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THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 10 Volume 6

Lanchester, November 2005

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SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIP OPEN DAY

Several village groups displayed their work or demonstrated their skills at the Partnership Open Day held on October 8th in the Community Centre. There were displays by the Parish Council, the Partnership as hosts, the Friends of the Fort, the Wildlife Group (with Michael Mann's buzzard and owl), the Centurion motor cyclists, the Model Boat Club, the Lions and the Pathfinder footpath group. There was a perpetual slide-show of photos from Eric Burns, the Village Voice, and the Village Design Statement workshop.

Opening the event, the Rev Mary Lloyd spoke warmly of the sense of community in the village and of the work done by the Parish Council and Partnership, as well as all the village clubs and societies.

Cllr Ossie Johnson referred to the ways that the Partnership and Council had worked together, giving the Village Design Statement and Parish Plan as examples.

Introducing the other speakers, Partnership Chairman Mike Gladstone briefly outlined the work of the Partnership - The introduction of the village bus, now running every weekday thanks to a grant from Cllr John Ingham and fund-raising by Maureen Loy, the Rock Club which is prospering at the Cricket Club, though threatened by the new licencing laws, the Youth Club run by Ruth Wilson and Rachel Crowe, the Village Design Statement which is now being used regularly by the Parish and Derwentside Councils for planning

continued on page 6



Mike Gladstone and Cllr Ossie Johnson listen to Rev Mary Lloyd opening the Partnership Open Day



The Rock Club band entertain at the Open Day



Two young Tae Kwando enthusiasts study the work of the Model Boat Club as Ted Welding, the group's Chairman, explains his work to some of the older persuasion



The strolling Wildlife exhibition - Michael Mann with his buzzard, Kay, and Genevieve with Tansy the barn owl



Young Tae Kwando experts display their skills

More pictures and full story on page 6



Dear Village....

The views expressed in letters to the editor are not necessarily those of the newspaper, the editor or persons working for the newspaper. The editor retains the right to cut or otherwise amend any letter published. Letters must contain your name, address and telephone no., all of which may be withheld at your request.

Dear Editor,
I walk my two grandchildren to School every morning and I find that it is becoming more dangerous to do so because of inconsiderate drivers trying to park their cars in places they shouldn't. More than once I have seen cars mount the pavement in order to park in the smallest of areas without a thought for the children walking on those pavements. The drivers are mostly mothers bringing their own children to school, possibly because they think this is the safest for them, but they are not considering the children who are walking to school when they park, in my opinion, dangerously at times. The inevitable happened on Monday morning October 10th when I and numerous other people witnessed a child being struck by a car, the driver of which

was trying to pull into the private car park of the Black Bull. The child wasn't hurt, thankfully, but he could have been and so could the children he was walking with. The boy could have been killed. Does this have to happen before something is done about this ridiculous situation every school morning and evening.

Yours faithfully,
Mrs M. Hughes
Newbiggen Lane

Dear Sir,
I am, I suspect, like many Lancastrians, frequently inconvenienced by "free-for-all" parking on Front St., where parking restrictions are blatantly ignored. I was, therefore, initially heartened by the apparently firm response of the Parish Council to parking outside Peter's Bakery. However, when the warning "...so parking on the pavement won't exempt you from getting a ticket" appeared as the "ultimate deterrent", I smiled. When WAS the last time a parking ticket was issued, and/or a traffic warden seen, in Lanchester?

Tim Taylor

THE VILLAGE VOICE

IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

Dear Editor
What a lovely surprise for the last edition of the Village Voice to find my recently new look garden completely renovated by George and Gail Wales and another wonderful helper so far unnamed. This was all carried out whilst I was on holiday in Spain.

The missing other helper was none other than Mrs Sheila Trow, pictured outside my house with her bike. She is really dedicated to bike riding, and a few weeks ago did the coast to coast run. Can I personally thank all three of these wonderful friends for their absolutely wonderful help, as nearing

80 years of age I am unable to do it myself.

Could I also mention that the C of E Sunday School brought me round a tray of fruit and vegetables for which I was really touched. All the best to the excellent publication the Village Voice.

Bob Thewlis
Alderside Crescent



Sheila Trow

Dear Sir,
I am writing on behalf of my mother, Mrs Betty Calland, who after the recent death of my father, Fred Calland, would like to thank family and friends for their cards, flowers and much appreciated visits. Also we would like to thank

everyone for their kind donations of £620, which were divided between the charities Cancer Research UK, as cancer caused my father's death, and the Blind Society of Sunderland, as they were of great support to my father and mother and

have made some good friends.

So a very big thank you to those who gave so generously so that these charities can carry on their good work.

Yours sincerely
Elizabeth Ann Rowe
1 Bargate Cottages



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Dear Sir,
The family of Cyril Ashcroft would like to express sincere gratitude for the support received following Cyril's death on September 28th. We have been overwhelmed by the expressions of condolence and greatly comforted by the many kind remembrances.
Eunice Ashcroft and family
7 Meadow Way

Dear Sir,
I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many people who have offered their support, prayers and good wishes, which have been very much appreciated, during and after the time of my two operations. I am now making steady progress towards recovery.
Ces Summers
Deanery View

LATE BILLING

Northern Electric have sent an overdue bill to the grandson of Joe Harvey, the last person to leave the light on in the St James Park trophy room.

Contribution from a Sunderland supporter

FAREWELL TO A SUNNY INDIAN SMILE

There were two parties to say farewell to Fr Caetano Fernandez, after the Saturday evening and Sunday morning masses. He took with him fond memories, a cheque for use in his parish in Goa, and a painting of Lanchester Parish church

- the latter matches the painting of All Saints RC church presented to Fr Alex d'Silva last year. To general applause, Canon Spence said that the parish had enjoyed Fr Caetano's visit; he had brought a sunny Indian smile in our sunny Indian

Summer, and had served the parish well, especially during Canon Spence's journey to the Holy Land. Fr Caetano said that he had enjoyed trips to London, Holy Island and other places but was always happy to come 'home' to Lanchester.



Canon Spence presents a painting of the Parish Church to Fr Caetano

DELIGHTFUL ART EXHIBITION

Lanchester Art Group's two-day exhibition of members' paintings drew a large number of visitors to the Community Centre on 15th and 16th October. It seems that every year the variety and quality of the members' work improves, and more red stickers

show that the public not only appreciate but buy paintings. The group, which meets on Thursday mornings in the Community Centre, is so popular that it has gained half a dozen new members this year and there is a waiting list for

membership. In spite of a major hitch on the day before the exhibition, when the display boards which the group normally borrows were not available, the show went on as usual on a brand new set of boards purchased by the group.



Graham Dobson, son of Harry and Marjorie Dobson, the Secretary and Treasurer of Lanchester Art Group, has learning difficulties due to Downs Syndrome but is a skilled painter, with an individual style. He is an Honorary member of the group, and this year proudly displayed his work at the annual Exhibition. Photo: Ken Coates

TRIUMPH AT DURHAM SHOW

Lanchester resident Jane Pegram has always done well at Durham Show, but this year had a most successful day, gaining the cup as the most successful exhibitor, with 1st places in a number of competitions. Her knitting earned her first place in the Adult Garment section and also the Household Article, with a most impressive cockerel tea-cosy. Her cookery skills

produced the best ginger snaps, date and almond cake and drop scones, as well as first and second in the chutney competition and second in the jelly preserve.

This was the second Durham Show under the aegis of the County Council, drawing a record entry of 760. Fortunately Jane doesn't enter the vegetable competitions, or nobody would have a chance.



Jane Pegram with her trophy

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SERVICE FOR THE BELLS

Sunday evening 9th October was an important day in the history of the Parish church. After many weeks of waiting the church bells had been restored and it was time to have a 'SERVICE OF DEDICATION AND REDEDICATION OF THE BELLS'. The service lasted less than an hour but it raised a mixture of emotions. It was at times joyous, rousing and also very moving. Canon Peter organized and re-wrote a service which had previously been used in 1969. The Dean of

Durham, The Very Reverend Michael Sadgrove, who was making his first visit to the church, gave the Address in quite a light hearted, humourous way in which he also explained the importance of the bells and indeed some of the technicalities. Afterwards, there was a reception in the Chapter House.

An exceptionally good buffet was provided by the ladies from the church and those who wished were able to enjoy a glass of wine rather than, or in addition to, the usual tea

of coffee. The church was almost full with the numbers being swelled by the Methodist Chapel

changing their evening service to the Parish Church along with many members of All Saints

Catholic Church who also attended. It was certainly a most enjoyable and memorable evening.



Lanchester Parish Church bell ringers



Left to Right: J. Neville Parkin (President Durham & Newcastle Bell ringers), Peter Hayward (Bellhanger), Dean of Durham, the Very Reverend Michael Sadgrove, Olga Walker (Tower Captain), Canon Peter Waterhouse (Vicar of Lanchester) after the dedication of the bells.

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EP SCHOOL SERVICE

The whole school 6th October raised £268.13
Harvest Service held at the which has been donated
Parish Church on Thursday to Water Aid.

WHAT GOD LOOKS LIKE

A kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what

the drawing was. The girl replied "I'm drawing God". The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like". Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute".

TEACHER COMMEMORATED



Mike McPartland unveiling the sandstone seat, with Canon Spence and sculptor Gilbert Ward in support. The bench is carved with the words: 'Maureen McPartland, teacher at All Saints School, What Will Survive of us is Love, 1988 - 2004'.

Children and parents gathered at All Saints' RC primary school for the official opening of memorials to Mrs Maureen McPartland, the longest serving teacher at the school, who died from cancer on 9th December 2004. Maureen's husband Mike unveiled two windows flanking the school's main entrance, then a carved sandstone seat placed at the rear of the school playground. Canon Spence spoke briefly of Maureen McPartland's contribution to the school on each occasion.

Headmaster Tony Reather, recovering from a minor throat operation, was under doctor's orders to rest his voice, but had praised Maureen's dedication and talent as a teacher on previous occasions, referring to her involvement with coaching the netball team, organising the school's outdoor education visits, as well as her love of folk music,



Mike McPartland and family members are first to test the seat



Mike McPartland poses in front of one of the windows accompanied by Maralyn O'Keefe, who worked with him and school children to evolve the designs. Yes, the cartoon drawing was done by one of the pupils.

movement, dance and parents enjoyed a picnic poetry. in the school grounds, After the ceremonies, with games for the children and their youngsters.

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SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIP OPEN DAY

continued from page 1
 purposes, the good work of Durham County Council, Northumbrian Water and the Environment Agency who have almost finished their work of up-grading and repairing the village drains and sewers and improving flood prediction, the Partnership's participation in the Derwentside Strategic Partnership and the

Durham County Strategic Partnership and in monitoring development, and the web-site which is now up and running. During the morning the visitors were entertained by the trainee Brass Band, the Tae Kwando group and members of the Rock Club, while refreshments were served in the dining room and the Welcome Table recruited members.



The impressive display of the Centurions motor-cycle group



The audience at the Open Day



The Lions' display at the Open Day

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Some stiles recently installed through the work of the Pathfinders group

PARTNERSHIP OPEN DAY



Bill Oxborough and Christine Lever with the excellent Friends of the Fort display



Computers for All tutor Christine Monaghan shows photos of the village past and present

GARDENING TIPS FOR NOVEMBER

Flowers

Cut down perennials that have started to die back and tidy others that have long growth.

Plant tulip bulbs before the end of November.

Sow sweet peas and keep in a cold greenhouse/cold-frame. Once several pairs of leaves have formed nip

out the growing tip - these will be ready to plant out in late April after all signs of frost.

Lift dahlia tubers and keep in a frost free area for next year.

Greenhouse

Wash all glass areas to let as much light in as

possible during the winter months.

Try growing your own garlic - 1 clove of garlic 2" deep in a pot of multi purpose compost. Keep moist and in a cool greenhouse/cold-frame. These should be ready for harvesting by May/June next year.

General

Start ordering seeds for next year.

If you are still cutting your lawn raise the height of the mower and leave a good 1 1/2" - 2" of growth and this will help protect the lawn for next season.

Graham the Gardener

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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS OCTOBER 2005

PLAYAREA LIGHTING

Parish Councillors have agreed to the installation of two lights, which will illuminate the children's play area behind park house. The lights will come on at dusk and remain on until 9pm; they will progressively dim across the park so they don't affect the wildlife areas on the fringes of the land.

FOOTBALL PITCH

The goal posts on the Kitswell Road football pitch are in a poor state of repair. Parish councillors have resolved to have them removed and Derwentside District Council has agreed to

fund the replacement posts.

PUBLIC BENCHES

The council confirmed that a number of the parish's benches are in a poor state of repair and has carried out a survey of to find out which are most in need of work. Discussions are underway to replace the worst of them with 'vandal-proof' recycled plastic benches in the near future. A rolling scheme to replace a number of benches each year is also being considered.

COUNTRY VERGES

Lanchester Parish Council is to write to Durham County Council to raise the issue of maintenance of

roadsides in the area, particularly in the country lanes surrounding the village. Trees and hedges have become so overgrown that on certain roads, tractor drivers coming out of neighbouring fields are unable to see the oncoming traffic until they are in the middle of the road. This is an obvious hazard as many motorists speed along the quiet lanes. One example given of the lack of visibility is the approach to the narrow bridge behind Hurbuck Cottages.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

LANCHESTER ARMS

The construction of three dwellings to the rear of the Lanchester Arms on Front Street, Lanchester has been granted.

NEW HOME - The demolition of an existing house and construction of a new home at Spring Garden Farm, Howden Bank has been granted.

KITSWELL ROAD - Shepherd Homes, the developer behind plans to build 24 houses on the site of the former council depot on Kitswell Road is being asked to fund a play area in the vicinity of the development.

FARM SHOP - The owners of Brockwell Farm have been granted retrospective planning permission for their timber farm shop. However as the application was only for a temporary building, it expires in six months (March 2006), at which time the building will have to be removed.

OAKWOOD

STABLES - The council has received an application from Oakwood Stables to extend the time which it

can use it's floodlighting from 7pm until 8pm. It was granted the licence to use the lights until 7pm in 2003 and now the owners say there is such demand that they need to extend their opening hours on weekday evenings. Chair of the Parish Council Planning Committee, Councillor Ossie Johnson has asked Derwentside District Council to write to everyone with properties, which border onto the stables to seek their views before proceeding with the issue.

PARK HOUSE

SURGERY -

Representatives from Park House Surgery have met with councillors to discuss their plans to expand their premises. Councillors are now awaiting further response from the surgery before their planning application can proceed.

PAPER SHOP - The Parish Council Planners have recommended for approval plans to improve the exterior of the newsagents in the village. The plans are to brick up the two ground floor windows facing Front Street and replace them with a sash window and signs, which will complement the building and its surroundings.

POLICEREPORT

Crimes reported to the police during the past month include, the theft of a motor vehicle from Lanchester Nurseries on Ford Lane, a smashed window on a garden shed in Percy Place, and damage to windscreen wipers on a car in Burnhope. Valentino's, the new Italian restaurant on Front

Street was given an unfortunate welcome to the village shortly after it opened when the front door was smashed in the early hours of the morning. In a rather worrying incident, a handbag was snatched from a kitchen work-top in a house on Front Street. The police say that the opportunist thief entered the property through an open back door during daylight hours.

In respect of all of these incidents, house-to-house inquiries were carried out but they revealed no witnesses and as there was no forensic evidence left at any of the crime scenes no one has been apprehended. Community Police Officer Norman Foster has recommended that villagers consider extending the existing neighbourhood watch schemes in an attempt to reduce the incidence of crime.

Also in the past month, two people were arrested for anti-social behaviour in two separate incidents in Deneside. A drunk driver was arrested in the Spar Car Park after being followed into the village by the police.

YOUTH NUISANCE

The police are currently collating information about a number of young people who have been causing anti-social behaviour in the village. This information could lead to anti-social behaviour orders (ASBOs) being handed out to them.

ANTI-DRUGS OPERATION

One evening in September the police carried out an anti-drugs operation in the village's public houses.

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PARISH COUNCIL (continued)

All the pubs were searched on the same night using a 'passive police dog', which is able to sniff out drug residue on people's clothing. During the evening a number of people were picked out by the dog, and were later searched but none had any drugs on them and no arrests were made. However, the operation was hailed a success with the police gaining good intelligence and positive feedback from both publicans, and the public. Similar operations will be carried out in the future.

POLICE POST BOX

Since PC Foster installed a police post box in Park House several months ago only a few letters have been posted there. The aim of the scheme was to encourage

anyone with concerns they wish to raise with the police to post their thoughts to him. In an attempt to widen the scheme, a new box has been installed in St Bede's Secondary School.

MALICIOUS LETTERS

During a two-week period a number of malicious letters were sent to shops in the village. The content of the letters - which are unsubstantiated, questioned the integrity of a man who works in Lanchester. The author of the letters has not yet been traced.

COMMUNITY INSPECTOR

The outgoing Community Inspector for the village, Inspector Cath Boyd is being replaced with Inspector Andrew McConnell, a Lanchester resident.

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A TASTY TIME

This was certainly an evening with a difference at the Lanchester EP School on Wednesday 5th October. Head Teacher, Mrs Davis opened the event and said that the school is making positive attempts to improve the quality of school meals in line with Jamie Oliver's recommendations, knowing that this subject has become an issue with parents. However, the recommendations will take some time to implement fully. Over a hundred people attended this taster session, and all were offered the opportunity of sampling new school meals (together with a glass of wine which will not be made available to the children!!!). The meals available on the evening included Cucumber and Tomato Salsa; Tomato Herb Bread; Chilli con Carne; Cheese and Broccoli Quiche; Apple Flapjack and Lemon Love Cake. There were a few vegetarian meals available and chips will also be introduced into the new menu. Mrs Davis is anxious to have a feedback from children and parents about the meals situation.

The school cook (or should it be chef now), Ann Malpas, had been working from 7 am and was still at the school for the event. She was pleased with the changes made and had certainly served up some appetizing food on the evening. After the food sampling, the school choir provided excellent entertainment. Mrs Davis intends to enter the choir for inter-school competitions, and also would like to start choirs in years one and two.



Parents admire the food before sampling

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WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE 2005

After nearly two years of planning and saving, at last the 9th of September arrived. It was certainly a wet and windy start and all 33 pilgrims arrived at the Parish Church in good time for our bus.

A mixed bunch, we soon jelled and friendships were sealed forever. It's a fairly long journey, arriving at 3.30pm after a 9am start, having a couple of stops on the way. The shrine

accommodation is simple but clean and warm, the meals superb and the staff friendly.

The main devotions and acts of worship were Stations of the Cross, Intercession in the Holy House, devotions at the RC slipper-chapel, mass at the Guild of All Souls, St Mary's Roman Catholic mass at the Methodist Church Hall. These all meant a great deal, in different ways to different folk, but I

think overall the highlights for the majority seems to have been the Torchlight Procession, followed by Benediction and the final act of worship, the sprinkling at the well, laying on of hands and anointing. Revd Canon Peter Waterhouse led us in most of these memorable events. "We go to a strange place to understand our familiar place better" (a quote from Pilgrim Places) Elizabeth Wharton

QUEEN'S HEAD NEW TOILET BLOCK

Work will start on Monday 24th October on a completely refurbished toilet block at the Queen's Head. John Dixon, the proprietor of the

Queen's Head, wishes to apologize to customers for any slight inconvenience which might occur during the building programme. He expects that the building programme

will take two to three weeks duration. He is pleased to announce that the new area will include facilities for the disabled. During the building programme the pub will open as normal.

ROMAN HOLIDAY?

Children from years three and four at All Saints' Primary School enjoyed a trip to South Shields on Friday 14th October to visit Arbeia, the Roman site, with its museum and reconstructed gateway. Thirty-five pupils, accompanied by staff and parents, learned a lot about archaeology at first hand.



Some of the All Saints' pupils who visited the Roman fortress of Arbeia

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP HOME-BOUND

At the Partnership Open Day volunteers were being sought to help home-bound people by visiting them for a chat or to do odd jobs that the home-bound are not able to manage themselves. Bob Thewlis' neighbours have made a start, as reported last month. If you would like to help, please contact Carolyn Wardle (521622) or Connie Rotherham (520162).

MERCY SHIPS

The customary coffee sandwich lunch for the morning held in the same cause. The sum of £357.18 was raised by this event. Mercy Ships coordinator Hazel Wilson is stockpiling excellent soup and garden tools to be taken to Africa by the new ship now being converted on the Tyne; contributions can be left at the church on Monday to Wednesday mornings.



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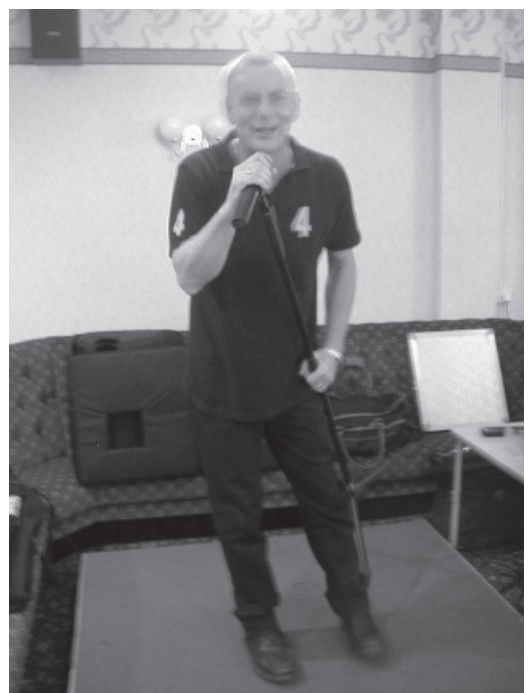
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SOCIAL CLUB ENTERTAINMENT



Popular entertainer Steve Ashworth sings to his growing fan club at Lanchester Social Club on Saturday 8th October

THE SATANIC MILLS

Margaret Southworth, who began her teaching career at Ryton Comprehensive and eventually became head of history at Derwentside College, gave a spellbinding illustrated talk on the socio-economic history of Shotley Bridge and Consett to an appreciative and interested audience of about 80 people. Margaret is one of those gifted people who can speak for well over an hour without referring to a single note whilst her husband Chris, who timed his presentation of photos and sources to perfection, exemplified what a great team they make. Jerusalem may be what Shotley Bridge is now but to the uninformed it may well have come as a surprise to find how important the river was from the early 1600's when skilled sword makers from Solingen in Germany were invited by the government of the day to come to live there and impart those skills to the locals and develop the sword-making industry. Following on from this, Spas were developed all over the area, notably at the Hally Well, and there was a great influx of visitors to these and local tea rooms, and

the new Springfield hotel was built and remained there until 1960 when it was demolished. The 1700's saw the big polluter arrive with onset of the Annandale Flour Mill and the beginning of the Co-op movement (CIS). With the development of railways along with the Paper Mill in 1860, Shotley Bridge became a major industrial centre and in the 1800's many other industries followed and the population grew - all this is hardly believable when you see it today.



Margaret Southworth - Historian

Only some of the names on buildings, roads and of course the Crown & Cross Sword Public House give a hint of what went on years ago. Margaret spoke from the heart and her affinity to Consett shone through. The animation of her talk and references to her family with photos and primary sources such as census forms, all illustrated, were presented with a depth of feeling that made the occasion so much more than a history lecture. Her knowledge was vast, particularly of the various religions in the area and the conflicts between them. It was apparent that there was ongoing conflict between Methodists and Catholics. Consett began to grow with the influx of Scottish, Irish and Midlanders mainly from Staffordshire searching for work. The growth was inspired by Jonathan or William Richardson - no one seems really sure, but they were previously involved with the Spas at Shotley Bridge. Together with other industrialists they formed a consortium and founded the Derwent Iron Company in 1840.

However, they invested far beyond what it was worth and it collapsed in 1857, but was eventually bailed out by the Bank of England. So the Consett Iron Company developed and thrived until the 70's when it closed. There was no help this time. Consett was deemed to be strategically and geographically in the wrong place to make it viable. The community spirit with music, sport, unions, political activity, marches and various conflicting religions made Consett a fine place to live. The churches were full 700 per week at the Methodist Chapel but also full were the 29 public houses that could be found all over the town. Life was hard among those satanic mills, the filth, the heat of the works, the danger, and later the red dust that the wind carried as far as Lanchester. The owners were good to their employees, providing housing and medical help along with other social necessities. In addition to the steelworks and Slag Reduction Company there was a stone quarry at

Delves Lane which provided extra work. By the beginning of the 20th century there was a golf club, cinema, theatre, rugby club, football team, hockey, cricket teams, Salvation Army and Company bands. The list appears to be endless. The photos of Margaret's family were quite poignant in this era and one could tell from the look in her eye the tone of her voice and gestures to her audience she was almost re-living the time - among those dark satanic mills.

Footnote: The lecture raised £270 for the Community Centre.

COFFEE FOR MACMILLAN

One of Lanchester's contributions to the World's Biggest Coffee-morning in the World in aid of Macmillan Cancer Care was the sale of coffee and tea in Lanchester library on Thursday 29th September, with a raffle. The total raised was £110.

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LANCHESTER INFOLIST

From time to time we publish a list of the classes and clubs to be found in Lanchester. Please advise any errors or omissions.

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Aerobics	Claire McElrue	520607
Agricultural Society	Carol Cliffe	0191 3734565
Amigos	Olive Simpkins	520229
Angling Club	Ted Brabbam	570447
Art Group	Harry Dobson	234688
Beamish Quilters	Elaine Williams	520063
Benfieldside Folk Dance	Jean Longstaffe	0191 3844445
Bereavement Support	Mrs P Burton	230777
Bobbin Lace Making	Elaine Williams	520063
Bowls	Alan Wharton	520872
Boys Brigade (11-18)	Geoff Martin	520103
Boys Brigade (8-11)	Amos Morris	521921
Boys Brigade (under 8)		521466
Brass Band	Adam Towe	529742
Breatheasy	Margy Kirchner	506294
Bridge Club	Jan Vasey	521948
Brownies	Liz Smith	521682
Carers Support	Dawn Mallows	502688
Centurions Motorcyclists	David Jackson	521401
Children's Society	Brenda Craddock	520749
Children's Dance	Karen Stewart	520468
Choral & Operatic Society	Moira Watson	0191 4106082
Church Wives	Brenda Craddock	520749
Community Association	Harry Taylor	520495
Community Policeman	Norman Foster	0845 6060365
Computers for All	Christine Monaghan	529001
CPRE	Cathryn Gander	529650
Creative Writing	Malcolm McKemie	521427
Cricknet Club	Philip Laidler	520255
DLI68	Jane Parker	520077
Dog Obedience	Mr & Mrs Churlish	0191 3731185
Exercise Centre	Community Centre	521275
Flower Club	Helen Tomlinson	503667
Guides	Alma Kelly	520560
History Group	Kevin Leary	521627
Italian Conversation	Patrizia Clarkson	0191 3849513
Keep Fit	Tanya Johnson	581466
Keep Fit	Liz Wood	520278
Lace Circle	Heather Parkin	01833621393
Lanchester Partnership	Mike Gladstone	528114
Lanchester Pathfinders	Anne Cook	529334
Library	Monica Murfin	521021
Line Dancing	Lynn Nixon	231622
Lions	Brian Oram	520559
Macmillan Nurses	Brenda Hall	521408
Male Voice Choir	John Wills	520249
Model Boat Club	Ted Welding	0191 3733046
Mothers' Union	Margaret Brown	529714
MP	Hilary Armstrong	01388767065
Needlecraft	Elaine Williams	520063
NSPCC	Diane Quail	521377
Parish Council	Jim Owens	521957
ParkLife	Tina Patterson	520924
Playgroup	Liz Smith	521682
Poetry Group	Isam Husain	521181
Rainbows (girls 5-7)	Kathryn Trotter	521226
Ramblers Association	Joyce Thomas	520568
Reading Group	Monica Murfin	521021
Red Cross (Senior)	Dorothy Cox	520123
Rock Club	Sonny Shepherd	520759
Scottish Dance Group	Jill Ramsey	520501
Scouts	John Wills	520249
Slimming World	Dawn Ferguson	507245
Social Club	Trish Bennett	528304
Tae Kwando	Kevin Allison	0191 3730673
Tennis Club	Dennis Laycock	520278
Thursday Club	Olive Simpkins	520229
Tiny Tots	Jacque	0191 3830488
Village Voice Advertising	John Hurrant	520288
Village Voice Distribution	Mike Stoddart	520291
Village Voice Editor	Malcolm McKenzie	521427
Wednesday Whist		521042
Weight Watchers	Lynne Lightfoot	0191 4104568
WI Market	Eveline Cowan	0191 5813703
Wildlife Group	Elaine Williams	520063
Women's Institute	Barbara Sproat	520247
WRVS	Betty Tregonning	521210
Youth Club	Ruth Wilson	529329

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‘NEW IMAGE’ WELCOMES NEW STAFF



Joanne Christopher



Michelle Briggs

Joanne Christopher has joined New Image. She has been in hairdressing since she left school and did her formal training at Derwentside College. Until recently she worked for an International Company as Deputy Manager. She enjoys all aspects of the job especially cutting, colouring and making customers feel really special. However, her real passion is creating ‘wayout’ hairstyles! Joanne has been made to feel very welcome by staff and customers at

New Image and is looking forward to building lots of new relationships with all their customers. Michelle Briggs of Esh Winning, who has four children, has just joined New Image Beauty Salon. She has been qualified in hair and beauty for 7 years but has only pursued a career in beauty particularly enjoys waxings and facials. She is, in fact, waxing about six men at the Queens on 21st October

for the charity ‘Tiny Lives Premature Babies’. Michelle has worked at both Chester-le-Street and Consett before arriving at New Image where she has been made very welcome by staff and customers alike. Customer care and making clients feel special is most important to her as is her interest in new treatments. Her varied job includes Body Massage; Indian Head Massage; Eye Treatments; Facials; Non-Surgical; Waxing; Ear.

LANCHESTER MALE VOICE CHOIR

The Male Voice Choir entertained its patrons in the Community Centre on October 1st 2005. This annual event was attended by about 80 patrons who created a ‘sell out’ of tickets. The patrons were entertained with items by solo and duet performances by individual members. A fine supper was provided by Sara Allison and the Church Catering Group and this was followed by a couple of quizzes. Patron numbers have increased steadily and

at present stand at 145 members. The patron’s fee is £2.00 and anyone who would like to join them may do so by contacting a choir member. The next performance to be given by the Choir will be on November 5th 2005 which will take place in the Empire Theatre, Consett when they will join members of the Annfield Plain Gleemen and the Leadgate Gleemen in ‘Male Voices in Concert’. Tickets are available from Choir members. On December 19th the Male Voice Choir will

present their annual Celebration of Christmas in the Roman Catholic Church, again supported by the Choral and Operatic Society.

ICELAND ICE CAP CHALLENGE

The amount raised from this challenge is now over £3,500, which has been given to the two charities, Macmillan Cancer Relief for this Region and Tynedale Community Hospice. Thank you once again to all who made this possible.
Rhoda Joyce

LANCHESTER EP LEARNS RAP

As part of their Creativity Week, the school bought in the services of Ritmo, owned by Tim Rowley who with colleague, Sam Allen, worked throughout the school for the day teaching the children how to put rhythm and beat into music. The theme of the week was 'Dragons' so the children were taught by Sam how to write rap lyrics about dragons whilst Tim was able to have about a dozen children at a time learning how to play drums and various other instruments. At the end of the teaching session several children rapped their own lyrics whilst the others played the instruments and generally joined in. It all seemed great fun and a very interesting learning process.



Mrs Coyle's Year 3 children enjoying rap music with Tom and Sam

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HOLIDAYS WITH A DIFFERENCE

Chris and Wendy Phillips of Briardene certainly enjoy adventurous holidays in many parts of the world. Their latest venture was to drive to the Arctic Circle in their Land Rover, with no luxuries as the tent in the photograph indicates. They took the ferry from Newcastle to Scandinavia which included visits to Norway, Sweden and a second ferry to Finland. The holiday lasted three weeks and they actually crossed the Arctic Circle twice during the trip. Earlier this year they spent a month crossing the Sahara from East to West all 'offroad' which in itself

takes some courage. It must all be very worthwhile as they have had lots of fascinating experiences and feel a tremendous sense of achievement.



Chris Phillips just back from the Arctic Circle

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AUTUMN FAIR

The Parish Church holds its autumn fair on Saturday 26th November in the Community Centre, starting at 2pm. A large number of stalls can be expected, many offering suitable goods for Christmas presents.

BLOOD DONORS

Your chance to save a life. A blood donor session will be held in the Community Centre on Friday December 2nd from 2 till 7.

COUNTRY MARKET

As ever the market formerly known as the WI market is held on the first Saturday of the month, the 5th November. No treason and plot, but cakes, vegetables, jams, crafts and other nice things available from 10am in the Community Centre.

CARERS GROUP

Lanchester Carers Group is for people who look after a relative, partner or friend who needs help. They meet at Park House on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month from 1.30 to 3pm.

CHARITY ART EXHIBITION

All the proceeds from Castleside Art Club's next exhibition will be donated to Willowburn Hospice. The show will be held in Castleside Village Hall on Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th November between 10am and 5pm. Admission will be 20p and refreshments will be on sale throughout the day. Club Secretary Neil Johnson says that "there will be over 150 paintings on sale, many being exhibited for the first time. This will be a good opportunity to buy a unique Christmas present."

METHODIST BOWLING

The Bowling Club meets every Friday at Croft View beginning at 1.30 pm until 3.30pm. The charge for bowls and refreshments is just one pound. All are welcome.

COMMUNITY COFFEE

The Community Association is holding a coffee morning on Wednesday 30th November in the Community Centre.

COFFEE FOR MACMILLAN

A coffee morning and Christmas Fair will be held at the Derwent Manor Hotel on Friday 25th November from 10am till 1pm. Christmas gift stalls will be deployed, including jewellery, make-up and beauty products, handbags, shoes and flowers. Children from Castleside primary school will entertain with a Trafalgar theme, and Macmillan have arranged for Santa to make an early visit. Tickets are 50p, which entitles you to coffee and biscuits.

FLOWER CLUB

Lanchester Flower Club holds its last meeting of the year on Friday 25th November at 7pm. This is an Open Meeting, the guest is Janet Hayton of York and her subject, "Christmas Fanfare". For further information ring Helen Tomlinson on 503667.

GENTLEMEN AT WAR

The above exhibition illustrating the war of 1939-45 will be shown in Lanchester library from the 7th to the 21st November.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Willow Burn Hospice Christmas Fair will be on Saturday 12th November from 11 am to 1pm. There is a change of venue this year, the Hospice Fair will be held in All Saints RC Primary School on Kitswell Road.

WI

The November meeting is a members only outing on the 7th to dine at Chapters Restaurant at Derwentside College.

WHAT'S ON?

LANCHESTER EP SCHOOL

Mrs Davis, Head Teacher of the EP School would like to invite members of the community to the following events during the run up to Christmas: Thursday 17th November and Friday 18th November, Coffee Afternoons and Art Exhibitions.

On sale at both Coffee and Art Exhibitions will be framed paintings completed by children during the recent Creativity week. The theme for this will be dragons.

On Friday 9th December there will be a Christmas Coffee Afternoon to which parents and anyone from the local community who would like to soak up the lovely Christmas atmosphere at school should try to attend. You will all be made very welcome.

LIONS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Lions' Christmas Concert will take place at the Methodist Chapel on Friday 2nd December beginning at 7pm. There will be the usual feast of local talented performers which will include choirs from both junior schools. Tickets which include light refreshments, are priced at £3.50 for adults and £2.50 for children aged 12 and under and Senior Citizens. Please call Lion Mark Draper on 529775 to obtain your ticket or any Lion member. Also, tickets will be available at both junior schools.

HISTORY SOCIETY

The Railways Of North West Durham presented by Chris Lee.

The next talk to the History Society is certainly one for the local railway enthusiast. Chris Lee is a professional engineer who moved from Scunthorpe to Lanchester in 1974 to work at BSC Consett. From there he moved to take up a management appointment within the brick industry. Recently retired, he is now able to pursue his long interest in railways, particularly the period from pre 1830 up to the present day.

The talk will not only include the Stanhope and Tyne railway, but other 'lesser known' railways of Durham, together with a view of some historic features left behind by these railways.

The presentation will take place as usual in the Community Centre at 7.30 pm on Friday 4th November 2005.

MARC VEHICLE

Answers to enquiries about housing, council tax benefit, welfare rights queries, tax credits, pension credits and any customer services related issue to the council are available from the MARC vehicle which will be parked in Front Street on Tuesdays November 8th and 22nd from 10am till 12 noon. The police may be present, but if not, queries/complaints can be passed on to them. It will also be possible to obtain bus passes, if people bring along proof of identity and date of birth.

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SHOP IN YORK

Willow Burn hospice has organised a Christmas Shopping Trip to York and McArthur Glen Retail Park on Saturday 26th November. The coach leaves Willow Burn Hospice at 8.30am, returning at approximately 6.30pm. Tickets £10, ring 01207 528264 to book.

MOTHERS' UNION

The next meeting takes place on 9th November in the Chapter House of the Parish Church at 7.30pm, when the speaker will be Mrs Mavis Datta talking about reflexology.

LADY LIONS FUNCTION

Lady Lions will hold a Cream Tea Afternoon at the Community Centre main hall on Thursday November 3rd between 2 pm - 4 pm. The tea will include a scone, jam and cream. There will also be various stalls and other fund raising activities. Tickets priced at a £1.00 are available from Rosemary Naylor on 01207 520087 or any Lady Lion. Please support this very worthwhile cause.

MP SURGERY

Our Member of Parliament, Hilary Armstrong, is available to constituents on Friday November 11th at the Civic Centre, Consett, starting at 6pm.

CHURCHES

A 'Songs of Praise for Advent' will be held by Churches Together in the Catholic Church, Kitswell Road on Advent Sunday, November 27th at 6pm. Looking ahead, a

NEEDLEWORK EXHIBITION

The exhibition and sale of needlework by Helen Jane Hards, which started in Lanchester library on October 24th, can still be seen there until November 5th.

NOT TO BE MISSED!

Table Top Sale and Coffee Morning, bric a brac, gifts, home made cakes, tombola.

Where? Lanchester Community Centre.

When? Saturday November 19th

At? 9.30 to 12.30

In aid of First Framwellgate Moor Scout Group.

SHORT WALK

Acorn Amblers offer a Sunday walk of 5 miles on November 20th, starting at 1.30pm. The walk starts at the Allensford car park next to the A68, and includes Crooked Oak.

SOCIAL CLUB

On Saturday nights in the bar lounge there is entertainment with no cover charge.

5th Nov: the return of the fantastic Jessica Irving.

12th Nov: Janie Lee

19th Nov: Nigel's Karaoke

26th Nov: local lad Glenn Coxon.

On Friday evenings the ballroom dancing, increasingly popular, is from 7 to 11pm in the concert room and costs only £1.

On Sunday evenings, all are welcome to a Fun Karaoke.

TOGETHER

presentation/lecture will be given by the Rt Rev Dr Tom Wright, Bishop of Durham in the Methodist Church on Monday 5th December at 7.30pm. The title is "The Meaning of Advent".

THE IMITATION GAME

Nobby Dimon's latest production for the North Country Theatre arrives at the Community Centre on Thursday the 10th November at 7.30pm.

The Imitation Game is a play adapted from Ian McEwan's television play about 'a woman in wartime breaking codes'. A high standard of acting and production can be predicted, and prospective audience members should rush to the Post Office to secure their tickets. The price of a ticket, which also includes some interval refreshments, is £6. You can also ring 521275 for your tickets and further information.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Following last year's experimental Tree Festival in the Methodist church, it has been decided to repeat the event, but without the competitive aspect. As before all churches, clubs and shops are invited to decorate a Christmas tree to be displayed in the Methodist Church on December 10th and 11th. There is no charge involved. For further information, ring 521543.

WILDLIFE GROUP

At the meeting on November 8th, at 7.30pm in the Community Centre, members will hear about Harehope Quarry, near Frosterley in Weardale, which is being developed as a nature reserve.

NEW TREE FOR WI

In 1985 the Lanchester Women's Institute planted a chestnut tree on the village green in order to celebrate their diamond jubilee. Sadly the tree had to be felled this year as it was unsafe.

However, the Parish Council kindly agreed to replace this with a smaller variety and a Norway Maple was chosen. We will be planting this on Saturday, 12th November at 11.00am, and we very much hope that some members will attend.

This event was well timed, as the WI will mark their 80th birthday on the 7th November with a celebration meal at Chapters Restaurant, Derwentside College. June Wallis

EP SCHOOL COFFEE AFTERNOON

On Friday 30th September the EP School held a very pleasant Coffee Afternoon in the junior hall in aid of Macmillan as part of the 'Worlds Biggest Coffee Morning'. On sale were cakes, jewellery etc.

The tables were nicely set out and year six children were the waitresses and waiters for the afternoon who served teas/coffee and biscuits in a most polite and professional manner. There was also a good turnout of parent

helpers who seemed to enjoy making the refreshments. The very satisfying total raised at the function for Macmillan was £216.58. Thanks are due to all those who supported and helped at the event.



Parent helpers relax for a moment at the Coffee Afternoon in aid of Macmillan

CHINESE FOOD FOR THE EP SCHOOL CHILDREN

As a finale to 'Dragons' Creativity Week about 60 children from years one and two from Lanchester EP School had the experience of tasting Chinese food, possibly, for some of them, for the very first time. Most of the children seemed to enjoy their treat but one or two were a little apprehensive. The buffet, consisting of prawn crackers, wantons, spring rolls, and curry triangles

was supplied free of charge by the Pavilion Restaurant at Iveston. It has certainly been a very busy and interesting week at school with extremely decorative wall displays and papier-mache dragons in various halls and corridors. An Illustrator working throughout each year group visited the school on Monday. There was a visit to the Oriental Museum at Durham for

years 1,2, and 3 on Tuesday; rap musicians visiting and working in each year group on Wednesday; Thursday was devoted to making dragons and books about dragons, culminating in the Chinese feast on Friday. It must have been a hard week for the staff but particularly enjoyable and great fun for the children learning through so many different new experiences.



Year 1 and 2 children enjoying their Chinese food

COKE AND CASTLES

The October meeting of the Local History Group included its very brief AGM and two very interesting illustrated talks by members. John Thornborrow had searched for survivors of the 18,000 coke ovens which once processed north-east

coal, and showed slides of the three remaining sites at Butterknowle, East Hedleyhope and Inkerman. He described the process of burning coal without oxygen, first in beehive-shaped ovens, then in back to back rows.

The Chairman, John Thompson, gave a Power Point show of the group's visit to Dilston Chapel and Castle in 2004. He illustrated his talk with some excellent photographs of both the present buildings and the former mansion.

LICENCING LAWS HIT TWO CLUBS

The public have quite rightly been alarmed at the ability of licenced premises, under new licencing laws, to apply to open all hours.

What may not have been emphasised is the effect on small clubs, such as Lanchester Cricket Club. At present, the club applies for a licence just to sell alcohol, and pays £10 for a ten-year period. In a month's time they will come under the new regime and pay £100 a year to the new licencing authority, the District Council.

The Club has also provided entertainment to members, which raises funds to support the cricket team. They will now have to pay £21 on each occasion, reducing their funds.

But worse is to come. The cricket club has recently hosted the Rock

Club, which is run by volunteers with a paid leader for the benefit of young people interested in music. But under the new regulations, if the Cricket Club allow music to be played to an audience, they must have another licence, with additional cost. In addition, the club would have to make changes to the fabric of the clubhouse to comply with regulations more relevant to theatres, and this could cost thousands.

So once again a law has been passed, apparently without considering the consequences for voluntary organisations in the community. Of course, publicans think that the newspapers and District Council will do nicely.

ANGLO-GERMAN LINKS

All Saints' Primary School is looking forward to establishing links with German schools by video-conferencing. This system is already well-established at St Bede's. Also in the pipe-line is a trip to Germany, including football linked to the World Cup set-up but with a difference - teams would include English and German boys and girls. It is hoped this will take place in June 2006.

ATHLETIC SUCCESS

All Saints' Primary School was visited on October 13th by athletics coach John Tinkler. He put all of the children, from year six, through their paces. After some intensive coaching, he selected boys and girls to represent All Saints at District heats at the Louisa Centre, with excellent results, as they came 3rd out of eleven schools.

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Thank You

NEWS PLEASE

We would be grateful for any contributions for the next edition by Tuesday, 15th November. Thank you.

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