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Issue No 10 Volume 8

Lanchester, November 2007

For contact information, see page 2

## LONGOVICIUM CELEBRATION

A warm greeting at the door by centurion-attired Martin Hutchinson, Maureen Loy, and a glass of wine or juice handed out by organiser Elaine Williams, set the scene for a very convivial occasion.

Christine Lever opened proceedings with 'Friends, Romans, and Countrymen, Avete (welcome) one and all. We are delighted you have come to celebrate with us'. Christine continued with her comprehensive, lengthy

speech with the utmost clarity, excellent delivery, and an abundance of detail gathered during the last few years. Initially, she described the Fort site, the detail within it and the significance of it. Then she began to express thanks to all those members and the professionals, historians, PLB Consultants and others who have helped and supported the task of gathering and publishing the details about Longovicium. Member and Romanist, Alan Reed,



*Alan Reed, Martin Hutchinson, Elaine Williams, Tony Devos, Maureen Loy, Christine Lever, Brian Page, Christine Corker, Andy Taylor, Geoff Brown, Sarah Gouldsbrough*

along with Dr David Mason, Durham County Archaeologist, were singled out for a special mention. Another expert, Sarah Gouldsbrough, formerly of Durham Cultural Services, and Lester Crawford, of Derwentside Education and Training, were thanked for their respective contributions to the 'Education Pack'. In addition, several prominent organisations who assisted, whose names appear on the back of the booklet were highlighted in the speech,

but it was Derwentside District Council who encouraged the formation of the society because they recognised along with landowner, Nick Greenwell, that the site was undervalued and had great potential. The Lanchester Partnership, of which the 'Friends of the Fort' is an intrinsic part, was very involved as well.

It was also recognised that some professional leadership and funding was needed. The driving forces in this were Tony

**continued on page 4**



*County Archaeologist Dr David Mason*

## SWANS FAMILY OUTING



A strange sight greeted Joe McGough and myself as we started our morning walk to Hurbuck. This little family were determined to walk down Kitswell Road towards the centre of the village but we were just as determined to herd them back to the safety of the Lizards Lakes. Maureen Redfean

**Idiots at  
work, see  
page 3**

**Houses on the  
King's Head  
car park?  
See New  
Developments  
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**New village  
website for  
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**Lanchester's  
own online  
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businesses in  
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**Two-hour  
parking in  
the village  
centre?  
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**Solution for  
village toilet  
problem?  
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# 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 Village,  
I am having difficulty in searching for a science education class. There are numerous courses in many areas, but where can I learn about how the world works? eg What is a telephone? How does a digital camera work? What is a cell, an atom, a quark? There must be a lot of retired scientists in Lanchester. How about running a course in physics or a science club in the Community Centre?  
Yours hopefully,  
Janiece Spence

Dear Village Voice,  
Would it be possible to include an article about a small cat that I'm really worried about. Over the past week, a small brown cat has been hanging around The Close. It is really affectionate and friendly but it was out all night in the rain and appears to be lost. There are reports that it has been going to All Saints school. It appears to have been well looked after and I'm concerned that a family is searching for it. I see it regularly and a neighbour has given it shelter and food. I can be contacted on 520813 should anyone know who it belongs to.  
Many Thanks  
Paula

Dear Village Voice  
The Village Bus fundraisers would like to thank the following: Beryl's Hairdresser; the Country Shop; Lanchester Carpet Shop; and Crinnions for their gifts to the raffle in support of the Village Bus.  
A big thank you to them all for their support. Any donations to the Christmas raffle will be very grateful.  
Please contact Lyn Cassidy on 07946323262.

## TO CONTACT THE VILLAGE VOICE

**By email:**  
lanchestervillagevoice@yahoo.co.uk (please include Village Voice in the Subject line to ensure the email is opened)

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

**Telephone enquiries:**  
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## THE VILLAGE VOICE

### IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

## CATHERINE EMILY BELL

Congratulations to Simon and Amy Bell on the birth of Catherine Emily, first grandchild for Mike and Andrea Stoddart, and third for Kevin and Irene Bell. Simon is currently serving with the Royal Artillery in Afghanistan.



## HELICOPTER LANDS IN CHURCH GRAVEYARD



On Sunday afternoon 23rd September, at approximately 3.30 pm, a Great North Air Ambulance Helicopter landed in the field adjacent to the graveyard at the back of the Parish Church. Two paramedics were observed jumping out of the craft and running in the direction of Deneside. They returned shortly afterwards alone and the helicopter took off immediately! The whole episode seems to be a mystery and various rumours are circulating the village. If anyone has the truth about what happened that afternoon, please contact the Village Voice.

### REMINDER

To correspondents: Please note that any letters submitted to the Village Voice must have a name and address included. This information may be withheld at your request.

*The helicopter in the field adjacent to the graveyard at the back of the Parish Church*

*Thanks to Alan Wharton for the photograph*

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## IDIOTS AT WORK

The devil makes work for idle hands to do, it is said, and Friday evenings seem to be a favourite time for them to do it.

On Friday October 6th a person, or some persons who seem to be unhinged, emptied the dustbins behind Park House and strewed the contents all over the adjacent area. Not satisfied by the 'aesthetic' effect they produced, they also slit open all of the plastic sacks which were inside the bins and distributed the contents of them in the same area.

Perhaps if done at the Tate Gallery this might have been a contender for the Turner Prize, but here in Lanchester someone has to get it all swept up and contact the police, who

allot an incident number, before getting on with the more positive work that they have.

Until Friday 13th, that is, when a similar performance resulted in piles of rubbish in the middle of the grass area behind Park House. Village Handyman Cliff Hudspith picked it all up. These facts were reported to the police officer attending the parish council meeting, and enquiries are being made.

The CCTV camera at Park House has again failed to spot any of the culprits committing this mess, we are told. Perhaps a police officer can be spared from other more deserving parts of Derwentside to visit Lanchester on Friday nights.



*The mess that was left at the back of Park House*

## NEW DEVELOPMENTS

The October Partnership meeting was brought up to date on new planning applications.

The most important is Scottish and Newcastle Breweries' plan to build two pairs of semi-detached houses on the car park of the King's Head. These four two-storey dwellings would have five bedrooms each.

Access to and exit from these homes would be via the existing access to the car park.

Lancestrians may well remember the two skyscrapers which Scottish and Newcastle previously planned to erect on this car park, which were recommended for approval by a planner and were only averted after a prolonged campaign by the Parish and Partnership and a Public Enquiry. The plans can be seen in the library.

Indian Chef has plans to take over the former wallpaper shop and open it as a restaurant, with some added space at the rear.

The dental surgery has plans to refurbish the premises with much-needed replacement wooden window-frames, and Derwentside College aka The Green School plans to floodlight its tennis courts.

It was reported that the plans for Burnhopeside Hall had met opposition because of the proposals to have clay pigeon shooting and all-purpose vehicle training as part of the activities. The County Ecology Officer thought that the bats, otters, sand martins, kingfishers, owls and other residents would not like these noisy activities. Neither would the human neighbours.

## LANCHESTER HARDWARE *FIREWORKS*



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# LONGOVICIUM CELEBRATION

continued from page 1  
 Devos of Natural England and Christine Corker of Groundwork West Durham and Darlington. Leader+ and the Heritage lottery fund have been the principal funding agencies. Christine Corker's greatest achievement

was the completion of the booklet on Longovicium. Brian Page, (climate and landscape) Malcolm McKenzie, (devised walk and directions), together with researcher Martin Hutchinson, produced the Lanchester Roman Way Walk Booklet, while Anne McKenzie pointed

out how the Romans have influenced the way we live today. Graphic Designer, Andy Taylor, also received praise for the publication.

Christine Lever then introducing Dr David Mason, the County Archaeologist, who gave a talk entitled 'New Evidence for Romans in County, delivered entirely without notes. He covered in rapid time: Peter Scott's work at the Piercebridge site in the 1980's; the Sedgefield site on the Cades Road, and followed with a résumé of Binchester and Faverdale, the latter having turned out to be more Romanised than first thought. Finally, he indicated that he would encourage a further development to take place at Lanchester.

A surprise speaker was Keith Bartlett, of Heritage Lotteries, who has been involved with some £200M of funding in the north. He suggested that funds may well be available in the future for some further development at Lanchester. Brian Page followed with a message to the audience hoping that people would join the organisation, asked for ideas for the future, and announced the date of the October meeting.

The displays in the hall were excellent and there were some Roman artefacts brought by local veteran amateur archaeologist, John Thornborrow, who has spent 30 years excavating various sites, notably, at South Shields.

The buffet, supplied by Crinnions, which followed the formal part of the evening was superb, and there was no chance that anyone would leave with hunger, for food or history



*'Centurian' Martin Hutchinson and Maureen Loy who provided the warm greeting for all at the door of the Community Centre*



*John Thornborrow, 86, local veteran amateur archaeologist brought some Roman artefacts to the meeting for display*



*Some of the Roman artefacts that were on display in the hall at the Celebration meeting*

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# LANCHESTER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION SETS UP ONLINE COMMUNITY SHOP

At the October Management meeting of the Community Association the Trustees agreed to the formation of an online community shop. For all those people who currently shop online this is an ideal way of fundraising for the Community Centre, at no extra cost to themselves. The online fundraising solution provides a simple interface where each purchase generates commission for the Community Association. There are over 100 retailers involved who frequently offer exclusive webshop-only discounts and promotions. These include many household names such as Marks and Spencer, Tesco, John

Lewis, Littlewoods and Amazon who all offer lucrative amounts of commission. The system works by clicking on the Community Centre link, which will take you through to the retailer's own websites. They are responsible for your order and ensure credit card security. The website is [www.buy.at/lanchestercommunitycentre](http://www.buy.at/lanchestercommunitycentre)

Following a financial review for 2007, it was agreed that the Room Rentals, Membership and Affiliation fees would be increased by 15%.

The Management meeting also discussed the progress of the Space Project. It was reported that though the building was on time, a delay will occur because the Gas



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Board needs 10 weeks to move a gas pipe. Negotiations are in progress to try and bring the date forward. Fundraising will continue throughout next year to

purchase new equipment for the exercise centre; in the meantime existing equipment will be transferred down to the new building. A grant has been received from Help

the Aged to assist in the purchase of a Stair Lift. Quotations are being obtained and further grant applications will be made if the grant does not cover the costs.

## LANCHESTER'S NEW WEBSITE!!!

Have you ever wanted to express an opinion or make a point on a village matter but have never got round to writing a letter, or didn't know who to phone, then help is on its way. A small group of enthusiasts, headed by Richard Eyers (with the laptop in our picture opposite) are planning to launch a new village website which is to provide the local community with a ready source of useful information and services such as local weather forecast, bus timetables, diary of village events to name but a few. The main difference however between this site and existing village sites is that the new one will be interactive, giving users the ability to

'post' comments and opinions on village subjects or wider ranging events. Most local groups have been contacted about the site (including your Village Voice) and the response so far has been very positive and it is hoped that the majority will want to join in and set up links to their own sites. Some of you were able to take advantage of a demonstration of the site at the recent Lanchester Partnership open day, and again the response was very encouraging. Of course the only way to assess the usefulness of this facility is to try it yourself, and to allow this, Richard has set up a prototype live site on [lanchester.typepad.com](http://lanchester.typepad.com) Give it a try.



Left to right, back row. Keith Brown, (Methodist Church), Colin Burton (Parish Council), Mike Gladstone (Partnership), John Gray (Village Voice). Front row, Vikki Greggs (Methodist Church), Richard Eyers (Independent), Christine Monaghan (Community Centre), Dawn Shimmield (Parish Church)

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# LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 9TH OCTOBER 2007

**Police Report by PC Hutchinson:** There had been 56 calls since the report in September. These included 1 burglary and 5 thefts from works vehicles and cars. PC Hutchinson emphasised the need to lock items out of sight. 8 minor Road Traffic Accidents and there were 8 reports of suspicious persons. Although these had resulted in no action, PC Hutchinson said that these reports were a good thing and should be continued as information is helpful. There had been 1 hoax call, 3 robberies and 3 reports of off-road bikes. Again PC Hutchinson encouraged residents to call in. 10 reports of Anti-social Behaviour had been investigated, these taking place in Front Street. 3 youths have been arrested for criminal damage and given bail; they are not residents of the village and their bail means they should not be in the village. There has been less anti-social behaviour and the police are increasing their foot patrols but again stress the importance of residents calling in. CCTV footage will, hopefully, lead to an arrest for assault in the summer. PC Hutchinson was informed that a litter bin near the play area had been emptied creating a dreadful mess and there had been delay by the police from Saturday to Monday before the beat police officer was informed. Also when the CCTV company was contacted, only a recorded message was given. As this line is supposed to be manned 24hrs, the police will investigate this. Cllr Johnson said he was pleased to hear that the

police are addressing the problem of the youths who cause trouble. Alcohol had been taken from 13/14yr olds at 10.30 pm and a young lady had been crying outside one of the village pubs. **Quality Parish Councils** Mrs Lesley Swinbank, the Regional Development Officer for the North East National Association of Local Councils addressed members on the Quality Parish and Town Council Scheme. The aim of the scheme is to encourage, develop and improve the Councils and provides a benchmark for the local councils. Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland have the lowest number of approved councils in the country. The scheme goes right across the board of Councils and the benefits include demonstrating the Council's commitment to the community and the Local Authority. However, to become a Member of the Scheme the Council has to meet with certain criteria and the Clerk of the Council has to obtain a qualification. These aspects could take a year, but Mrs Swinbank stated that participation could help to obtain grants and be beneficial when unitary government comes into force. After being thanked by Council Members, Mrs Swinbank offered to return if necessary. **Matters Arising** To consider formalising arrangements with Durham County Council to enable County Councillor Mr T Forster to give a report to members on 'Matters of mutual interest to both the County and Lanchester Parish Council'. This was approved.

To consider a request on behalf of the local young people's Rugby Team for the exclusive use of the Kitswell Road Football field, to play rugby there on Sunday. As there had been no requests from football teams to play, this was approved, on condition the Rugby Team provided the type of dual-purpose goal posts (which they had offered to do) and that they saw to the marking out of the pitch. To consider possible reduction in Precepts elsewhere in Derwentside arising from the creation of a Stanley Town Council. It was agreed that other Parish Councils be consulted; it may be that the cost of some services may be transferred to the District Council but that nothing would be known until Stanley Town Council is in action. **Listed Buildings** It was reported that comments had been made by visitors to the village on the condition of certain Listed Buildings and the question was asked as to what powers existed to do anything about this. It was decided that the Clerk should approach Derwentside District Council to see what can be done or if any grants are available. Among the **Chairperson's announcements**, the need was expressed for a mole catcher and it was agreed that enquiries would be made about this. Accounts to be paid were agreed and Committee Reports given. There were no questions from either Members or the Public and the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 13th November, 2007 at 7 pm in the Conference Room at Park House, Lanchester.

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# PLANNING MEETING OF LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL ON 3RD OCTOBER 2007

Members considered the following applications: Proposed erection of four dwellings with associated access and parking at King's Head Hotel, Station Road, Lanchester. RESOLVED. That members were opposed to such development in that part of the village. Access to and egress from the development gave deep cause for concern. The reduction in car parking facilities for the Hotel was not acceptable. Conservation Area Consent to demolish a boundary wall and garage at King's Head Public House, Lanchester. RESOLVED. That no comment be made on the above application. Proposed Conversion

Change of Use of existing Unit 18 to form restaurant extension, erection of single storey and first floor extension to create stock room at 18 and 20 Front Street, Lanchester. Erection of two storey and first floor extension to side at 22 Greenwell Park, Lanchester. Conversion of existing Engine Shed to dwelling and office, amendments to previously approved scheme to include conservatory and window design at Stockerley House, Stockerley Lane, Lanchester. Proposed Installation of Telecommunications Equipment at Burnhope Transmitting Station, Langley Lane, Burnhope. RESOLVED. That the

above four Planning Applications be supported provided they were in strict conformity with District Policy and the Village Design Statement. Erection of one dwelling (resubmission) at 88 Lanchester Road, Maiden Law. RESOLVED. That no observation be made on this Application. Lanchester Cricket Club. Members considered the response from the above Club giving details of the size, location and finish of its proposed lockable metal storage container in the Kitswell Road Play Area. RESOLVED. That members had no objection to the proposed location of a storage container between the club house and the existing garage in

the above play area - with the strict proviso that pedestrian access via the rear of the club house to the proposed new play area be maintained. That a Planning Application be submitted, if required, to the District Council in its capacity as owner of the Kitswell Road Area. Decisions of the District Council Queen's Head Hotel, Lanchester. Listed Building consent for refurbishment and redecoration. GRANTED. Change of Use to residential at Hurworth Lodge, Manor House Farm, Lanchester. GRANTED. Change of use of Land for storage of ten caravans at Ragpathside Farm, Lanchester. REFUSED.

# NEW BUSINESS

While plans are in place for changes to the following businesses in Lanchester to:

- (i) combine our butcher's and delicatessen shops run by Crinnions,
- (ii) relocate the chip shop in the Village; and
- (iii) add a restaurant to 'Indian Chef';

another business has made a quiet and effective arrival in the Village. Foster Maddison, an estate agent with offices in Hexham and Newcastle, opened for business next to Wade's the opticians on Monday 8th October. Manager Judith Young, a resident of Esh Winning, hopes to give our existing agents a run for their money.

## Instant help at the touch of a button

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# PARTNERSHIP OPEN DAY

Held on Saturday 29th September, at the Community Centre, the morning opened with some delightful music by the Lanchester Brass Training Band.

This was followed by Mike Gladstone, who gave a résumé of the activities of the Partnership during the past year. Some of the items emphasised were the work by various people with the Parish Appraisal and the adoption of the Parish Plan. The Village Bus, and how money had successfully been raised by the whole village for its continuation, was also high on his agenda. He mentioned the generosity of so many businesses and individuals in the village, which space

prohibits to mention by name, but there was one anonymous donation of £5000, and Margaret Doyle is running in the Great North Run 'for the village bus' tomorrow. 'Friends of Longovicium' is something else that the Partnership got off the ground and they have actually achieved all of their aims - something which is quite remarkable. The Film Club was mentioned as very successful and is in profit, but had lost some money recently. The films are excellent and it only costs £3.50 per head to watch. The Litter-pick which involves the whole village, has been very successful and was awarded second place nationally in an Action

Earth competition for rural projects. The Youth Club, too, has received great support over the years and has just re-opened. Mike continued his talk by mentioning projects led by the Parish Council with whom they have a close relationship. These were 'Care of the Elderly', 'Farming, Environment and Wildlife', and improvements to Kitswell Park Recreation Area. Finally, Mike mentioned the exciting prospect of a Village Website, for which the inaugural meeting has just taken place, and is reported elsewhere in this issue of the Village Voice.

Tony Reather, recently retired Head Teacher of All Saints' RC Primary

School, followed Mike Gladstone on to the stage, and in a succinct speech, extolled the virtues of the Partnership and praised their achievements. He also said what a delight it was for him, a non-resident, just to walk through the village and be greeted by so many people. He paid tribute to the community of Lanchester and never ceased to be amazed at all the groups that existed, and activities that took place on a regular basis. Tony declared the event open, and received a lovely gift presented by Caitlan, one of the members of the Taekwon-do Club. The hall was well displayed as usual.

The Centurions proudly displayed their bikes and trophies.

The Model Boat club showed some amazing exhibits.

Also included in displays were the Lace Makers with their beautiful products, and various boards by the Partnership, and other groups within the organisation.

A Powerpoint presentation of the proposed Village Web Site was played continuously under the direction of John Gray.

The entertainment was excellent. The band continued to play after the speeches and this was followed by an exciting display by the Taekwon-do club. Refreshments were available and there was a good opportunity to socialise whilst enjoying them.



*Mike Gladstone giving a résumé of the activities of the Partnership and talking about many of the Partnership's achievements*



*Tony Reather, recently retired Head of All Saints RC Primary School, opens the event and praises the achievements of the Partnership*

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## SOME OF THE GROUPS DISPLAYING AT THE OPEN DAY



*The morning opened with some delightful music by the Lanchester Brass Training Band*



*The Centurions showing off some of their fabulous bikes*



*An animated Gerry White does some explaining about aspects of wild life*



*Elaine and Sarah, Lace Makers, display and talk about some of their lovely products*



*The Model Boat Club and their amazing boats*



*Part of the display by the All Action Taekwon-do Club*

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## PARKING PROBLEMS

Mr Dave Wafer of Durham County Council attended the October Partnership meeting to discuss the parking problems in the village. It had been suggested that some of the parking spaces were taken up by all-day non-resident parkers, including shop owners and people meeting here and car-sharing into Durham. As there was little turnover, delivery vehicles had to double park, causing some very awkward obstructions. Commenting on the suggested schemes, Mr Wafer dismissed the idea of making Front Street into a one-way street. He also dismissed a proposal to levy charges for parking due to the cost of the management of such a scheme. A limited waiting scheme of two hours was thought to be the best of the options. The problem is that the police would not be able to enforce it. Cllr Paul Jackson said that whilst this was a very good short-term solution, more parking

space would be needed in the long-term, but Mr Wafer replied that there would be no County funding for off-street parking.

It was agreed to pursue the idea of two-hour waiting, perhaps with "disc parking" (using a cardboard clock which parkers would set to arrival time).

Mr Wafer promised to help with the installation of a cycle rack, and the Parish Council will be considering a suitable site for such a rack.

While looking at parking, the situation in various housing estates was discussed, and examples given of illegal and/or dangerous parking. Mr Wafer said that no practical solution was possible unless the police enforced the law.

## THURSDAY CLUB

At the July meeting of the Thursday Club members enjoyed a sumptuous faith supper and took part in a few party games and a quiz. A cheque of £500 for Willow Burn made at the June Cream Tea event was presented to Angela Laws, the Hospice Fundraiser, on behalf of the Thursday Club by

Eileen Whitehead. Dulcie Welsh, who has recently been to one of Her Majesty's garden parties celebrating being 80 years young, regaled us with memories of tea with the Queen. Thursday Club membership is at this present time full but visitors are always welcome.



*Eileen Whitehead presents the cheque for £500 for the Willow Burn Hospice*

## WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE

Members of the congregation of All Saints C of E church enjoyed a successful pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham in mid-September. The party travelled by bus to Walsingham and had fine weather for activities sacred and secular. They visited the Holy House on the first evening, had a Pilgrim Mass in the Guild of All Souls Chapel visited the RC shrine and slipper chapel, celebrated Eucharist at the parish church and walked the outdoor Way of the Cross.

There was also time for a visit to the nearby town of Sheringham, with a train ride for some, to do some shopping and to explore the gardens surrounding the shrine as well as visiting the local pub.

The final act of worship was the sprinkling at the well, followed by laying on of hands and anointing for those wishing it.

Organiser Elizabeth Wharton was presented with a book called 'Discovering Prayer with the Church' as a thank you gift at the end of an excellent week-end.



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## WALKING BUS

Plans to create a 'walking bus' to get children safely to school without clogging our streets up with traffic were reported by County Council officer Dave Wafer at the Lanchester Partnership's October meeting.

Mr Wafer said that the County would create a gate on to the walkway and would indemnify the Social Club. Parents would be able to park at

the social club and the children would be escorted along the Valley Walk to All Saints' Primary School. The scheme was supported by Head Teacher Karen McKenna.

Also under discussion was a 'walking bus' for pupils of the EP Primary School. Community Centre Chairman Arthur Maughan said that use of the Centre's car park could

be dangerous because of heavy traffic. Richard Chwieseni, new owner of the Queen's Head, was willing to cooperate in using his car park, though the narrow access was not ideal, with cars and pedestrians too close together. Discussions with the school will continue. The officer who will be involved with the Walking Bus schemes is Alison Lonsdale.

## KNITSLEY TRACTOR RUN FOR WILLOW BURN

A beautiful bright Sunday morning 30th September, saw between thirty and forty vintage tractors owned by local farmers, gather together in the field adjacent to the Old Mill at Knitsley, in readiness for their annual Tractor Run. They set off at about 10.45 am, turning right out of the field up the hill towards Knitsley, through Templetown, and on to the A68 at Rowley, where they followed the road to Coombs Bridges. They crossed the dam wall at

Derwent and went 'off road' towards Stanhope, returning to the Moorcock Public House for a light lunch break. After lunch they headed back over the fells, passed Waskerley Pallets, on to Saltersgate, finishing back at Knitsley from about 3.00 pm onwards. Celebrations began in style after the rally. Proprietors of the Old Mill, generously gave the marquee free of charge and paid for a Country and Western Band. The food was a hog and lamb

roast. Organisers, Ian Suddes and Davie Vypond, donated the pig and lamb respectively. Davie also donated a 1958 Grey Ferguson TE 20, 4 cylinder diesel vintage tractor, (known as 'the little grey fergie'), for the raffle, worth about £500. Tickets were being snapped up at £10 each. It was altogether a superb event and Willow Burn will receive between £2,500 and £3000. The final figure will not be known until next month as raffle tickets will still be on sale until the end of October.



*John Pybourne (from Crook) and Mel Robinson (from Wolsingham), with their 1955 Ferguson Vintage Tractors, made in Coventry, Vanguard Std Diesel engines from Wolverhampton*



*Davie Vypond and Ian Suddes, with the raffle prize 'the little grey fergie', a 1958 Ferguson TE20 diesel tractor*

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# ANTI BULLYING CAMPAIGN

Lanchester EP School is working towards accreditation for their Anti Bullying Policy. School Governor, Lesley Suddes, who has shown real enthusiasm and dedication to the project, is working alongside County Anti Bullying Officer, Rachel Crowe, to achieve this end, thereby benefiting all children in the school. Lesley uses 'Madge the Monkey' as one of her tools to get the message over to the children in their Buddy and Mini Buddy training. Madge used to be a bully, but is now a Buddy! The tabards in the photograph have been paid for by Lesley and Mary Carr, of New Image,

who was only too pleased to sponsor this project. Rachel and Lesley are trying to form an interest group with parents and anyone in the community who cares about this

problem. All will be welcome. Meetings will take place once a term to form strategies and to make sure that children are safe in their school environment. Events will be organised to raise

awareness of bullying. Meeting times and dates will be flexible and will be held in a relaxed atmosphere. For further information please contact Mrs Jane Davis, Head Teacher, at the EP School.



*Buddies and Trainers: Left to right back: Mary Carr, Lesley Suddes (with Madge the monkey), Rachel Crowe. Front: Sarah, Archie, Libby and Arthur*

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## THE BIG WILD READ

During the summer holidays children were given the opportunity to 'Take the Challenge - Change your world', by the local Library. Thirty eight children took up this challenge by

attempting to read six books in six weeks. Thirty one successfully completed the task. As incentives during the reading period they were given, a book mark, stickers, a

packet of seeds, games, a certificate and a medal. Then all the names were put into a draw for the prize, which was a £10 book voucher. The lucky person was Sophie Taylor aged 10.



*Sophie Taylor receives her reading prize from Librarian, Monica*

# MOTHERS' UNION

A series of events have been held throughout the Diocese to promote Mothers' Union. The Lanchester branch held an event at the Community Centre on Thursday 4th October, to publicise the aims and objectives of the organisation, in order to encourage membership. The meeting concluded with a lovely afternoon tea. Membership of Mothers' Union now stands at 3.6 million and is active in 78 countries. It is a grassroots voluntary mission charity, whose members raise funds for their work and also to meet the needs of local communities.

In Malawi, Burundi and the Sudan, over 30,000 women have been taught to read. In Durham, members knit 'Trauma Teddies', supply hospital bags for emergency admissions, and give free holidays to families in need. Emergency relief is sent when needed and they are proud to give away 100% of money raised. A most enjoyable afternoon was experienced by everyone with an opportunity to chat whilst having tea/coffee and some scrumptious cakes. Mothers' Union Leader, Margaret Brown, would like to thank the committee most sincerely for all their hard work.



Left to right: Wendy Stevenson, (Marketing Coordinator for Mothers' Union), Ann Hunter, Angela Lee, Joan Massey, Maureen Barker, Betty Reed, Jill Finlayson and Margaret Brown (Leader)

## POETRY IN THE LIBRARY

The writers' group which meets at the Waddington Street Centre in Durham called at Lanchester library during a lightning tour of local libraries on 4th October. The six poets and their mentor, Steve Urwin, read from their anthologies Expanding Egos and Writing Marathon as well as personal favourites by other poets.

The audience of Lanchester writers, two librarians and passing library customers applauded warmly. Lanchester creative writing group meets in the library at 2 pm on Tuesdays and the poetry group meets on the first Monday of each month in the Community Centre at 7.30pm.



Poets from Durham on their visit to Lanchester Library

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# THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS

As a teenager, superciliously bored with Kenneth Grahame's *Wind in the Willows*, an elderly and very wise friend told me I would grow to appreciate it. And I did. The adventures of the timid mole and his friend Ratty who take an adventurous boat trip along the Thames continues to enchant me. So I was delighted, as were other Oldies with the

Library Theatre Touring Company's musical version at Lanchester Community Centre on October 4th.

It was great to find Debbie Kelly's black velvet clad Mole and Jane Collins' tart Ratty lived up to my expectations - and the children, who of course, the whole thing was written for, thought they were rather cute as well. I never cared for Toad and had always avoided the frequently performed A A Milne's stage version *Toad of Toad Hall*. I only knew him in the black and white original illustrations of E H Shepard so Michael Brooksbank's green painted Toad was a revelation...of course; toads are green and rather horrid. It was easier for Roger Cook, the reclusive Badger to change his gear to play a jailer, a magistrate, an engine driver and so on

and the women to put on picnics and being entertained playing dominoes. Must have been strange to young children now although they probably have some idea of Toad's passion for speed and motor-cars. The company is

professional, based in Leeds and they have been touring for more than ten years. This is their first children's play. Last time they came to Lanchester they did *Moll Flanders* - a very adult play. I hope they come again.

Moira Rutherford



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*Badger, Ratty and Mole discuss what to do about Toad*



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## TEDDIES ON PARADE



*The Coolest Teddies*

Friday 12th October was the rallying day for peaceful armies of teddies to converge on Lanchester's EP school and put themselves on display in the great teddy bear competition. Around the school hall there were teddies of every size, shape and material.

The countless hordes of teddies were in competition in several categories. These were largest, smallest, softest, oldest, coolest (many so laid back they had fallen over), smartest and cutest. There was even a special category for teachers' teddies.

All the bears were admired by visiting parents, who were served with refreshments by school pupils.



*The Biggest Teddies*

## LADIES WHO LUNCH

After a leisurely summer, the Gourmets are back in harness, out and about, enjoying good food again. In September we decided to re-visit the refurbished Beamish Park Hotel which has such pleasant views over the countryside from the conservatory restaurant. The new decor is as delightful as the food. We ate from a two-course set menu for £12.50 and sampled slow cooked brisket of beef, grilled salmon with risotto, followed by vanilla pannacotta with berries and sorbet, lemon polenta cake with poached soft fruit and a melon sorbet platter. A well cooked delicious meal was nicely rounded off with a mellow cup of coffee. "See you again soon, ladies" said the waiter. We do hope so.

**The Gourmet Girls**

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## GOAN EVENING

An enjoyable evening was shared by all in All Saints' Catholic Church Parish Centre on Saturday 29th September. The evening also coincided with Father Andrew's last weekend in Lanchester and was a chance to enjoy his company in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

The evening was hosted by the Goan tourist veterans in the parish who have visited Goa over the last three years.

A PowerPoint presentation which was put together by Margaret Gray from the many hundreds of photos that were taken, transported the audience to warm shores of Goa and helped to give an insight to not only the stunning natural beauty of this part of

India but also a flavour of its history and the colourful and vibrant culture of its people.

The highlight of these visits to Goa has been the opportunity to visit our old friends Father Alex and Father Caetano, who have also spent time here in All Saints, Lanchester, as well as Father Andrew in their various parishes in Goa, and to enjoy their wonderful hospitality. It was great to be able to share our happy memories of these visits with everyone.

After the presentation, light refreshment and drinks were served which allowed everyone the chance to ask questions in a relaxed and informal setting.

The evening was rounded off with a presentation of a cheque

for £100 by Gerry and Anne Taylor from the Durham Branch of Blind Life. The money is to be used by Father Andrew specifically for blind and partially sighted people in his parish of Arambol. The evening raised over £150 in donations which

was added to the two Parish collections over the weekend, amounting to over £1000 for Father Andrew to take back to his parish in Arambol. Father Andrew left to return to Goa at 4 am on Wednesday 3rd October after his 3 month stay here

in Lanchester, and was checked in at Newcastle Airport by none other than a Lanchester resident Caroline Hall which added a fitting touch to what has been a wonderful experience for both the parish and Father Andrew. Margaret Gray



Left to right: Canon Spence, Margaret Gray, Michael Quigley, Father Andrew, Irene Bell, Avril Quigley, and Bill Gray

# More than meets the eye



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## SOUTH AFRICA TRIP 2007

Some of you may already know that in August this year 7 intrepid travellers from Lanchester set off to travel across the world to Port Elizabeth in South Africa to work in an Aids Hospice. The group consisted of Joe Bennett, Laura Burdon, Anne Crinson, Gordon Howie, Rhoda Joyce, Joanna Quinlan and Diane Tute.

You maybe wondering what inspired us all to go. Well in August 2005 I was at Harvest, the Christian camp, and heard about this amazing place that wanted people to go and work with the children who are cared for in the Hospice. It is a long story but I went with a friend in summer 2006 and when I returned I shared some of my experiences in a Sunday morning at Lanchester Chapel. I was amazed that after that many people came forward and asked if I would take them with me the next time I went. So after a year of organising and fundraising we were all ready to set off. The trip out to South

Africa is a long one and thanks to Air France this year's ended up being 10 hours longer than anticipated but we all arrived in one piece, apart from the guitar, which suffered quite badly at the hands of baggage handlers!

We arrived at the hospice and unpacked and settled into the Volunteer cottage. After a good meal, bath and a good night's sleep we were all ready for action. The time at the hospice was spent caring for and playing with the children, assisting the kitchen staff and handy man, tidying, sorting and replacing resources and equipment in the playschool and most importantly of all cuddling and loving the children.

As part of the trip we had linked to another Aids Project run by Christians in the Addo region called Thembaletu Trust. This project cares for and supports Aids victims in their homes offering nutritional supplements, love and the gospel. This project was amazing. We visited the people

in their homes, which by our standards could only be described as sheds, visited the local high school where the project is converting 2 classrooms to become a base for their work and Aids education centre.

As well as this we did manage to have 2 weekends off where we visited some game reserves and saw some of South Africa's amazing animals and landscapes. South Africa really is an amazing country which has within it the best of the first world living together with the worst of the third world.

Each one of us has returned home after experiencing a life changing trip. If you would like to hear more about it please contact me and we will be more than happy to come and share our experiences with you at your group or organisation.

Please support our coffee morning on December 15th at Lanchester Methodist Chapel 9.30am to 11.30 where we will have stalls, carols and a visit from Santa!

Anne Crinson 520821



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## WI NEWS

The Adviser Tina Bickerdyke from DCFWI oversaw Lanchester's October AGM and told some very amusing anecdotes about other Durham WIs. She also fondly remembered, at last year's AGM, two competition trophies had the cup missing leaving only the base for presentation. So as not to repeat this fiasco it was decided that vouchers would be presented this year instead of trophies but the competition committee member was absent, and so the results were unavailable! Raffle tickets mysteriously disappeared too but Tina 'saved the evening' by industriously producing hand written substitutes. Two more stories to add to her collection!

The Coffee Morning in aid of the appeal for 'Grace House Children's Hospice' was successful in raising £155. Mr David Hughes, author and artist, also collected a further £61 by selling his books and notelets; he has raised money over six years for charity and during the last two years has concentrated on the Hospice Appeal. He donated a beautiful print to the raffle, and then decided to donate a further one as he appreciated the morning's endeavours so much. Thank you to all WI members and visitors for supporting this very worthwhile cause. To date nearly £2 million has been raised but £3 million is still required with £1.5 million being needed annually on completion. However, building work will start in February 2008 on a site overlooking the River Wear.

Four Lanchester members went to the Autumn Council meeting on 6th October in Elvet Methodist Church. Jane Westwater sang a selection of songs including several from the 'Sound of Music' and 'Les Miserables', the Church providing excellent acoustics for her beautiful voice. The guest speaker was four times married Katy Cropper who is a well-known shepherdess, artist, author, clothing company director, and also 1990 winner of 'Woman of the Year' award and the only female winner of 'One Man and his Dog'. To the delight of her audience she recounted amusing and fascinating tales about her very colourful life.

The Council Meeting competition this year was for a Limerick. After taking a vote Lanchester WI submitted the following entry by Shirley Lamb:-  
*At an Institute meeting one night  
 When the moon in the sky was so bright,  
 The members trooped in  
 Both the fat and the thin  
 To find Powergen had left them no light!*

Other Lanchester efforts included the following:-  
*At an Institute meeting one night  
 The Treasurer ran out of sight,  
 She had counted the money  
 And thought it was funny  
 To gather the funds and take flight!*

*At an Institute meeting one night  
 The members turned ghostly white  
 As the speaker was nude*

*Which they thought very rude  
 They slid under chairs out of sight!*

A mini-trip was arranged for twelve members to go to Satley WI on 8th October to listen to Ian Robinson from Radio Newcastle. Whilst wearing a Northumbrian plaid kilt and training shoes he regaled stories about his pre-recorded 1am-6am show which then becomes 'live' for a further hour. The BBC Management require him to repeat the jingle, "This is Radio Newcastle, the BBC for the North East" 12 times during the show, and the computer chooses a song from only 240 tracks. He mentioned his book of 'Place Names', and as no-one knew the meaning of Satley he explained that 'ley' was a clearing in a wood and 'Sat' was an overnight camping area. Everyone was given a plate of sandwiches and home-made cakes together with copious cups of tea and, as Lanchester members were lucky in winning 6 raffle prizes, it was certainly an evening to remember!



WI members admire Mr Hughes work



WI President Jennifer Macdonald with Hospice fund raiser David Hughes



Another ticket sold in the WI raffle for the Grace House Hospice appeal



Artist David Hughes with Jenny Macdonald and Barbara Sproat

## TOILET RELIEF?

During the October Partnership meeting, a pub owner and councillors who had come to talk about parking matters had an interesting discussion on that perennial problem, the lack of public toilet facilities in Lanchester.

Richard Chwieseni, owner of the Queen's Head was interested in offering public access but was not satisfied with the existing facilities, although they were recently refurbished. He could not understand how a planning officer could agree to a disabled toilet where a wheelchair could not turn round, and he thought the ladies' facilities too small. He had quotations for a new block, including good disabled access and baby changing facilities, totalling £28,200.

If the Parish Council were willing to split the initial and cleaning costs, he would offer public access, he said. Councillors present welcomed this offer and resolved to consult the full Council.

## NSPCC COLLECTION

Recently a Street Collection was held in Lanchester for the NSPCC. The Committee wish to thank everyone who contributed to the total of £161.30 which was raised. The collectors enjoyed seeing and chatting to many of their friends as they stood with their boxes! Thank you again on behalf of the children who will be helped.

## COMMUNITY DRAW



*Graham Dobson of the Thursday Art Group, assisted by John Wilson, Community Centre Manager, makes the first draw of the Community Draw. The winning number is 39.*

## WINE AT NINE



*Phil Flint serves the wine*

Wine buffs flocked to All Saints' Parish Centre on Friday 12th October to enjoy a wine tasting, and also to contribute to Willow Burn Hospice. Like many of those present, organiser Phil Flint, who brought the

wine and served it with due gravitas, is a member of Lanchester wine club. He had selected wines from France and several other wine-producing regions of the world, and the discerning company were challenged, when

tasting each wine, to determine whether it was French or not. The only prize was the pleasure of the sampling, with the bonus of a table-full of nibbles donated by Crinnions. For their further entertainment a

quiz and reverse bingo were provided, and excess bottles, and were auctioned off at the end of the evening. Together with a raffle, the proceeds were expected to be about £350 for the hospice.

## COFFEE AFTERNOON FOR MACMILLAN (World's Biggest Coffee Day)



Coffee at the EP School Friday 28th September raised £40.64.  
Helpers left to right: Kathy Early, Katie, Michaela Lindfield,  
Ellie, Tiffany, Andrea Days.

## FUNDRAISING FOR DURHAM FAMILY WELFARE ADOPTION

A coffee morning was held in the Chapter House of Lanchester C of E Parish Church on Wednesday 17th October to raise funds for Durham Family Welfare Adoption. The tempting array of cakes seen in our photo below, as well as a raffle and donation raised the sum of £155.50 for the charity.



## CREAM TEA IN AID OF WILLOW BURN

On October 11th, Lanchester Lions Ladies held a cream tea in aid of Willowburn Hospice. There was a delicious cake stall and the cream scones were very well received. Angela Lawes, from Willow Burn, won the gorgeous teddy bear by guessing his birthday. Our thanks go to Pam Bygate who entertained us, admirably, all afternoon on her keyboard. Thanks also, go to John Toomer, our local milkman, who donated the milk and cream. The amount raised for Willow Burn was £257. We would like to thank all those who supported this event.



Ken Coates operating his slide show

## GAP YEAR EXPEDITION

Jake Shepherd, of Colpike Hall Lanchester, is donating his gap year to spend 8 months volunteering in Tanzania working alongside the Student Partnership Worldwide (SPW). By introducing long term benefits such as sustainable farming and recycling, Jake intends to work alongside 15 other international students to develop poor communities around the country. Despite living in a mud hut and becoming totally dependent upon another culture for survival, Jake hopes to become accepted within the community and is learning basic Swahili in preparation for his departure in January. However the expedition will cost nearly £4000 which Jake has to raise himself. In order to do this Jake will be holding several fund raising events around the village and would appreciate your support in helping carry out this life changing work. We wish him all the best!

## VIEWS OF NORTH- WEST DURHAM

Artist and photographer Ken Coates had an audience of 36 for a slide show and talk in Lanchester library on Thursday 11th October and dazzled them all with his fantastic collection of images. As well as photos taken by himself, he had pictures dating back to the early 20th century, such as a series from Castleside Race Day in 1919 and the 1906 St Ives football team. Giving each slide a brief but informative introduction, he treated his audience to nearly five cassettes of slides before running out of time. Among the memorable images were pictures of the Ebchester mills which have now disappeared, Crook Hall near Leadgate whose stones went to build a house on Ford Road and Lanchester Station, Gibside chapel when a military hospital in WW1, Consett's ground-breaking Salvation Army band, Rowley Station (now at Beamish Museum), Malton Colliery and the iron-ore train going up to Consett. His advice to photographers was to carry a camera and record what's happening now, as one day it will be a valuable historical record. Fortunately for us, that's just what he did.

# COMMUNITY CENTRE TABLE TOP SALE



*Arthur Dodds (Organiser) enthusiastically greets the customers*

Fundraiser Arthur Dodds Mrs Watson. The total dreamed up a great money maker for the Community Centre by organising a Table Top Sale on Saturday 22nd September. There was quite a good attendance and plenty of Bric a Brac, Toys, Household Electrical Appliances, Cross Stitch Stall, Cakes, and so on to choose from. John Hurran was busy with his Space Diary, selling dates for £1, the prize being £100. He also ran the Treasure Hunt, with his wife Anne. This was won by local person,

the total raised was an excellent £480. However, the Community Centre still needs £20,000 during the next three months to meet their target for the Space Project, so they need all the help they can get from the village. Some good news just released is that 'Help the Aged' have donated £1500 towards a Stair Lift, which is half of what is required to complete this project, so the fundraising team is looking for another generous benefactor.



*Anne Carr, June Wallace, Jennifer McDonald and Jill Gladstone (foreground) shop, with a smiling Harry and Hazel Taylor*

## BRIDGE SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY CENTRE



*Liz Smith presents the winners with their prizes at the October Sunday Bridge afternoon which raised £160 for Community Centre funds*

## PRIMARY SCHOOL BLUES

A little girl had just said to her mother. "I finished her first week of school. "I'm just wasting my time," she can't read, I can't write and they won't let me talk!"

## BOWLS WINNERS

**continued from back page**

McCombie Shield 3 sets

Winner: R Ball

Runner-up: P Jose

Usher Trophy Ladies

Winner: P Jose

Runner-up: A Hurran

Veterans 4 woods

Winner: M Stoddart

Runner-up: R Burton

Veterans 3 woods

Winner: F Ledger

Runner-up: A Wharton

Crinnion Bowl Pairs

Winners: J Hurran & M Stoddart

Runners-up: S Easten & P Harrison

Ernest Robinson

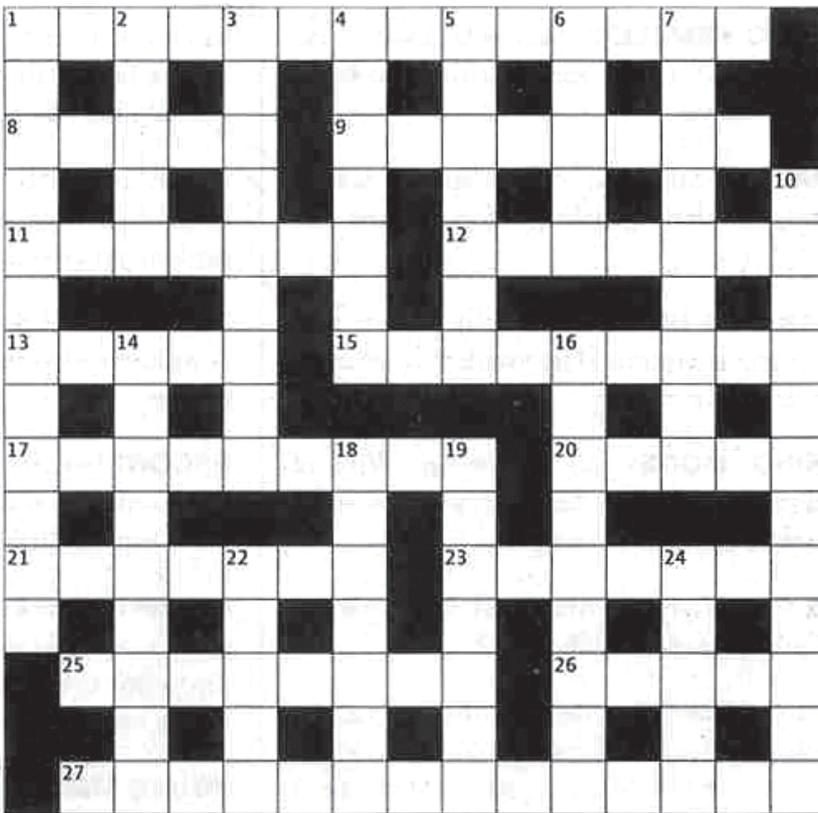
Trophy

Veterans Pairs

Winners: K Raper & E Westgarth

Runners-up: P Monaghan & B Young

# CROSSWORD 18



## ACROSS

1. M2, M4, M8 etc. (8,6)
8. Crazy (5)
9. An aortic European (8)
11. Narrow strip of land (7)
- 12,15. Nineteenth century method of negotiating! (7,9)
13. Collect (5)
15. See 12
17. President Jefferson's biggest purchase! (9)
20. Large expanse of water (5)
21. Coastal resort area (7)
23. Flying machine (7)
25. Cop's iron stinger (8)
26. Type of lake (2-3)
27. Musician (8,6)

## DOWN

1. Flower delivered by Master of the Rolls in long orgy (7-5)
2. SW China (5)
3. Basics (9)
4. Charged (7)
5. Substitute (7)
6. Tempter in fracas at a nightclub (5)
7. Expand upon (9)
10. Stamina (7,5)
14. Ambiguous (9)
16. Occupying us (2,3,4)
18. Single humped camel (7)
19. Next to a stag in compound (7)
22. Terrorist covers mistake (5)
24. Pastime (5)

## ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 17

### ACROSS

1. selfish
5. beef fat
9. glove
- 10,26. Angostura Bitters
11. absolute pardon
13. lice
14. strainer
17. no income
18. ewes
21. plastic surgery
23. nightmare
24. amble
25. coracle
26. see 10

### DOWN

1. sage
2. Look Back in Anger
3. icebox
4. hiatus
5. baguette
6. ease away
7. found answerable
8. train crash
12. blind panic
15. ecstatic
16. emaciate
19. superb
20. aghast
22. bees

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your entries to The Village Voice, c/o Lanchester Community Centre, Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester, DH7 0JQ.

## CROSSWORD 17

There were 12 entries for last month's crossword (although there were 2 containing incorrect answers). The winner in the draw was Kathleen Bell of Greenwell Park. The £10 prize is on its way.



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## TRY OUR SUDOKU

There is just one simple rule in Sudoku. Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9, and so must each 3 x 3 box. See next month for answers.

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

# MORE WHAT'S ON

## Film Club - Volver

The next film will be shown in the Community Centre main hall on Sunday November 25th, starting at 7.30 pm.

Three generations of women survive easterly wind, fire, madness, superstition and even death through goodness, lies and an unlimited vitality.

They are: Raimunda (Penélope Cruz), married to an unemployed worker, and her teenager daughter (Yohana Cobo).

Sole (Lola Dueñas), her sister, who earns her living as hairdresser. And their mother (Carmen Maura), dead in a burning, with her husband. This character comes as an apparition first to her sister (Chus Lampreave) and then to Sole, even though the ones she had unsettled affairs with were Raimunda and her village neighbour, Agustina (Blanca Portillo). 'Volver' is not a surreal comedy,

though it might seem so at times. The living and the dead live together without problems, but provoking hilarious situations and others full of deep and genuine emotion. It is a movie about the culture of death, in La Mancha. The way in which the dead are still present in life, the richness and humanity of their rites makes it possible for the dead to never really die. (Cinemas online).

## Christmas Tree Festival

Plans for the Christmas Tree Festival and German style Christmas market at Lanchester Methodist Church are well in hand. On the evening of Friday 7th December there will be a blessing of the Festival with Leadgate Salvation Army Band (outside Methodist Church) and stalls selling Bratwurst and "Gluhwein" etc. On Saturday 8th December

there will be a German Style Christmas Market and Christmas Tree festival all day with Guest appearances by various music groups ... inside and outside church.

On Sunday 9th December in the afternoon the Christmas Tree Festival continues with more Guest appearances and

Afternoon Teas being served. On Saturday and Sunday afternoon there will be a Young Talent Show. Please contact Eddie Hughes on 521874.

We are hoping to make this a VILLAGE event and we would really like to see Christmas Trees from as many groups as possible. For more details contact Mel 529153.

## Coming Shortly

Lanchester Cricket Club presents a Sporting Dinner on December 14th with world boxing champion, Ricky Hatton.

The Mothers' Union Advent Service is the

December meeting, on the 12th.

A Celebration of Christmas will be held at the C of E Parish Church on 17th December.

Next year's Partnership Open Day will be held in

the Community Centre on Saturday October 4th.

Organisers, please try to avoid listed events dates.

Planning ahead? Let me know when and where. Ring 520559.

## CRICKET NEWS

continued from back page

who, having moved out of the village, is delegating some of his many roles next season to spend more time with his family and grandchildren. His commitment and dedication in looking after the junior teams has been vital in bringing players through to senior level, the highlight being the under 18s winning the

League and playoff final together with 2 cups in 2005. He was also instrumental in assembling the first eleven who stormed to the League title in 2003, a tremendous achievement for such a small club.

Our winter fundraising has started with a successful Race Night raising over £500 for junior equipment for next year.

The Lions bonfire and fireworks is once again held at the cricket field on the 3rd November with refreshments of all kinds available from the bar.

The club is available at a minimal cost for parties/christenings etc anyone requiring further details please contact the steward Bill Underwood on 520198.

GD



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## The Three Horse Shoes

Folks from Lanchester and thereabouts are meeting each Sunday evening for a general sing-song and a bit of banter. Whilst it is amazing how much talent is in the area, some might still be hiding under bushels. If you have a hidden talent come along one week and have a go, or perhaps you might just simply want to listen, either way you will be most welcome. We start at 8.30 pm and finish around 11.  
Ian Tute

## Lions Bonfire Night

The bonfire and firework display will be held at Kitswell Park on Saturday 3rd November, starting at 6.30 pm. Light sticks and refreshments will be available. Donations towards the cost of the fireworks will be appreciated.

## Lanchester History Society

New Evidence for the Roman Period in Durham County

The next talk to the Local History Society will be given by Dr David Mason, County Archaeologist, from the Department of Culture and Leisure at County Hall.

Dr Mason's talk will centre largely around the East Park excavation at Sedgefield, and the more recent excavation at Binchester in April of this year. Time permitting, he may also reveal a glimpse of the work involved 'Behind the Scenes,' when the well known Time Team is involved.

The talk has all the hallmarks of being entertaining, and, of course, educational, and will take place on Friday 2nd November, in the Community Centre at 7.30 pm.

## Country Market

As usual the market is held in the Community Centre on the first Saturday, to wit 3rd November. Be there at 10am for the best pastries and cakes.

## Art Exhibition

Lanchester Art Class are having an exhibition of their works in the Library commencing on 5th November for 3 weeks. You are invited to come along and see the lovely paintings, some of which may be for sale, and support your local library at the same time.

## Lanchester Social Club

Free Saturday night entertainment for members and associates:  
Nov 3rd Graeme Cooper  
Nov 10th Fabulous female singer Kyra J  
Nov 17th Karaoke night  
Nov 24th The fantastic Gary James

# WHAT'S ON?

## The Electrical Wizard of the North

After a year without our usual fix of Nobby Dimon and his jolly team, they are back with a hilarious ripping yarn from the hey-day of the Edwardian music hall, created and directed by the great man himself. We can expect large enriching helpings of good humour and no doubt some ingenious props and scenery in the North Country Theatre style, for one night only on Thursday 8th November at 7.30 pm. Tickets are a mere £6, obtainable from our esteemed Community Centre via Mr Edison's telephonic system on 521275 or from Her Majesty's Post Office.

## 'A Healthier Future'

As part of Derwentside's Lifestyle Initiative, a programme of exercise and activity sessions is now running, specifically aimed at giving local residents a healthier lifestyle. The sessions in Lanchester Community Centre began on October 1st. For children, there is movement, dance and exercise every Tuesday from 4 to 4.45 pm for 6-8 year olds and from 4.45 pm till 5.30 pm for 9 to 11's. On Fridays Low Impact Aerobics is offered from 1.15 to 2.15 pm, targeted at over 50's. All the above sessions are free of charge. Please contact 218523 or 218871 for further information.

## Salsacise

This means getting fit while enjoying salsa dancing with Karen Stewart from 6.25 till 7 in the Community Centre on Wednesdays. You may also learn what Bollycise is, for £3 a session.

## Hedge Laying and Dry Stone Walling

A competition for Hedge Laying and building Dry Stone Walls will take place at Humber Hill, just outside the village on Saturday 3rd November. The competition is now in its tenth year and the location moves around the county. The directions for this traditional rural event are to go up Newbiggen Lane towards Consett and turn left at the first crossroads. Proceed up that road to the car park.

The best time to attend would be between 9.30 am and 3.00 pm when the event will finish. Between thirty and forty competitors will assemble at 9.40 am to draw lots for their positions in the Dry Stone Wall Building and Hedge Laying. At about 10.15 am there will be a walk led by local person John Gall, who will guide his fellow ramblers over Humber Hill, past his house, and down to Lanchester Dairies. The return will be approximately 12.30 pm. All are welcome on this walk.

The event has several sponsors, the main one being Lanchester Dairies. The other sponsors are UMP Tilhill, Tree Surgeons, and North East Forest Tree Nurseries, Sedgefield.

It is essential that these traditional crafts are maintained in order to provide stock proof boundaries in the countryside to keep farm animals in the fields. For further information please contact Mr Andrew Adams on 01207521814.

# LANCHESTER ALL SAINTS R.C. SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAIR



*Santa Claus, Games,  
Cakes, Tombola,  
Grand Raffle, Music &  
much more.....*



SAT 1ST DECEMBER:  
STARTS AT 10AM  
EVERYONE  
WELCOME!



## WI

The coach for the Members' Birthday celebration at 'The Moorings' on 5th November will leave 'Peters' at 6.00 pm.

## Methodist Church

There will be an open meeting at Lanchester Methodist Church on Tuesday 6th November at 7.30 pm. The speaker will be Lindsay Cross from the West End Refugee Service. All are welcome.

## MP Surgery

Our Member of Parliament, Hilary Armstrong, will be available to meet her constituents at a 'surgery' in the Civic Centre, Consett on Friday 9th November, starting at 6 pm.

## Junior Wildlife

Saturday, 10th November 10.00 am - 12.00, at The Lodge, Lanchester, 'Tree Nursery'.

## Wildlife Group

Tuesday 13th November 7.30 pm, in the Community Centre Small Hall. The speaker will be Noel Jackson - 'Two sides of Africa'.

## Macmillan Party

An event is being held in the Community Centre in aid of Macmillan Nurses on Saturday November 10th. It lasts from 7 till 11 pm and includes live music, games and pies n' peas. Tickets costing £6.50 can be had from Adrian, phone 0771 000361.

## Mothers' Union

The speaker at the meeting on 14th November at 7.30 pm in the Chapter House is Stephen Burt. His subject is 'Christian Science'.

## Taize Worship

Taize Worship will take place at All Saints Parish Church on Sunday 11th November at 7.15 pm, where everyone is welcome and can enjoy an hour of contemplative prayer and music.

If you would like to familiarize yourself with Taize Chants, practices are held each Thursday evening between 6.30 pm and 7.30 pm, finishing promptly. No singing experience is necessary and everyone is most welcome. Anyone who can play a musical instrument is also invited. Further details may be obtained from Margaret Walters on 521214.

## Sunday Bridge Returns

There was a very successful Bridge afternoon on Sunday 14th October where £160 was raised for the Community Centre. The dates for the next afternoons are Sunday 11th November and Sunday 9th December all starting at 2.00 pm. So if you are a Bridge player and would like to spend a Sunday afternoon in the company of other players at the same time helping to raise money for the Community Centre, please contact Brenda on 01207 520204 or Liz on 01207 521682, tickets £3.00 each.

Lanchester Bridge Club meets on Tuesday evenings, starting at 6.50 pm.

## Short Walks

Acorn Amblers offer a walk on Sunday 18th November, starting at Lydgett's Lane Junction (map reference 198494) at 1.30 pm.

The 'Short Circuits' RA group are walking 4.5 miles starting from the Tanfield Railway car park (209573) on Saturday 3rd November at 10.30 am.

## Autumn Fair

Lanchester Parish Church holds its Autumn Fair on Saturday 24th November in the Community Centre. The official opening will be by Arthur Maughan MBE and Mrs Mavis Maughan at 10.30 am. On sale will be home made cakes and savouries, jams, preserves, ginger wine, hand crafted goods, cards, pictures, books, jewellery and Christmas decorations, and visitors can participate in the grand raffle and try their luck at the tombola and bottle tombola.

## Flower Club

The last meeting of 2007 is an Open Evening and Christmas Demonstration by Graeme Armstrong of Whitley Bay. The demonstration is held at 7 pm on Friday 23rd November in the Community Centre and all are welcome to attend. The title is "Jingle all the Way".

## Village Voice AGM

The AGM will be held on Sunday 18th November at 7 pm in the Dining Room of the Community Centre. All members of the public are invited to come along.

## Football at the Cricket Club

An evening with Gabbiadini and Beardsley is offered at the Cricket Club on Thursday 22nd November, kick-off 7 pm. The tickets, priced £6.50, include pie and peas as well! Contact Steve Robinson on 07834 762 265.

## Willow Burn Masquerade Ball

Derwent Manor Hotel, Allensford is the venue for the Ball in aid of our local hospice on Friday November 16th.

A four-course meal, live entertainment, a casino and raffle and late bar until 1 am are on offer at a ticket price of £45. For information and booking contact Lisa Corfield at Willow Burn Hospice, phone 523292.

## Hospice Fair

Willow Burn Hospice will be holding their annual Christmas Fair on 24th November in the EP School from 10 am to 12 noon.

**MORE  
WHAT'S ON  
See page 23**

**NORTH COUNTRY theatre**

-HYPNOTISM  
-ELECTRICITY  
-MENTAL SUGGESTION  
-MAGNETIC TOUCH  
-CLAIRVOYANCE  
-TELEPATHY

An hilarious - ripping yarn from the heyday of Edwardian music hall

**The Electrical Wizard of the North**

Devised and directed by Nobby Dimon

**LANCHESTER COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
Thursday 8 November 2007 7.30 pm  
Tickets £6 from Community Centre 01207 521275 or Lanchester Post Office

ARIS COUNCIL ENGLAND

## MARGARET RUNS FOR BUS



*Fundraisers for the Village Bus*

Local person Margaret Doyle (right) completed the Great North Run in aid of the 'Village Bus'. Karen Bravington (left) has

collected a huge amount for the bus and is collecting for Margaret as well. See next month for the total raised.

## CRICKET NEWS

Time to reflect on a relatively successful season for Senior and Junior clubs.

The first team were just pipped for promotion losing both matches over the August Bank Holiday weekend which proved costly ending up in 4th place.

Three players featured in the league batting averages, Lawrence Pearson who rejoined the club from Burnopfield averaging 45.0, Mark Ramshaw 36.67 and our New Zealand pro Darren Broom (Sweep) 33.10.

The second team also narrowly missed out on promotion finishing 3rd with 9 wins although the wettest season for many years meant 5 games were rained off.

Andy Smith finished second in the League batting averages scoring 503 runs at an average of over 50 and stalwart Neil Graham averaged over 30. Simon Tweedy took 21 wickets with a best of 4-33 to lead the bowling averages.

We have 2 newly qualified coaches in Andy Allen and Darren Wingfield who together with the professional will be working with the junior sections at under 11, 13, 15 and 18 levels. Winter indoor nets are beginning soon at Greencroft School; youngsters of all ages who are interested please contact the club or a member of the committee.

A special mention must be made of Bob Gardiner

*continued on page 23*

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## EVEREST MARATHON CHALLENGE

David Wilkinson, 22, of Lanchester, who writes the fitness column for the Village Voice, is about to embark on the challenge of a lifetime. Earlier this year he made an online application to enter the Everest Marathon. In August he learned that he had been accepted for what is regarded as the hardest and highest marathon in the world which takes place in Nepal and the Himalayas. He is one of only 75 from around the world to be selected for this amazing feat of courage, endurance and exceptional physical fitness.

The whole trip lasts for 25 days and David will depart from the UK on 15th November and return from Katmandu on 10th December. Prior to the event there is a 16 day trek up to base camp Everest to acclimatise to the altitude which is 5184 metres above sea level. The highest point reached on this trek is 5623m

(about 18,000ft). The marathon starts off at base camp Everest at almost 17,000ft and in temperatures as low as minus 20 degrees. The 26.2 mile race takes place through the Himalayan mountains and checkpoints have to be made within the requisite times. Bufo Ventures who organise the event and select the participants also run the event for charity, so each runner

can raise sponsorship money which is put back into Nepal to help the locals, with education, water aid and much more. David is currently trying to raise sponsorship. Whilst there, David will meet a friend from New Zealand who is also taking part in the marathon. The event was started in 1987 and is held every two years. Further information may be obtained from [www.everestmarathon.org](http://www.everestmarathon.org).



*David Wilkinson*

## BOWLS WINNERS

The outdoor bowls season is over and it is time to count the club's trophy winners. This year the club's competitions were well supported and no one person swept the board. Dick Ball, Stan Easten, Ken Raper, and Mike Stoddart all won two trophies each and for the first time the club had enough female members to run a women's competition which was

won by Trish Jose who also finished runner-up in the three sets competition. The winners will receive their trophies at the club's annual dinner and presentation evening in the King's Head on 14th November. The complete list is below:  
**Club Championship**  
**Lanchester Dairies Trophy**  
 Winner: R Ball  
 Runner-up: S Easten

**Bryan Carr Trophy (Handicap)**  
 Winner: K Raper  
 Runner-up: P Monaghan  
**Peter Cain Trophy 4 woods**  
 Winner: R Stewart  
 Runner-up: P Harrison  
**Britannia Shield 3 woods**  
 Winner: S Easten  
 Runner-up: R Ball  
**A Jopling Trophy 2 woods**  
 Winner: S Easten  
 Runner-up: P Monaghan  
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## NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any articles for the next edition of the Village Voice by 20th November.

The deadline for adverts is 18th November.

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