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# THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 8 Volume 6

Lanchester, September 2005

Editor: Malcolm McKenzie  
57 Alderside Crescent, Lanchester, DH7 0PZ  
Telephone: (01207) 521427  
Email: malcolm.mckenzie@care4free.net

Advertising Manager: John Hurrant  
32 Leehill Court, Lanchester, DH7 0QE  
Telephone: (01207) 520288  
Email: john@hurrant.fsnet.co.uk

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## THE BELLS ARE BACK

The good news for the campanologists among us and our clock-watching poet, the bells returned to the Parish Church in mid-August. The new steel framework was installed and on Monday 15th the team from Hayward Mills Associates came up from Nottingham to start the installation. There are six bells, originally cast in 1810 by Mears & Son of London, but three were recast in 1936 and another in 1959. Now the other two have been recast by Casting Technology International of Sheffield, with the headstocks added by Taylors of

Loughborough, the 9cwt A bell now marked "Canon Peter Waterhouse Vicar" and the 5.5cwt C sharp marked "Harry Thompson" in memory

of the former tower captain who made a generous bequest to the church. The other bells are F, E, D and B. At time of writing the installation was to be

complete by the end of the week, and the bellringers hoped to give the bells a trial run on or before Friday. The clock should be reconnected soon after.

### Ding dong the bell has gone

The church clock has forgotten to chime  
It's been twelve o'clock for a very long time  
Where has its Ding Dang Dong gone?  
Who is to blame, it's such a shame

We cannot have a village which we all admire  
Without a chiming clock up in the church spire  
So please bring back the church clock's chime  
At least everyone will know the time

JIKyle



*The bells ready to be hoisted into place*

## THURSDAY CLUB TEESDALE JAUNT

Thursday August 11th was a beautiful summer's day, perfect for a ladies' afternoon out. We set off from Lanchester at 11.30am and travelled via Staindrop to Eggleston, arriving in good time for lunch at the Three Tuns. In a lovely restaurant overlooking superb countryside we all enjoyed an extremely good home-cooked lunch. After a photocall outside in the sunshine it was off over Bollihope Common to Stanhope,

a delightful spot with the Dales centre and riverside walk, just right for walking off lunch and making just that little bit of space required for afternoon tea. Finally our journey took us through Wolsingham and home. Good weather, good food, good company - what a treat. Olive Simpkins



*Members of the Thursday Club at Eggleston*



# 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 Sir,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone: friends, parents (past and present) and pupils (past and present) for their kindness towards me in the final weeks of my time at Lanchester E.P. School. The number of good wishes, cards and presents was

overwhelming and I was, on several occasions, reduced to tears by the messages sent. I would also like to say a special thank you to Malcolm Webb as Headteacher and Canon Peter Waterhouse as Chair of Governors for their constant support over thirteen years.

Everything I ever did at the school, both in and out of the classroom was for the benefit of the children. I expected no recognition for my work, but realising how much I was appreciated has made me feel very humble. I enjoyed thirteen

wonderful years at the school - I feel blessed to have worked in such a super school with such marvellous children and I have many happy memories to take with me. Once again, many thanks and I look forward to meeting former pupils and their parents in the village, where I hope they will keep me informed about their progress.

Yours faithfully  
Dorothy Parry  
36 Lanchester Road  
Maiden Law

Dear Sir

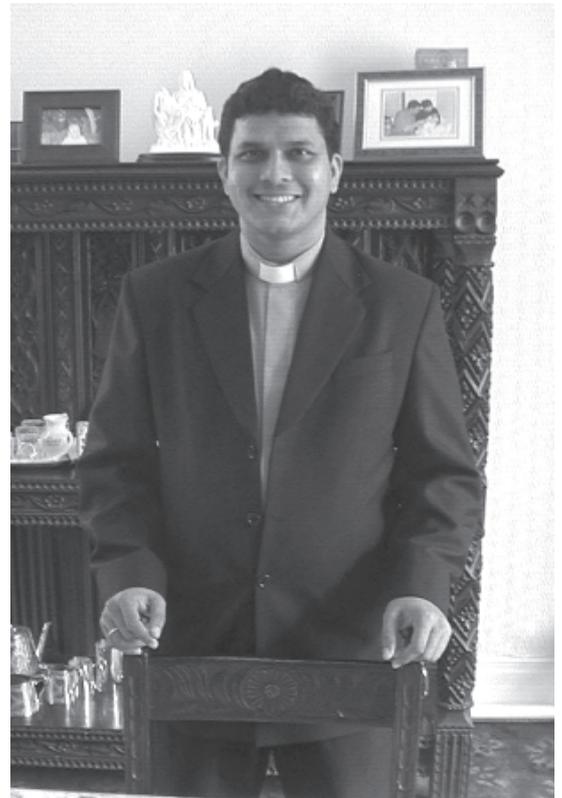
The gardens at Lanchester Social Club have for some time been looked after by Richard Young, secretary, and Ron Tully, committee man. They have always put on a good show, but this year they have surpassed themselves. The garden is a mass of colours and I doubt if any social club in the North can beat it. Well done both of you.

Paul Smith  
Honorary Life Member

**THE  
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VOICE**

**IT'S ALL  
ABOUT  
PEOPLE**

## FR CAETANO FERNANDEZ



*Fr Caetano*

A welcome visitor to Lanchester is Fr Caetano, a friend of Fr Alex d'Souza who made a similar visit here last year.

Fr Caetano has served for three years in the Queen of the Martyrs parish in Assoina, Goa, a former Portuguese colony on the West coast of India. It has a congregation of 8000 and four priests, including two chaplains. He is entitled to a month's holiday a year, but has saved them up to spend three months as a guest of Canon Spence.

It has been a working holiday, as he has looked after the parish during Canon Spence's holiday in Jerusalem, saying mass and visiting the sick.

He finds that Britain is more technically advanced than Goa, more tolerant and liberal. We have more security, as there are more jobs available, unemployed folks are supported by the State, there are pensions for all as well as medical treatment. He is impressed by "Churches Together" and the friendship and inter-marriage between people of different faiths. His stay here, he feels, has given him a broader vision. We need to be good human beings, he says, before being good priests. One new experience for Fr Caetano, an Arsenal supporter, has been to visit St James' Park. Can he be persuaded to change allegiance? Probably not.

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## ALL SAINTS' TEACHER REMEMBERED

Memorials to a well-loved teacher at All Saints RC primary school, Mrs Maureen McPartland, the longest-serving teacher on the staff, who died last December, will be unveiled in the autumn term. The main entrance door to the school will be flanked by two painted windows, designed by Maralyn O'Keefe in consultation with the children of the school and Mr McPartland.

In addition there are plans to install a carved stone bench in the grass area behind the school playground.



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# THE WEDDING OF DAVID WALES AND KATE BAILEY

The wedding took place at All Saints Parish Church on a dry, sunny, August 5th. The Best Man was David's brother, Andrew. The bride looked stunning in her ivory dress embroidered with dark red and gold flowers on the bodice. She carried a bouquet of red and cream roses with hypericum berries. The Chief Bridesmaid was Kate's sister, Rachel, who wore a dark red dress and carried a bouquet of cream and red roses, hypericum berries and freesias. Rachel was assisted by the Bride's best friend, Lisa Brown, who travelled from Bristol for the occasion. Lisa also



wore a red dress and carried a similar bouquet to Rachel's. The reception for about 50 people was held at the Raven Hotel, Ebchester and this continued into the evening with over 100

guests. The honeymoon was spent in Greece. David, a Service Engineer and Kate, a Special Support Assistant in a Special School, will continue to live at Greencroft.

# THE WEDDING OF ANDREW HILL AND SARAH CURRY

The wedding took place on a beautiful summer's day on Friday 5th August at All Saints' Catholic Church. The Best Man was Christopher Gallon and the Chief Bridesmaid was the bride's sister, Jane Curry. Jane was assisted by Katherine

Hill, the Groom's sister, and two young children, Alex and Becky Wilson, god-daughters of the bride. The bride wore a tiara and an ivory Maggie Sottero dress encrusted with crystals and beading detail. Sarah carried a bouquet of calla lilies and

looked absolutely lovely. The bridesmaids wore similar style dresses to the bride's. The two senior bridesmaids wore burgundy and carried bouquets of red roses and lilies whilst the two younger ones wore ivory and carried similar floral arrangements. The reception was held at Slaley Hall for almost 70 guests and the evening carried on with about 150 people attending. The honeymoon was spent in Majorca and the couple will continue to live in the village.



## WELCOME DENISE

Denise Barnes will begin work as school secretary at All Saints RC primary school in the autumn term, following the retirement of Monica Atkinson. Denise has experience of working at schools at Benfieldside, Blackfyne and Bridgehill.

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## LANCHESTER ARMS CHANGES

A second proposal to amend the planning permission to turn the Lanchester Arms into flats and add three dwellings behind it was passed by Derwentside Development Control Committee on August 11th. Durham County Council's Design and Conservation officer had disapproved of a previous application for changes to the rear houses, saying that they should be an extension of the pub, not separate buildings. Derwentside's planning officer recommended rejection of the plan and it was withdrawn. The proposal put forward in July is for three houses with a small separation from the main building. The planning officer recommended approval of the revision and the committee duly approved.

## STABLE GRANTED PERMISSION

The owners of Oakwood Stables have been granted planning permission by Derwentside District Council's Development Control committee to site a caravan at the stables. The application followed a number of break-ins at the stables which raised fears of harm coming to the horses based on the site. Lanchester Parish Council had concerns that permission for a caravan might lead to a permanent building outside the built-up area, but District Councillors clearly discounted this.

## DEVELOPMENT ON KITSWELL ROAD

Plans for a development of the site. All will be proposed by Shepherd Homes available in the library. The site is of course the one formerly targeted by Wimpeys, comprising the former Council Depot and the bit of land between it and the cemetery. The proposal is for 24 dwellings, including 10 detached, including five two-storey 'executive homes' overlooking Kitswell Road and 2 two and a half storey houses (with skylights in the roof) with 4 or 5 bedrooms. There are also terraced houses, also 2.5 storeys at the edge of the site. All will have uPVC window frames and steel front doors. The single access road will be where the gate to the Council depot now is. There is no open space on the site, but the developers will provide finance to create an open space elsewhere. The developers have consulted Lanchester Parish Council and Lanchester Partnership before finalising their application. An investigation on 'Remediation' ie cleaning up the polluted Council depot will be carried out by Sirius Geotechnical Ltd.

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## PARISH PLAN MEETING

Readers of the Village Voice will have seen that the Parish Plan was formally adopted at the meeting of the Parish Council on July 12th. It is a mark of the importance attached to the Plan that the parish council agreed to devote an additional meeting in August solely to the consideration of the Plan. (It is almost unknown for the Parish Council to meet in

August!). That meeting took place on August 2nd and began with a general overview which recognised the very full agenda contained in Chapter 11 of the Plan - the "Action Plan". After detailed discussion it was agreed to establish a Working Group both to establish detailed immediate priorities and, in the longer term, to monitor their achievement and review

progress. It was also agreed to ask the Lanchester Partnership to indicate their priorities for consideration by the Working Group so that the Council and the Partnership can continue their joint efforts on behalf of the whole Parish. The Working Group will meet and prepare recommendations for the Parish Council meeting on September 13th.

## PARTNERSHIP WEBSITE GETS AN UPDATE

Lanchester Partnership website at [www.communitate.co.uk/ne/lanchesterpartnership](http://www.communitate.co.uk/ne/lanchesterpartnership) has been given a long overdue update. All pages have been rewritten to show the current activities and achievements of the

organisation. In addition the Parish Plan and the Village Design Statement are now available on line. Those without broadband may find the Parish Plan Summary easier to download. Communitate, part of the group that publishes the

Northern Echo and Durham Advertiser, is to be thanked for hosting the site as a free service to the community. If you do not have an internet connection you can read the Parish Plan and Design Statement in the library.

## ELLIE THE SPICE BUS



*Nigel Hogg and Richard Salkeld supervise local children 'surfing the net' on the ELLIE BUS*

## ACCIDENT IN VILLAGE

Fortunately no pedestrians were on the refuge in front of the Parish Church on Sunday 14th August

when a motorist tried to go through it at about 9.30pm. A young woman had to be cut out of the car by

the fire brigade, while her companion is believed to have escaped without damage.

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# THE SHOPALOT COMPARATIVE SURVEY

The aim - to compare prices in our local supermarkets and print the results.

Product	Quantity	Tesco	Morrisons	Coop	Sainsburys	Kwik-Save	Asda		
Bananas	per kilo	85	85	89	85	99	85	The Village Voice team have surveyed the prices on a list of groceries, with a view to finding the best place to shop. Prices were taken on or near Saturday 13th August. Of course the range and quality of goods, quality of service, and layout of the shelves in each shop may influence you. In addition, you get Discount in the Coop and loyalty points in Tesco and so on. However, there are some interesting savings to be made.	
Butter	250g	53	72	65	69	53	53		
Carrots	per kilo	68	69	75	70	79	68		
Corned beef	100g	32	25	43	59	52	31		
Domestos	750ml	98	98	99	98	99	78		
Eggs (cheap)	6	51	62	75	51	51	51		
Mild cheddar	per kilo	358	329	500	335	354	391		
Milk (semi)	4 pts	111	111	116	111	107	153		
Nescafe instant	200g	354	354	319	354	354	354		
Onions	per kilo	64	75	82	74	60	74		
Orange juice	litre	33	38	109	33	37	69		
Rice Krispies	450g	174	175	189	175	179	98		
Stork hard	250g	28	29	35	28	23	28		
Sugar	kilo	92	73	74	73	73	73		
Sunflower oil	2 litres	94	134	137	99	94	91		
Tea (Typhoo)	80 bags	147	149	159	147	149	177		
<b>Total</b>		<b>£18.42</b>	<b>£18.78</b>	<b>£21.66</b>	<b>£18.61</b>	<b>£18.63</b>	<b>£18.74</b>		

*Jill Pitt*  
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## EARLY MUSIC

For a second year, the Lanchester Early Music Festival gave its opening concert on the 30th July in All Saints Parish Church. The concert entitled "An Evening at the Palace of Reason" was given by Hexham Collegium Musicum - Dr Ian Brunt (organ and harpsichord) and Brian Stewart (flute). It gave the audience a rare opportunity to hear all six of Bach's sonatas for flute and harpsichord. Dr Brunt began each half of the concert with a Bach Organ Prelude and interspersed the pieces with contemporary readings. He also concluded the concert with another Bach Prelude as an encore. It was an excellent concert, if somewhat lengthy at over three hours, which was well attended by over fifty people. The excellent interval refreshments were again provided by the Parish Ladies. The second of this year's concerts of the Early Music Festival was given by Dr Ian Brunt on Organ and Harpsichord. It was entitled "Bohemian Fifths" and consisted of organ and harpsichord pieces by 17th and 18th century Bohemian composers interspersed with appropriate readings. It was an interesting and well attended concert with the final harpsichord suite by Johann Kaspar Ferdinand Fischer being particularly enjoyable. Unfortunately this resulted in the encore of the well known Pachelbel's Canon being somewhat of an anticlimax. The excellent interval refreshments were again provided by the Parish Ladies. Alan Williams

## QUEEN'S HEAD SUPPORTS WILLOWBURN

A charity night held at the Queen's Head, Lanchester on the 29th of July for Willowburn Hospice raised the sum of £100, for which the fund raisers are very grateful. On behalf of the fund-raising committee, Paul Smith would like to thank all the local people who donated prizes, with special thanks to

## RED CROSS SALE

From time to time Lanchester's Red Cross shop has a special sale of high quality household goods, and this happened during the week starting 8th August. The result was many good bargains for all and an extra £400 for the Red Cross.

# VILLAGE PLAY DAY

There was a village play day on 22nd July in the Lanchester play area. It was organised by the Derwentside District, and consisted of a ball bath, a bouncy castle, and soft play area for small people. Sadly, the full-scale 'Lark in the Park', which has a much larger range of attractions for all ages,

will no longer fit into our play area due to the provision by Park Life of installations for older children. As they say, you win some, and you lose some.



*Small children taking advantage, and seeming to enjoy, the 'Ball Bath'*



*The ever-popular Bouncy Castle at the Village Play Day*

## ALL QUIET AT THE PLAY SCHEME

A play scheme arranged by the playgroup leader Dee Williams in the Lanchester Community Centre proved to be rather a disappointment.

Dee ran a play scheme during the last Summer holidays which was very well attended and successful, and when parents asked if she would repeat the scheme in 2005 she agreed.

However in the first week the scheme attracted only ten children on three days, and when there was only one participant on Tuesday 9th August it became clear that the project was not viable.



Lanchester Community Association



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Makems are able to benefit by the opinions and advice of a number of 'Jury' members who file their observations on each Sunderland home game to 'The Journal'. Lanchester's Lawrence Coady has been chosen as one of the Jury, and his trenchant comments can be seen each Monday in The Journal's columns.

**THANKS FOR SUPPORT**

I would like to thank the following shops in the village for their donations towards the auction and raffle for a Masquerade Ball I held at Durham Castle on the 2nd July. The event was in aid of two charities: (i) the Macmillan Cancer Relief and (ii) the Marie Curie Cancer Care.

We were pleased that we raised £2,300 in total that was split equally between the two charities. The shops were: Lanchester Country Home and Gifts; Lanchester Pharmacy; Lanchester Paint and Decorating; Lanchester Hardware; New Image Hair Salon; Peter Armstrong and Son Electrical.

This was the 3rd annual event and we plan to hold a further one next year. If anyone would like information on buying tickets for next year they can call me on 07743642075. Kind regards, Michelle Anderson, D P Supplies.

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**PARKING IS SUCH SWEET SORROW**

Members of the Lions group setting up their bookstall in Front Street were not entirely pleased when, after parking legally on the opposite side of the road and

hauling the books across to the stall, they saw any number of people parking on the double yellow lines while shopping. Derwentside appears to have no traffic wardens,

and when there was one he only came on Wednesday morning to Lanchester. Police are rarely seen giving attention to illegal parking. Is this a problem, or does nobody care?



*Parking on double yellow lines in Lanchester, even though some might be for short term. Do these pictures show a problem?*



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## EXTRA - READ ALL ABOUT IT

Taking time out from work this summer has proved to be an interesting time for Lanchester resident David Rees. For some time he has been appearing in various TV and film dramas as a supporting artist or extra, and this month has proved as productive a period as would a normal twelve month period.

"The moment I took leave from my job, the phone rang, and in a busy 12 day period I worked on 3 films and also had an audition for a fourth."

The films include "Summer Solstice", based on the novel Winter Solstice shot in Haddington, in which David briefly appeared over a two day period as a journalist in a scene involving actors who have appeared in Heartbeat and Taggart. The film stars Honor Blackman. Referring to the scenes he was involved in David said "It seems that an article I wrote could bring the local newspaper into disrepute, and fierce debate ensued between the paper's editor and owner, which I was not supposed to, but did witness."

Next up was a local production starring Robson Green, made in the North East in conjunction with BBC Wales. David and a motley crew of extras, cheered a rocket into space which contains the ashes of the late wife of the lead character. The film features a Welsh space project which made David, who hails from Wales, slightly homesick if not disorientated as the rocket crew were decked out in space suits adorned with the Welsh flag, and the beach launch pad was festooned in Welsh regalia. "Hard to credit that we were only a few miles from Morpeth" said David.

Next up was "The Flying Scotsman" filmed in Glasgow, which relates the true story of Graeme Obre, consultant to the film production, who built the modern racing bike which initially included parts from a washing machine. Mr Obre went on to claim two world cycling speed records, but sadly then regressed into depression. The scenes shot included hospital scenes.

Lastly, an audition, the results of which are awaited, to feature as a journalist in "The Last King of Scotland". An intriguing title, as it implies this might be an historical period piece from past times. Alas no, the title relates to the early 1980's and the heinous regime of Idi Amin in Uganda, whose delusional outbursts included his self proclamation as King of Scotland.

Earlier in the year David was involved with a local agency in filming at Naworth Castle in "The

Virgin Queen" which is a 16th century drama. The scenes shot included two burnings at the stake. "Quite gruesome even in the knowledge that what we witnessed was well rehearsed drama with every precaution built in. The most galling part of the day was the aroma of lunch in the background as we filmed!

The work can be exiting, and brings together extras from all walks of life which to David makes the experience. "I always ask where people are from and what they do. During filming of The Rocket Man, a fellow extra advised me that he came from a small village in Co Durham that I'd probably never heard of - Lanchester! On asking me where I was from I had great pleasure in replying that I came from a village in Co Durham he clearly had heard of, Lanchester! Seems there is at least a duo of supportive artists in the village.



David Rees in "The Virgin Queen" at Naworth Castle

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## LEADGATE, LOUD HILL & PONTOP PIKE

This could be a pleasant morning walk, with a pub meal to look forward to. Start at the Jolly Drover, Leadgate, map reference NZ133519. Circle the adjoining roundabout to the left, crossing two roads, to join the C2C cycle-track which was formerly a mineral railway leading to Sunderland. Wind through the Maze and continue past Broom church, with a fine view to the right of the linear hill-top village of Iveston.

After 1400 yards enjoy the "Old Transformers". The 20-foot high Transformers which tower over the track, representing a coal miner and a steel worker, were created by David Kemp and are based on old electricity transformers weighing over 14 tons. After crossing a bridge you can glimpse a set of lime-kilns to the right of the track. Go on to pass them, and on reaching a hand-gate right, take the footpath going left to the A693. Cross the road and the wide verge, turn right on the surfaced footpath

and when it ends, go on and turn left again to enter a green lane. Go up to the top of the lane, turn left through a kissing-gate and walk along the flank of Loud Hill at the top of two fields. Cross two elaborate stiles to reach a path junction, and turn left to head for Pontop Pike, following the edge of three grass fields. Pass through a kissing-gate near Pontop Pike Farm, which has diversified into masts. Ignore the track ahead and head half-left to a stile, cross a paddock and

go ahead to another stile. Here the line of an old waggon-way can be clearly seen ahead, soon to be overgrown with gorse, but it is easy to pass the obstruction to the right. Cross a stile, a tiny stream and another stile, keep on past the remains of a pit, and when faced with a forest of gorse you have to circle it to the left to reach a stile on to a road. Turn left for 150 yards, then left again on the Annfield Plain road, crossing immediately to a gate. There is no stile here, and

the gate is very difficult to open. Enter the field and go down to a gate beside Brooms Farm. A muddy section ends at another gate, then continue down to a stile. A flight of steps leads down to a tunnel under the railway track, then bear right through the former station yard. Continue in a narrow fenced path to a kissing-gate. Walk down the field on the right side of a row of trees to reach Brooms Lane, and turn right to return to the Jolly Drovers, probably for a drink and a very reasonable meal.

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## O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

On the first Sunday in August, Churches Together staged one of its summer Songs of Praise on the Village Green. In lovely evening sunshine we started with the carol 'O little town of Bethlehem'. A rather strange choice of opening hymn! The reason was that I had just come back from four marvellous, bitter-sweet weeks at the Tantur Ecumenical Institute just outside the Berlin-style wall surrounding Bethlehem. I got used to walking through an armed Israeli check-point any time I wanted to visit the town where Jesus of Nazareth was born. It was a far cry from 'O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie. Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.' Just inside the check-point, dozens of taxi-drivers stood by their cabs waiting for business that hardly ever arrived. Most of the shops and hotels were shuttered. The city looked demoralised and dysfunctional. I made three unavailing attempts to pray at Rachel's Tomb, which is reserved for Jewish pilgrims as a national shrine. Young armed soldiers stopped me each time. There are three refugee camps in Bethlehem. I spent

a morning in Dheisha, the biggest of them, housing 13,000 Palestinians in a very confined space. It was moving to see the names of all the villages and towns they had been displaced from since the late forties. They were there on the walls of the Community Centre to remind children of later generations where their true home was. The real reason we sang 'O little town of Bethlehem' on the Green sprang from a conversation I had with a vibrant young Franciscan who was parish priest of the church at the place where Jesus was born. Himself a Palestinian, he asked me to remember our embattled fellow Christians who were being strangled as a community. Too many of them thought of emigration as the only cure for their walled-in existence. I promised that we would pray for them, talk to politicians about them and try to give some practical help. He runs job-creation schemes for graduates of Bethlehem University - highly qualified young people with nothing to do, nowhere to go. He works flat out to save them from emigrating. He tries to get funds together to buy up

houses and land when they come on the market to provide affordable housing, especially for young couples. Would that we in Lanchester had that sort of vision! The pessimists say that in a generation's time there will be no Christians living in the land of Christ. Father Amgad wants to prove them wrong. The Bethlehem Wall is well decorated with graffiti, some negative like 'American Dollars = Palestinian Apartheid', others idealistic like 'Fear builds Walls, Hope builds Bridges'. As I write this the exodus of settlers from Gaza is well underway. The optimist sees the retreat of 8000 illegal settlers as a sign of hope. But the realist remembers the large, very permanent and prosperous illegal Israeli settlements just outside despairing Bethlehem. There are more than 400,000 settlers on the West Bank and in East Jerusalem. When we're singing 'O little town of Bethlehem' again on the Green during the very popular carols on Christmas Eve, I'll be saying with particular conviction 'The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight'. Canon Bob Spence

# DINING OUT

## Victuals Restaurant & Bar

Townhall Buildings, Corbridge, NE45 5AD Tel: 01434 632288

Well what can I say. This restaurant is a total find. It's just lovely. Six of us dined there on Saturday 18th June (you know the night where it was so humid it was practically impossible to sleep) and despite the intense heat and the layer of sweat that was on everyone's top lip that evening the food and the atmosphere of this place totally outweighed the uncomfortable heat and humidity of the night. We were greeted with such warmth and friendliness it was like walking into an old friend's house for the evening and being a really welcome guest. The waiter apologised profusely for the amount he was perspiring and suggested that no-one should attempt to slap him on the back at the end of the night for his excellent

service and attention. We omitted having starters as we are all really dessert people at the end of the day and delved straight into the main courses. Two of us chose Parmesan crusted sea-bass fillet on samphire mash with basil drizzle and roast cherry tomatoes, there were three choices of Rosemary chicken with chorizo sausage, garlic and white wine, served with mash and vegetables and one Souvlaki—marinated lamb skewers served with tsatsiki, pommes frites, salad and pickled chilli. My choice was the sea-bass and to be totally honest with you it was beautiful despite the intense heat I can honestly say I enjoyed every single bite and finished the whole plate despite being incredibly full and to be fair

a total pig about it but it was just too good to leave. My companion chose the lamb and let me try some which was also lovely and the accompanying pommes frites were especially good. I was reliably informed by all three chicken devourers that their choice was also particularly gratifying but not being offered a taste for myself I cannot confirm this from a personal perspective although next time I'll be sure to ask for research purposes only. For dessert and despite being full I forced myself into a choice of Real vanilla ice-cream with a warm chocolate sauce and other desserts around the table included Warm Apple Crumble with Vanilla Ice Cream, Fresh Mango cheesecake and Panetone Bread and Butter Pudding

with Crème Anglaise. All six of us had desserts which was my primary excuse for allowing myself more food after feeling so terribly stuffed and despite again not being offered a taste of any of the other diners choices I was assured again and again that they all indeed were lovely. My choice which to be fair I protectively kept to myself was gorgeous. The ice-cream was probably the best I've tasted and the warm chocolate sauce is always the perfect accompaniment. Over the course of the evening which in total lasted two and a half hours we managed 2 bottles of wine and I think about 5 pints of lager. We were also given complimentary bread and olives on arrival which were replenished on request and the staff had

no problems with supplying several jugs of water for the evening which were totally essential in the heat. I really enjoyed this restaurant as did we all. The staff were so nice and friendly and really there wasn't anything that was too much trouble. I would be very surprised if there could be fault found here and will definitely be going back a second time. In total the bill came to just over £50 per couple which was very reasonable and well worth the money. Atmosphere 9/10 Service 9/10 Price versus quality 9/10 Food Quality 9/10 Disability access - No but the manager stated that they were happy to serve the restaurant menu in the tapas bar they have downstairs if informed in advance.

## LANCESTRIAN ATTENDS GARDEN PARTY

The senior personnel officer to Durham Constabulary has attended the Royal garden party at Buckingham Palace. Judith Clewlow has worked for Durham Constabulary for the last 22 years, starting as a junior clerical officer at Aykley Heads. She has worked in various departments there, but spent most of her time in the personnel and

recruitment department. She is not a police officer but works with civilian support staff. Having gained her degree in the Institute of Professional Development earlier this year, Judith was delighted to receive the invitation from H.M. the Queen to attend the Garden Party in July in recognition of her good work and long commitment to Durham Constabulary.

Judith attended the Garden Party with her husband Brian, and, although this took place on the same day as the failed second wave of attempted bombings in London, went ahead without incident as indeed the safest place to be at the time was within the grounds of the Palace due to heightened security. Cucumber sandwiches and tea were served in the best of tradition.



Judith Clewlow

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## 'ACTION FOR ANIMALS'

It might be an exercise centre for our furry and feathered friends, or maybe a dating agency? It is an exhibition to be held in Lanchester library during September, so why not come along and see it? You can borrow a book as well.

## COMMUNITY CENTRE THIS AUTUMN

Tutors will be on hand to give advice and information on Saturday 3rd September, and you can register for your chosen class any time between 10 am and 12 noon.

Classes in Tai Chi, Tae Kwando, Yoga, Belly dancing, Digital photography, Watercolours, Male Voice singing, Spanish, Scottish Dance, German, Silk Painting, Lace making, Reading, Russian, French, Zen garden, and Lacquered leather jewellery making (could be two classes?) are listed in leaflets now available in the Community Centre.

## CREATIVE WRITING

A small group of people interested in writing gather in Lanchester library every Tuesday from 2 till 4pm, starting on September 6th. There is no tutor, with members proposing different challenges each week. New members will be welcome on that date or any Tuesday following. Bring some paper, a pen and your ideas.

## 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 Tuesday September 13th. 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.

## LANCHESTER HISTORY SOCIETY THE ROMAN NORTH

The start of the 2005/6 Society's evening talks will begin with a visit by Dr Brian Dobson who is to present a talk on the 'Romans in the North'. The Society has been very fortunate in having Dr Dobson as President over the last few years. He is now enjoying a well earned retirement, although some will say that it is really a 'busman's holiday', as he is still in wide demand for lectures on the Roman Army. Dr Dobson was Head of the Archaeological Department of Durham University for a number of years. He is also widely recognised as one of the World's foremost authorities on the Roman Wall and the Roman Army.

The talk will be held in the Community Centre at 7.30 pm on Friday 2nd September, and promises to be entertaining and educational. Knowing Brian Dobson and his sense of humour, it will not be 'dry and dusty'!

## MOTHERS' UNION

The September meeting is on Wednesday 14th in the Chapter House at 7.30pm, when Mrs Sally Benson will speak about MU overseas work in Kenya and The Gambia.

## MP

Our Member of Parliament, Hilary Armstrong, will be prepared to meet constituents at the Civic Centre, Consett on Friday 9th September at 6pm.

# WHAT'S ON?

## READING GROUP

The reading group which started last November continues on Tuesday 6th September in Lanchester Library, led by tutor Maureen Robinson. There is no charge for the sessions, which are from 10 till 12 on the first Tuesday of every month. Books are provided to all members for subsequent discussion.

## SHORT WALKS

Acorn Amblers offer a Sunday afternoon walk starting at Salters Gate (first right after Satley, map reference NZ 077426), starting at 1.30pm on 18th September. There are superb views descending to Tunstall Lake on a 4.5 mile circuit.

## VOICES FOR HOSPICES

A varied programme will be on offer on October 8th at Consett Empire with songs from the shows by SNUG, and classical favourites. Tickets £6/£5 from the box office.

## BEAMISH TROPHY TRIAL

This 100 mile trial for vintage motorbikes starts at the Board Inn from 9am onwards on Sunday September 13th. The 34th trial is organised by Durham Classic Motorcycle Club, and passes through parts of Cumbria, Durham and Northumberland including a stop at Allendale.

## LANCHESTER MALE VOICE CHOIR

The choir will resume practice after the summer break on Monday, 5th September 2005 in the main hall of the Community Centre at 7.30 pm. New members are welcome.

## HELP WITH COMPUTERS

Computers For All is available at the Community Centre on Monday and Thursday mornings from 9.30 till 11.30am, and on Tuesday afternoons from 3.30 till 4.30pm. Helpful, friendly and patient folks await you there willing to give advice, and it's free.

## FLOWER CLUB

Members of the Flower Club return after a month's hiatus on Wednesday September 28th to see and hear Val Guest of Sedgfield, whose demonstration has "Elements of Autumn". The meeting is at 2pm in the Community Centre.

## HORTICULTURAL SHOW

Lanchester Social Club hosts the annual horticultural show on Saturday 10th September, when leeks and other produce as well as some beautiful flowers will be on view in the evening, then on Sunday 11th in the afternoon and evening. After the prize-giving on Sunday evening there will be a sale by auction about 9 pm.



**Lanchester Community Association**

### *The Satanic Mills*

*Following the very successful talk last year on Lanchester, Margaret Southworth will give an illustrated talk on the history of Consett and Shotley Bridge.*

**29th September 2005 7.30pm  
Lanchester Community Centre**

**Admission £3.00 per ticket**

**Tickets available from:-  
Lanchester Community Centre  
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## LANCHESTER EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL

On Saturday 27th August at 7.30 pm, a programme of Music for Viola da Gamba and Harpsichord is performed by Greg Pullen (viola da gamba) and Dr Ian Brunt (harpsichord & organ) entitled *Modus Phantasticus*, a reference to both the ghostly and wildly virtuosic qualities cultivated by viol players throughout the Renaissance and Baroque. Music by Marais, Forqueray, Telemann and Boismortier for the bass viol will be interspersed with organ Toccatas by Buxtehude, composed equally in an organ *Stilus Phantasticus* and complementing the rich and sonorous sound of the French seven string *Basse de Viole* with harpsichord. Greg Pullen has recently received glowing reviews for his performance in York of the Sonatas by J S Bach for Viola da Gamba, with the Lanchester programme including the wonderful Sonata in G minor, BWV 1029. This tour de force for both viol and harpsichord has the elegiac Adagio which was played throughout the film *Truly, Madly, Deeply*, underlying both the virtuosity and haunting expression of which this instrument is capable. All the King's Men on Saturday 10th September at 7.30 pm sees Philip Cull (oboe), Brian Stewart (flute) and Dr Ian Brunt (flute, harpsichord & organ) again as **HEXHAM COLLEGIUM MUSICUM** in late Baroque and Early Classical repertoire from the Court of Frederick the Great by Quantz, C P E Bach, Christoph Schaffrath, Hasse, Graun and Benda, all gifted

musicians in the entourage of the King. The programme combines superb Baroque Trios and Trio Sonatas with *Empfindsamkeit* style solo Sonatas for oboe, flute and organ by C P E Bach, J S Bach's greatest son. The contemporary readings for this programme also provides an unparalleled series of eyewitness accounts of the music at Court and the character of the King, linking with the opening programme of the Series.

The final concert in **LANCHESTER EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL 2005** is a special excursion out of the village to **ROWLEY BAPTIST CHURCH** near Castleside, Consett, on Saturday 24th September at the earlier time of 7.00 pm, for an evening of Music from Regency England. The Baptist Chapel is a unique early foundation of 1652 granted during the Commonwealth of Oliver Cromwell as well as being home to an enchanting and historic chamber organ of c 1120 by Henry Bevington. The programme title *Twelve Miles from a Lemon* is a foretaste of the literary readings being taken from Sidney Smith (1771-1815), Canon of St Paul's, whose wicked wit and *joie de vivre* conjure up the Regency world so vividly. Dr Ian Brunt (organ) will be joined by Brian Stewart (flute) for this 'Innocent Diversion' (in the words of Jane Austen) back in musical time. All places are **UNRESERVED** for this concert, with a Retiring Collection for Chapel funds.

Full details of Reservations and ticket prices for all concerts are included on the **LANCHESTER EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL** poster.

## THE SATANIC MILLS

We all know that Consett was famous for the Steel Works, but why was it built in Consett, when was it built, what other industries sprang up around it and what was there before it? Margaret Southworth will provide these and many other facts when she gives an illustrated talk on the history of Shotley Bridge and Consett.

If you came to last year's excellent talk on the history of Lanchester you will know that you are in for an interesting evening. Margaret has her own style of presentation that will keep us all entertained at the same time as providing us with some very interesting facts on our local history.

The evening will start at 7.30 pm on the 29th September in the main hall of the Community Centre, tickets price £3.00 and are available from the Community Centre or by contacting John Hurran 520288. Proceeds from the evening are for the Community Centre funds.

## LANCHESTER SOCIAL CLUB

What's on in September, with no cover charge. Saturday 3rd, back again, the brilliant Stephanie. Saturday 10th, introducing Mitch. Saturday 17th, Nigel's Karaoke. Saturday 24th, another cracker, Elizabeth. 50-50 dancing every Friday, with £1 cover charge, 7pm till 11pm. Fun Karaoke on Sunday evenings, free.

## LANCHESTER COUNTRY MARKET

On Saturday September 3rd the small hall of the Community Centre will be full of stalls selling cakes, pies, jams, chutney, garden produce and crafts, including hand painted cards and silk scarves. Cakes can be made to order for weddings, anniversaries and of course, Christmas. Tea and coffee, with scones even, will be on sale at a reasonable price. These goodies will be sold between 10.00 and 11.30 am.

What's new, say the cognoscenti, who are well aware that this sort of thing happens on the first Saturday of every month. New organiser Eveline Cowan, taking over from Heather Parkin, tells us that 'WI Market' is no longer acceptable, due to some technicality re. charitable status. However Eveline, who comes from Dalton-le-Dale to run our market, promises that everything will be as good as before.

## WINE AT NINE

You are invited to a wine tasting and quiz to be held in All Saints RC church hall on Friday 16th September, starting at 8pm. Places are limited at this event, which is held in aid of Willow Burn hospice, and tickets, price £7.50, can be obtained from the hospice on 528264.

## WILDLIFE GROUP

In a change to the planned programme, Gordon Simpson will talk to the Wildlife Group on Fungi on Tuesday September 13th, starting at 7.30 pm in the small hall of the Community Centre. New members and fungi fanciers are welcome to attend.

## WI

On Monday 5th September, at 7pm, Mark James will be about to address the Members of the WI on the subject of Durham Wildlife Trust. A competition for a small

bird or animal ornament will be judged, quite probably by the speaker. New members are welcome to join the meeting in the small hall in the Community Centre.

## new image

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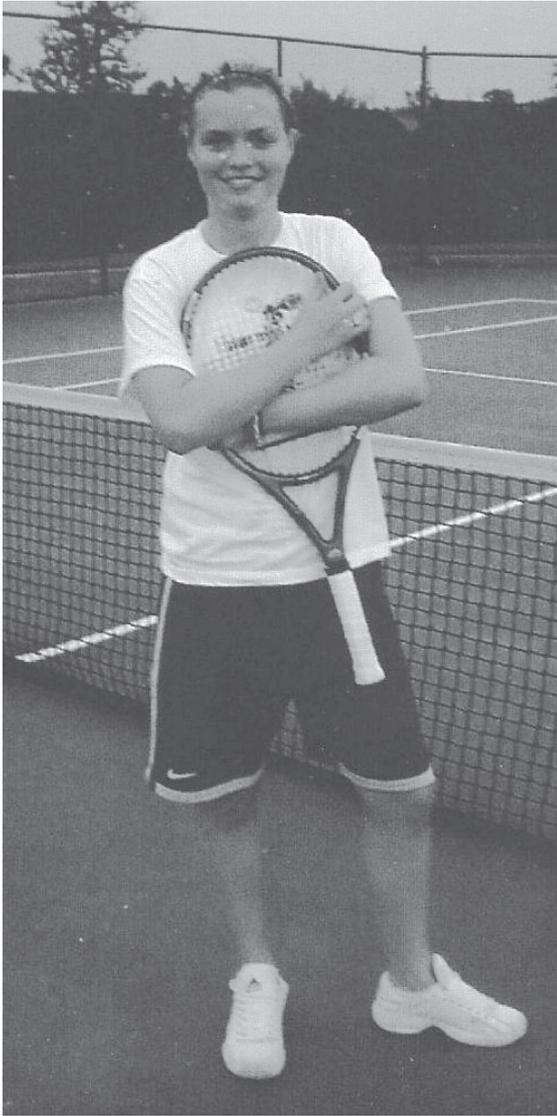


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# AMERICAN SUCCESS



*Samantha Morgan has travelled to USA to coach tennis*

Success in different sports has taken two young people from Lanchester to America. 19 year old Samantha Morgan has followed in her brother Jamie's footsteps, and has travelled to the USA to coach tennis. She has ventured to Chris Evert's Academy in Florida to coach the young hopefuls from around the world. Samantha started playing tennis in

Lanchester at 8 years old and plays with Shotley Bridge ladies team as well as the University of Northumbria team. She has taken this unique opportunity to coach for the summer, and hopes this will lead on to further coaching, maybe all over the world.

Jamie also lives in Florida, having won a football scholarship three years ago. He has won many trophies while there, including

All American champion, and this year he joins the American draft system for a shot at the professional game.

Both had a good grounding from the start of their educational life, attending Lanchester E.P. school and St Bede's Comprehensive. Their family is very proud of them both, and would like to share their achievements with the good people of Lanchester.



*Samantha Morgan's brother Jamie who won a Football scholarship to Florida*

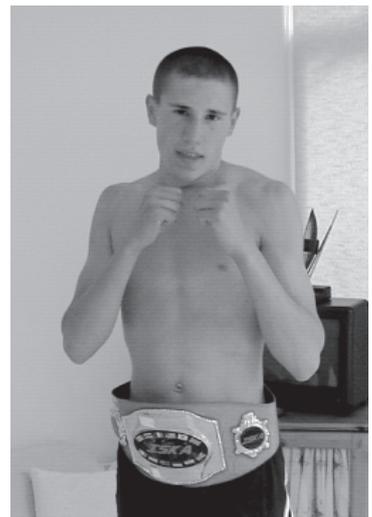
## KICK-BOXING SUCCESS

Lanchester kick-boxer Lamplight Theatre, Jamie Bates, who Stanley on June 9th, added a fourth junior has plans to add a fifth world title to his and clinching title to collection at the become the undisputed

world amateur champion.

Like professional boxing, kick-boxing has no central governing body. Jamie won the ISKA championship on 9th June by defeating the Belgian Augry Fanni, and now has only to win the WKA title to hold a full set, as did his father in 1974.

Jamie started kick-boxing at the age of three in the gym run by his father, Goff Bates, in Annfield Plain. He is now located in the Clavering Youth Club. Jamie Bates is also a black belt at jiu-jitsu.



*Jamie wearing the ISKA belt*

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## KEEP US INFORMED

Please send any contributions for the next issue by Tuesday 20th September. Thank you.

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