

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 11 Volume 9

Lanchester, November 2008

For contact information, see page 2

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

On November 9th, a cold windy morning greeted all those who attended the Village Green War Memorial to honour those who gave their lives in two World Wars and the soldier who died in the Falklands Conflict. Before the end of the service the rain fell heavily as well. The service was led by the clergy from the village: Canon Robert Spence, from All Saints' RC Church; Reverend Gavin Hume from the Methodist Church and Area Dean, Reverend

Gary Birchall, from All Saints' Parish Church. Lanchester Brass Band accompanied the hymn singing and played the 'Last Post and Reveille' and Stephen Burt, Lay Reader from the Anglican Church, read the traditional words spoken on this occasion, from Laurence Binyon's 'Poems for the Fallen'. Members of youth groups in Lanchester attended the service as did scouts from Annfield Plain Scout Troop, for the first time.



Lanchester Brass band play on in atrocious conditions

Wreaths were laid by representatives of the following organisations: British Legion; WI; Lanchester Lions Club,

Derwentside District Council; the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Durham; Durham County Council;

Lanchester Parish Council; British Red Cross; Boys Brigade and Girl Guides. *More pictures on page 9*

LIONS BONFIRE NIGHT



The large crowd spellbound by the fireworks

The Lions were lucky this year with weather. Despite the freezing cold evening, at least the rain held off and the crowds turned up in droves. The Bonfire was larger this year and adorned with an excellent Guy Fawkes made by children from the EP School. The spectacular firework display lasted for about forty minutes and delighted the huge crowd.

Light sticks were sold out en route to the field and Hot Dog Stalls run by Lady Lions and friends were quickly in action on such a cold evening. This is not an easy event to put on for the Lions themselves so they would like to thank the following for their help and support: Lady Lions and friends; The Red Cross; Community Probation Service for help with building the fire; Wharton

Landscaping for their supply and delivering of the pallets for the bonfire; children from the EP School for making the Guy; the Cricket club for their hospitality. Also in the list of thanks is recognition of the Parish Council for their donation to the cost of fireworks and to Eric Tuffee for once again travelling from London to assist with the event. This year, finally, his name has been spelled correctly!

It is a tribute to those who attended, that their generosity with donations, buying light sticks and supporting the food stall which sold out, that £2800 was taken on the night and a profit of £1200 will go into the Lions Welfare Fund, some of which will be used for Christmas activities. It

was a night where there was only one incident of any fireworks being lit amongst the crowd and this was quickly dealt with by the stewards and Police, who escorted a youth from the field. The Red Cross personnel on duty, fortunately stood inactive in the cold enjoying the display.



The Lions - Left to right; John Marrin, Tony Corry, Mike Stoddart, Eric Tuffee, Alan Kelly, Martin Durkin, Alan Hill, Ian Murray, Graham Harkness, James Draper, Mark Draper, Peter Richardson, Tommy Robinson (Organiser) take a break from all the hard work to get a quick picture by the bonfire



Dear Village....

Dear Sir

May I say thank you to all the people who attended the Armistice Day service on Sunday 9th November.

It was a bitter cold day so after talking to the people outside, we said we would have a bible reading and a prayer in the Burnhope Methodist. I am sorry that I could not get the Royal British Legion Banner (yet I did try my hardest), but I understand it is now put away at new headquarters at Hebburn.

I would like to thank Mr David Filmer for taking the service and to all of you who gave a grand sum of £47. It was nice to see a couple of young children in the congregation.

Yours truly

Stan Collins, Burnhope

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 number., all of which may be withheld at your request.

Dear Sir

ANDREW LAVIN (Wall and Floor Tiling)

I would like to thank all of Andy's customers for their business and personal recommendations which resulted in Andy always being busy. I wish to say a special thank you to Barry Allison, of Lanchester Plumbing and Heating, for his friendship and offer of support at this very sad time.

Andy died suddenly at home on October 29th, aged 41 years.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Diane Morson (Partner) and Sophie (Andy's Stepdaughter)

TO CONTACT THE VILLAGE VOICE

By email:

lanchestervillagevoice@yahoo.co.uk (please include Village Voice in the Subject line)

By post:

The Village Voice, c/o Lanchester Community Centre, Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester, DH7 0JQ

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THE VILLAGE VOICE

IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

50 YEARS A READER

Stephen Burt celebrates 50 years as a Lay reader in the Church of England this year. This tremendous achievement was celebrated in All Saints Parish Church (C of E) on Sunday October 26th being the date nearest to his actual licensing 50 years ago in Newcastle Cathedral.

Stephen has given his time, loyalty, devotion, knowledge and very committed service to the church throughout those 50 years. He loves his work and looks forward to adding even more years to his total of 50! As a reader he has responsibilities within our church and these he carries out most efficiently and effectively.

The main role of Readers is to assist the vicar in the worship of whichever parish church he attends. They can read the gospel and preach, assist the vicar in the preparation of the bread and wine for the Eucharist service, give the chalice to communicants and assist with the prayers. They can lead services of Morning and Evening Prayer. Stephen has

served under three clergy in our church; Canon Beckwith, Canon Chase and Canon Waterhouse and the latter has spoken of the very high regard he has for Stephen and his immeasurable value in the ministry of our church. Indeed he has always admired the great energy that Stephen always puts into his work, despite being over 80 years of age!

At the Festal Evensong, which was the celebration for Stephen, many of his friends and Lay Reader colleagues were present. The Area Dean of the Lanchester Deanery spoke very highly of the high esteem in which Stephen is held in the Deanery and of the great example he has shown in the witness of his faith. He spoke about Stephen's reliability and his efficiency carrying out anything he is asked to

do and he said that the Diocese is indebted to him for all the work he has done in his role as a Lay Reader in the diocese of Durham.

After the service there was a lovely supper, which our Catering Committee had prepared and it was a chance to personally speak to and congratulate Stephen.

Stephen had particularly asked that any money people wished to give could be sent to the young people in Zimbabwe, but he was also given a book token from our church family, which was very appropriate because Stephen loves books and reading.

Congratulations Stephen from everyone who knows and respects you and our best wishes for many more happy, fulfilling years as a Reader.

B W Craddock

RING FOUND

A ring was found on the computer table at Lanchester library. Will the owner please contact librarian on 521021.

COMMUNITY DRAW

The winning number in the Community Draw for October 2008 was 18. The draw was made by Mrs Linda Johnson of the Gym.

YOUR VILLAGE VOICE NEEDS YOU

We require a permanent deliverer for the Manor Grange area of the village. This month's delivery will be taken care of but the December edition will have to be collected

from the Post Office unless we have a volunteer to assist us with this area of the village.

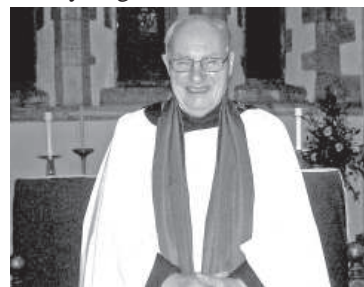
The job entails distributing about 70 papers to Manor

Grange every month, these papers being dropped at your home at the end of the month so approximately half an hour of your time is required.

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but you have the satisfaction of joining a vibrant team of volunteers doing a worthwhile job.

If interested contact Mike Stoddart on 520291.



Stephen Burt celebrates his 50 years as a Lay Preacher in the Church of England

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MAUREEN REDFEARN

It was standing room only at the Requiem Mass for Maureen at All Saints on 23rd October. During the Mass Canon Spence gave some thank yous to God and to Maureen. He thanked God first for Maureen as a person of family - first of all in her Stanley family, the Lewins with James and Terence and her devoted parents living above Moscardini's ice-cream shop. Maureen inherited her mother's musical talent and joie de vivre.

Our biggest thank you to God was for Maureen as a great wife to Frank. The recent celebration of their Golden Wedding was a joyous celebration of a very happy marriage. Appropriately, the readings of the Requiem Mass were the same that Maureen chose for the Golden Wedding Mass, "Love does not come to an end."

We thanked God for Maureen as a mother to Geoff, Andrew and Catherine. Her own family

was the heart of her life - Sarah, Tom, Jimmy and Ellen were praying for Maureen at a Requiem in New Zealand near to the time of our own in Lanchester.

Most people in the packed church were the beneficiaries of Maureen as a hugely generous and talented member of the parish and community. Many were remembering Maureen as a nurse, working at Shotley Bridge and in the community.

Very many were there to express gratitude to Maureen for her unique contribution to the musical life of our community. She was a founder member of both the Derwentside Choral Society and the Lanchester and District Choral and Operatic Society. We all loved her vivacious comic dance routine with Michael Quigley in the recent Gershwin Party.

In earlier days Maureen was part of a very talented

group Nonesuch. They were much appreciated in the wider area.

Canon Spence thanked God for Maureen as a very loyal member of the Parish Choir, saying that as far as a Parish Priest was concerned she was a dream parishioner, always hospitable - making the stranger welcome.

Her humour and kindness helped to make parish pilgrimages to Lourdes and Rome almost Chaucerian! The parish group off to India in January were all looking forward to having Frank and Maureen with us. She would have revelled in the faith and joie de vivre of Goa.

Canon Spence thanked God for Maureen as an exceptional person of community - one who, to our advantage, lived her life gloriously and good-humouredly to the full.

Maureen's son, Andrew who had come back from New Zealand then gave a moving family tribute. It was



Maureen Redfearn

inevitably full of his mother's characteristic humour. The Requiem was a very musical celebration. Bill Gray accompanied us to a lovely rendition of "The Lord of the Dance" to get the Mass going. David Hughes conducted an augmented choir singing Rutter's "For the beauty of the earth" and Franck's

"Panis Angelicus," we had Mozart and Faure on the organ and the congregational singing was wholehearted. Afterwards there was a typically Maureen party at the Social Club rounding off a marvellous tribute to a lovely lady who contributed so generously to the warmth of our community.

LIZ ARCHIBALD

Betty Dick was brought up in Lanchester Post Office where her parents were responsible for the office. She attended Durham High School, where she excelled in Music and Art, followed by King's College Newcastle's School of Art. Her first significant job was at a factory in Godalming, whose wartime role had been to make inflatable dinghies for the RAF, but was then re-establishing a peacetime specialism in silk-screen fabric printing. She was one of a small team in the design studio there.

In 1954, in Lanchester Parish Church, she married Hamish Archibald, whose work necessitated frequent changes of location: Surrey in the 1950s,

Wareham in the 1960s, Taunton in the 1970s, and Banbury in the 1980s.

Liz took up painting, and participated in art clubs, exhibiting her work, in most of those areas, and in the Sherborne district, to which they moved on Hamish's retirement. She carried out some teaching for the Somerset Adult Education Department, as well as private tuition, and enjoyed holiday painting courses in various locations, exhibiting the results. While in Banbury, Liz became interested in psychology, and she studied for a National College qualification in hypnotherapy. She went on to practise from home, helping many people in the Banbury and

Sherborne areas to overcome such problems as smoking, stress, weight control and fear of flying.

During the 1990s, arthritis, diabetes and other disabling conditions progressively reduced her mobility and a minor accident at home in October 2007 meant that caring for her at home was no longer feasible. She died at the age of 82 years in the Riverside Nursing Home, in Sherborne, on 5th October 2008. She is survived by Hamish, and by their daughter Alison, who works as a chiropractor in the Bristol area and is the mother to two grandsons, Vincent and Fergus. She is much missed by the family and her many friends.

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Mr and Mrs Robert Clarke have great pleasure in announcing the marriage of their only daughter, Deborah, to Mr Paul Asher, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Roger Asher. The couple married at St Hugh's RC Church, Lincoln and held their wedding breakfast and evening reception at the Bentley Hotel, Lincoln. Deborah attended Lanchester All Saints RC School and St Bede's

before moving to Lincoln University to read Criminology. The bride wore an ivory Benjamine Roberts designer silk dress with hand sewn beading on the bodice, cascading down to the train. Her head piece was a jewel encrusted tiara handmade by her school friend Catherine Kelly, who also gave one of the readings in the wedding service. She had three

The wedding of Ian and Paula took place recently at Whitworth Hall in glorious weather. Ian is from Stanhope and Paula, the daughter of Jean and the late Ian Hunter, spent her formative years attending Lanchester EP school and after completing secondary education worked in the village, and at Ragpath Farm.

Paula looked absolutely stunning in her Ian Stewart designed, pale gold wedding dress. She carried orchids and roses in small posies with diamante insets. The Bridesmaids were her

THREE WEDDINGS

IAN AND PAULA GIBSON

children, Beth and Abi, who looked so lovely in their chocolate brown dresses. They carried some similar flower arrangements to their mother's.

The Best Man was Ian's close friend, Martin Bell, who lives at Wolsingham.

A wonderful reception was held for about 60 relatives and friends during the afternoon, with the numbers swelling to approximately 120 guests in the evening. The couple spent their honeymoon in Dubai and will continue to live at Stanhope.



Ian and Paula enjoy the sunshine in the wonderful grounds of Whitworth Hall.

Photo by a friend of Paul and Ian, George Heron - Louise Anne Studios.

PETER JACKSON AND LINDSAY THOMPSON

On Saturday 1st November, the wedding of Peter Jackson and Lindsay Thompson, both of Lanchester, took place at All Saints Catholic Church. Peter is the son of Paul and Mary Jackson, and Lindsay is the daughter of Pat and Margaret Thompson. Both families are also from the village.

The Bride looked beautiful in her stylish ivory dress while the five bridesmaids looked equally lovely in their dresses of aubergine with ivory capes.



Peter and Lindsay

The bridesmaids were: Julia Bell, cousin of the groom; Lily Rose Purdom, niece of the bride; Sally Robson and Jessica Robson, god

daughters of the bride; and Melissa Mae Jackson, niece of the groom.

Best Men were John Jackson and Michael Jackson, brothers of the groom.

The Ushers were Des Purdom, Alastair Nairn, Alastair (Jnr), and Shaun McHugh. The Pageboy was Joseph Purdom.

The reception was held at Langley Castle, Haydon Bridge and the happy couple spent their Honeymoon in the Seychelles and Mauritius.

DEBORAH CLARKE AND PAUL ASHER

bridesmaids and a pageboy. Her chief bridesmaid was Helena Wilkes, a friend from university and Helena's son was pageboy. Ryan carried the wedding rings down the aisle on an ivory satin cushion.

The two bridesmaids were Eleanor Facey and Bernadette Summerson who are life long friends with Deborah. We are all grateful to Eleanor who travelled from the

south of France for the celebration.

They wore off the shoulder black satin dresses with an ivory sash and carried small bouquets, the same as the bride's larger bouquet of ivory silk roses.

The principal men in the wedding party wore black tails, ivory waistcoats, ivory tie and ivory rose buttonholes. Paul's best men were his older brother, Steve, and



Paul and Deborah

Deborah's older brother, Malcolm. Congratulations to them from family and friends.

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS

The 125th anniversary of the founding of the Boys' Brigade was celebrated on the 4th October and to mark this historical event the 14th Lanchester Company are planning to hold 125 activities throughout the coming year. All three sections of the Brigade, Anchor Boys, Junior Section and Senior Section, aged from 8 to 18 years will be involved and it is hoped

the final event will be a lasting memory for all who participate during the year and to the village as a whole. We hope to incorporate the 125 element in as many events as possible. A range of activities including sporting, community service, fitness and sponsorship will be held both indoors and outdoors and involve all Boys' Brigade members, with

some larger events having a wider participation. The first event will be a Christmas Float (with Father Christmas present) that will tour the village playing carols for four nights, 125 minutes each night, during the week before Christmas. For further details please contact Eric Hepplewhite, 13 Deanery View, Lanchester, DH7 0NH. Tel. 07730 435889.

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LANCHESTER IN THE PINK!

If residents of Lanchester ventured into the village on Wednesday 22nd October and saw groups of teenagers dressed in bright pink, they may well have wondered what was going on. Well it was all for a good cause, Breast Cancer Campaign's mission to beat breast cancer. They aim to do this by funding world-class research to understand how breast cancer develops leading to improved diagnosis, treatment, prevention and cure. In order to do this, Breast Cancer Campaign dared every school in the UK to "Wear it Pink" during October in order to help raise money to beat Breast Cancer. Staff and pupils in schools up and

down the country joined forces to raise money for this superb cause and Lanchester Sixth Form College (part of Derwentside College) certainly did not disappoint. Breast Cancer Campaign rules were simple, "even if pupils only wear pink socks, they'll be playing a critical role in the fight against breast cancer." Never one to shy away from a challenge, students (even some of the lads) came dressed in pink mini skirts, pink wigs, pink tights, anything that would help in the mission to beat breast cancer; those who didn't come dressed in pink had their cheeks painted with pink lipstick!

The event in Lanchester Sixth Form Centre was planned by Psychology lecturer Pauline Hughes who later said "We are really pleased with all the support we have received from staff and students at the college. We would also like to thank the people in Lanchester who kindly contributed to such a great cause". Throughout the day, the college held a tombola and a raffle; through these, contributions from staff and students and from the very generous people of Lanchester, the sixth form centre raised an amazing £408!



Becky, Amy and Lauren selling raffles to raise money for breast cancer

Thank you to everyone who helped raise this fabulous amount. Let's hope we find a cure for breast cancer soon. Francesca Dent



Staff from Lanchester Sixth Form Centre sell tombola tickets to students

Photos taken by psychology lecturer Jamie Fenwick-Baines



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LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 11th November

After Apologies were given, the **Police Report** for October was read by PC Steve Mann from Castleside in the absence of our own officers who were on rest day.

Rowdy Nuisance 13; Vehicle Nuisance 3; Theft 4; Burglary 1; Criminal Damage 3; Vehicle crime (eg stolen, broken into) 2.

As a result of incidents at a public house, landlords in Lanchester have been visited and recommended to join a 'Pub Watch' scheme. Evening foot patrols have been stepped up in Lanchester and in the area to the rear of The Garths.

All children at Lanchester EP school were spoken to by PCSOs with regard to their safety surrounding fireworks, bonfire night, Halloween and safety in general. It is the intention of the PCSOs to do further school visits as they were agreed to be a success

and the children enjoyed the visit.

The Public should be aware that professional scammers are operating requesting personal information in exchange for being paid a fake lottery win and should inform the Police and the Trading Standards Office if approached.

Now that the nights are dark, could the public pay attention to security of their premises, property and vehicles and to report any incidents to the police immediately.

The Police non-emergency number to be used to report non urgent incidents and to pass on useful intelligence to the police is now 0345 60 60 365 (cheaper call charge than previously). Any crime in progress, threat to life of property should be reported by ringing 999. Youth nuisance - unless a crime is believed

to have been or about to be committed - should be phoned in on the non-emergency number.

Cllr Glass stated that lead thefts, of which there have been three from the church, are now being dealt with at a higher level.

Minutes of the previous Meeting were approved and Matters Arising are:- Roman Statue on Valley Walk. The base is now in place and the date for the unveiling was fixed for Wednesday, 10th December, at 1pm.

Developing Mental Health Services for older people in Co Durham and Darlington. The report of the results of the consultation process were given to Cllr Gray and Cllr Mrs Gray to look at and report back. Cllr Burton was congratulated on having been elected on to the Link Management Committee.

Correspondence. NHS

'Seizing the Future' Cllr Mrs Gray is to deal with this. Particular concern is held over transport for patients and visitors from rural communities if they have to travel a long way to hospitals.

Winter Salting Routes. A map showing these was looked at and Members were pleased to note that the route has been extended.

A letter was read from Lanchester Partnership thanking the council for supporting them in the Kitswell Road Play Area Project stating how much this would benefit the young people of the area and how it fulfilled their promise made when Park House play area was opened.

Greencroft Parish Council - a letter has been received with regard to the Maiden Law amenity play area which the Council agreed to transfer to them in 1996. They now wish to have this registered formally with Land Registry and documents are being prepared. This was agreed as long as there is no cost to the Council. County Durham and Darlington Police Forum. Cllr Glass agreed to represent the Council.

A letter has also been received from the owners of Brook Villa, next to the village green, regarding the shelter there. They stated that the problems previously outlined have not disappeared. Indeed there seems to have been a new wave of disturbance recently. It was decided that the police would be asked to highlight this area and to request the use of the CCTV. It was decided that the matter would be handed over to the Finance Committee and that a letter be written to Dr and Mrs Lund

apologising that the Council has been involved in a larger project but that they intend to ask for professional advice on this matter.

Co Durham Association of Local Councils. There has been an official communiqué that there will be no Local Council elections in the County in 2009.

Kitswell Road Play Area. After a Meeting on 27th October, the Cricket Club proposals for improvements to the club when the new play area is built are an electronic scoreboard and new practice nets at the back of the club (old play area site). Total cost estimated at £23,000 of which the cricket club aim to raise

£12,000 themselves and are asking the Council to provide the balance of £11,000. The Council agreed that as this is within the budget and that more than 150 people, including many children would benefit, the money should be given. Simon Green, Project Manager, sent a report stating that the Planning Application was still being dealt with and that 6 Tender applications had been sent out. It is hoped that work could start at the beginning of January and be finished by the end of March. As several objections have been made to scheme, Derwentside District Council is holding a meeting on 4th December. It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Gray would represent the Council and that Mike Gladstone from the Partnership would also attend. They will stress how public has been closely involved in the planning and decisions and that plans have been amended due to the consultation with residents.

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PARISH MEETING Continued

Members then looked at a number of **reports produced by the Lead Officer**. These were Complaints Procedure, Model Publication Scheme, Internal Audit Arrangements, Financial Regulations, The Annual Return 2007/08 and Financial Information. These were all approved/adopted and the Chair thanked the Lead Officer for her hard work in the preparation of all these reports. This month's accounts for payment were then agreed.

Questions from Members. Parking at Park House surgery was introduced, with the request from the Practice Manager that 2 disabled bays were introduced and that something be done about the exit as it is very dangerous if a large vehicle is parked to the right of the exit point. As the car park belongs to the District Council, a letter will be sent to them and also to the Traffic Management Department of the Police as well as to the Practice Manager. Date of Next Meeting. Tuesday, 9th December, 2008, at 7.15 pm in the Conference Room, Park House, Lanchester.

PLANNING MEETING held on Tuesday 4th November 2008

Members considered the following:-

1. Proposed erection of 7 dwellings-resubmission and Conservation Area consent to demolish existing public house and retail unit (resubmission) at The Lanchester Arms, 43 Front Street, Lanchester. It was confirmed that the Lanchester Arms is not a Listed Building but is in article four Conservation Area and two main areas of concern were outlined, ie the dilapidation of the

Lanchester Arms and the desire of members to retain the existing front facade of the building.

Information received with the planning application indicated that the building was structurally unsound. Following discussion it was agreed that members would reluctantly support demolition as there is no alternative option due to the poor state of the building.

RESOLVED-that the Clerk writes to the District Council setting out the following:

i. That members would reluctantly support demolition of the building.

ii. That the new building retains as many architectural features of the existing building as possible.

iii. That the level roof line be broken up with appropriate features to reflect the architecture of the existing building.

iv. That more ornate stone features around the doors be introduced and the shape of the existing doors be retained to reflect the existing building.

v. That the lintels and sills on the windows are of stone to mirror the existing building.

vi. That the rainwater guards be of cast iron.

vii. That the colour of the rendering be similar to the buildings on either side.

viii. That the planners attention be drawn to the Village Design Statement.

ix. That members express their concern over the building being demolished and the site left derelict for a period of time. Members would like to request that appropriate clearance and landscaping should be undertaken pending immediate building.

2. Proposed repositioning of stable block, change of approved four live/work units to four dwellings and the change of one workshop to a double garage at Middle Newbiggen Farm, Newbiggen Lane,

Lanchester. Members discussed the application. They agreed that they had supported the initial application to introduce the work units because it was a diversification and provided opportunities for other business. This concurred with the Village Design Statement page 23 under the heading Farm Diversification / Re-use.

RESOLVED-that the Clerk writes to the District Council setting out the following:

i. An objection be made to this unacceptable residential development in the countryside.

ii. The planners' attention be drawn to the access and egress on Newbiggen Lane.

3 Installation of casement wood window to gable wall and velux window to roof at Dairy Cottage, Woodland Hall, Knitsley. **RESOLVED** - that no objection be raised.

Decisions of Derwentside District Council

i Tree Preservation Order 202, Woodlands Hall. It is the decision of the Local Planning Authority that the order be confirmed subject to modifications.

ii Tree Preservation Order 200, Land to rear of Victoria Street, Lanchester. It is the decision of the Local Planning Authority that the order be confirmed.

iii Erection of detached garage and single storey rear extension at 2 Middle Newbiggen Farm, Lanchester. Planning Permission granted.

iv Erection of second storey rear extension, conservatory to front and detached garage at 1 Middle Newbiggen Farm, Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester. Planning Permission granted subject to conditions.

v. Proposed erection of stable block at Oakwood Stables, Durham Road, Lanchester. Planning permission granted subject to conditions.

Merry Christmas

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LITTLE SUPPORT FOR VILLAGE PARKING SCHEME

As we all know, it can be difficult to park on Front Street in the Village at some times of the day. In the survey, carried out to collect information for the Parish Plan, almost everyone commented on the problems of parking. So, it was adopted by the Parish Council as part of the Parish Plan and Lanchester Partnership undertook to investigate it.

Early in 2008 the Partnership suggested that some restriction on the parking periods in the centre of the village would make it easier for customers to park. This is mainly because some of the motorists leave their cars in the village all day whilst they are working elsewhere, and such a restriction

might deter them from doing this.

At first sight it seemed that a disc system would be suitable, and that though vigorous enforcement of the restriction probably would not be possible, it probably would not be necessary.

Based on these points, Mr Dave Wafer from the Durham County Council's Traffic Department said he would work up a practicable scheme. Since then the Partnership and Mr Wafer have talked to those likely to be most affected by the scheme, notably those living and working on Front Street.

The results of this consultation were that the Parish Council fully supported the proposals, the police

confirmed that they would be unable to fully enforce such restrictions. Of the residents who replied, 3 agreed with the proposals, 1 was neither in favour nor against and 3 were against them, but of the businesses that replied, 5 were against the proposals and none were in favour - 4 of the 5 thought that the nearby parking places should be used by their staff rather than their customers.

The aim of the scheme was to help residents and businesses by making customer parking easier, but the businesses don't want it. Accordingly, the scheme has been dropped.

Mike Gladstone Chair, Lanchester Partnership

BRICKLAYING APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR



Congratulations go to 17 year old, Shaun Crozier of Deneside who has been awarded "The Apprentice of the Year at Bricklaying" by Skill Training of Tanfield Lea. At an awards night at the Beamish Hall in September, Shaun received a plaque and a prize for his outstanding achievement. The photograph above shows Shaun with his plaque shortly after the ceremony.

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CHILDREN IN NEED

Friday 14th November was Children in Need day. To support the BBC's fund raising event, the children of All Saints' RC Primary School gave a donation in return for coming to school in non-uniform. The children in years 5 and 6 had an even busier day however. During the week they had been looking at measures and scales in their numeracy work and they decided to put these mathematical skills to practical use by baking some Pudsey Bear Buns, to sell to the other children. The morning was spent measuring and mixing, with the help of Mrs Conlin, Mrs Summers, Mrs



The children make Pudsey Bear Buns

Satchwell and Mrs McAloon. The school's cooks, Miss Gladstone and Mrs Beet, then baked the buns over the lunchtime, so that they could be decorated with yellow icing and Smarties ready for sale during the afternoon. Their efforts added £20.00 to the £170.00 already donated. Well Done and Thank You to Everyone!

VILLAGE VOICE AGM

The Annual General Meeting of Lanchester Publications Ltd, the company whose sole responsibility is with the production of your Village Voice, was held in the Community Centre on 16th November. All of the directors and management committee attended the meeting. There were two main items on the agenda: the Chairman's and the Treasurer's Reports. The Chairman (Brian Oram) reported on a very successful year of the production of the paper. The main changes during the year had been the addition of John Wilson, reporting on Community Centre

activities, and Brenda Craddock, on Church activities. Brian identified two major landmarks during the year as the 100th edition in April and the first colour edition in July, thanks to the new printers, Inprint of Consett. He said that the funding of the paper was entirely by advertisement revenue and was only possible due to the volunteer efforts from local people whose only charges were their expenses. The sponsorship during the year, which included the Lanchester Brass Band, had continued and the forecast for 2008/09 stressed mainly the maintenance of the status quo. He was pleased

that John Hurrin, Marketing Manager, had contracted more than 50 advertisers for varying periods for the next year. He finished his Annual Report by thanking all those who had contributed to the success of the Village Voice (including those who had sent articles, the delivery personnel, and many others) and he confidently expected that its success would continue.

Treasurer, John Gray, presented the meeting with the annual accounts and a commentary to highlight its main aspects. He described the overall performance of the company as excellent with advertising profit up over the previous year.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY



The Boys Brigade and Anchor Boys watch the Remembrance Day ceremony on the Village green.

The Brownies on parade braving the cold at the ceremony.



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ST BEDE'S STUDENT VISIT TO AUSCHWITZ

Recently, I took part in a government-funded scheme to allow two students from every school in the country to witness the horrors of the Auschwitz concentration and death camp at first hand.

On 19th October I attended the orientation seminar as preparation for the trip without much of an idea of what to expect. We were lucky enough to meet Ziggy Shipper, a survivor of Auschwitz, and hear his testimony. This really helped me to think about pre-war Jewish life and how their families were destroyed.

The one-day visit to Poland was on 28th October and, when we arrived at Krakow, we visited a pre-war Jewish cemetery at the town nearest to Auschwitz, Oswiecim. Although this was only a small part of the visit the restoration of the cemetery acts as a symbol that the Nazis did not win.

We then visited Auschwitz 1, which had been transformed into a museum. We were taken around the various barracks showing us the mounds of human hair, baby clothes, hairbrushes, glasses, suitcases, clothes and shoes. While shocking, it was difficult to become emotionally involved as it was presented in a formal and impersonal way. Auschwitz-Birkenau was the more horrifying place and it became harder to detach from the events and the lives that must have been lost in that awful place.

Unknown to me, the most moving part of the day was still to come. At



"Arbeit Macht Frei" (Work makes (one) free) marks the entrance to Auschwitz 1 under which some 22 million visitors had passed by 1994

night we had a ceremony with a rabbi whose messages really helped to enforce the lessons of the whole day. A silent walk then followed this, to the entrance of Birkenau along the train tracks, everyone carrying small candles. Every now and again people set down their candles so that when we reached the entrance and looked back, the whole train track was lit up.

Overall I found the experience extremely moving and I'm really glad that I have the opportunity to share my experience with as many people as possible. The lessons that can be learned from the events at Auschwitz are just as relevant today. Auschwitz is a place that everyone should experience and hope that it never happens again. Claire Hogarth



The entrance of Auschwitz Birkenau as seen from the inside and looking along the train tracks



The only remaining row of wooden barracks left in Auschwitz Birkenau

LOCAL ARTIST DISPLAYS IN VILLAGE

Lanchester artist Judy Hurst has joined with Lanchester Front Street's *Country Homes & Gifts* to bring to the village the opportunity to examine and purchase Limited Edition Prints of her work. The prints are decorated, like the originals, using 24 carat gold leaf. The work available, in both prints and greeting cards, demonstrates clearly the accomplished beauty of Judy's work.



Left to right, "Country Homes & Gifts" directors Martin Matthews and Patricia Goodacre stand with artist Judy Hurst beside the display

This display follows on from Judy's resoundingly successful recent exhibition - "Illumination: Judy Hurst" - at the Bowes Museum. Although that exhibition is now finished, visitors to the Bowes Museum may well be able to view Judy's work, "Phoenix", which was acquired for the museum's permanent collection. In this exhibition, Judy created a wonderfully colourful and inspired collection of intricate and illustrative works, using

gold leaf and sumptuous colour applied to vellum, paper and canvas. The pictures were inspired by mediaeval illuminated works, to create spiritually-compelling images, often with symbolic underlying themes.

Born and raised in County Durham, Judy is following a distinguished career in teaching, both in the UK and New Zealand, with an equally distinguished career as an artist. "For me, patterns create the fabric of existence," said Judy. "I

draw and paint patterns which I see everywhere, especially when running in the countryside."

Further exhibitions of her work are planned for November and December 2009, first in the Trevelyan College and subsequently in Palace Green Library, in conjunction with the Oriental Museum. When finalised, details will be available, together with more information about the artist and her work, which is on the Web at www.judyhurst.co.uk.

"CRUNCH TIME"- 4 TOP TIPS FOR INTERESTING TIMES

1. Don't Panic

The media is full of wild stories of doom and gloom, the reality is that the world will go on, we will get through this, just as we have survived much worse. Ask anyone who can remember the 1930's or even the 1980's. Governments around the globe are taking appropriate measures, while out here in the "Real" economy, thriftiness is making a big comeback; and a whole generation is going to have to learn to live within its means.

2. Reduce your utility bills

There is a way to access wholesale utility prices and this can reduce your

overall utility spend considerably. These services are not listed on comparison websites but marketed only through word of mouth; they offer great service and the convenience of making one single payment for Gas, Electric, Phone, Broadband and even mobile.

3. Protect your income

Let's face it, there are companies out there who are looking to reduce their workforce. You can take out very low cost insurance to cover all your bills in the event you become unemployed. It is also wise to protect your family by writing a will.

4. Look to the Future

Investor Warren Buffett,

the world's richest man; recently placed a further \$5 Billion into the share market. When asked how he makes money, he replied "Keep your head while everyone around you is losing theirs". The fact is huge fortunes are made during recessions. If the stock market isn't your cup of tea you may be interested in some of the value emerging in the property market.

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A DAY TO REMEMBER

Friday 14th November was an important day in the lives of the children at Lanchester EP School.

Assembly was prepared and delivered by year 6 children from Saxon House with Remembrance being the theme, with overhead projection on large screens of scenes from the two World Wars. The whole assembly was children led and completed very efficiently by the leaders and the rest of the team.

Following on, the subject changed to Operation Christmas Child, a project



Children from EP School clutching their shoe boxes

of Samaritan's Purse which helps meet the critical need of victims of war, poverty,

famine, disease and natural disaster while sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. Families are asked to fill a shoe box with goods such as toys, toiletries, sweets and stationery for a particular age of child. Over 50 boxes were donated.

Of course, Friday 14th was also 'Children in Need' Day and the whole school and staff dressed down, or even up, for the occasion. The mother of Mark Hodgson, one of the year 6 pupils, made a lovely chocolate cake for the teachers complete with 'Pudsey Bear' motif, which they could not wait to devour. In fact, one slice had disappeared before break time! The culprit is not known! A total of £284.50 was raised for Children in Need.

Finally, the whole school had the treat of a lifetime by

visiting Jumbo Jungle in Consett. A free visit was organised by the new owners as a reward for the recent very good Ofsted

Inspection, and the excellent behaviour of the children. Thanks are given to the owners for this reward.

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Mark Hodgson holds the 'Pudsey Bear' cake which his Mum made for the Staff of the EP School (but would it feed the 5000 - see above)

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Some of the children who dressed up for 'Children in Need'. Sarah Messenger (centre) sang on TV's Look North later that day with members of her Stage School, Starset, Durham, in aid of Children in Need.

BEDE'S WORLD

On Thursday 6th November, the children of All Saints' RC Primary School visited Bede's World in Jarrow to celebrate All Saints' Day. As well as spending time in the museum, the whole school enjoyed other activities throughout the day, including visiting the Anglo-Saxon farm and St Paul's Church. James, Georgia, Annah, Paul and Alasdair from Class 4 (years 5 and 6), retell their day. First of all Class 4, led by our tour guide Emma, was shown a huge Bible that was a replica of the one Bede wrote. It weighed

about six stone and had pages made of calf skin, or vellum. We found out that one calf skin only made four pages and there were 2060 pages in the book altogether! Class 4 noticed that all the monks' writing was exactly alike. Emma explained that this writing was called unsealed script. We then went into the Scriptorium and practised writing with quill pens and ink just like the monks, although their ink would have been made from soot, honey, egg white and shell fish to give it colour.

After lunch, the tour guide took Class 4 into the museum to explore and we were asked to draw and write about a monk at work using what they could find out from the displays. Next, we visited St Paul's Church built in about 700AD and were told that Bede would have prayed there several times a day, even at one o'clock in the morning. Everybody got dressed in a monk's robe called a habit, put up their hoods or cowls and processed down the aisle. We all agree that being a monk was a perfectly wonderful end to a perfectly wonderful All Saints' Day.



Pupils from Class 4 practise writing with quill pens

PARISH CHURCH VISIT

Ten members of the Friends of Longovicium, a group interested in our Roman Fort, visited Lanchester Parish Church on November 7th in search of Roman stonework. The visit was arranged by Edith Pierce, and Eric Gaskill kindly gave the group a guided tour of the church and its tower and provided refreshments afterwards. It is generally believed that many of the stones

for the construction of the church came from the Roman site, and the three pillars in the north aisle have certainly been removed from the Fort. In addition, an altar to Garmangabis is prominently displayed in the South porch. The group also looked at a small 'household' altar which is kept in the church, as well as what seems to be a larger altar which is

damaged. A visit to the tower was greatly appreciated, especially when one of the group spotted part of a gravestone recycled as a door lintel. Later, the outside walls were studied for stones which might have been 'borrowed' from the Fort. After thanking the guide, most of the party moved on to Valentino's for an enjoyable lunch.

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ART EXHIBITION

Lanchester Art Group held its traditional annual autumn exhibition in the Community Centre recently. The group is one of several very active clubs and societies that are based at the centre, so active in fact that there is a two years waiting list for potential members. More than three hundred people visited the two-day exhibition much to the satisfaction of the organisers who described the public's response as excellent. Visitors were provided with a superb catalogue to guide them through the exhibition which was mounted on an ingenious portable maze of display boards that made maximum use of the space available. Delicious homemade refreshments were also available in the adjacent small hall to add to the enjoyment of the occasion.

There were thirty-three exhibitors with the full range of artistic techniques from oil painting to pen and ink drawing on show. A wide range of subject matter was on view with natural history and landscape topics proving very popular. Thirty exhibits were sold which reflected the high standard of the work on show and it is

understood that some of the artists are prepared to accept commission work. Interested parties should contact a group member in the first instance.



The maze of paintings on display



Visitors discuss the paintings in the exhibition

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WATERCOLOUR EXHIBITION



Members of Dave Anderson's Monday morning water-colour painting class held in the Community Centre have been holding an exhibition in the library throughout November. Our picture shows some of the class who set up the exhibition at the beginning of the month.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

There should be some very healthy children at the EP school this autumn. Creativity week was devoted to healthy lifestyles. This has incorporated all the children in the school and they seemed to enjoy every minute of it.

A brave person believed to be one of the governors dressed as a banana, had lots of fun developing the theme of the 'five every day' i.e. vegetables and fruit. This theme was continued by Expocook, Kasher, a lovely South African lady, who demonstrated what can be achieved with vegetables, salads and fruit to produce tasty exciting meals and drinks (smoothies) with a difference. She was amusing, expressive, a good storyteller and built up a great rapport with children. The questions

and answers were many, and most were enlightening, informative and enjoyable to hear. Her lunchtime was spent with the children, talking about their food choices and interacting with pupils.

Not only food, but health and safety were prime objectives of the week and PCSO's Vanessa Gray and Jamie Pearsall, who regularly patrol the village, held sessions with the children which brought out everyday dangers that children may face in their daily lives, including bullying, talking to strangers, road safety, as well as topical things about to happen - Halloween, and Bonfire Night. There was a particularly good discussion about the dangers of fire and fireworks. Once again the questions and answers

showed how aware some of the very young children were of potential disasters waiting to happen.

Included in the programme of safety were walks around the village with teaching staff, where children took notes on the dangers of crossing roads etc. Ann Corbett, Road Safety Officer from

County Durham, also attended the school and gave talks on her subject with an interesting 'cycle egg helmet demonstration'. The week ended with visits from a First Aid Trainer and a Dental Hygiene Nurse both of whom imparted essential health and hygiene knowledge to the

children throughout the school.

It was certainly a worthwhile week in which lots of useful information was learned by the children about healthy and safe lifestyles, in a fun way, which hopefully they will remember for a long time to come.



Head Teacher, Jane Davis, with hungry children eager to try out a new dish

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- ✘ Christmas Lunch including traditional Christmas puddings will be available in Buttercups Coffee Shop on Sunday 14th Dec.
- ✘ Stalls will offer a variety of Christmas arts and crafts, including:- Cards, Jewellery, Floral Decorations, Bags and last minute gift ideas. Home baked Christmas cakes are also available.



Santa will be in his Winter Wonderland Grotto at the Christmas Fayre, so why not bring your little ones along to meet him (and US).



If you would like to hire a stall or require any more information on the Christmas Fayre contact Jo on 01207 521133 or 07852677967.



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We will be selling shares at 50p each, and the maximum amount of shares any one person can buy are 20. Please help by buying shares, and when we are fully operational, taking a look at the products on offer. Shareholders will receive a dividend at the end of the school year, when the business will close. We hope to start selling products in early December. For more information, email us at photoit@hotmail.co.uk or visit www.young-enterprise.org.uk. Also, if you are interested, speak to any of the following: Beth Lloyd, Hayley Arkless, Heather Keenan, Hannah Lown, Enrica Biasi, Rebecca Scoins, Rebecca Wilson, Andrew McCormick and Stephen Smith.

DISH OF THE DAY!

Langley Park Lunch Club meets every Friday in Wood View Community Centre from 11.30 to 1.00 pm and provides a 2-course lunch for around 25 people at a cost of £1.50 per head. The lunch club relies solely on the time and commitment of a small group of volunteers. Sadly the volunteers, who have been the backbone of the lunch club, are looking to retire at the end of this year. Therefore we desperately need volunteers to keep the lunch club running. Volunteers are needed for the following roles: Preparing and cooking of the lunch, usually hot dinner and home made pudding; Setting the tables and

serving the meals; Escorting lunch club members on the provided bus transport; Washing and cleaning of dishes and kitchen. The group is also sadly losing its treasurer at Christmas, so someone with a passion for numbers would be greatly appreciated. The lunch club provides a vital hot meal for people once a week, but also serves as a social event to bring people together. Please if you can spare a few hours on a Friday, from 9.30am - 1.30pm, or even if you just wanted to pop in to help serve the lunch, call Age Concern Durham County on 01207 280119. (Age Concern will organise food and hygiene training, as required, for anyone who is interested.)

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LANCHESTER AGRICULTURAL SHOW Companion Dog Show

The last two years have been disastrous for Lanchester Agricultural Show due to the dreadful weather. In order to keep it going, with the cost of running the Show increasing annually, the Committee are working very hard putting on various money-raising activities. One of these was a Companion Dog Show, held in Lanchester Community Centre on Sunday, 16th November. The Show began at 11 o'clock with a class for pedigree dogs which had to be divided into two classes, one for large and the other for small dogs as there was a large entry. Then came classes for the best Labradoodle, Heinz 57, terrier, veteran and puppy. Again the puppy class was divided into two groups. After that came the fun classes - and they were fun. Waggiest tail - again a large number entered (my pup wags her

whole body but wouldn't do it on cue!). Saddest eyes, best trick, fancy dress, even 'dog which looks most like its owner'. Very hard for the judge to make a decision in these classes, but Mr Martin Surtees, who breeds dogs and judges hunters did the job admirably and handled the dogs sympathetically. Many of the dogs and indeed their owners had probably not been to a dog show before. There were other classes, too, including Young Handlers and there were lots of lovely r o s e t t e s . Refreshments were available (the home-made broth was delicious) and a very good

raffle. Everyone seemed to have a good time, dogs and owners, and over £100 was raised. It is hoped that another show will take place in the Spring, but in the meantime if anyone has any ideas, either for the Agricultural Show itself or for raising money, or would like to help in any way or sponsor a class or event, please get in touch with the Treasurer, Carol Shaw, on 0191 3874616 or the Secretary, Carol Cliffe on 0191 3734565. Mavis Datta



The judge is taking a careful look at 'Bournville', who is a labradoodle (cross between labrador and a poodle). He won Best Labradoodle, Best Heinz 57 and Fancy Dress, dressed as a policeman. He is owned by Carol Shaw, Treasurer of the Agricultural Show.

LMVC CONCERT FOR COMMUNITY CENTRE

It was a busy week for Lanchester Male Voice Choir. On Saturday 18th October, the Choir sang at Carrville Methodist Church to raise money for the Bubble Appeal, a charity dedicated to supporting the needs of children who require a sterile environment while recovering from immune system deficiencies.

Later, on Thursday 23rd October, they would sing at Newton Hall Methodist and Anglican Church for the Over 60's Group.

Meanwhile, here in the Village, in the Methodist Church on Monday 20th October, at 7.30 pm, the Choir and Guests sang to raise funds for our own Community Centre and the installation of a stair lift to improve access. Vice-chairman of the Community Association, and Chairman of the Male Voice Choir John Wills thanked the audience for their support of Lanchester Community Association which is the only self-supporting such organisation in County Durham.

The Choir, conducted by Harry Carr, opened with a much appreciated first set of three songs - "You'll Never Walk alone", *The White Rose* and "Cavalry of the Steppes" before handing over to their guests.

"North East Solo Singers" - John Oliver and Evelyn Mitchell, ably accompanied on piano by Martin Dack - entertained with a delightfully mixed programme of popular, classical and comedy songs. Their first set opened with John Miles's "Music" sung as a duet. This was followed by solos, among them Don Quixote's "Dream", the humorous "The Doctor's Song", and was brought to a conclusion with a duet selection from "West Side



Right to left: LMVC Chair, John Wills, Accompanist Noreen Bridgewater and Conductor Harry Carr with guests Evelyn Mitchell, John Oliver and Accompanist Martin Dack

Story". It was clear from the rousing applause that the audience had enjoyed this first offering.

The choir led into the brief interval with a second set comprised of "With Cat-like Tread", "Jeannie with the Light Brown Hair" and "You Raise Me Up" which featured John Wills and Kevin Meredith.

The second half opened again with the choir singing that ever popular arrangement "An American Trilogy", followed by "Walk Away" and "Passing By", before handing over to their guests for their second set. This contained songs from Mozart, "Les Mis" and Edith Piaf, before accompanist Martin Dack delighted the audience with, and encouraged their participation in, Richard

Stilgoe's comic classic about Joyce the Librarian, and her relationship with George the Italian. Evelyn Mitchell followed with her own humorous song about "The Murderous Maid" and this second set ended to further enthusiastic applause with a medley of popular musical songs.

Conductor Harry Carr thanked the audience for their support, the choir for their effort and accompanist Noreen Bridgewater for her expertise on the piano as a most enjoyable musical evening was rounded off in style with choir's offering of "Anthem" from Chess, "Climb Every Mountain" and "Rachie". The sum raised for the Community Association was £300.

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THE PRISONER OF ZENDA

The annual visit of North Country Theatre to the Community Centre took place on 1st November. This year Nobby Dimon's company presented his adaptation of Anthony Hope's "The Prisoner of Zenda".

Five professional actors and a very able ventriloquist's dummy portrayed over ten characters and gave a highly entertaining performance of this Ruritanian melodrama. It had everything: mistaken identities, fraternal treachery, romance, farce that would have done credit to Brian Rix, rebellion, audience participation, political intrigue, the cruel suppression of incipient democracy, secret chambers, yodelling and who will forget the dummy's excellent swordsmanship and the

accomplished hobbyhorse riding performances. There was even a moral dimension to the romance between the princess and her beau which resulted in the princess opting for duty to her subjects rather than following the inclinations of her heart. All the action took place with the aid of an ingenious stage set which required just the right amount of imagination on the part of the audience.

The company is performing at 32 different venues in the space of 43 days which is a testament to their commitment to live theatre. This deserves full public support wherever they go so that they can continue to provide an evening's light entertainment of this quality for as long as their stamina lasts. Good luck to them.

ACOUSTICA AT THE PARISH CENTRE

A concert held at All Saints Parish Centre on Saturday 25th October featured Acoustica, a couple with impressive musical skills. Catherine and Andrew Higgins are teachers and part-time musicians who gave a varied programme including songs by the Beatles, Dylan, Ralph McTell, Gordon Lightfoot and Neil Young and an ingenious 'Irished' instrumental version of 'Heartbreak Hotel'.

Andrew and Catherine also introduced several of their own compositions, including the only known song about Cleckheaton, 'My Home Town', and an ironic take on motherhood by Catherine, 'The Aliens Have Landed'.

Andrew played guitar and a kulele-like instrument

from South America, while Catherine played violin, guitar and piano accordion. The audience were impressed by their musicianship and fine voices, and appreciated their giving their services free for charity.

The concert was in aid of a charity involving Tony and Anne Stokle, which helps Burmese refugees who flee across the border into Thailand. The sum of £210 was raised, which will be increased to £300 by donations.



Acoustica, Catherine and Andrew Higgins

EPHEMERA

As a curator at Beamish Museum, Julian Harrap shares responsibility for 300,000 photos - and eleven filing cabinets full of 'ephemera', the sort of things many people throw away.

Julian showed photos of many of these ephemera to Lanchester History Society on Friday 7th November, starting with a Sunday School Superintendent's book recording the 19 teachers and 7 classes. There was a bill for the purchase of some sheep, an advert for a horse show auction in 1917 and detailed records of every job in a coal mine, every miner's work, his pay and offtakes for candles, dynamite, the doctor, the Institute etc. There was a 1693 mortgage, a list of stations which could be reached on a Murphy Radio and a Walter Willson's bill for 9/7d, but perhaps the most interesting section of the display was the adverts,

many of them featuring much more attractive images than today's. Among the best remembered were Lux soap, Zebra grate cleaner, Mazawattee tea, Vimbo's beef extract, Shell motor spirit, and Spratt's dog soap, but some seemed a little odd nowadays; a 'carbolic smoke bomb' which apparently gave instant relief, Amplian valves, Harness' Electropathic Belt, Hall's distemper. All these and more will be seen on beamishcollection.com from January. Surprising how interesting and entertaining ephemera can be!



Julian Harrap

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WI NEWS

We were invited by Edmondbyers WI to join them on Tuesday October 20th at a fashion show given by Robbs of Hexham which they had arranged in their hall. Fourteen of our members attended and it was a lovely evening. The clothes were modelled by staff from Robbs; they ranged from smart casual to beautiful evening wear. (A visit to Robbs for that new outfit is highly recommended.)

After the show Edmondbyers provided a delicious supper which was enjoyed by us all and the icing on the cake was that Phyl Penfold won a wicker hamper full of goodies which was donated by Robbs as well as Ann Carr and Maureen Heron winning prizes on the raffle.

It was a lovely WI evening with friends, fun and food.

On Monday 27th October member Jessie Goodall went to Durham Town Hall to be presented with an award for selling poppies for 50 years, a great achievement. Well done Jessie.

Monday 3rd November was the 83rd birthday of Lanchester WI and instead of our usual evening meal we had lunch out.

Gillinghams coach picked us up at 9 o'clock at Peters and off we went. Our first stop was Corbridge where we had a stop for coffee and shopping which everyone enjoyed. Returning to the coach we continued our trip to the Riverdale Hall Hotel at Bellingham, the sun came out and the autumn colours were wonderful. Our meal was booked for 12.30 and a long table was beautifully laid in the conservatory all ready for us. We had a delicious 2 or 3 course meal followed by coffee and mints before returning to the coach again for the scenic journey home. Members said that this had been a very enjoyable way to celebrate our birthday. We would like to thank Jennifer and June for all the time and work they put in arranging this lovely day that we all enjoyed so much.



WI members and friends enjoying their meal

CONCERT FOR WILLOW BURN

Another fundraising event held in Lanchester library in aid of Willow Burn Hospice was an outstanding success. A group of five ladies collectively known as "Young at Heart" entertained an audience to an evening of songs from the shows plus some additions. The first half of the evening was begun by the group entering to the strains of "Zippadee doo dah" followed by a non-stop selection of songs from "The King and I", "Oklahoma", "My Fair Lady", "The Sound of Music", and "Carousel" among others. They sang as a group, as soloists and with an

occasional duet too until with a repeat of "Zippadee doo dah" they retired for the interval. The audience too enjoyed the break with refreshments served by Monica and her staff. They returned after a change of costume to sing more show stoppers plus the occasional Music Hall song again without any

break. The audience joined in and thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience. The event raised about £180 towards the library staff's ambition of raising £1000 for Willow Burn. "Young at heart" usually entertain residents of Nursing and Care homes, but if you get the chance to hear them - do.



Young at Heart, from left to right: Noreen Bree, Mary McKee, Mavis Crawford, Joan Ellwood, (pianist), Geana Collin (assistant), Margaret Westwater and Jean Pinner.

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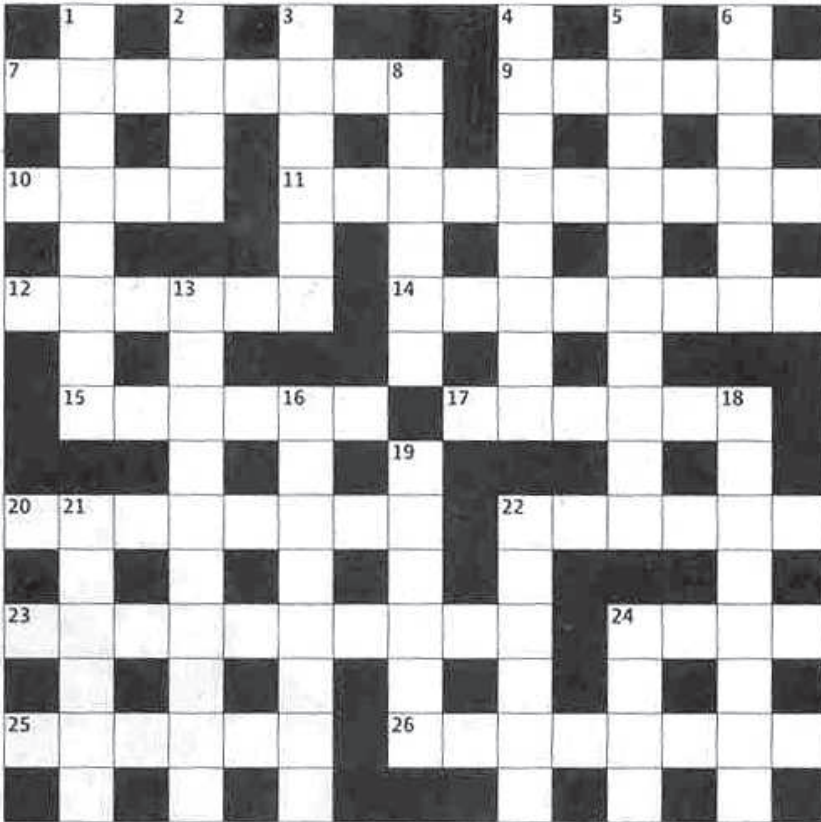
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CROSSWORD 31



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

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CROSSWORD 30

There were 15 entries in our competition last month.

The first all-correct entry in the draw was Mr Sunley of Watling Way who will receive the £10 prize.

Test your skill on our latest challenge.

ACROSS

7. Cloth for head or neck (8)
9. Consumable (6)
10. Prudish (4)
11. Excellent (4,2,4)
12. Be sparing with (3,3)
14. Eire Edam produces expression of dismay (6,2)
15. UN rate for quality (6)
17. Very active (6)
20. Leg vein I manipulate (8)
22. Temporarily transfer (6)
23. Butterfly sounds like communist sailor (3,7)
24. Appear (4)
25. Protein found in wheat (6)
26. Queen in tomb with single instrument (8)

DOWN

1. Hat sounds like nakedness (8)
- 2,13. Lowlife (4,2,3,5)
3. Gifted as fiddler (6)
4. Split up (8)
5. G I joint (*sic*) for chauvinism (10)
6. A moll's obstacle race (6)
8. Inundates (6)
13. see 2
16. Organised group (8)
18. Recovered after trick used to bewilder (8)
19. Domesticated polecat (6)
21. Goad (6)
22. Unhealthy colour (6)
24. Ear piece (4)

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 30

ACROSS

1. envelop
5. plinth
9. illusory
10. Apeman
12. Michelangelo
15. apiculture
17. lie
19. row
20. arms akimbo
22. cliquishness
26. untidy
27. camomile
28. aye aye
29. stew eel

DOWN

1. evil
2. vile
3. luscious
4. parch
6. lupine
7. nom de plume
- 8,21. hangover on Sunday
11. flares
13. barracouta
4. tin whistle
16. thrush
18. ski slope
21. see 8
23. nears
24. live
25. veil

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.

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

MORE HALLOWEEN PHOTOS

Halloween Craft Day



Left, little Erin Densham really charmed the treats on Halloween

Below, Louis, Mia and Ben were frighteningly good at tricks



The children display their Halloween windows



Tuesday before Halloween was a popular day in Lanchester library, as it was a craft session for young folks. They were set to produce an elaborate seasonal montage, decorated with bats and weird ghostly shapes as well as a witch.

Such was the number of craftspersons that they were spread all over the library's 'back rooms', hard at work cutting and gluing and fastening string, and even with the help of Auntie Janice and two mums they were still putting the finishing

touches to their creations ten minutes after the official end of play. As our photo shows, it all came right in the end and all these paper windows are designed to stick to real windows at home.



The Witches from Peters are left to right: Michelle, Elaine and Gillian



Talking Heads dress for the occasion with left to right: Witch Natalie, Devil Kerry Anne, and Witch Jenny

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Wed 24th Dec 6am - 4pm

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Mon 29th Dec 8am - 5pm

Tue 30th Dec 8am - 5pm

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Christmas Country Market

Have you visited the Country Market at Lanchester Community Centre recently? If not, you're missing out on delicious wines, cakes, pies, jams and much more. Saturday December 13th (one week later than usual), starting at 10 am, is the Christmas Market and is the perfect opportunity to buy your loved ones some different gifts this Christmas. If you are interested in getting involved with the Country Market, they are keen for more producers to sell their items. Even if you are not a big producer, you could still get involved. If

you bake a cake for you, bake one for the Country Market too, it's that simple. All proceeds go to the producers with the overheads being used to pay for the Community Centre. For more information, you can phone Heather Parkin on 01833 621393.



The ladies from the Country Market pose for a quick photo
Photo: Francesca Dent

WHAT'S ON?

WI

Our December meeting is on Monday the 1st in the small hall of the Community Centre. As usual it will be a faith supper and it would be appreciated if members could bring a little extra as the choir will be singing for their supper. As well as the choir there will be a Christmas flower demonstration by Tiger Lily Florists from the village. Our December meeting is always a lovely start to the Christmas celebrations and we look forward to seeing all our members at 7 o'clock.

The January meeting will be on Monday 5th when the subscriptions are due. Visitors are welcome, admission £1.

The speakers are Jennifer and Ann; their talk called "Fascinating Fascinators" is about the course they attended at Denman WI college to learn how to make fascinators, the fun they had and you will see the final results!!!

There is no competition but there will be a prize for the most original piece of head wear.

Wildlife Group

On Tuesday 9th December at 7.30 pm, the group will hold its AGM. There will be the usual business first, followed by a social and supper.

Lanchester boys in Gang Show

Derwentside Scouts are to stage a Gang Show in the Lamplight Theatre in Stanley during December 9th to 13th. Scouts from Lanchester are among the cast. Tickets are £6, Saturday £7, matinee £4. Book on line. Look out for posters in the village.

Christmas Fair

The PTA of All Saints' RC Primary School will be holding their Christmas Fair on Saturday 6th December. Doors open at 10 am and Santa will be arriving shortly after. Various games, craft activities and stalls will be in the school hall and parish centre including tombolas and Christmas gifts. Breakfast will be provided by a barbecue selling bacon or sausage butties and tea or coffee will be served in the parish centre along with traditional mince pies and a chocolate fountain for those with a sweet tooth. This year the first prize in the Grand Raffle is a Nintendo DS and the second prize is a limited edition iPod. Raffle tickets are available in advance from the school office or during the morning of the fair. Everyone is invited to come along and join in the Christmas fun.

Celebration of Christmas

The annual Celebration of Christmas organised by Lanchester Male Voice Choir and assisted by Lanchester Choral and Operatic Society will be held this year in the Roman Catholic Church on Monday 22nd December at 7.30 pm.

Lanchester Social Club Entertainment

Sat 6th December
Bill Darren, Stylish Male Vocalist
Sat 13th December
Michael Murray, Top Class Vocalist
Sat 20th December
Karaoke
Sat 27th December
Carrie Steel, Great Female Singer
Wed 31st December
Tan G, Great Girl Singer

Christmas Fair All Saints RC School



Many stalls including tombola, bottle stall, children's tombola, christmas stall, cakes, jams etc

Grand Christmas raffle with fantastic prizes

Refreshments in Parish Centre

BBQ

Santa's Grotto

Short Winter Walks

The Short Circuits Ramblers' group have a 6-mile walk starting at Weetslade Big Waters reserve (map reference NZ 260723) on 13th December at 10.30 am (picnic lunch needed) and as part of the Ramblers' Festival of Winter Walks there is a 4-mile walk from Newburn Riverside Country Park (map reference NZ 159654). For further details ring 521427.

MP Surgery

Our Member of Parliament, Hilary Armstrong, will be holding her monthly advice surgery for constituents at the Civic Centre, Consett on Friday 12th December at 6 pm.

Lanchester Film Club

The next film, 'Atonement' will be screened at 7.30 pm on Sunday 14th December in the Community Centre.

All are welcome, admission £3.50 non-members, £2 for members.

The film is described as a moving, clever and beautifully crafted adaptation of the novel by Ian McEwan.

The story opens in the languid heat of summer, 1935 where a lie told by a jealous child ruins the lives of posh Cecilia (Keira Knightley) and her working class lover, Robbie (James McAvoy).

From stately home to the chaos of Dunkirk (filmed on Redcar beach), the narrative is a compelling, deeply compassionate tale of love, class and war.

Handel's Messiah

The latest event to support Mel and Sue Somersall's Mercy Ships mission is a production of part 1 of Handel's Messiah with 'The Reduced Handel Company' directed by Andrew Fowler, featuring soloists, small choir and string quartet. The production will be in Lanchester Methodist Church on Wednesday 17th December, starting at 8 pm. Tickets, priced at £8, which includes a mince pie and seasonal punch, can be had by ringing Harry Carr 520676 or Mel Somersall 529153. This is an evening of superb music - not to be missed.

Library Activities

There will be two craft sessions in December. The session on Monday 22nd is for children aged 3-7, who should be accompanied by an adult, and starts at 2.30 pm. The other session is on Tuesday 23rd for children aged 8 to 12. Each session costs £1.

On December 18th there will be a coffee morning in aid of Willowburn Hospice.

From 27th November till 12th December, members of Lanchester Art Group will display their works in the library.

Beatles Concert

A Beatles tribute band will perform in the Community Centre on Monday 22nd December. Further details from 521013.

Weardale Railway

During December, there will be Santa Specials at weekends. See www.weardale-railway.org.uk for details.

Sunday Bridge November 9th

The Community Centre's Sunday Bridge club had a very successful afternoon on the 9th November, with 8 tables of players who all had a very friendly and enjoyable afternoon.

More tables are available and anybody is welcome. If you are a Bridge player and would like to spend a Sunday afternoon in the company of other players, come along at 2.00 pm on Sunday 25th

January 2009. Entry is £3.00 and all proceeds go to the Community Centre for the upkeep of the Centre. For further information please contact Brenda on 01207 520204 or Liz on 01207 521682.



Sunday Bridge players in the Community Centre, some concentrating hard on their game

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HALLOWEEN CELEBRATIONS

Kidney Research Fundraiser



Some of the Cricket Club members who supported the event in style

A colourful night was held at Lanchester Cricket Club on Halloween to raise money for Kidney Research UK. Cricket Club member, David Rafferty, who had a Kidney Transplant three years ago, organised this event for a charity for which he has enormous gratitude. Members turned out in force to support him and provided an excellent buffet. It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening which included 'Bobbin Apples', Best Costume Award, a Raffle, and Disco, with David as DJ. The total raised for Kidney Research UK was an excellent £350.

BOWLS PRESENTATION NIGHT AT THE KING'S HEAD



Lanchester Bowling Club held its annual dinner and presentation night in the King's Head on 13th November. The picture shows the proud winners with their trophies and Councillor Ossie Johnson who made the presentations after a delicious meal.

From left to right, seated: David Bailey, Peter Harrison, Trish Jose; standing: Alan Wharton, Mike Stoddart, Billy Young, Ossie Johnson, Ken Jose (who was awarded the most improved player trophy), Ron Cole, Ken Raper and Dick Ball. Bob Burton also won a trophy but was not present at the dinner.

EARLY DEADLINE

Please send any articles for the next edition of the Village Voice by Tuesday 9th December. The deadline for adverts is 7th December.

Community Party

This function was the great idea of two sisters who live in the village, Michelle Carmichael and Vicky Brown. They have realised for some considerable time that there are not many fun things for children to do in the village and thought that Halloween was a good excuse for a family party. The function took place on Sunday, November 2nd from 4 pm - 6 pm in the Community Centre. They sold over 80 tickets at the really low price of £2.50 each, hired D J Cooper to organise a fun disco, and soon Mums and Dads and all the children were dancing away in their Halloween outfits. Michele and Vicky provided a very tasty looking buffet and there was a 'name the Teddy' competition. The latter was to ensure that there was some profit from the event which was donated to Howden Burn Care Home, Maiden Law. A total of £48.60 was raised so it certainly turned out to be a very good idea, giving the children a good time, serving the community and being able to make a donation to a worthwhile cause.



Organisers of the Halloween Party, Michelle and Vicky



A nice little group of party revellers - left to right: Casey, Erin, Chloe and Danielle

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