

the Village Voice

Issue No 7, Volume 24

Lanchester, July 2024



A-mazing orchard!

'No Mow May' took on a new slant this year when some of the Orchard members came up with the idea of cutting a maze into the central square. This is still in situ and looks just beautiful. Please come and visit and discover how lovely this space is. Children especially will love to chase around in the circles of the maze. Barrie McDermid kindly took these wonderful shots in mid-June, it is just amazing to see these shots of the Orchard taken from above.

Thanks Barrie!

If you would like to get involved in the Orchard group, then please get in touch at lanchesterorchard@outlook.com. We would love to see some new members! Why not come and get involved in one of our work sessions?

Lynn Hedley



Lanchester & Langley Hardware

for all your hardware requirements

• **Calor gas sales** • **Discounted batteries** • **Dehumidifiers**
and all home decorating supplies



LANCHESTER: 01207 520377
LANGLEY PARK: 0191 3732278





Politics CAN be civilised - at least in Lanchester

A hustings attended by six of the seven election candidates for North Durham - Labour was the notable absentee - was judged a success by all who attended. All the candidates were invited, and all accepted except Luke Akehurst, Labour. His team issued a statement:

"Luke will not attend tonight's hustings in Lanchester.

Following previous public events his election team felt that it was unfair to attract any disruption to another community within the constituency. Luke will continue to speak to as many residents as possible as we approach polling day and can be contacted directly on:

luke4northdurham@gmail.com"

The event - held in Lanchester Methodist Church and organised by Churches Together and friends - was packed with interested listeners. Those on the podium were Chris Bradburn (Workers Party of Great Britain), George Carter (Conservative), Tom Chittenden (Social Democrat Party),

Andrew Husband (Reform UK), Craig Martin (Liberal Democrats), and Sunny Moon-Schott (Green Party). Chris Bradburn earned applause from the audience when he described Labour's failure to attend as "showing their contempt for you by not being here tonight."

The event was ably chaired by Lanchester resident Keith Brown. The Village Voice does not have the space to list all the questions and answers, but the panel was quizzed on a wide range of subjects including the proposed solar farm at Burnhope, business insurance against flooding, the environment, social care and its costs, immigration, public transport and childhood obesity.

There was a welcome absence of heckling, and each candidate was allowed to speak without interruption.

Neil McKay

Police Update

The importance of CCTV

CCTV has become an essential tool in any investigation for the police. It allows us to have accurate time frames of incidents, identify suspects, figure out direction of travel, prove/disprove allegations or statements and a variety of other tasks. Recently, CCTV allowed Consett police to identify and locate the suspect responsible for flashing and intimidating numerous women around the Consett area. The CCTV in the area allowed police to have a clear facial picture of the suspect and narrow down an area where the suspect resides. Without CCTV, this investigation may have not been successful.

We would encourage residents to consider CCTV as an effective tool in crime prevention and home security. This can come in many forms, from video doorbells to multiple camera systems. These cameras can often act as a deterrent for people looking to commit crime. Many residents in Lanchester already have CCTV but we would urge more people to think about installing this invaluable tool. More advice on crime prevention can be provided by our crime prevention team. Those interested in this can email Consett Police through ConsettBeats@durham.police.uk

PCSO Connor Milner

New MP for Lanchester

Labour's Luke Akehurst is the new MP for Lanchester, as no doubt everyone will know by now.

Mr Akehurst was elected by a majority of just under 6,000 over Reform's Andrew Husband. Lanchester has joined the North Durham constituency after our previous one - Durham North West - was swallowed up in re-organisation.

Mr Akehurst was parachuted into the constituency by the Labour party after his popular predecessor, Kevan Jones, decided to step down.

The voting turnout in North Durham was - like most of the country - low at 57 per cent. Meanwhile our previous MP Richard Holden, chairman of the Conservative Party, scraped home in his new constituency, Basildon and Billericay in Essex, by just 20 votes.

Neil McKay

Letter from our new MP, Luke Akehurst

I'm delighted to be writing my first article as the new Member of Parliament for North Durham, following my election on 4 July.

The General Election marked a number of important changes. Lanchester and Burnhope are now part of the North Durham parliamentary constituency after the boundary changes and the country has a new Labour Government for the first time in 14 years.

The next couple of weeks will be very hectic for me as I have to sort out everything from getting an official parliamentary email address to establishing a constituency office and employing staff. My first advice surgery is scheduled for Saturday 7th September but please get in touch before that if you have urgent issues you need your MP's help with – until I have my parliamentary email you can reach me on luke4northdurham@gmail.com. An MP's job is necessarily a game of two halves, with part of each week when Parliament is sitting spent down in Westminster voting and speaking in debates and committees, and part spent here in North Durham meeting with local residents and organisations. I intend to be very visible and accessible to constituents through attendance at community events, advice surgeries, and door-to-door canvassing all year round.

The King's Speech will be on Wednesday 17 July and will set out the new Government's programme of legislation. I will be working to make sure the towns and villages of North Durham get the share we need of the investment and improvements to public services flowing from the "first steps" we set out in the Labour Manifesto.

As I set out in my acceptance speech, my predecessor Kevan Jones set the bar very high for what is expected of me as your Member of Parliament. I will work incredibly hard to ensure that North Durham gets the support and investment we desperately need, and I look forward to getting to know you in the weeks, months and years ahead.

Luke Akehurst



Trevor's Hawaiian Birthday

Trevor Webb always wears Hawaiian shirts so friends decided to organise a Hawaii themed birthday for him!

In this picture l-r Tommy Robinson, Trevor Webb centre, next Helen Robinson. Back row Lestrine and Alan Kelly.



The Harrisons' successes

Noel and his daughter Imogen have some big news!

In June 2024 Imogen graduated with a first class degree in Theology from Durham St John's College. Imogen studied at St Bede's Lanchester for her secondary school education and achieved straight A+ A levels. She is now returning to St Bede's to train to teach RE starting in September.

Noel Harrison is the local walk leader for the weekly wellbeing walk in the village and has recently completed a charity walk for Kidney Research UK raising over £200. Noel said, "We both live in the village and try to promote Lanchester as much as possible."

(Anticipation of) Publishing Success for Local Author

After hundreds of hours holed up in a tiny attic office, Neil Taylor will finally see his first book published next month. *Anticipation*, a young adult thriller about artificial intelligence and social media, will be released on the 8th of August 2024.

Originally from rural Nottinghamshire, Neil, and wife Louise, spent many years moving around and travelling for Neil's work in the software industry. After returning from a five-year stint in America with twin boys, they looked for somewhere to settle and raise a family, finally coming to rest in Lanchester in 2012. In 2014, tired of corporate life Neil decided to take a career break to try his hand at writing. Things began to happen after coming runner-up in a writing competition when the organisers contacted him and expressed interest in helping to develop his ideas further. It was a long road, but in 2022 Neil secured a publishing deal for his debut young adult novel, *Anticipation*, which will be released on August 8th, 2024.

The story follows 17-year-old Riya Sudame who inherits an artificial intelligence developed by her father that can predict a person's future based on their social media data. She, and a group of her father's ex-employees, are tasked with safeguarding the AI from falling into the wrong hands – the ruthless hands of a social media giant looking to use the technology to exploit its users.

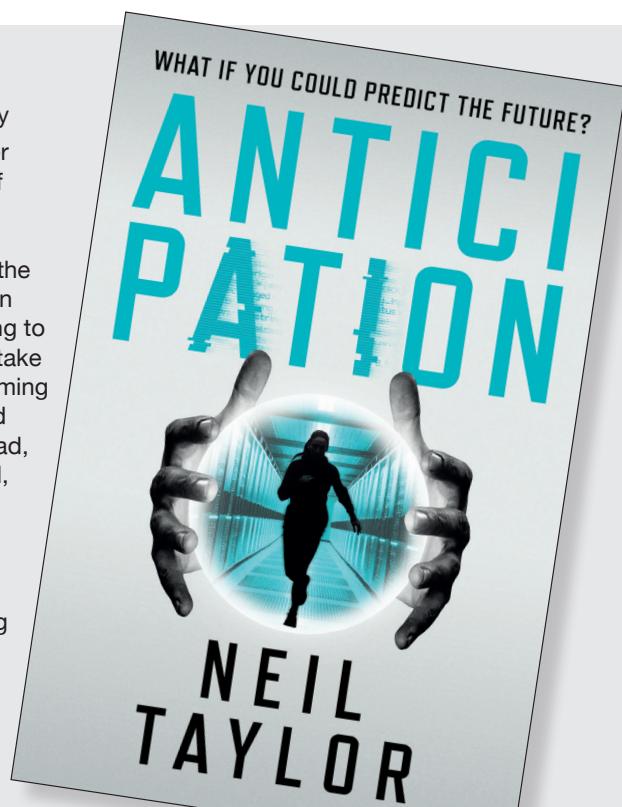
Having achieved the status of impoverished artist, Neil is now back at work to repair his bank balance and works from home for a software company. After spending most of his working life travelling, Neil has no plans to travel anywhere further than Hanley's Butcher, Lanchester Social Club, and the King's Head. Although not a North East native he feels he has found his home in Lanchester where his two boys have attended Lanchester EP and are now enjoying life at St. Bede's and as active members of the local community through Lanchester Boys' Brigade.

When not writing or working, any remaining time is usually spent with family, although he can sometimes be found wheezing up and down the Pennine hills on a bicycle, followed by a spot of coffee and cake or a good pub.

If you would like to know more about Neil's book please see Waterstones or Amazon websites:

<https://www.waterstones.com/book/9781915584502>

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Anticipation-twisty-young-adult-thriller/dp/1915584507/>



Heritage 100 route launched in Lanchester!

A charity is looking to help fund the establishment of 100 walks spanning the region known as the Heritage 100. "These short walks will encourage people to explore the region and gain a wider awareness of its wonderful countryside, its history and heritage. Families will be able to walk together in new places and discover some of the treasures that exist 'on their doorstep'".

As part of this programme the Lanchester Walk has been launched with the Heritage 100 post being installed – it is situated just off the Newbiggin Car Park. You can find more information about the walk by downloading the app Komoot or looking on the Heritage 100 website. Keiron Young, founder of the walking programme, will be organising some walks of this route in the summer holidays.

The Lanchester Walk is quite straightforward beginning at the Newbiggin Lane entrance to the Lanchester Valley Railway Path, this walk forms a figure of 8 route. It initially follows the railway path before veering off to track the Smallhope Burn as it winds through Dora's Wood. The route then continues along the path until it ventures through the Malton Nature Reserve, circling around Biggen Farm before returning to the Lanchester Railway Path. The walk ends with a final detour from the path taking you through Lanchester Village. The length of the walk is just over 5 miles. (Details and maps on their website).

PS we might see if Poppy is available sometime to trial this route!



Above: Parish councillors at the launch with Keiron Young: l-r Ian Tute, Lorraine Montgomery, Keiron Young, Paul Jackson, Alison Gray and David Friesner. Left: Keiron Young explains the Komoot app to the councillors.

Lanchester Local History Society

The history society met on Friday 7th June to hear from Graham Soult. He's a retail consultant who champions the high street and you would probably recognise him, as he is often contacted for his views by the media.

He's our very own Mary Portas living in the North East.

As the evening progressed it was interesting to hear comments and reactions from the audience as different department stores were mentioned. Memories of shopping styles and locations from the past were roused from the depths with glee.

Snippets about family run department stores littered the talk.

The catchy 1970s jingle from Shephards of Gateshead being the biggest and the best store had folks rung out when a picture of the store was shown. Bainbridge's Market Street was the answer to the question, which is the oldest shop in Newcastle? 1838 when Emerson Muschamp Bainbridge and William Alder Dunn opened a drapers and fashion shop.

Another good evening for all who joined us.

If you are interested, you can find Graham at many sites online.

Marian Morrison



All photographs courtesy of Chronicle Online



**Community
Centre
News**



The Community Centre has a lot of groups.

This month we will highlight the ones that meet on a monthly basis. If you would like more information about any group listed below, please contact the Community Centre or scan the QR code to visit our website.

Monthly Groups and when they meet:

- History Society - 1st Friday of the month at 7pm
- Friends of the Fort - 4th Thursday of the month at 7.30pm
- Flower Club - 4th Wednesday of the month at 1.30pm
- Thursday Club - 3rd Thursday of the month at 1.30pm
- Paradiso Club - 2nd Sunday of the month at 7pm
- Women's Institute - 1st Monday of the month at 7pm
- Pimms & Needles - 1st Tuesday of the month at 7pm
- Wildlife Group - 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm
- Sound Baths - 1st Sunday of the month at 6.30pm
- Take a Stitch - 2nd Saturday of the month at 1.30pm
- Bridge (Chicago) - 1st Sunday of the month at 2pm

Coming Soon:

Chicago Bridge will be starting on the 1st Sunday of each month 2pm to 5pm; £4 (includes tea and biscuits).

A Cheese & Wine evening with author Terry Deary on September 28th, 7.30pm. Ticket information coming soon.

Christmas Fayre, November 2nd, 9am to 1.30pm. Over 25 stalls, refreshments, raffles and more.

The office is staffed Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 9am-1.15pm. On Tuesday and Thursdays, it's 9am-3pm. 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 website - <https://lanchestercc.co.uk/> or scan the QR code for our website.

Don't Blight Burnhope

That was the stark message from hundreds of villagers - including grandparents, children, and dogs - who gathered with placards for a protest against a proposed solar farm. The protest was held in a large open field beyond The Garage Bar and Grill in the village centre on Sunday, June 30. The proposed installation of a solar farm three times the size of the village itself, spearheaded by British Petroleum (BP), has sparked outrage among residents and environmental activists. Mother-of-three Jennifer Walls spoke for most when she said: "My children can play outside in the fields, like all the other village kids. We see all kinds of wildlife, deer, red kites, lapwings. We will lose all this natural outside space to industry."

Residents argue that the vast expanse of solar panels will disrupt the natural habitat of these creatures, putting their existence at risk. The tranquillity of Burnhope will be shattered by the industrial presence of the solar farm, forever altering the local ecosystem.

This is not the first time such a proposal has been brought to the table. In 2023, previous applications for a solar farm in Burnhope were deemed 'illegal' by the High Court following the objections raised by residents. Despite this setback, BP continues to push forward with their plans. But villagers have vowed to fight "tooth and nail" to stop it.

Neil McKay



Lanchester WI

34 members, 1 visitor and 1 new member were welcomed to the July meeting. Raffle winners were Tina Naples, Helen Gardiner and Gwen Bramwell. Our speaker was Lisa from 'Loopy Lisa's Fudge' who kindly stepped in at very short notice due to our planned speaker no longer being available.

Lisa has been in business for over 20 years and fits in her fudge making around her family. She operates her business from home and is always searching for new flavour ideas and only uses 'natural' flavours not synthetic ones. As well as selling her fudge at craft fairs and markets she also supplies fudge to Fortnum and Mason. She has recently branched out into chocolate making and will be expanding that range too.

Lisa was very informative.

Ann Carr warmly thanked Lisa for her presentation.

Tracey Dobson

Lanchester Partnership Friends of Longovicium

Following an exploratory excavation at a rectangular ditched feature near the village centre, reports are awaited into the results. We still don't know what it is, and further on-site investigations are needed.

At Satley, we are awaiting approval of a landowner to further investigate a site which may have Roman origins. One of the Friends has been conducting field-walking in an area near Witton Gilbert which has produced some Roman artefacts, along with prehistoric to medieval material. This is proving interesting, raising questions as to what the Romans might have been doing at Witton Gilbert.

As the Village Voice went to press, the August meeting had not been arranged. Further details may be obtained from Mrs. M. Williams, tel: 01207 520063 or Rodney Hawkins, email hawkins_15@sky.com. See also our website www.longoviciumcouk.wordpress.com. (Note there's no dots in 'couk')

Rodney Hawkins

Lanchester Medical Centre: Patient Participation Group

Sunscreen and Sun Safety

Did you know that sunburn increases your risk of skin cancer, and it does not just happen on holiday. You can burn in the UK, even when it's cloudy.

Safety first by making sure that you:

- spend time in the shade between 11am and 3pm
- never stay in the sun long enough to burn
- cover up with suitable clothing and sunglasses
- take extra care with children
- use at least factor 30 sunscreen

What factor sunscreen (SPF) should I use?

- a SPF of at least 30 to protect against UVB
- at least 4-star UVA protection, (indicated by a circle around "UVA")
- check its expiry date
- If you have allergies check with the pharmacist as to what sunscreen to use.

Sun Safe Guidelines: adults should aim to apply around 6 to 8 teaspoons of sunscreen to cover their entire body, applying to all exposed skin including your face, neck and ears. A wide-brimmed hat is recommended, especially for those with thinning or no hair. If you plan to be out in the sun long enough to risk burning, sunscreen needs to be applied twice, 30 minutes before you go out.

Reapply your sunscreen every two hours, even if the lotion says "water resistant", as drying yourself, sweating and the sun itself dries the lotion.

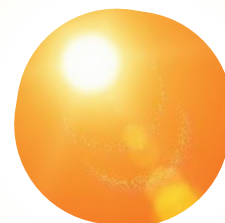
How to deal with sunburn: sponge sore skin with cool water, then apply soothing after sun cream or spray, like aloe vera. Your normal analgesic will ease the pain by helping to reduce inflammation caused by sunburn. Stay out of the sun until all signs of redness have gone. Seek medical help if you feel unwell or the skin swells badly or blisters.

Children aged under 6 months should be kept out of direct strong sunlight.

From March to October in the UK, children should:

- cover up with suitable clothing
- spend time in the shade, particularly from 11am to 3pm
- wear at least SPF30 sunscreen
- apply sunscreen to areas not protected by clothing, such as the face, ears, feet and backs of hands
- seek medical advice if your child has signs of sunburn

Ref: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health/sunscreen-and-sun-safety/>



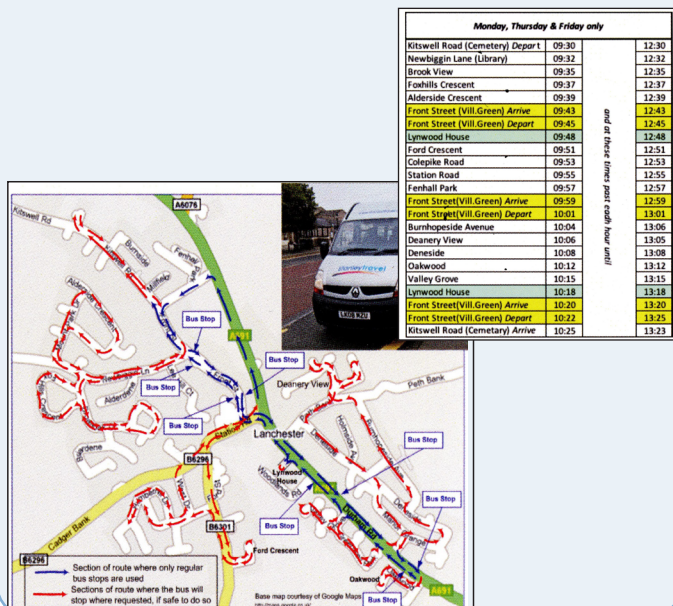
Village Bus

The village bus is available to all in Lanchester. It's easy to use, please see the timetable and the route.

The bus is managed by the Lanchester Partnership and is funded by grants and donations. A great big thank you to the parish church, the Methodist church, the King's Head and all the other supporters of the bus.

If you need any help to join the regular users, please call Paul Jackson on 07957871106.

Paul Jackson



Financial Peace of Mind

Peace of mind for you and your family has never been more important, and in today's complex and uncertain world, it has never been more necessary.

Let us help you plan a more secure future.



Ethical Investing • Savings & Investments • Pensions • Family Protection • Estate Planning • House Purchases



Prism Financial Advice Ltd
Independent Financial Advisors
Where independence counts

Prism House, 13 Keel Row,
The Watermark, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear NE11 9SZ

Please contact James Balls,
Independent Financial Advisor
Tel: 07803 596 305
james@prismadvice.co.uk

Wildlife Notes

Incomers

Little owls, rabbits and hares – this may surprise some of you as they’ve been around for centuries; they are, however, all non-native species to the UK. Humans helped them to reach Lanchester and surrounds (AKA introduction). They’ve been seen along Newbiggen Lane.

Research from bone findings suggests that Romans initially treated hare (and chickens) as gods but developed a taste for the meat. Rabbit remains also date back to Roman times, though for a while it was thought the Normans introduced them. They were a valuable source of meat kept captive within enclosed warrens, clearly some escaped. The Little Owl’s colonisation was both by escape from private collections (London in 1758, Devon 1808 and Cumbria 1811) and documented releases. In 1843 a pair arrived at Walton Park from Rome because Charles Waterton hoped they would control his garden pests as they predate invertebrates and small mammals. In 1874-80 a release of 40 in Kent led to breeding success in 1879. More introductions and rapid breeding meant they eventually reached Scotland in 1958. Some naturalists suggest they were ‘reintroduced’ due to fossil records findings. Most now see them as a ‘naturalised introduced’ bird that has filled a natural niche and become accepted UK-biodiversity, as are the hare and rabbit.

They utilise a range of open habitat: rural villages, parkland, farmland, orchards and quarries. They hunt in daylight and night and enjoy sunbathing, check out old quarry faces, also their preferred perches: fence posts, poles, branches, and chimneys. They usually pair for life, they’re ready to breed at one year, nesting in small holes in trees or disused rabbit burrows. They lay 2-5 eggs that fledge during June/July.

They eat small mammals, earthworms, beetles, spiders, moths, and birds. They have been removed from some offshore islands due to concerns about threats to seabird populations. <https://www.littleowlproject.uk>

Listen to their call via RSPB: <https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/little-owl>

**New Wild Notes contributor/s required, please get in touch.
From our wildlife correspondent.**



Left, and above: Little Owl, photography by Ian Appleby



Above: Hares
Right: Rabbit.

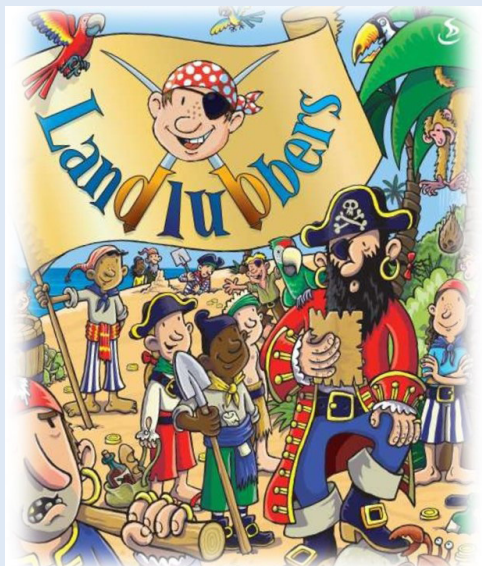
Summer Special back for 2024

The Summer Special returns to Lanchester Methodist Church from Tuesday 27th August until Saturday 31st August. This is a fun activity club for children going into years R to 7.

It runs each day from 9:45 to 12:15 and only costs £20 for the whole week.

There will be songs, challenges, bouncy castle, games, jokes, Grumpy, competitions and the Land Lubbers drama. Great fun will be had by all!

Contact Kath for a registration form:
grahamandkathjones@virginmedia.com



Boys' Brigade news

June has been a busy month which we started by discussing the use and benefits of a defibrillator followed two weeks later having a practical demonstration on their use by the British Red Cross. They were visiting us to show us first aid from CPR to sprain ankles. All practised the CPR using dummies which they had brought along, and we are now more prepared if an emergency arises. It was a great night, and our thanks go to the British Red Cross for giving of their time to pass this valuable information on to the boys.

Sandwiched in between these two events we had a wonderful evening courtesy of Lanchester Bowls Club. All the boys played bowls and had a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Our thanks must go to the members of the Bowls Club who went out of their way to make it a great night for all. The presentation night, with parents present, is always an important event and particularly when you are presenting Queen's and President's Badges. Congratulations to Ewan Baxendale, Daniel Pine and Harry Hewitson who received their Queen's Badges and to Shane Jones and Arnaud Lefoyer who received their President's badges. Logan Smallwood also attained his President's Badge but was on holiday and unable to have it presented on the night.

Eric Hepplewhite

Right: The boys practising CPR watched by Mrs Baxendale

Below: Richard Hall demonstrating bowls to the boys



Above: Boys who received their awards left to right Ewan Baxendale, Daniel Pine, Harry Hewitson, Shane Jones and Arnaud Lefoyer.



Ladies who lunch

On a gloriously sunny day with just a very gentle breeze we arrived at the Beamish Park Hotel to find a wedding in full swing - obviously the beautifully decorated porch way wasn't just for our benefit, although it seemed to feel like it.

Beamish Park is lovely - a very pleasant, comfortable place to be, with really nice, efficient staff. Even though the place was busy we were attended to and served quickly. We had decided to sample for starters butter poached grilled king prawns with siracha mayo and mango salsa, one served with chips and one with sticky Thai jasmine rice. Mains were chicken katsu curry with jasmine rice, crispy seaweed, spring onions and fresh chillies; taste of the sea was salmon with potatoes and green beans; quiche with fries and salad; honey glazed chicken breast with fondant potatoes, wild mushrooms, green beans and a lemon and thyme butter sauce.

For desserts it was lemon tart and panna cotta. The presentation was super, the food absolutely delicious - all in all a lovely meal with superb views to boot from every window. Not too far to go, being just the other side of Stanley, Beamish Park makes for a perfect easy lunchtime destination for 'ladies of a certain age'.

Definitely on our list of "return to" venues.

The Gourmet Girls





Poppy's walks

Good day readers and this month's walk starts and finishes at Annfield Plain.

The Humans park in the park behind Tesco, but for all intents and purposes the walk starts from the Tesco store.

By now you will know that I am Poppy, a Patterdale terrier who enjoys sharing walks I lead my Humans on. This one came about because the female Human of my household is part of a walking group which meets at Annfield Plain every Tuesday morning at 10.30. She agreed to take myself and the male Human on its route one summer's evening last month. The walk lasts about three miles but takes in three villages in Annfield Plain, Catchgate and Greencroft.

We cross at Tesco and follow a cycle path alongside some bungalows. When this comes to a junction we turn left and go back towards Annfield Plain. We cross the main road with a club called The Demi a few yards to our left. On crossing the main road, we go diagonally right across grassland on a road called Hamsterley Gardens. This eventually brings us to Catchgate and we walk through another housing estate along Oak Terrace and Elm Terrace before heading left towards some allotments.

By this time we are suddenly out in the country and we follow a footpath up a fairly gentle incline with the allotments on our right and fields on our left. We cross a stile and go through a farmyard and end up above Annfield House, an imposing building known locally as Annie's House and apparently the first house built in Annfield Plain. By this time we have a panoramic view of the surrounding countryside on our left.

We follow a footpath down to a main road which we cross before walking right along a footpath for a few yards then left into a cornfield. This is a public right of way so we were not trespassing. We cross two fields and turn left across a third until we reach a stile. This takes us onto a road called Loud View Terrace and is in Greencroft. We turn right and walk a few yards to a junction which is the main road from Stanley to Consett. We do not need to cross it, instead turning left and left again into some woods - again on a designated footpath.

The walk through the woods takes us back to Annfield Plain park, to the rear of Tesco, and is a very pleasant footpath with lots of scope for exploring the undergrowth. It took us around 90 minutes from start to finish and was a very enjoyable change of scenery for yours truly.

Thursday Club

At our last meeting in June, we welcomed Marilyn and Jim - the Gibson Singers - who came to entertain us. They both played guitar and they both sang, taking us on a nostalgic journey down memory lane with songs from groups such as the Beatles, the Kinks and individuals like Julie London.

They both originated from Sunderland and had written a composition of their own reminiscent of the area.

We could see two lovely harps, which we later learned they had constructed themselves - talented folks! Our afternoon entertainment closed with some beautiful harp playing.

Coffee, tea, biscuits and a good old chat rounded off another very pleasant Thursday Club afternoon.

Olive Simpkins

Below: the Gibson Singers playing the harp.



Crinnions reopens

After all the speculation, the new management of Crinnions finally announced their intentions. Suggestions on Facebook included that it would become a buffet-style Indian restaurant or even have lap dancers!

Thankfully it's going to be a bar-restaurant. The Village Voice had a small article last month after somebody had spotted that the windows had been cleaned and new flower baskets installed. On Crinnions' Facebook page, they confirmed that it was the family that had done this - not contractors!

Mark Flood, a chef who previously worked at the pub, took over with Phil Cooper, his business partner.

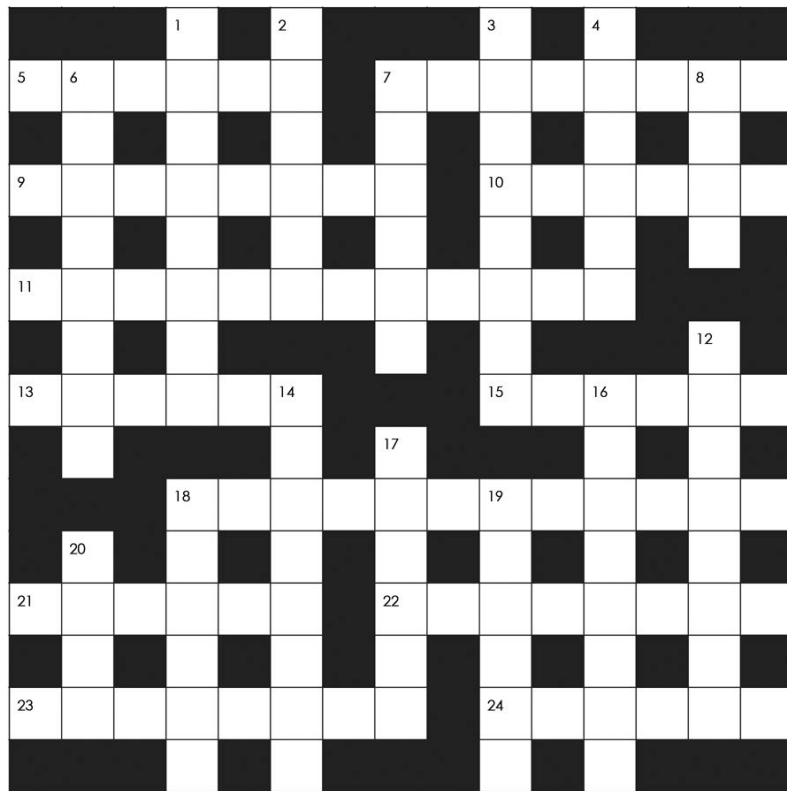
They are going to have lunchtime specials and at night the food will be a bit more Bistro style food alongside classics. There will be "twists" on the classic pub grub together with special dining deals.

There will be a wide selection of drinks on offer and live music is set to come back.

They have installed a new children's climbing frame aimed at making the garden more family-friendly, together with new outdoor seating.

The Village Voice sends their best wishes for a successful future.

CLUES CROSSWORD 199



Across

5. Take a chance (6)
7. Disaster (8)
9. In the open air (8)
10. Irish musician and song writer (6)
11. Bar of soap (6,6)
13. Strong and unpleasant smell (6)
15. Design used as a symbol of an organisation (6)
18. Geordie born script writing partner of Dick Clement (3,2,7)
21. Like the trousers worn by Tressell's philanthropists (6)
22. Old lag created by 18 across (8)
23. Path that may only be accessible at low tide (8)
24. Cry of discovery (6)

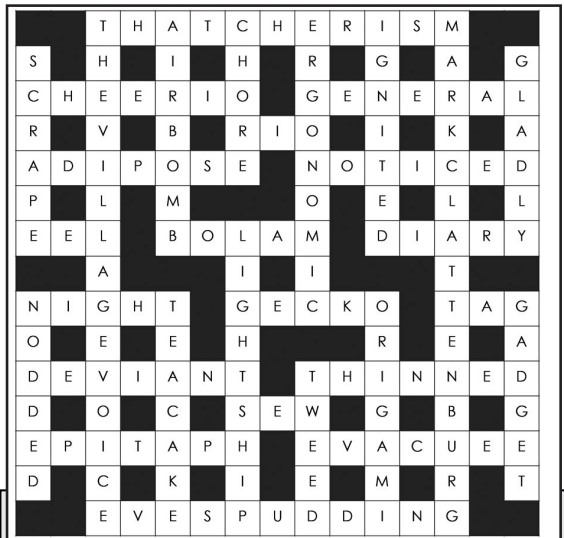
Down

1. The 'Granite City' (8)
2. Population count (6)
3. Old type of pub (8)
4. Major online bookseller (6)
6. Liquorice sweets (8)
7. Type of trefoil (6)
8. Chris Rea's 'Steel River' (4)
12. Landing deck on a ship or oil rig (8)
14. Pass on to a younger family member (4,4)
16. Use it at an ATM (4,4)
17. Type of insect with a very short life (6)
18. Take into the body (6)
19. Short thick jacket worn by a sailor, also known as pea coat (6)
20. Sunken fence or wall in a landscaped garden (2-2)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please send your completed entries for the £10 prize draw by **Friday 9th August 2024** to the Village Voice, c/o Lanchester Community Centre, Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester, DH7 0HY



Solution to crossword 198

There were only 13 entries this month, probably due to the short time to get them in.

All 13 were correct and the winner, drawn out of the hat, is Ian Wilkinson.

IAN SAYER Roofing Specialist

Mobile: 07947 542570

e-mail: Iansayerroofing@btinternet.com

7 Angelica Close, Consett,
Co Durham. DH8 6 GF

SLATING - TILING - GUTTERING - REPAIRS
UPVC FASCIAS & SOFFITS - LEADWORK
FLAT ROOFING

SB Joinery & Property Services

- Kitchens Insulations
 - Skirting, Doors, Wood Floors
 - Fencing, Decking, etc
 - UPVC Double glazing windows
 - and doors, Home Renovations
- 07983443475**
scottbelljoinery@sky.com

ALL TYPES OF PLASTERING AND BRICKWORK
Re-Skims, Ceilings, Concreting, Pointing ... etc
Over 20 Years' Experience. All Work Guaranteed

BILLY CARR
PLASTERING



Free Estimates. No Job Too Small
QUALITY WORK AT AFFORDABLE PRICES
Telephone: (01207) 284881 Mobile: 07813 339467

Parish Council responsibilities

In the June edition we asked Doug Oliver who is a County Councillor to explain what the County Council is responsible for, and where to complain.

This month we look at what the Parish Council's responsibilities are. The Parish Council is responsible for:

- 5 play areas
- Bike track
- Football field - Kitswell Road
- Village Green
- Christmas lights
- Hanging baskets
- 3 Bus shelters
- Public seating
- General upkeep of the Village
- Grass cutting
- Replica banner
- 6 litter bins

Residents can email the Parish Council Clerk at lanchesterparish@btopenworld.com with anything they feel the Parish Council needs to know, including complaints. Things that need reporting to Durham County Council should be done using Do it online service -

<https://doitonline.durham.gov.uk/>.

Or contact Doug Oliver on -

douglas.oliver@durham.gov.uk

Monday Art Club

The Monday art club has been busy recently. First, an outdoor painting day at Brancepeth, although the weather was cool, so some members preferred coffee, cake and a chat in the warm historic church.

Next, we had a lesson on drawing portraits by local artist Andy Taylor, which will help us with our next get together when we will be drawing Andy from life, before we break for the summer, and reconvene on 2nd September.

We are a small, friendly group, and if you are interested in joining us, you will be most welcome. We meet on Mondays between 10 am and 12 pm in the community centre.

For more information contact tojimrafferty@yahoo.com.

Jim Rafferty

Dear Village Voice

In issue 6 volume 24 of the Village Voice, there was an article regarding Willow Burn being the first hospice in Durham to receive an accreditation.

In the article you mention that Willow Burn was founded by Valerie Richardson and Irene Mortimer. It should have read Valerie Davison and Irene Mortimer.

Thank you

Lynne Temperley

The Village Voice is happy to print this correction.

Lanchester Parish Council

Notes from the Ordinary Meeting held in Lynwood House on Tuesday 11th June 2024 at 7.00pm

Minutes – Annual Meeting, Ordinary Meeting 14th May – approved

Police Reports

Members were updated on the recent PACT report for May.

A teenager has been arrested in connection with a number of suspected sexual offences. Police issued an appeal following reports of a man indecently exposing himself along the former railway line between Langley Park and Consett. Following the appeal, officers arrested a 14-year-old boy on suspicion of sexual assault, indecent exposure and threatening and abusive behaviour. He has since been bailed with several conditions. A Durham Constabulary spokesperson said: "I would like to thank members of the public who have assisted us with our enquiries. The investigation remains ongoing and anyone who has not yet reached out to police with information is asked to contact 101 quoting incident number 133 of May 16." If you or someone you know has suffered a sexual offence, please report it to the police online or via 101. Always call 999 in an emergency.

The Clerk to write a letter to the Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Commissioner at Durham Constabulary about the incident on the Lanchester Valley Walk and police presence at Parish Council meetings.

Correspondence

Letter – Michael McGaun – Members were informed that County Councillor Michael McGaun has resigned from the Conservative Party and will serve the remainder of his term as an independent. He will still work closely with County Councillor Doug Oliver on local matters.

Lanchester Solar Planet Walk

Councillors received an update on the project. The route is to be walked with the Countryside Rangers to mark the exact location of each information board for the project. This will then help the lease to be progressed.

Greencroft Forest Park

Councillors were given an update from the meeting that was held in the Village about this development.

Christmas Light Switch On

Members agreed the date and time of the light switch on event and the times the lights will be turned on and off each day.

Clean Earth Energy

Councillors were provided information on a planning application for the Wind Farm at Hedleyhope. Clean Earth Energy will be attending a future meeting to provide more information.

Flood Report

Councillors discussed the report from Durham County Council. A meeting to be arranged in the near future with Durham County Councillors, Durham County Council and residents.

D-Day 80 Beacons Event

The event had taken place on Thursday 6th June. Over a hundred people attended the event which had run very smoothly.

Financial Year 2023/24 End of Year Accounts – The Annual Governance Statement, accounting statement and the financial position for the end of the year were approved.

Financial report – approved.

Accounts for Payment – approved.

FRED McALOAN ELECTRICAL SERVICE

*Landlord and Household Electrical
Test Certification, Additional Sockets, Lighting,
Showers, Cooker Points, Full or Part Rewires*
RELIABLE & DEPENDABLE SERVICE

Free Estimates & Friendly Advice
0781 3202 470
01207 500770

PAUL KIRBY Est 1987

Plumbing, Heating, and Building Services
Specialists in Bathroom and Kitchen refurbishment,
Tiling, Shower panels, PVC ceilings,
and all related plumbing work.
FREE ESTIMATES
Tel/Fax: 01207 284230 Mob: 07836742359
email: pk.plumbing@live.com



BUILDING & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

KITCHENS BATHROOMS
FENCING & DECKING PLASTERING
ALL ASPECTS OF JOINERY WALL & FLOOR TILING
WINDOWS COMPOSITE DOORS
WALL & CEILING CLADDING ROOFING & GUTTERING

Over 25 years experience

Craig - 07789481500

Ryan - 07754103753

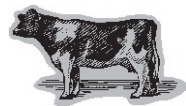
fbhomeimprovements@gmail.com



Hanley & Sons

*Purveyors of fine quality meats
and home cooked food*

Family Butcher & Delicatessen



*Apart from the normal butchery and
delicatessen products we now offer:-*

*A Selection of Cooked Meats and
Outside Catering*

Open Monday - Saturday from 8 am

14 Front Street Lanchester
01207 529970

Dave Harris Windows and Doors



Composite Doors
A-Rated Windows
Misted up Glazing
Hinges and Handles
Door Lock Replacement
Locksmith Work

Local Family Business

07725803366

01207 501380



NEXT DEADLINE

Please submit
any articles
for the next
edition of the
Village Voice
by

**FRIDAY 9th
August 2024**

The deadline
for advertisers
is

**FRIDAY 9th
August 2024**

new image

**"North East Bridal
Champions"**

**North East Award winning
Premier Hair Salon**

*Specialist in all areas
of Hairdressing*

1-2 Front Street Lanchester
tel: 01207 520331

Celebrating 41 years in hairdressing



**FREE
PRESCRIPTION
DELIVERY**



If you live in Lanchester, Esh Winning, Esh,
Langley Park, Burnhope, Cornsay Village or
Satley, we can deliver your prescriptions
straight to your door.

Call today to book

01207 520365

or pop in store to find out more...

15 Front St, Lanchester, Durham DH7 0LA



RAVELLO



Ristorante Italiano

Open 7 days a week - Noon until 10pm

Serving weekly Specials

Sunday Lunches 12noon - 4pm



Front Street, Lanchester
Contact 01207 528825

Musical Memories at The Seaside

Our July theme was a trip down memory lane to summer holidays at the seaside - and great fun was had by all.

According to Brian "This is always a very joyous, happy and reflective occasion. Full of memories of great tunes, with marvellous company and great communal singing".



Our sing song wouldn't have been complete without Cliff's Summer Holiday, but it also included hits such as Summer Lovin' from Grease, Harry Belafonte's Island in the Sun and Jamaica Farewell, and the fun Itsy-Bitsy Teeny Weeny Yellow Polka Dot Bikini.



Of course, an ice cream is an essential part of any trip to the seaside and while you're waiting for your tea or coffee you can

always do a jigsaw or wordsearch with your friends like Brenda.

We were also lucky enough this month to wish a Happy Birthday to Louisa for her upcoming very special birthday.



Musical Memories is a fun, friendly and stimulating music group using the ability of music to improve your brain activity, wellbeing and mood. You don't need to be a good singer; you just need to enjoy music. We welcome people living with conditions that affect memory.

The group meets at 2pm on the first Wednesday of each month at Lynwood House, Durham Road, Lancaster. Our next meeting is on 7 August when we will be visiting different places around the world through song.

For further information email:
lanchesterdfc@gmail.com

LANCHESTER DAIRIES LTD
PASTEURISED FULL AND LOW FAT MILK - FRESH CREAM - ALL DAIRY PRODUCE
01207 521826

Fresh Milk Daily

SAI GLOBAL
EFSIS

DAVISON'S

Clothing

Half price sale, starts 8th August

Front Street, Leadgate
01207 502355

The Clean & Reseal Man
PVC Cleaning & Resealing Specialist

- * PVC Cleaning
- * Silicone Resealing
- * Window Repairs
- * Misted / Broken Units replaced
- * General Handyman duties

Highly recommended and fully insured

07561797324

Checkatrade.com
VISA, MASTERCARD, AMEX, DEBIT
facebook

The Quebec Tearoom
Quaint Tearoom, Gift Shop, Dog friendly, Car Park, Great Food & Drink

Open daily 9am - 4pm
Hot and cold food, eat in or takeaway
Afternoon tea, our speciality
Outside catering, Fish Friday, and Sunday lunch

Find us at:
FRONT STREET, QUEBEC. DH7 9DF
second left, past Lancaster Garden Centre
07871 708660
thequebec-tearoom@hotmail.com



Beautilley
BEAUTY & MASSAGE
**Appointment only,
Lanchester based.**

Call Ann on:
07534775077 or,
email: beautilley@hotmail.com
Facebook: [beautilleybeautyandmassage](https://www.facebook.com/beautilleybeautyandmassage)



BEAUTILLEY
BEAUTY & MASSAGE

K's Alterations

Having 30 years experience, I offer high quality affordable sewing solutions. From clothing to curtains and everything in between.

CAN I HELP?
Kay Langford
07731415642 (DH7)
kay.langford@yahoo.co.uk

PC - ASSIST Mobile service for:-
PC repairs or upgrades, data recovery, virus removal, tuition and any other IT related problems. Assistance also available for tablets, e-readers, smart phones & audio equipment.

If your PC is slow - I can help.
Call Alan on 01207 521628 or
07961497093
e-mail pcassist4@gmail.com

LANCHESTER PLUMBING & HEATING LTD

Gas Safe & Oil Service Engineers

FROM A LEAKING TAP TO COMPLETE CENTRAL HEATING SYSTEM
NO JOB TOO SMALL

- COMPETITIVE QUOTES • FREE ADVICE
- NO CALL OUT CHARGE

CALL BARRY ON: 07717174739

ADVANCED DECORATING
FREE ESTIMATES



David Gallagher
Painter and Decorator
4 Woodside Tce,
Stanley
Co. Durham DH9 7HG

01207 231338
07887 881396
davidg3001@talktalk.net
www.advanced-decorating.org.uk

LANCHESTER CARPETS

THE QUALITY RETAILER GIVING FRIENDLY RELIABLE SERVICE
Call in for a quote now!
Tel: 01207 521771

- Free estimates
- Free local delivery
- Expert fitting service
- Rugs and Vinyls
- 100's of remnants
- New stock every week

9 Church View, Lanchester, Co. Durham DH70ES

SteelTown HANDYMAN

CONTACT LEE:
01207269695
07450088561

- QUALIFIED ELECTRICIAN
- HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE/ REPAIRS
- FLAT-PACK ASSEMBLY
- TILING, PAINTING & DECORATING
- BLIND/ CURTAIN POLE INSTALLATION
- GARDEN MAINTENANCE

"FROM HANGING A PICTURE TO TILING A WALL, FOR THE STEELTOWN HANDYMAN, NO JOB'S TOO BIG OR SMALL"

TRUSTWORTHY - RELIABLE - COMPETITIVELY PRICED

RUTHERFORD & CLARK
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

All electrical work undertaken
LOCAL RELIABLE COMPETITIVE

Lee Rutherford: 07791 582 420
Joe Clark: 07931 639 450
Email: Info@rutherfordclarkelec.co.uk

How to contact the Village Voice
To advertise,
email:
lanchestervvadvts@gmail.com
telephone:
Paul on
07957 871106

Please do not use this number for matters relating to content.
General and news enquiries,
email:
lanchestervillagevoice@yahoo.co.uk

By post:
The Village Voice,
c/o Lanchester Community Centre,
Newbiggen Lane,
Lanchester,
DH7 0PB.



Stuart Wright
Funeral Service Ltd.

- Complete funeral service to all areas
- Private Chapels of Rest
- Silver fleet
- Funeral pre payment plans by Golden Charter
- 24 hour service
- Established 1992

Tel Durham 0191-3863850



For more information:
www.stuartwrightfunerals.co.uk

Head Office Gilesgate, 38 Sunderland Road, Gilesgate, Durham. DH1 2LG
Pelton, 3 Front Street, Pelton, Durham, DH2 1DB
Pity Me, Front Street, Pity Me, Durham, DH1 5DQ
Langley Park, 43 Front Street, Langley Park, Durham, DH7 9SA



St Bede's Catholic School and Sixth Form College

Left: Catherine Bell and Alexander Wisson on their way to the Year 11 prom.

Right: Matthew Hill dressed for the Year 13 ball.

Full story on page 18

WOULD YOU LIKE TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN THE VILLAGE VOICE?

- Prices start from as little as £22 per month.
 - Delivered to over 2500 homes.
 - Free advert design available.
- email:
lanchestervvadverts@gmail.com
- telephone:
Paul on 07957 871106



24/7 support installed for **FREE** this summer!

Quote our promo code when you sign up for **FREE** installation, worth £40.80*!

SUMMER24

* Offer runs from 1st July - 31st August 2024 only. Weekly charge still applies.



Monitoring and response across County Durham



Support to stay independent at home



24/7 support at the press of a button

 **03000 262 195**

Durham
County Council



NEXT DEADLINE

Please submit any articles for the next edition of the Village Voice by **FRIDAY 9th August 2024**

The deadline for advertisers is **FRIDAY 9th August 2024**

Paradiso Film Club

The film club is closed for the summer but we look forward to seeing you for our 2024/25 programme on 8 September.

Lanchester Library

Library Book Club

On Monday August 19th at 2.30 to 3.30pm, the group will be discussing *Copy Cat* by Alex Lake, 'the unputdownable thriller' from the Top Ten Sunday Times bestselling author. Will we all agree with this statement and all read this thriller to the end? We look forward to seeing you there and hearing everyone's opinion that makes a *Book Club*.

Thursday Book Club
On Thursday August 15th from 4.00-5.00pm, this group will be reviewing *Valley of the Moon* by Melanie Gideon 'a captivating novel about love that transcends time'. If you liked *The Time Traveller's Wife* you may like this novel. If you would like to join this book group, pop into the library and pick up your copy.

Pins and Needles will meet up on August 1st from 10-11.30am. Bring along your wool, thread needles and patterns and share your makes and get advice too.

Do you like knitting, crocheting? Everyone is welcome, enjoy.

Scrabble Group meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 1.30pm to 3.30 pm. Do you enjoy this word game and want to get on the Triple Word Square? Come along and enjoy the company. *Children's crafts*

are available every afternoon and Saturday. Different crafts, ideas and materials are set out in the library for

children to be creative, pop along with your children and enjoy. Join the Children's Summer Reading Scheme this holiday and open the world of books...

Borrowbox now has newspapers and magazines, click ePress, look for extra news and comment and find the magazines that fit your lifestyle.

Musical Memories

Join us for music, refreshments and fun activities. 7th August 2024 at 2pm, Lynwood House, Durham Road, Lanchester. Musical Memories is a fun, friendly and stimulating music group using the ability of music to improve your brain activity, wellbeing and mood. We welcome people living with conditions that affect memory. For further information email lanchesterdfc@gmail.com

Lanchester Methodist Church Coffee Mornings

Coffee mornings are held every Saturday at the Methodist Church between 10 and 12. If you would like to organise a coffee morning for your organisation, please contact Judith Brown on 521898.

Thursday Club

There will be no meeting of the Thursday Club in the Community Centre on July 18th. Instead we will be 'up, up + away' - off out on an away day to Whitley Bay and Boundary Mill.

Lanchester Partnership Friends of Longovicium

As the Village Voice went to press the August meeting had not been arranged. Further details may

be obtained from Mrs. M. Williams, tel: 01207 520063 or Rodney Hawkins, email hawkins_15@sky.com. See also our website www.longoviciumcouk.wordpress.com. (Note there's no dots

Wellbeing walk

Every Monday at 1pm on the village green next to the war memorial. Walk lasts up to 90 minutes, all welcome. To book please visit www.durham.gov.uk/walkdurham or call 03000 262539.

Vintage Tractor Club

Meets on the first Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm in Lanchester Social Club

Lunch Club

The next lunch held at Lynwood House will be Tuesday 13th August 12.00 pm start, all welcome.

History Society

We will be meeting on Friday 2nd August in the Community Centre at 6.45 for a prompt 7.00 start. Our speaker will be George Nairn and he is going to take us back to the start of his postcard days and tell us about 'The History of Picture Postcards', fully illustrated of course. Then our September 6th meeting will be our AGM. Hopefully everyone will come full of energy and offers of time to support the committee. In the event of nothing changing Julian Harrop from Beamish is going to share with us 'Memories from the Durham Advertiser archive 1934-61'. This will be in the Community Centre 6.45 for 7.00 start and please remember there is a locked entry system so we may not be able to hear you if you arrive after the meeting has

started. We welcome all and that includes visitors. See you there.

WI

The next meeting will be Monday 5th August, 7.00pm in the Community Centre. The speaker is from South Durham Honey. The following meeting will be Monday 2nd September, 7.00pm in the Community Centre. The speaker for the meeting is Julian Harrop from Beamish Museum. Charity Fashion Show, Saturday 5 October, Lanchester Social Club from 2pm, £5 per ticket includes refreshments. More information to follow.

Lanchester playgroup

Every Friday at 9:30 at Croft View Halls. Find us on Facebook, 'Lanchester's new playgroup'.

Wildlife Group

We will recommence our indoor meetings in September and will also be arranging a bat walk for September too. For more information, contact lanchesterwildlifegroup@outlook.com.

City Theatre

'No Exit' a classic play by Jean Paul Sartre will be on at the City Theatre, Durham, DH1 3RA from Aug 14th to Aug 17th. Welcome to Hell! On behalf of the management we welcome you. Sit back and make yourself comfortable you are going to be here forever! Your companions will be joining you shortly and will reveal the details of their former lives and the paths that have led them here. Witness their journey to Hell. Tickets available from

the Gala Box office on 03000266600 or www.durhancitytheatre.co.uk and follow the link for tickets at £8.50 each.

Lanchester Social Club

3rd Aug - Joanne James
10th Aug - Darryl Todd
17th Aug - Kelly Devine
24th Aug - Tony Montana
31st Aug - David Bryan
All acts are subject to change at short notice. Non-members welcome.

The Lanchester Community Orchard Work Sessions

We meet regularly to maintain and care for the orchard. Come and join us to find out more and help look after the trees. There are jobs for all ages and we always stop for coffee! New members are always welcome. For August and September sessions please visit the What's On page of our website lanchesterorchard.org.uk

Lanchester Hiking Group

Meets at 10am on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of every month. Walks are about 5 miles long within a 30 minute radius of Lanchester - lifts provided. For further details please call Helen Thomas on 07712425623 (or email hdbthomas@live.com).

St Bede's Catholic School and Sixth Form College

End of School Year Highlights at St. Bede's

We have had a formidable end to the school year with a multitude of opportunities, trips, and activities. Bringing the year to a close with a bang, here are just a few of the exciting things we have been up to:

Year 13 Ball

Year 13 celebrated a wonderful evening with staff at the Baltic. It was a fantastic evening, and we are sad to see them leave St. Bede's. We wish you all the best of luck for the exciting adventures ahead of you.

Year 11 Prom

Year 11 had an amazing Prom at Riverside Cricket Ground in Chester-Le-Street. Everyone was dressed to impress, and an amazing time was had by all in attendance.

Fun in Science

In June, many of our students enjoyed a lecture from Dr Peter Hoare from Newcastle University. The lecture was all about the elements, and Hoare performed several exciting demonstrations including the 'Woosh Balloon'. Students loved the incredible demonstrations and enjoyed participating in the practicals even more!

Trips Galore

- Throughout this term, lots of students have enjoyed an array of trips:
- The National Festival of Fieldwork with Geography
- The SVP Conference with Miss Eddy
- The Summer Festival hosted by the YMT at the Emmaus Village
- The Music Event at Beamish hosted by Durham Music Service

Coming Soon

We haven't quite experienced our end-of-year trips or activities week as we write this, but we are confident we are going to have a fun-filled end of term and be ready for summer!

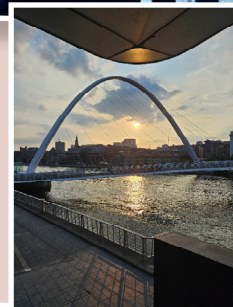
We are proud of our students' accomplishments and look forward to the exciting activities ahead.

Catherine Hammill

Head Teacher



Above: Year 13 boys enjoy the leavers ball at the Baltic
Right: Views of the Tyne from the Baltic



Right: Fun in Science

Lanchester Endowed Parochial School

This is always a special time for our Year 6 children whose seven or eight years together since Reception or Nursery draw to a close. They are always sad to leave primary school but also look forward to the next exciting step. They have all enjoyed their transition days and I am confident that we have prepared them as much as possible for life in secondary school. Currently, they are enjoying a week in Northern Ireland. They have visited Crumlin Road Gaol, W5 Science Museum and also enjoyed a fabulous visit to the Giant's Causeway and the beaches of Portrush. This is a very special final residential and it hasn't disappointed any of them!

On Tuesday 9th July two of our Year 5 pupils have the immense privilege of being part of a cast of primary aged children performing 'Hamlet' in The Royal Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford upon Avon. We have had our Shakespeare Club all year with over 20 children performing Hamlet in Bishop Auckland Town Hall earlier in the year. Even our Year 1 children are able to retell and act parts of Hamlet too. However, to be able to perform at that world famous stage at the home of the RSC is something most of us can only dream of. I am sure this is something they will never forget!

I am also delighted to inform you that we now have a School Dog. Woody passed his assessment with flying colours this week, graded as outstanding in all areas. Huge thanks must go to Lee from School of Dogs at South Moor for his wonderful training over the last four months. I am sure you will see Woody out and about with the children in the months to come.

With two weeks to go until the end of the school year we still have our Olympic Week, Sports Days, Summer Fair, Year 5 trip to Beamish, Sports Assembly, Water Day, School Reports to complete, Year 6 Social Evening, Music Concert and Leavers' Assemblies to get through. So, there is definitely no winding down for us!

At the end of this term, we are also saying goodbye to Mrs Patricia Riddell who has worked at our school for over 8 years. She started doing some supply work and has gradually increased hours and covered for many staff absences across the school. She is retiring after a very long and successful teaching career, and we wish her all the very best for a long, happy and healthy retirement.

Here's wishing everyone a very relaxing and enjoyable summer break and we are looking forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Wednesday 4th September. I hope you all enjoy a traffic-free 6 weeks as well!

Mrs Jane Davis Head Teacher



Top: Year 6 group on the Giant's Causeway
Above: Woody the School Dog

Lanchester All Saints' Catholic Primary School

As the term draws to a close we have such a lot to celebrate here at All Saints'. We have enjoyed a fabulous year of learning with our children putting our Mission Statement into practice each and every day; As unique children of God we aspire not to have more but to be more. Our end of term Mass, led by Year 6, celebrated all the achievements of the year.

Thirty-one children leave us this year to move on to secondary school. We are immensely proud of the wonderful young people they have become. They have recently returned from a residential visit to Swaledale and were an absolute credit to our school and their families. Not only have they achieved their very best academically but they have learnt how to use all their God-given talents for the good of others. They are compassionate, generous, selfless individuals who know that to treat others how they like to be treated is a rule for life. We wish them well on the next stage of their journey. In every other year group, the children have enjoyed "Moving up" days where they have spent time getting to know their



teachers for next year. It is amazing the progress all the children have made this year and all seem ready for the challenges that next year will bring.

We look forward to welcoming new Reception and Nursery children into our school family in September. We can't wait to get to know them and for them to become part of our All Saints' family.

The welcomes and goodbyes perpetuate, and we are already planning for our intake of Reception children for September 2025. We welcome Nursery children throughout the year – so please contact us if your child is three soon. We are holding an open morning for any parents and children who would like to look around our Early Years Unit. Come in and meet the staff and see our facilities on Saturday 5th October from 10am until 11.30am. We would love to meet you.

We wish all our families a very happy and healthy well-earned rest over the summer.

Alison Conlin
Acting Head Teacher



Photographs of the pupils enjoying the residential visit to Swaledale

Lanchester Bowling Club Memorable Moments and Midges

"June, the month of all months, the month of leaves and roses, when pleasant sights greet the eyes and pleasant odours greet the nose." Charles Dickens

If Dickens had visited Durham this year perhaps, he wouldn't have had such an idealised notion of June. Sadly, it's been characterised by wicked winds, brooding skies, squally rain and the occasional very warm day. Despite all this June has been both a busy and memorable month with numerous league games interspersed with participation in various competitions, including our own internal ones.

One momentous moment was the first Lanchester derby where the B team hosted the A team in the South West Durham League. Fittingly the match ended in a four all draw. The A team won two rinks, but a hefty win by John Vickery (skip), Malcolm Laverick and Trish Jose enabled the B team to pick up the two points available for the overall number of shots won. The four points helped maintain the A team's push for promotion, but large defeats for the B mean they remain second bottom albeit with games in hand of their rivals. Prior to the derby starting, Paul Monaghan (skip), Phil Smith and Wendy Phillips were presented with their Hotshot certificates, having obtained all the possible shots on one end against Consett Park B earlier in the season. The six shots enabled them to obtain a tie on their rink, thus picking up a vital point in a 7-1 win.

A second momentous June moment was the visit of the Boys Brigade on the 12th. Early evening the seven younger



members visited and used small indoor bowls to play a competition based on our ground targets. Later the older boys were taught how to play with full size bowls and again played a competition. As this was happening, the accompanying parents enjoyed their own game on an adjacent rink. The evening ended with drinks, biscuits and prizes for winners and losers! Even the swarms of midges (where are the hirundines when you need them? See last month's Wildlife Notes – hirundines are birds) didn't stop the enjoyment so thanks to Eric Hepplewhite and Richard Hall for arranging the evening as well as Christine and Paul Monaghan, Sally Laverick and Jeff Hockaday for helping out.

Both of our teams (Keith Brown and Jim Hewittson; Mike Stoddart and Richard Hall) progressed in the NW Durham pairs, whilst Mike Stoddart (skip), Bruce Fox and I comprehensively defeated a team from Herrington in the County Triples; Mike was particularly impressive, bowling to the jack end after end.

On top of our own matches our green also hosted the semifinals of the NW Durham rinks. Both games were closely contested with some excellent bowling and communication skills on show. I have the bites to prove even the midges enjoyed the evening!

Yet again I remind everyone that Thursday afternoon is open to all comers and if you want to spend a relaxing time watching our games then check our website for the fixtures.

Bob Cuthbertson

Left: Trish Jose in action.
Right: Phil Smith, Paul Monaghan and Wendy Phillips with their Hotshot Certificates

Cricket News

Senior Cricket News

The firsts have had a right mixed bag in the league, winning one, losing two and being washed out when well placed in another. They also won the exhibition match against Durham Academy and played in 'The Hundred' competition for the first time. The win was an exciting affair against Eppleton as Lanchester won by just one run. Lanchester were bowled out for 169 and it took patience, skill and guile to wheedle their opponents out with Nathan Somersall stumping the last batter off Callum Barnes. Lanchester had bottom side Crook in all sorts of trouble when the rain arrived to save them.

We have been struggling a bit for batters of late and didn't score enough runs against Willington and Hetton Lyons. However, in our 50th anniversary exhibition match v Durham Academy we had a great win. Set a target of 156 off 20 overs, Lanchester cruised home for the loss of only two wickets. Charlie McPhail struck an unbeaten 89 and Jack Slane made 39.

The League introduced 'The Hundred' competition and



Above: the exhibition game against Durham Academy

Lanchester hosted Willington and Tynedale, beating Willington in a tight opener, then beating Tynedale in the final of the three matches to top the group and progress to the next round.

The seconds had a winning draw and a win plus two defeats in this period. Against Willington, Lanchester set a good target and offered their opponents additional overs but just couldn't get the final wicket to seal the win. Crook only turned up with 8 players and were summarily dismissed with Toby Somersall making a match winning 69. A weakened first team means a weakened second team and it showed in defeats to Eppleton and Burnmoor, despite Dan Scott taking 4 wickets in one and an unbeaten 75, his maiden senior fifty in the other.

Junior Cricket

The under 18s are set to resume after A levels and the 15s have had only one match, a heavy defeat at Ryton. The 13s have played six matches as rained off fixtures have been squeezed back in and have won four of them. Against Annfield Plain, Riley Sayer and Daniel Garside retired (once they reached 30) and Alfie Armstrong took 3 wickets.

Against Greenside, Dan Garside, Alfie Armstrong and Will Sommerville all got to retire. They were whopped by Whickham but bounced back against Blaydon as Nathan Watson and Riley Sayer retired in a 10 wicket win. They then lost to Burnopfield despite 4 wickets by Daniel Garside and Riley Sayer retiring again and special mention to Evie Allen, who batting at 11, scored 14. They finished with a cup win over Burnmoor, where with no retirement until 50, Riley Sayer made 45. All the bowlers bowled well to see them through to a semi-final spot against Chester Le Street. They sit fifth out of 14 teams in the league. The under 11s have won all three matches in the period and stand proudly on top of the league. The Girls under 11 side took part in a competition at Blaydon, finishing second to Blaydon having won 3 of the 4 games.

Andrew McConnell

Tennis Club News

On 22nd June, Lanchester Lawn Tennis Club held their annual barbecue. Warm, sunny weather saw over 60 adults and children enjoy good food and lots of tennis. Photographs, very kindly taken by Mary Borella Photography show the barbecue in full swing.

In their respective leagues, the mixed team stands at 1 win and 1 loss, whilst the ladies are 1 win and 2 losses. The coaching sessions continue to be well supported and will take place during the school holidays.

Any details about the club can be obtained at den.lizjane@gmail.com or follow us on Facebook.

Dennis Laycock



All photographs by Mary Borella Photography



Published by Lanchester Publications Ltd, c/o Lanchester Community Centre, Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester, DH7 0PB
The views expressed in this periodical are not necessarily those of the publishers. Whilst all efforts are made to check the authenticity, and accuracy of all articles submitted for publication, occasionally something is bound to be printed incorrectly. Please let us know, and we will endeavour to correct the mistake.