)



Great tit fledgling

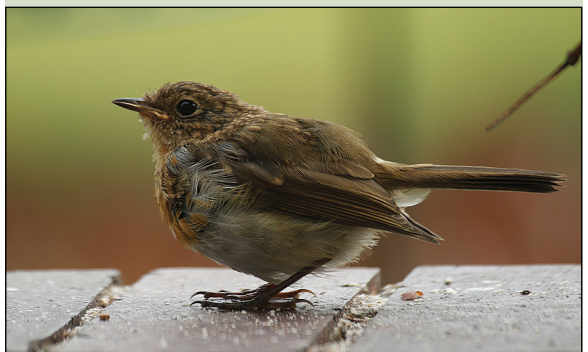


Blue tit fledgling

The wild side of Lanchester
(page 3)



Mallard



Robin fledgling

Coffee Morning for Ukraine

(continued from p1)

The Community Centre was full to overflowing on Saturday 23rd of April. The reason for this was a special coffee morning for Ukraine organised by Kathryn Rooney of Consett, Justine Harrison of Lanchester and other willing helpers.

There were smiling faces everywhere and especially on the faces of the three young people from Ukraine who are currently living in Lanchester at the home of Andrea and Mike Stoddart. These three young people are related, Vira and Maksym being mother and son, and Oksana a cousin. They were very polite and charming, obviously enjoying meeting many new people and being part of a coffee morning to raise funds for their country. Indeed, a very friendly and happy atmosphere prevailed throughout the morning. A tombola stall was very well stocked due, the stall holder said, to the immeasurable kindness and generosity of people and certainly business was brisk.

The cake stall had some delicious homemade cakes and Tesco had contributed some very large beautifully decorated cakes, which though not hot, went like hot cakes! It certainly was a splendid tempting stall. The raffle prizes were extensive and excellent; smiles were in abundance from the lucky winners, one of these being a Ukraine visitor.

In another place Maureen Dick had a table of beautiful handmade felt brooches in Ukraine colours which she had made herself. They really were works of art. Maureen emphasised that they had been made with love for all the adults and children of Ukraine who are suffering so much. She, like all of us is appalled at the abhorrent violence, destruction and devastation which is taking place there! If anyone would like one of those brooches, I would be able to obtain one for you. Lanchester Dairies had also kindly contributed to the coffee morning. Kindness was definitely the theme of the day and the total amount of money raised reflected this. A magnificent £2,577 was the final total. Congratulations!

Wonderful work is being done in our own village and our Lord's second commandment in the Bible to 'Love our neighbour as our self' is being borne out in so many ways. Generosity of spirit is everywhere and very typical of our village.

Long may it continue!

Brenda Craddock



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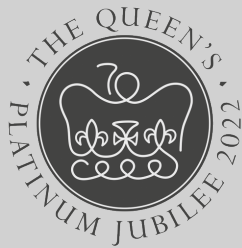
1. A full Community Centre

2. Kathryn Rooney drawing the raffle

3. Organisers Kathryn Rooney and Justine Harrison

4. Maureen Dick who made the brooches

5. Andrea Stoddart with visitors from Ukraine which they are hosting.
L-r Max, Andrea Stoddart, Oksana and Vira.



Queen's Platinum Jubilee Lanchester Queen's Jubilee Events

Sing Britannia

Lanchester Choral Society presents, for the Queen's Jubilee, **SING BRITANNIA**

At Lanchester Methodist Church, Friday 3rd June 7.15pm

Tickets £8 from any member or 01207521458 or 01207290822

This concert, with guest singers Elizabeth Woods, Ian Gray and Paul Smith, presents, in music, the Queen's 70 years starting with the Coronation in 1953 and ending with the Last night of the Proms.

So, plenty of chances to join in the singing!

Big Jubilee Picnic

The Big Jubilee Picnic will take place on Sunday the 5th June at Lanchester EP school starting at 12.30 for 1pm. We ask you to bring your own food, but we will be serving tea, coffee, and juice. There will be entertainment, live music, face painting, games, activities, quiz and much more. The whole village is invited, and you don't have to book just come along and enjoy the day.

The Fancy dress competition for the children is in four age groups, group 1. Pre-school and Early Years, group 2. Key Stage 1, group 3. Key stage 2, group 4 Secondary School. There will be another competition "The best Hat fit for a Queens Jubilee". These competitions will be judged by Keith Harrison leader of the Parish Council and his wife Gillian at approximately 1.45pm.

Lanchester Choral Society will be entertaining us in the school main hall at 2pm and 3pm and we will have live easy listening music outside at 2.30 and 3.30. Games will start at around 2pm. There will be posters around the village advertising the event and a leaflet will be distributed to everyone with all the details of the event. We have the use of the Village Bus all afternoon and would ask anyone who needs to make use of the bus to ring Kate on 07507 816036 and book a time.

We would take this opportunity to thank all those who are supporting the event with donations particularly the Village businesses.

Please contact me if you have any questions, I will do my best to answer them. Eric Hepplewhite 07969 808958

A village songs of praise

Churches Together marking the Queen's Jubilee presents a village Songs of Praise with Lanchester Choral Society, Organ and Lanchester Brass Band. Sunday 19th June 6pm. Lanchester Methodist Church.

Retiring collection for Ukraine. Choose your favourite hymn! Submit it via the post box at Lanchester Methodist Church or via email to:

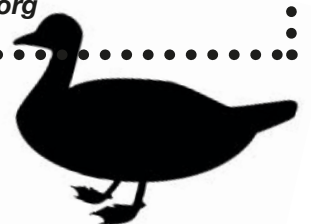
info@lanchestermethodistchurch.org.uk.

Closing date 7th June



The Wild side of Lanchester

Watch out for baby animals this month, you might see a robin, blue or great tit feeding fledglings, fresh out of the nest (top tip: robins don't start out with a red breast, the orange feathers grow later – see photo). Baby birds that are fed by their parents have bright, sometimes yellow, corners at the face-end of their beak. This is called a gape flange (snoring allowed whilst reading this), it makes it easier for the parents to notice the chicks with gaping beaks, begging for food. Keep an eye out along the River Browney for the mallard ducklings between Waters Meeting and Malton. Water hasn't been falling from the sky lately in a drenching way (I hope I don't regret that comment!). In the dry weather lots of creatures need water, so put a bowl or shallow tray of water out and keep it topped up. You might spot someone drinking or bathing in it. Get in touch with your wilder side this June and take part in "30 Days Wild". You can sign up with "The Wildlife Trusts" to take part and get a free pack with wildflower seeds. **Get in touch with Village Voice on just how wild you've been! Search for 30 Days Wild at www.wildlifetrusts.org**





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2.

1. L-R: Johnathan Bunting, Hannah Watson (Vice President, Newcastle University Bar Society), Mary Jo Bunting, Dawn Hodgson, Vira and Okansa.
2&3. One of the acts performing at the fundraiser



3

Fundraiser for Ukraine

Fiona Selby and Mary Jo Bunting are organising fundraisers to send food into Ukraine.

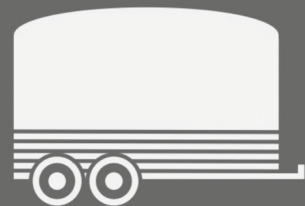
On May 12th, Mary Jo and her son, Johnathan held a music day at the Hancock pub in Newcastle in conjunction with Newcastle University Law School. Johnathan is studying law there. It was a great day with lots of talented musicians and singers. They raised £450. Massive thanks to everyone involved. They would like to thank Louise McCormack, the owner of Loop Lou Bows (on Facebook) who lives in Lanchester and has made the Ukraine pin badges for them to sell. Oksana and Vira, who are from Ukraine, came to help.

The next event is a car boot sale which will be held on Sunday 29th of May. They've had mountains of things donated and hope the weather is good to them. "We have been selling some of the goods separately as we believe we can make more money that way. We have joined forces with Joanne Soulsby, from Moon Jewellery, who was the person to start the whole operation off."


The good news today, Thursday the 19th of May, is that they have sent £1700 to Poland where a convoy of vans will be taking the food, bought from our donations, to the most vulnerable in Kharkiv in Ukraine. They got a fantastic exchange rate and the amount of food that will be bought is massive. They have a few things in the pipeline including a tapas night which they will be able to tell more about in the next edition. Please keep an eye on Moon jewellery's Facebook page as they are auctioning some very very beautiful items with every penny going to the fund. Joanne is working with people on the ground in Poland and Ukraine, so they are getting first hand information as to where food is needed urgently.

"We would really like to thank each and every person who is supporting us in anyway. It's totally amazing the amount of support we are all getting."

Fiona Selby, Mary Jo Bunting and Joanne Soulsby.



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Humanitarian Help for Ukraine

This is the new name for the Facebook page which is being used to fundraise and organise the despatch of urgently needed food, toiletries, medical supplies and clothing to Poland.

It's amazing that truck number 14 has arrived in Poland. The two pictures below show the lorry being "topped up" at St Mary's Hall before heading off to Poland and the other shows the donations being unloaded in Poland.

Seven of the team, including Kathryn Rooney, are going at their own expense to Poland to work in a refugee camp on 25th May. They are going to see the impact of the donations in Poland and to buy food and underwear which are desperately needed out there. Kathryn is taking her hairdressing gear with her so that she can give haircuts to some of the refugees. The situation at the time of going to press is that they are currently not looking for any donations to St Mary's as the hall is going to be used for the Jubilee celebrations and had to be cleared. They are going to reassess the situation after the Jubilee and donations have really slowed down.

Please access the Facebook page for further updates.



Historic Lanchester

In response to the call for historic photographs of Lanchester, Julie Sheldon sent this picture in. It shows Front Street in 1921 before the stream was channelled into a culvert. It belonged to her grandmother, Elizabeth Robinson, who used to live in Croft View.



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Cheers David & Caroline



Lanchester Partnership Friends of Longovicium

On Monday 9th May a large group of the Friends visited the Roman dam known as the Low Dam, close to Longedge Lane. The purpose of the visit was to re-examine the dam and aqueduct system leading to the fort. New members of the Friends were seeing it for the first time. Unfortunately, due to long grass and a lot of gorse, it was impossible to see the aqueduct leading away from the dam, but it was possible to make out the dam. A lot of time was spent on the remains of the dam wall trying to work out how the dam operated to provide water to the fort. Our grateful thanks go to the landowner, Mr Suddes, for allowing us access.

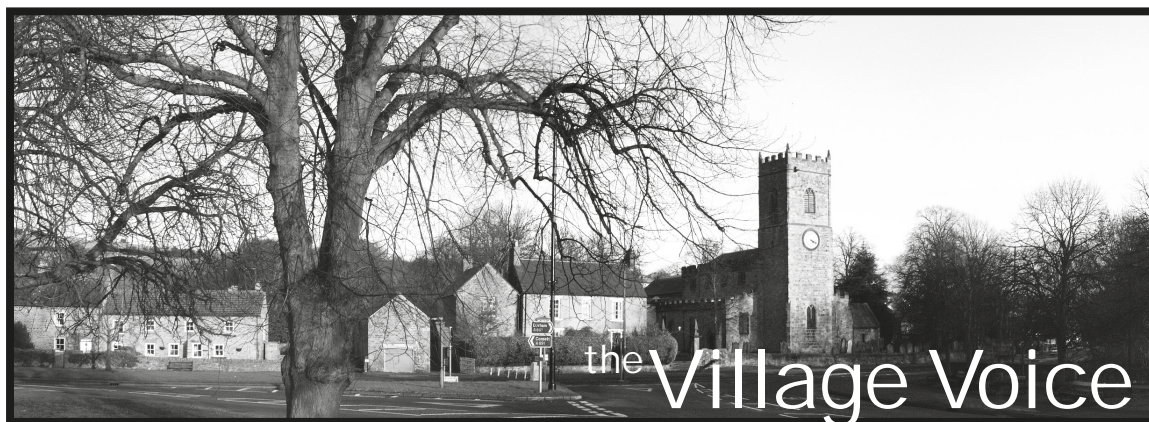
On Saturday 14th May a number of the Friends were involved in the "Ebchester Roman Explore Day", a day of displays and events doing just that! The Friends had their display on Longovicium whilst also having some Roman pottery from Vindomora (Ebchester). There was more pottery to see with Vindomora Solutions, together with information on various

excavations. A couple of laptops were also in evidence showing various photographs of Roman Ebchester and LIDAR aerial images. Eric Heatherington kindly led a group to St Ebba's church, pointing out the altars and stones in the porch and the stones outside in the structure of the church. This was followed by an interesting walk through ancient woodland, led by Bill Trow, exploring the possible river crossing of Dere Street over the River Derwent.

Thanks to Richard Judd for arranging the day, hopefully the first of many.

Our next visit will be to the Lanchester church to examine the Roman remains and artefacts there. The next meeting of the Friends of Longovicium will be Thursday 23rd June at 7.30pm in the Community Centre. Further information from Mrs M. Williams, 01207 520063 and Rodney Hawkins, hawkins_15@sky.com.

Rodney Hawkins
Chair, Friends of Longovicium.



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HAWTHORN

A famous specimen in England was the Glastonbury or Holy Thorn which, according to legend, sprouted from the staff of Joseph of Arimathea after he thrust it into the ground while visiting Glastonbury in the 1st century AD. The tree was noteworthy because it flowered twice in a year, once in the late spring which is normal, but also once after the harshness of midwinter had passed. A sprig from this tree is presented to the British Monarch each Christmas.



Village Cakes & Bakes Carrot Cake

Dear Village Voice readers,

Having recently been knocked out of the GBBO 2022 auditions in the 3rd round, due to my lack of meringue knowledge! I thought it would be fun to share my knowledge of baking...and eating cakes with you here, while I contemplate another application to the GBBO 2023, with new improved knowledge of meringues of course!

One of my favourite cakes to bake, which is so simple to make, and has never failed me yet is this carrot cake recipe inspired by the queen of cakes, Mary Berry. What I really love about this cake is the use of vegetable oil rather than butter, it gives the cake a really moist texture, and of course the delicious cream cheese is just the icing on the cake! One very important element of this cake is to use full fat cream cheese for the filling...not a low fat version...a mistake I have made in the past, the result being a very runny icing and filling, which doesn't look too good. This cake rises perfectly, it's a very generous cake, great for sharing, choose to decorate with walnut halves or like me, make teeny weeny carrots from coloured fondant icing (or you can buy them ready made in most supermarkets).

Prue and Paul would have loved this...happy baking!

For the cake

250 ml sunflower oil
4 large eggs, beaten
225 g soft brown sugar
200 g carrots, peeled and coarsely grated (I sometimes add a little more here to make it extra carroty)
300 g self-raising flour
2 tsp baking powder
1 tsp ground mixed spice
1 tsp ground ginger
75 g walnuts, shelled and chopped, plus 8 halves to decorate

For the icing

50 g butter (room temperature)
25 g icing sugar
250 g full-fat cream cheese (room temperature)...I use the supermarket's own budget brand which works just as well as the expensive stuff!
3 drops of vanilla extract

Step-by-step

Preheat the oven to 180°C/fan 160°C/350°F/gas mark 4. Grease two deep 20cm (8in) round sandwich tins and line the bases of the cake tins with baking parchment.

In a large bowl, combine all the ingredients for the cake mixture. Spoon the mixture evenly between the tins.

Put the cakes in the oven and bake for about 35 minutes, or until golden brown, risen, and shrinking away from the sides of the tins. Transfer to a wire rack to cool.

Make the icing: measure the butter, icing sugar, cream cheese, and vanilla extract into a bowl and whisk using a hand or electric whisk until smooth and thoroughly blended. Spread half the icing on one cake, sit the other cake on top, and spread the remaining icing on top to make a swirl pattern. Decorate the top of the cake with the halved walnuts.



SITUATIONS VACANT Company Secretary / Treasurer/ Director

Lanchester Publications Ltd is a non profit making limited company which supports a number of local organisations by way of annual donation. The company is run by unpaid volunteers. All funds are raised from advertising in the Village Voice.

We are looking to recruit a volunteer to replace the current incumbent who covers the three roles and wishes to retire after a very long stint in the post.

The role of Company Secretary entails making annual financial and statutory returns to Companies House and ensuring that details of directors are kept up to date.

The treasurer is responsible for all aspects of accounting for the Village Voice using Sage accounts package:

- producing up to 30 sales invoices per month, and balance these with associated payments via the bank account
- process a handful of purchase invoices and expenses
- claims every 2 months.
- bank and petty cash reconciliations
- sales ledger - credit control and debt collection.

Attend 6 meetings per annum and present management accounts with P&L and balance sheet to each meeting, followed up by preparation and agreement of the annual accounts.

Negotiation, agreement and payment of the company insurance policies.

The work takes approximately 3 hours per month and also involves attending a 2 hour meeting every 2 months.

For further details, or for a discussion about the role, please email lanchestervillagevoice@yahoo.co.uk



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Remembering



Colin Burrows

01/02/1930 - 08/04/2022

Colin was born in Nelson, Lancashire, and remained a proud Lancastrian all his life. He started work in the Employment Exchange in Burnley but was posted to Germany with the RAF during the Berlin airlift. Having got engaged to Jean (at the age of 18 prior to leaving for Germany), they married after the end of his national service in 1951. He continued to work for Employment Exchanges, in Scotland and the north of England, becoming manager at both Spennymoor and Bishop Auckland.

From 1966, he, Jean and their two children lived in Foxhills Crescent, Lanchester, and they made many friends in the community. He was very involved in Lanchester Methodist Church, with the Sunday school, and also with the changes to the church in the early 90s.

He was also a long-standing member of Lanchester Operatic Society and enjoyed their performances. He joined the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service in the 70s, and worked there until his retirement in 1988. Even after retirement he continued to contribute, both as chairman of the local Age Concern, and also as a lay member for mental health reviews. He remained committed to trying to ensure that everyone got a fair chance of a good life.

He was a very loving, supportive husband to Jean for over 70 years of marriage, a great dad and granddad, and a loyal friend. He died peacefully in Greenways Court Care Home, only a few weeks after his 'trip of a lifetime', a helicopter ride piloted by his grandson. He was loved and respected by all who knew him, and he will be much missed.



40th Anniversary of the end of the Falklands campaign

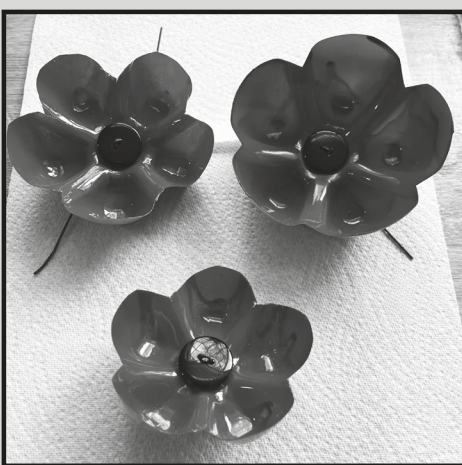
The 14th June 2022 commemorates the 40th anniversary of the end of the Falklands campaign and although it will be remembered by the increased poppy displays in November this year, we remember particularly Stewart Ian Laing from our village who was killed in action on Mount Longdon on the 12th June 1982 serving with the 3rd Battalion the Parachute Regiment.

The Commonwealth war grave of Stewart is in Lanchester, Kitswell Road

Cemetery. He was born 24th April 1962 and had lived in Alderside Crescent since around 1972 with his two brothers Russell and Andrew. He was a member of the 14th Lanchester Boys' Brigade and the Methodist Youth Club before leaving school and joining the armed forces.

RIP Stewart.

The Scots saying "Ne'er cast a clout til Mey's oot" conveys a warning not to shed any cloots (clothes) before the summer has fully arrived and the Mayflowers (hawthorn blossoms) are in full bloom.



Poppy workshop

We will be holding a poppy workshop on Saturday the 9th July from 1.30 – 4pm at Croft View Halls. Come along and see how we transform an empty plastic bottle into a poppy. Hopefully we will be able to show how each stage of the operation is done and everyone will have the opportunity of doing it themselves. Cutting the bottle, washing the part to be used, cutting out the poppy shape, drilling a hole in the bottom, painting it and finally fitting the button and the wire. We would welcome anyone who just wants to see how it works even if they don't want to have a go.

Tea and coffee will be available.



Notes from the House

To cap off a busy week in North West Durham, where I spent time touring the cultural scene in the run up to the City of Culture 2025 final with Arts minister Lord Parkinson, enjoying a sunny day at Consett RFC's Presentation Day, and conducting several important constituent surgeries – I was very

lucky to spend time with my mother, grandfather, and my little cousin Patrick (for whom it was his first visit to London), down in Westminster.

My grandfather, Patrick, and I attended the State Opening of Parliament, which serves to mark the formal start of the parliamentary year and sets out Her Majesty's Government's plans for the next year. It was a great occasion. Prince Charles, The Duchess of Cornwall and Prince William did a superb job as Counsellors of State in the Queen's absence. The Queen, I am sure, was sat at home with a big smile as her family performed her responsibilities with dignity. With 38 Government Bills in the Queen's Speech - it's going to be a busy year in Parliament.

Alongside other constitutional and conventional oddities, the Yeomen of the Guard (the men dressed in extravagant red costumes) searched the House of Lords and the underbelly of the palace for any Guy Fawkes copycats who would wish

to repeat the events of 3rd November 1605, to ensure the safety of all. And have you ever wondered why Black Rod – who for the first time is a role held by a woman – loudly bangs on the door of the Commons with her stick? This is because, when she isn't maintaining order within the Lords Chamber, she acts as the Monarch's spokesman. When the door of the Commons is shut on her, this is a symbolic gesture that the Commons - and by extension the electorate - is independent from the sovereign. In other words, democracy is rightly an unalienable tenet of our British state. There is no divine right, but constitutional monarchy allowed by the will of the people.

After all of this, my mum, who has worked in a community hospital all through the pandemic, as well as caring for my grandma who has very advanced dementia, joined me for a slightly rainy, but nonetheless very special, Buckingham Palace garden party. The first time we've spent time one-on-one since I was elected. Next week the House of Commons will continue with debates on the Queen's Speech and Parliament will get back into the swing of things! And I look forward to continuing my work in North West Durham, fighting my all for you and the rest of my constituents - especially to ease the burden of rising costs following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Richard Holden



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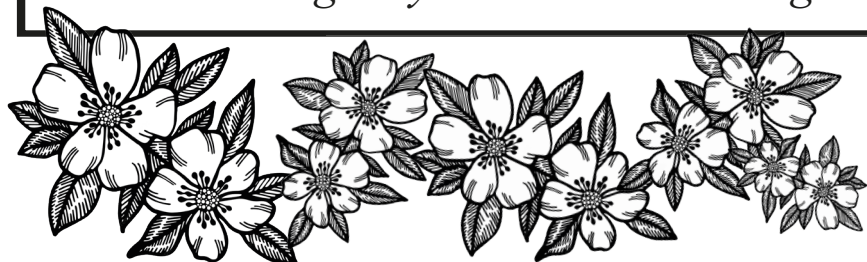


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Willow Burn Hospice

Willow Burn Hospice raises over £2,200 at Nurses' Spring Fair

Staff, volunteers, and supporters of Willow Burn Hospice raised over £2,200 at the Nurses' Spring Fair on Saturday 14 May.

The popular event was held at the hospice and included a cake stall, raffles, lawn games, face painting and tombolas, as well as craft, plant and gift stalls. A very special moment at the fair was when a beautiful quilt made in memory of former Willow Burn nurse, Anne Bestford, was auctioned for £320. This beautiful quilt was donated to Willow Burn by John Bestford, in memory of his dear wife. Anne was a long-time member of the very talented Consett Quilting Group and when Anne passed away John donated all her spare material to the group. They decided to use the donations to make this stunning quilt in Anne's memory.

A very big thank you to everyone who donated raffle and tombola prizes, those who volunteered on the day (including representatives from Lloyds Bank Consett and Newcastle Building Society) and to all our supporters who came along.

The next Nurses' Fair will be held on Saturday 26 November 2022.

Memories in Bloom at Willow Burn Hospice

This summer the gardens at Willow Burn will be adorned with colourful ceramic flowers as we once again host 'Memories in Bloom' this summer in memory of your loved ones.

In return for a minimum donation for £10 per flower, we will 'plant' a beautiful ceramic flower in the Willow Burn Gardens, in memory of your loved one, accompanied by a small wooden plaque with their name. Memories are flowers that bloom no matter what the weather.

The flowers will be on display from the end of July when you will be welcome to visit anytime to remember your loved one, reflect on the happy times you shared with them and be thankful for the beauty and colour they brought into your life.

If you would like further information about Memories in Bloom, or would like to be added to the Willow Burn In-Memory Mailing List please do not hesitate to contact Selina on: 01207 529 224 or email: smankin@willowburnhospice.org.uk

Upcoming Events

Coquet Challenge Walk for Willow Burn Hospice

Saturday 23 July 2022

The Coquet Valley Challenge Walk is a 13.5 mile trek that takes in some of the most beautiful landscape that Northumberland has to offer.

This challenging walk starts and ends in Rothbury, taking in summits at Addycombe Hill and Simonside before dropping down to follow the River Coquet back to the finish.

You can complete this walking challenge at your own pace, and it is dog friendly too. Why not get your friends and family together to make it a team challenge?

Registration Fee: £25 per person Minimum Sponsorship: £100 per person.

Contact Selina for further information: smankin@willowburnhospice.org.uk / 01207 529 224

Great North Run for Willow Burn Hospice

Sunday 11 September 2022

This challenge needs no introduction. This world-famous half-marathon will return to its original route this year and Willow Burn Hospice has guaranteed places available.

If taking on a running challenge is one of your aspirations for this year, then the Great North Run is for you. The iconic sights of Newcastle Tyne Bridge and the South Tyneside Coast, as well as the unparalleled encouragement from local supporters makes the Great North Run a truly amazing experience.

Not only will you be taking part in the world's biggest half-marathon, but you will also be helping us continue to be there for our patients and their families when they need us the most.

Registration Fee: £58 Minimum Fundraising Target: £300

Contact Selina for further information: smankin@willowburnhospice.org.uk / 01207 529 224



Thursday Club

In April we had a very full house of members, which was lovely to see. It also turned into a most enjoyable afternoon with merriment continuing throughout the meeting - the hall was ringing with laughter from start to finish.

The very amusing entertainer was our speaker - Dr Lowry - his subject being: "Wisdom teeth and funny bones". We really hadn't known what to expect. In the event, it was well worth waiting for. For the first time in 42 years of setting away a Thursday Club meeting I was presented with a write up from the speaker and this was definitely the warm up to set the scene for the ensuing cabaret.

Dr Lowry was a doctor and dentist but - stated the blurb - he had enjoyed a very "misspent youth"!!!!

He had been a script writer for many a well-known comedian - Dave Allen, Bernard Manning, John Cleese. Write ups for the Goons, Monty Python - even appearing in one of their episodes. A one man show had been taken to the Edinburgh Fringe for a good few years.

We were being treated to the 'one man show' for our Thursday Club meeting - what a hoot. I think everyone left on a high - a feel good factor in evidence everywhere. Such a lovely afternoon - let's hope we have many more.



Carole Bennett has retired as gent's hairdresser in Lanchester after 47 years.

Carole Bennett has retired as gent's hairdresser in Lanchester after 47 years.

In 1975 Harold Wilson was Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher became the first female leader of the Conservative party, Bill Gates and Paul Allen began Microsoft in New Mexico and Rod Stewart topped the charts with "Sailing" when Carole cut her first locks upstairs above Bennett Richmond solicitors and estate agents.

And at that time men's locks were much longer and more luxurious than they are today, such was the fashion of the time. Carole has left a note on the door of the premises announcing that the gent's hairdressers has closed from April 30 due to her retirement.

She was well known not only for her barbering skills but also

for her wide range of knowledge on a huge assortment of subjects.

Getting a haircut from Carole could be quite an education as well.

She writes modestly in her farewell note to customers: "I hope in a small way I have given service and satisfaction. Best wishes and a big thank you to all."

One resident and customer said "A very big thank you for cutting our hair for 47 years, and the chat.

We wish you a very happy and enjoyable retirement - you will be missed."

Carole will be a huge miss to the village and the Voice wishes her well in her deserved retirement.



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HAWTHORN

Serbian folklore notes that hawthorn is essential to kill vampires, and stakes used for their slaying must be made from the wood of the thorn tree



Lanchester Wines and the Lanchester Wine Club at the North East Chef of the Year competition

Lanchester Wines continue to spread their expertise to the hospitality sector. There was a request from the North East Chef of the Year Competition to help budding new and trainee chefs to understand the importance of selecting the best wines to drink when fine dining. Ben Cott and Matt Murray from Lanchester Wines supplied this expertise with an in-house training section at the competition.

This was supported by a very wide range of international wines available to the hospitality sector. As you can imagine the local chefs are recognised experts in creating top quality food. To be able to recommend a wine to accompany the food, which can elevate the entire experience, can be a revelation.

The event was held at Grand Gosforth Hotel. The public are always welcome. The winner this year was Alex Walker from the 21 Hospitality group, part of Terry Laybourne's restaurant group. Lanchester Wine Club was in attendance, having missed the last two due to the pandemic. Ben was insistent we tried some of his selection. The first white was a wonderfully rounded fruity aromatic wine, but what was it? Well, it was an English Pinot Grigio, accompanying a fish course it would be great. We then tried another white, a South African Sauvignon Blanc.



This is new and quite rare; it's normally produced in New Zealand. We all agreed it was very acceptable and enjoyable. Just for balance, of course, we finished with French Cotes du Rhone - very smooth!

Douglas Jordan, Chairman of the competition, is very well known to the Willow Burn fund raising team. He has volunteered to produce a 4 course meal for 8 people at Willow Burn next month.

Paul Jackson
Lanchester Wine Club.

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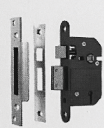
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Lanchester Flower Club

Member of the National Association of Flower Arrangers Society

We all enjoyed a lovely flower demonstration on Wednesday 27th April 2022 at our usual venue, Lanchester Community Centre. Our N.A.F.A.S demonstrator was Christine Ogle and her theme was "Do you believe in Fairies?" As you can see from the photo, she did some beautiful arrangements, with so many gorgeous colours, along with some lovely story telling. All the arrangements were later raffled.

Tea, coffee and biscuits were served and we all enjoyed chatting to our friends. It was a lovely social afternoon. Everyone is welcome, please come and join us.

Our next meeting will be our summer outing to Eggleston Gardens on 29th June, so we are wishing for a lovely sunny day.

If you need any further information or details please contact Helen Tomlinson on 01207 503667 our Chairperson or Lestrine Kelly 01207 521494 our Secretary.

Our annual membership is £25 paid in January/February.

Visitors are £5 per meeting.

Lestrine Kelly

N.A.F.A.S demonstrator,
Christine Ogle



Lanchester WI met in May

Lanchester WI met on May 9th and were greeted by President Marie Murphy. Marie directed our attention to the lists displayed on the information table; there are many events planned for the coming weeks, including those to mark the Queen's Jubilee. Members were urged to add their names to ensure they were included in future plans. There are various ways in which members can support our branch, besides attending various events: members can volunteer to present a reading or a vote of thanks to speakers, they can contribute raffle prizes, or join our committee. This month, our raffles were won by Diane Oram, Elaine Mee and Valerie Johnson. We were reminded that the community centre is still a collection point for goods to be sent to Ukraine so members can feel free to bring their contributions.

Our speaker was Denise Watson, who presented an interesting account of the origins and the development of British Sign Language. Denise told us that in the past, many deaf people were regarded as mentally weak. It was not until 1975 that the BSL introduced research into linguistics after investigation had revealed that many deaf children were leaving school with poor reading skills. The attitude towards BSL in schools became more positive and, over

recent years, BSL has gained in popularity and influence, often appearing in TV programmes and taking an important role in everyday life. Denise had prepared some information sheets which illustrated some of the signing language, and it was really fascinating to find out how language was visually portrayed. It's a mark of the interest and support of 'signing' that this is now accepted in so many areas of life.

We ended our meeting with tea and biscuits. Our next meeting will be on June 6th, and our speaker will describe the Return of the Red Kite. Our competition is to produce a length of bunting, in readiness for our Jubilee celebrations. Our Jubilee Afternoon Tea will take place on June 9th and you are invited to dress according to the traditional Tea Party apparel - bright summer colours!

* Ukuleles for fun group

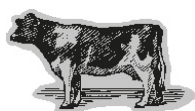
The group has decided to have a break until after the school holidays. We hope to meet and play again on 8th September.

Jean Dougherty



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Good day readers

For this edition of the Village Voice, I am going to share with you a walk I have been taken on not too far from Lanchester.

For those who haven't met me on my walks, my name is Poppy, I am a black Patterdale Terrier with a tinge of grey, and I enjoy sharing details of the walks I lead my Humans on. Smiddy Shaw reservoir is located just off the A68 from Castleside,

down a road called Healeyfield Lane.

It is nine miles from my home in Lanchester in the Human's car, where I sit in the front to give directions.

We alight in a gravel car park opposite a white building which is now a private house but used to be a pub called the Moorcock. I often notice my male Human staring wistfully in its direction when we get out of the car.

I am kept on my lead throughout the duration of this walk due to the presence of sheep, funny black faced creatures in this instance. Notices insist on this rule being obeyed.

We walk along a path surrounded by heather, and it is noticeably colder and windier than Lanchester. There aren't

many trees about, but the moorland has a rather splendid feel to it and there are smells in abundance to explore.

By following the path, we can see the outline of the reservoir, and walk below a grassy embankment for a hundred yards or so before finding some steps which lead us to the top of the embankment, where humans can see over the wall onto the reservoir. I can too if I jump onto the wall.

We follow the contours of the reservoir and come to a cottage which overlooks it, and which has a small boat moored in front. Behind the cottage are pens containing fierce looking dogs which bark loudly.

I try to ignore them. We either walk through the courtyard in front of the dogs or take a detour behind them which leads to a footbridge across a stream.

Either way we get back onto the shore of the reservoir and continue to walk round it in a full circle.

The walk takes a little less than an hour and there are lots of streams to explore en route which of course feed into the reservoir.

Regrettably I have to be kept on my lead, but it is still an enjoyable walk which I would recommend unless it is too windy!



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Ladies who lunch

Our last outing was to the Seven Stars situated in Shincliffe village. It has been taken over, refurbished and has a fantastic new menu - the choices are endless. We were seated in an alcove just off the main restaurant - it had just a nice amount of room for one table - suited our needs perfectly. The waitress was very welcoming, extremely informative (her husband was one of the chefs) and we were soon ready to order our meal.

Instead of a main course, some of us had two starters - gives a lighter and possibly a more interesting option for lunch.

Starters were: crispy pork and bacon pudding served with chilli jam and pickled veg spaghetti; seared scallops served with parsnip purée, bacon jam and roasted pine nuts (if you like seafood, this is the place for you - 3 HUGE scallops served on a platter); grilled asparagus with cured grated egg yolk parmesan and herb oil; beetroot tartare served with prepared goats cheese and pea shoots; and pan fried chicken livers with bacon crisps, onion and apple brandy chutney. Mains were: Thai Penang curry with sticky rice and prawn crackers and rainbow trout served with crushed potatoes and asparagus velouté. Puddings were: chocolate orange torte with vanilla ice cream, pear tarte tatin with clotted cream ice cream (it looked amazing - but, the tart failed to rise to the occasion, which was a pity but the price was taken off the bill), creme brûlée with raspberries and cinnamon shortbread, and sticky toffee pudding with butterscotch and vanilla ice cream, and an ice cream selection.

Lovely coffee finished off a superb meal.

Our food was absolutely delicious with lots of new and varied options to try. We had had a really lovely afternoon until we came to pay the bill when we had a bit of controversy with the automated till over our account. I'm very pleased to say that golden oldies and old style mathematics won the day!!

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Solar farm proposed at Burnhope

A new solar farm is being proposed at Burnhope. The map for the location of the farm is shown below and it will occupy 215 acres of land. The proposal is being led by lightsourcebp. It aims to produce nearly 52,000 megawatt hours of electricity per year – equivalent to the energy needs of nearly 14,000 households.

There was a consultation in Burnhope recently. The proposers state that they will screen the site from the road, allow for continued agricultural use and boost diversity.

Full details of the proposal are at: <https://www.lightsourcebp.com/uk/projects/Burnhope/>. The project is being finalised and the next stage is to apply for planning permission.

Clearly such a proposal will arouse strong opinions, so we have asked Sonny Shepherd of the Lanchester Environment Group for her views to spark off the debate.

Proposed Burnhope Solar Farm provides a Ray of Hope

The current energy crisis resulting in rapidly rising energy costs is helping us all to focus on how and where our energy is sourced. There is no doubt in most people's mind that we need cheaper, cleaner and locally produced energy. Consequently, I welcome this proposed solar development near Chapman's Well.

The proposed site is largely screened by biodiversity - rich wood and scrubland which I believe will remain untouched. And the proposal is to create meadow grassland within the solar farm which can continue to be grazed by sheep, hence maintaining its agricultural use.

By providing for the energy needs of over 5% of County Durham households, this seems to be just the sort of project we need to help in combating both climate change and energy security. If we could link this with reducing our demands and some energy storage, we could of course make an even bigger difference.





What are your thoughts?

Sonny Shepherd,
Lanchester Environment Group

We're interested to hear readers' views – please send them in.

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Lanchester Library Library Opening Hours

It is very good news that the library is now open on their pre-Covid hours: Monday 2pm - 5.30pm, Tuesday 2pm - 5.30pm, Thursday 9am - 7pm, and Saturday 9.30am - 12.30pm. See you there.

Library Book Club

On Monday June 27th at 2.30 to 3.30pm, the group will be discussing 'People of Abandoned Character' by Clare Whitfield. 'This impressive debut builds superbly with plenty of twists and turns' (Women and Home), set in Victorian London plagued by Jack the Ripper.....We look forward to seeing you there and sharing our views.

Thursday Book Club

On Thursday June 16th from 4-5pm, the group will be discussing The Herd by Emily Williams. A page turner, focusing on children's vaccinations and the consequences between two families and their friendships. An excellent read. If you would like to join this book group, pop into the library and pick up your copy.

Knit and Natter is back too, June 6th, the first Thursday of the month 10-11.30am. Bring along your wool, needles and patterns and share your makes and get advice too. Enjoy. Future dates: July 7th and August 4th.

Lanchester Friendship Group

Tuesday 2-4pm during term time. A new group for anyone who just wants to sit and chat or listen, no set agenda. Come along

and try it out.

A NEW OPPORTUNITY

available on the 2nd Thursday of each month for a group to meet in the library. We can offer craft, creative or colouring in sessions. Speak to your friendly library staff at the library for more information.

Toddle Time

Every other Thursday 2-2.30. For babies and under 5s, come along and enjoy songs and rhymes with other young families. Ask Laura about future sessions. Term time only. Children's Activities Monday May 30th, theme: The Queens Jubilee. It is half term, make plans and come along.

ALERT PARENTS, CARERS AND CHILDREN.

Free activities during the summer holidays, get ready for the **Summer Reading Challenge**. The theme for 2022 is 'Gadgeteers'. Collect your stickers and prizes, weekly crafts in the library and at the end of the challenge, children will receive a certificate and a medal. Are you a budding engineer or creative?

Lanchester Local History Society

Please remember that we are not holding a meeting on Friday June 3rd as it would clash with the village Queen's Jubilee celebrations. Check future editions for our July 1st meeting.

Thursday Club

There will be no meeting of the Thursday Club in the Community Centre next month. Instead, we shall be off out on a visit to Thornton Hall gardens, on June 23rd. Our coach will be leaving the village from outside Cooplands at 12noon.

Lanchester WI

Our next meeting will be on June 6th, and our speaker will describe the Return of the Red Kite.

Lanchester Methodist Church

Crafty Coffee Morning

Meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10am till 12 in the Methodist Church. Call in for a cuppa and a chat and if you wish there is wool, needles, patterns, etc. to knit for charity. Next date is June 14th.

Lanchester Methodist Wives and Friends

Our next meeting will be June 1st. We will be visiting The Orchard Garden and holding a Jubilee tea party. Please meet at Newbiggen Lane Car Park at 1.15 for lifts. Remember to bring a picnic and cup, and dress code is red, white and blue if possible!

Cuppa and Company lunch club

The next meeting will be 12pm on Tuesday 14th June at Lynwood House. All welcome, any queries call Jackie on 07908 838452.

City Theatre

"BusyBody" a comedy by Jack Popplewell will be on at The City Theatre Durham, DH1 3RA, from June 12th -18th. Mrs Piper, the office cleaning lady, finds a body, then has to help the police at

every turn to solve the mystery. Tickets now available from the Gala Box Office. £8.50 with concessions Sun matinee and Monday evening. 03000266600. Please note there is no evening performance on the Sunday.

The Lanchester Partnership Friends of Longovicium

The next meeting will be Thursday 23rd June at 7.30pm in the Community Centre. Further information from Mrs M. Williams, 01207 520063 and Rodney Hawkins, hawkins_15@sky.com.

Choral Society

Lanchester Choral Society Queen's Jubilee Concert, Friday 3rd June, 7:15pm at Lanchester Methodist Church. Tickets from any member.

Henry Dancer Days Barn Dance

Saturday 16th July, 2022 at 7pm at the Lanchester Community Centre. Tickets £20 each to include a hog roast. Information at www.henrydancerdays.co.uk/barn.

John Clark Memorial Charity Golf Day

Wednesday 21st September 2022, first tee 9:30am at Consett Golf Club. 18 holes individual Stableford. £35. Contact Dave Redford 07791524906 or email d.redford67@sky.com.

Local History Society

Please remember that we are not holding a meeting on Friday June 3rd as it would clash with the village Queen's Jubilee celebrations. Check future editions for our July 1st meeting.

Lanchester Vintage Tractor Club

Meet on the first Wednesday of every month at 7pm at the Lanchester Social Club. The next tractor run is on the 12th June at 10am from Burnhope layby.

Wildlife group

Our June meeting will be a field trip. For more information, email: lanchesterwildlifegroup@outlook.com or phone E. Williams on 01207 520063



Lanchester Medical Centre: Lanchester Patient Participation Group

Lanchester
Medical Centre

Cervical screening can save lives

Cervical screening has changed over the past few years and is part of ongoing improvements to the programme. In England, Scotland, and Wales, Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) primary screening is the primary testing method used on samples collected at cervical screening. This is not a test for cancer but having cervical screening lowers your chances of getting cervical cancer.

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a common virus that 8 in 10 people will get. Your immune system normally clears HPV by itself, and it usually goes away without causing any problems. High-risk HPV can cause the cells in your cervix to change. Over time these cells can develop into cervical cancer; over 99.7% of cervical cancers are caused by high-risk HPV.

All samples taken at cervical screening are tested for high-risk HPV and if this is not detected the risk of developing cervical cancer is extremely low. If high-risk HPV is detected that same sample will be tested for cell changes. If no cell changes are identified, you will be invited for a repeat test in 12 months to check if you have cleared the virus. If cell changes are identified, you will be referred for colposcopy examination to look at your cervix more closely and any abnormalities will be treated.

Cervical screening in England is currently offered for women and people with a cervix every 3 years from age 25 to 49 and every 5 years from age 50 to 64. The test is sensitive and accurate, meaning cell changes are detected early. Evidence shows it is safe for those who test negative for high risk HPV to be screened less often. Chances of getting cancer within 5 years are very small as it can take 10 -15 years for HPV to develop into cancer; the risk of this happening before your next screening test is very low. Changes to cervical screening intervals has already happened in other countries; Wales and Scotland have moved to 5 year testing for those who test negative for HPV on their previous test. England will follow in due course following implementation of the new Cervical Screening Management System.

Cervical screening saves lives; you should consider having screening regardless of your sexual orientation, sexual history, or whether you have had the HPV vaccination. The test only takes a few minutes. If you are anxious, you could ask someone you trust about their experience, speak with your nurse or doctor, or call the Jo's Trust helpline on 0808 802 8000 for more support.

Trudy Johnson

North East and Yorkshire Cervical Screening Manager

Your cervical screening test is done at Lanchester Medical Centre on a day and at time that is convenient for you; please respond to your invitation letter and book an appointment.



LANCHESTER
COMMUNITY CENTRE

Community Centre News

*Here is the latest
news from your
Community
Centre.*

There is something available for everyone at the Centre from exercise groups, having a great time keeping fit, to interest groups who come together to discover or learn with like-minded people. Please look online or check the Information Point.

A few groups that currently have spaces available are -

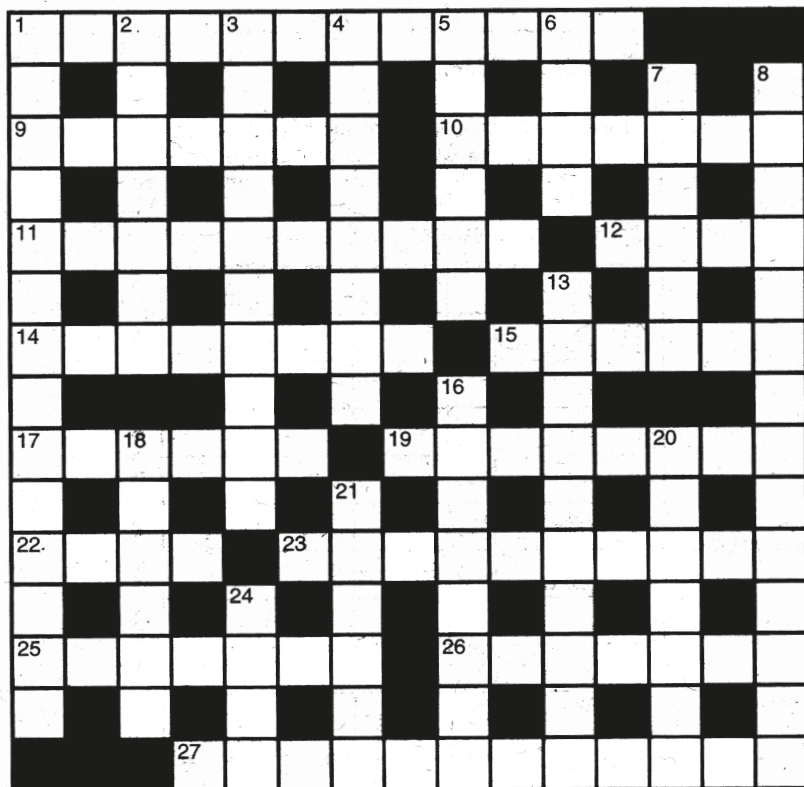
- **Taekwondo** suitable for ages 5 to 85. Self-defence, fitness and confidence can all be developed. The classes are held on Monday, 5pm-6pm and Thursday 6pm-7pm. Come along and speak to Neil.
- **Swing Fit**, a great way to keep fit. It's gentle exercise while you dance. This is available on Tuesdays 4.30pm to 5.30pm. Again, come along and have a chat with Cath.
- **Drama Tots** is for 18 months to 5-year-olds with their carer to be involved in imaginative play, each Tuesday 1pm-1.45pm. Come along and speak with Leanne.
- **Trying to get fit for summer?** The Gym has extended opening hours, Monday to Friday, 7am-9pm and weekends 9am-4pm. An induction is necessary, so contact the office to make arrangements. At only £19.50 a month it is great value for money.

The Community Centre is a great venue for parties, family gatherings and business meetings. There are various size rooms that can meet your needs.

The office is staffed 9am-3pm Monday to Friday. If you have any enquiries about any of the activities or clubs available or you want to know more about hiring our brilliant venue please get in touch on 01207 521275 or drop in and have a chat - it will be good to meet you!

To keep up to date with what's going on check out our Information Point, follow us on Facebook 'Lanchester Community Centre' or check out our new website - <https://lanchestercc.co.uk/>

CLUES CROSSWORD 173



Across

- 1 India state rearranges truth parades (5,7)
 9 Roe also found in mist (7)
 10 Indian rainy season (7)
 11 Regional (10)
 12 Ban (4)
 14 Leaving before time (3,5)
 15 Noises (6)
 17 Smart (6)
 19 Close in on (8)
 22 Impressed (4)
 23 Sweetener (5,5)
 25 African state (7)
 26 Adage (7)
 27 Freedom (12)

Down

- 1 Aloof (14)
 2 Stop paying attention (4,3)
 3 Suspended (10)
 4 A means of discovering who is present (4-4)
 5 Humiliate (6)
 6 Rational (4)
 7 Rule (6)
 8 Trivial (14)
 13 Communicate (10)
 16 Many (8)
 18 Nevertheless (4,2)
 20 Not sympathetic to the environment (7)
 21 Select (6)
 24 Shock (4)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please send your completed entries for the £10 prize draw (by the deadline date on back page) to the Village Voice, c/o Lanchester Community Centre, Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester, DH7 0HY



Winner of crossword 172

I.L. Armstrong who has donated the prize to the Ukraine appeal.

There were 13 entries this month of which 11 were correct.

The winner was drawn out of the hat.

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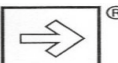
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Lanchester Endowed Parochial School

Year 5 recently had the opportunity to visit Lanchester Community Orchard as part of their topic work on 'Allotments'. We were kindly shown around by Sonny and Paul who explained why the orchard was set up, and how it can be used by the whole community. We really enjoyed the visit as a lot of us didn't realise that this lovely area was in our village.

Our favourite parts of the afternoon at the allotment were looking at all the beautiful flowers and trying to identify the wide range of vegetables that were being grown. One of the areas we have been learning about in class is food miles and the distance that our food travels before it arrives on our plate so it was good to see that a lot of our food can be grown organically in our own gardens which is much better for the environment.

A lot of the gardeners clearly take great pride in their allotments, and it is a lovely area to visit as there are paths which go around the orchard and it is a very peaceful place. We are hoping to revisit the orchard in the summer term to see what new plants and vegetables have grown since we were last there.



Year 5 visit to the Community Orchard

A big thank you to Sonny and Paul for all their help and hard work that they do.

Lacey, Annabel, Ella and Kate

LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from the Ordinary Meeting held in Lynwood House on Tuesday 10 May 2022 at 7.15pm

Minutes – Ordinary Meeting 12 April – approved

Police Report – Received. Information on how the statistics compare to county and national statistics and targets to be requested alongside police attendance at a future meeting.

Correspondence

• **Durham County Council** – Christmas Lights 2022

- Councillors agreed to accept the price of £1,296 for undertaking the annual work to the Christmas Lights on the Village Green

• **Society of Local Council Clerks** – annual membership renewed at a cost of £215.00

• **County Durham Association of Local Councils** - annual membership renewed at a cost of £574.37

• **Damage to rights of way in Foxcover Woods** - Councillors considered information received from a resident regarding recent felling works in Foxcover Woods which has damaged and blocked rights of way. It was agreed that correspondence is sent to the County Council expressing concern about the works and asking that they investigate the matter

• **Lanchester Allotments Association** – Minutes of the AGM received

• **Jubilee Grant available from the County Councillors** – It was agreed that an application is made towards the cost of planting a jubilee tree in the autumn

• **The Way of Light – Interpretation Board** – It was agreed that a response is made asking why images of all three churches are not included, seeking clarification on ongoing maintenance and informing the County Council of damage to the route from the nearby river

Durham County Councillors – An update was received on several issues including: traffic proposals around schools, meeting regarding road safety issues, meeting with Head of St Bedes School regarding additional parking options, Karbon Homes – delays in maintenance works to some properties, Burnhope Solar farm – consultation.

Councillors were informed of the progress on the City of Culture Bid. They were informed that the new County Hall will be sold. They were made aware of the increase in card fraud through the use of card readers that can access your card details.

Manor Grange Play Area - Councillors were informed that a pre-start meeting had taken place with representatives from the Parish Council, Durham County Council and HAGs UK play company. Work is due to start in the week commencing 23 May 2022, the police to be informed of the start date. An article will be placed in the Village Voice to inform the community of progress. It was agreed that the surface for the footpath will be bound gravel and that an additional seat be included in the scheme.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons Event - Councillors received an update on the event. Arrangements are in progress. Planning permission has been received to permanently locate the beacon at Burnhope picnic area. Information from the Safety Advisory Group and the licence for the event are still awaited. Councillors considered and approved a pack of event information which included: aerial map, site plan, day timetable, event timetable, risk assessment, volunteer information and poster

Lanchester Partnership – Jubilee Event - Councillors considered information received on the Lanchester Partnership Jubilee event planned for Sunday 5 June. It was agreed that a donation of £500 is made towards the event

Traffic Concerns - Councillors discussed the ongoing traffic concerns around the EP Primary School. Councillors considered and supported the amended parking and waiting proposal from the County Council to address the current problems and asked that enforcement takes place once the scheme is implemented.

Unpleasant Odour in the Village - Residents have been in contact concerned about the unpleasant odour in the village. It was agreed that the situation is monitored

Works to Dwellings and Gardens - Councillors noted the many works to dwellings and gardens in the village. The requirement for planning permission can be complex particularly within the conservation area. It was agreed that an article is placed in the Village Voice recommending that residents check with the County Council planning section before undertaking works to dwellings or gardens

Insurance Renewal 2022/23 – reviewed and approved

Internal Audit Report 2021/22 – considered and approved

Financial report - approved

Accounts for Payment – approved

Lanchester All Saints' Primary School

Although this has been a relatively short half term (four weeks and four days if you include the Bank Holiday), it certainly hasn't meant that time in school has been any less jam packed! We have been thrilled to see more glimmers of sunshine and Reception, Year One and Year Two have been making the most of our wonderful outdoor area by planting a range of seeds (including beans, cress, sunflowers, poppies, cornflowers and poached egg plants) alongside our gardening club who are currently waiting for onions, carrots, potatoes and beetroot to sprout! Our Upper Key Stage Two pupils enjoyed the nice weather at the beginning of term to complete their Bike Ability training. We hope you notice our pupils riding safely and sensibly around the village in the weeks to come.

Each cohort has continued to be immersed in their learning this half term. Reception have enjoyed exploring space. Our Key Stage One staff are also very excited to be welcoming some three-year-old pupils into school from September. Our building plans for the indoor and outdoor classroom are well underway and we are very excited! Year One are continuing their castles topic and were very proud to show their 3D creations! In Year Two, the children are learning about holidays from the past (Victorian era) and alongside this, are making puppets! Year Three are very much enjoying their Ancient Greece topic and, whilst learning about European artists, really enjoyed creating a piece of art whilst lying upside down like Michelangelo. Year Four have been impressing us with their coding knowledge and are well on their way to finishing their very own computer quiz design. As part of their Design and Technology curriculum, Year Five and Year Six are focusing upon developing their technical knowledge. By the end of term, Year Five will have used sketches, computer aided design and 3D printing to produce cars which will then be propelled by CO2 as part of a race. Year Six are currently developing a fleet of robot helpers, who, again by computer

aided design and 3D printing, will incorporate movement, light and sound to complete useful roles in our society. Following from their visit to Nissan, our Year Six pupils are particularly looking forward to working on their own design and engineering projects. We are looking forward to seeing how our Year Three pupils perform in their first tennis competition; they have been working with a tennis coach to refine their back hand, forehand and serve! Our Year Four pupils are making great progress in their swimming lessons and look forward to their weekly lesson.

For our final week in school, we are holding an Enrichment week when all children will have the chance to work with different staff members on a range of different areas (such as foreign languages, sports, art and technology). We will be finishing the half term by dressing up formally to celebrate the Queen's jubilee. A street party and some Maypole dancing (along with a little surprise here and there) will ensure we are suitably prepared to celebrate such an important event!

Throughout all of this wonderful learning, the 'testing season' is upon us with children in Reception, Year One, Year Two, Year Four and Year Six undergoing assessments at some point in the year. To all of our children, we want our main message to be that they are more than a score and that, as long as they try their best, we are proud of them. We also ensure that our children understand that tests do not measure a sense of humour, imagination, potential, kindness, daily progress, creativity, compassion or sense of adventure, for example. We hope that, if anyone in your family is undergoing assessments, that they also understand their true inner worth.

Frances Stephenson
Head Teacher

Nursery Provision - All Saints' School

We are very excited to announce that, from September, there will be a thirteen-place nursery at All Saints'. We are offering fifteen or thirty hours to families and our wrap around care will also be available to nursery pupils (7.45am – 5pm). The offer of fifteen hours will be across mornings, afternoons; or Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning; or Wednesday afternoon, Thursday and Friday. If you would like further information, a school visit, or an application form, please contact us by phone on 01207 520435 or via email at lanchesterallsaints@durhamlearning.net

Frances Stephenson
Head Teacher
All Saints' R.C. Primary, Lanchester



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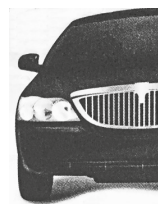


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History of cricket in Lanchester *Appeal for information*

In 2023, the Cricket Club will be celebrating 50 continuous years of cricket. I am currently working on getting sufficient information to produce a book in relation to reaching the landmark. I'm working through the years and have come across things I could do with some help on:

The Clubhouse has been extended several times and I'm looking for photos at the different stages.

In 1981, from the Club Minutes, there is reference to the Club hosting a Motor Rally. Does anyone know anything about that? Also in 1981, Lance Cairns opened the extended clubhouse and gave trophies to the juniors...does anyone have a picture or two? The under 13 side of 1989 went to the regional finals in Edinburgh, were you one of those players? Do you have any photos? The same group won at under 15 level in 1991 and under 18s in 1994. I would love to hear from any of them. I think Jamie Laidler, Lawrence Pearson and Mark Carlin were amongst the players.

Statistics are better recorded in latter years, but the taking of hat tricks has been sadly under recorded. Do you know of someone who has taken three wickets in three balls?

If you can assist, please email me Andrew McConnell at AnJsine89@mail.com.

I will be back, I suspect, with further requests!

Great start for Lanchester

Lanchester Bowling Club made a great start to the season with a win over Fishburn in the Wednesday afternoon league. Just as we were arranging the open top bus to parade around the village, the evening team brought us back to earth, losing to White-le-Head. Sadly, as I write things have not got a lot better. I will spare you the details but suffice to say we are in it for the long haul, and don't they say it's not about winning but the taking part. The good thing about bowls is that even if the team gets beaten overall, if your rink plays well or you have a few good ends you can still enjoy your game. Unlike some of our rival local clubs we have welcomed a number of new and returning members and our get together sessions on Thursday and Sunday afternoons are well attended. There are currently concerns about some local clubs who are struggling to get their membership back to pre-Covid levels. I am pleased to say we do not have the same concerns in our club, but we will still welcome anyone who wants to give the game a try.



Bright start to tennis season!

On Sunday 15th May, Lanchester Lawn Tennis Club held a free tennis open day at the courts on Ford Road. This was in conjunction with the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) campaign to encourage tennis in the community. Over 60 people of all ages enjoyed a beautiful sunny day of different types of tennis activity, including the "Tennis Factory", ball machine and cardio tennis. Light refreshments and free giveaways were the order of the day. Secretary Dennis Laycock would like to thank all the volunteers who provided directions, information and catering for the players throughout the afternoon and of course, all those that attended the event, young and old, for making the day a great success!

The presentation of Tennis Lifetime Achievement Award (National) took place in a virtual ceremony on Thursday 19th May, with the winners announced on the LTA YouTube channel. Following his success at County and Regional level, Dennis was one of seven nominees from around the country for the LTA National award. The award recognises the outstanding contribution volunteers make to tennis, dedicating time and energy to the sport. Unfortunately, Dennis missed out on the top award but was honoured to have made the final selection. He has, however, been invited to receive his regional award at Ilkley Tennis Club on 18th June during their international tennis tournament. With the coaching programme well under way with player numbers rising, and future events like Strawberry Tea and BBQ planned, an exciting 2022 season is in prospect.

Any details about Lanchester Lawn Tennis Club can be obtained from Dennis on 07960494442, email den.lizjane@gmail.com or follow us on Facebook.



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Cricket News

Since that opening day victory, the first team had three defeats at the hands of Ashington, Castle Eden and Philadelphia. However, they did finish the reporting period with a close win at Blaydon, which keeps them in mid-table. Blaydon were bowled out for 132 with Kieron Taylor taking 4-38. They were slightly disappointed that their final wicket pair put on 40. It was a hard slog to pass the Blaydon total and Lanchester were indebted to a stubborn unbeaten 32 by Pasindu.

The seconds had more success as they lost only once to Burnmoor, having beaten Philadelphia, Eppleton and Blaydon. In the match against Philadelphia, Dan Scott took a career best 7-37. Eppleton were beaten by 9 wickets after Jack Slane and Cameron Metcalfe took 3 wickets each. In the win over Blaydon, Nav Ahmed, Ethan Connolly and Sam Reynolds scored fifties, while Dan Scott took 4 wickets in a fantastic fight back.

The third team have instilled fear into their opponents as the first two teams conceded. They eventually got a game against Seaham Park and won comfortably. Teenagers, Mae Deaville took a wicket with her first ball in senior cricket and Toby Somersall scored a maiden senior 50.

The fourth team, a combo with Burnhope, have won their two matches so far. They beat Kimblesworth in the opening game and then beat Consett by 5 runs chiefly thanks to an unbeaten 116 by 15-year-old Ethan Connolly.

Only one under 18 match has been played as two games have been conceded by opposition and that was an easy win over South Northumberland, meanwhile the under 15s have had handsome wins in the first two rounds of the Willis Elliott Cup, beating Blaydon and Greenside. Ryton await in the semi-final.

Girls' football opportunities

Football in the past has been dominated by male role models. Currently with the coverage of woman's football growing unbelievably the women's game is expanding faster than ever, proving the possession of this sport shouldn't be left to the boys.

Our club, Deerness Valley FC, based close to Durham, has been working hard to grow a girls' section. We have made huge strides in creating opportunities for girls to play this national sport. As an example, we teamed up with Durham Woman's FC as a sister club to give the younger players a chance to meet the experienced and successful ladies. Indeed, football is now officially the biggest female team sport in England. Last season over 147,000 female players competed in affiliated league and cup competitions – a figure which has risen from just 10,400 in 1993, when records started.

But there is still massive growth potential – 1.1 million girls play kick about football – with lots of barriers we are still eager to overcome.

Deerness Valley has started a Wildcats section to allow girls as young as 6 to come along to our development centre and try out football. We also have U10, U12, U14, U15 and U18 teams, welcoming new players with open arms, no matter the experience or level.

Feel free to get in contact to get some more information from Anja on 07737395641.



New Play Area for Lanchester

Following several years of work to secure leases and funding, work is due to start on the new play area at Manor Grange.

The aim is to provide a more accessible and greatly improved play facility for children aged 12 and under.

Lanchester Parish Council have worked with Durham County Council and have awarded a

contract to HAGs UK for the installation of the new play area at Manor Grange.

The winning design (see image on the back page) was chosen following consultation and the design incorporates improved accessibility and ground drainage works.

Work to install the new play area is due to commence at the end of May. Funding for the project was made available from Durham County Council's Area Budget, Durham County Councillors' Neighbourhood Budget and from Lanchester Parish Council.

Our thanks go to Ossie Johnson and Jude Considine who supported and committed funds to the project when they were County Councillors up until May 2021.

We look forward to the completion of the project and to seeing children enjoy the new play area.

Lanchester Parish Council

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Girls' football opportunities (page 23)



History of cricket in Lanchester (page 22)



New Play Area for Lanchester (page 23)



Bright start to tennis season!

Over 60 people of all ages enjoyed a beautiful sunny day of different types of tennis activity, including the "Tennis Factory" (page 22)

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NEXT DEADLINE

Please submit any articles for the next edition of the Village Voice by
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The deadline for advertisers is
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Published by Lanchester Publications Ltd, c/o Lanchester Community Centre, Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester, DH7 0PB
and printed by **pmcreative**, Studio 11, Annfield Plain, Durham, DH9 7RU .

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