

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 8 Volume 12

Lanchester, August 2011

For contact information, see page 2

GOODBYE TO WILLOW BURN - AND WELCOME NEW HOSPICE!

The weather was kind for Willow Burn Hospice on the day of their Summer Fair. This was good news, as the Fair was being held outside, in the grounds of the Hospice, and the ceremonial demolition of the old buildings was planned to begin. VIP of the day was 85 year old Mary Moody, who has served as a volunteer at Willow Burn for the past 22 years. Mary donned her hard hat and yellow jacket for the job, and said she was delighted to be helping out in the first step of the Hospice new build. The large number of visitors strolled around the many stalls, where they could buy pies, cakes, crafts, books, toys and 'goody bags'. There was a selection of the popular Willow Burn merchandise for sale, and



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Here goes! Willow Burn volunteer, 85 year old Mary Moody, VIP of the day in hard hat and yellow jacket starts the ceremonial demolition of old buildings as the first step of the Hospice new build.

LIVING WATERWAYS AND LANCHESTER LOCALITY MAP CELEBRATION EVENT



Left to right: Dawn Knight; Jess Petrie; Elaine Field; Fran Mudd; Sue Charlton; Michael Rogers and Charli the Dog all huddle together in the Parish Council marquee out of the torrential rain.

On Saturday the 6th of August we braved the summer downpours and gathered together to put on the Celebration event in the Park House play area with only thin canvas between us and the elements. Representatives from The Living Waterways and Lanchester Locality Map projects were joined by Durham Wildlife Trust's WildWoods Project, Durham County Council's Countryside Ranger service and the Community Flood

Engagement Officer. Lanchester's Country Market was also there with quality local crafts and produce for sale. The marquees were erected and the displays went up. The face painter was ready and the fluffy animals were waiting to be stroked, when with five minutes to go before the event officially began the heavens opened. Everyone looked a little crestfallen and for the first hour there was no let up.

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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 Voice

Whilst well-intended, I don't think that Val Hill's proposal of a formal volunteer driver pool is appropriate. Ms Hill hasn't considered some of the practical aspects:

* Many people would not feel safe giving a lift to, or receiving one from a stranger, and the organisers might be faced with a lawsuit if a driver who was not CRB checked committed a crime against a passenger;

* A driver's insurance policy might not cover volunteering or the extra mileage. In these cases, who pays for the policy to be upgraded;

* The law is very clear that volunteer drivers must be paid only the actual expenses incurred whilst volunteering. The administrative burden of

running such a scheme would therefore be quite high;

* Given that most cars (unlike buses) are not wheelchair-accessible, it will be hard to make the service available to disabled people.

Whilst I would hope that all neighbours would help each other on an informal basis in emergencies, volunteer drivers cannot reasonably be asked to provide a means of regularly getting people to work or college. Our MP, Pat Glass, wrote in June's Village Voice about constituents who have told her that they are unable to get to work because of the bus service withdrawals.

As Roy Quinlan pointed out, Lanchester is the only settlement of its size in the county that has been left completely without evening and Sunday buses. This total isolation is costing Lancastrians their jobs and access to night classes (only a limited range of classes is available in the village). The only solution is to restore the evening and Sunday bus services.

Helen Griffiths

THE VILLAGE VOICE

IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

Dear Village Voice

Val Hill's letter confirms what we all know - Lanchester is a great village with strong community. I for one love living here. Of course there are always friends and neighbours who would help out when you need a lift as Val points out. To serve the whole community, however, organisation and resources are needed. So, for instance, we could perhaps tap into the Area Action Partnership that has an annual budget of £250,000pa to get a self-help solution up and running.

In my opinion, transport sustains local community and encourages opportunity. Current transport legislation means the cuts to our Sunday and evening services are just the thin end of the wedge. Go North East and Ariva will cut uneconomic services because their agenda is profit and not community. This starts to unpick the community fabric and we need to be mindful of "a stitch in time saves nine". This, to me is why the cuts need to be

robustly challenged. So is there help at hand? In conversation with Pat Glass this week, I heard that she is planning a public meeting to get together villagers, councillors and Go North East to discuss the problem and hopefully find solutions. Watcherspace!! Obviously, specific examples of where the cuts have directly affected individuals along the 15/15A and 130 routes are essential eg visiting relatives, getting to social events/activities in Durham, Consett and Stanley, care home and hospital access etc. The Village Voice will pass on any correspondence to the relevant parties.

Personally I use public transport and walk where possible to save energy and keep healthier. I also recognise that there are significant social and community benefits to public transport that we can easily overlook and not least of these is its role as an old-fashioned chat-room where people have faces rather than email addresses. Yours sincerely Roy Quinlan

Dear Village Voice

I have been in correspondence with Pat Glass MP regarding the restoration of late evening and Sunday buses. I have made a suggestion about extending the existing Durham to Langley Park service to our village and Mrs Glass has passed this on to Go North East. Their Managing Director, Mr Peter Huntley, has made an alternative suggestion that looks very promising. It would however need, to quote Mr Huntley, "a small amount of financial support". I would hope that support would be forthcoming. I would like to thank Mrs Glass and Mr Huntley for taking an interest in this matter and hope our councillors will also support this initiative for a fairer distribution of bus services over the area. Paul Monaghan

COMMUNITY DRAW

The winning number in the draw for July 2011 is 12. The draw was made by Mr W Eckford of 'Computers for All'.

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 0PB.

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MORE LETTERS

Dear Village Voice

On October the 23rd Oakwood Stables is hosting a sponsored ride for Care and Casualties Registered Charity to assist all the men and women who help to keep our country safe.

The ride will begin from the stables at Lanchester starting at approx 10.00 am and in groups of five will be escorted onto the Derwent Valley Walk where the ride will travel all the way to Consett and turn for home at the Gill Bridge.

All riders pay an entry fee of £10 and receive a free Care Casualties pack which includes a T Shirt

and wristband. There will be stewards and medical care available. It would be helpful if we got public support and publicity for the charity.

Pauline Dodds
Oakwood Stables
01207521311

Dear Village Voice

Marie Harrison wishes to thank all her wonderful pupils for their efforts during the past year. Thank you also for those available to produce a beautiful afternoon of music, piano and song at All Saints church, ending our summer term; it gave joy to us all, in particular

Phillip Richardson for his Master of Ceremonies and Billie Aitken Tyre who returned before beginning her studies on Broadway, New York.

We managed to raise that day £145 for the Children's Heart Foundation at the Freeman Hospital and we are very proud and grateful to you all for supporting this worthwhile cause. Grateful thanks also to a close friend Geraldine Keenan for hosting a relaxing party in the hall afterwards, a perfect close to a lovely day.

Yours sincerely, Marie Harrison

Dear Village Voice

I would like to thank my friends who organised and attended my 40th Birthday Party at the Cricket Club on 6th August. It was a fabulous occasion with a fancy dress theme and people went out of their way to make costumes varied and spectacular.

I would like to thank everyone for cards and presents, the DJ who enhanced the occasion, and staff at the Cricket Club. A collection for Willow Burn Hospice raised £110 which emphasised the generosity of all those who came to the party.

Kay Purdom

Dear Village Voice

Edith Pierce and her family would like to thank all the kind friends who sent cards and good wishes following her recent operation. She's making good progress and hopes to be back with you all before too long.

from the Pierces, Cannams and Hills

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THE RELUCTANT HERO!

Milkman and electrician Fairley Downs was settling for the night, never imagining that he'd soon be at the heart of dramatic events.

On June 25th, Fairley booked into the Knitsley Mill, finishing late after electrical work in Lanchester. About 1.30 am he was woken by the smell of smoke coming from a lower floor bedroom, and then came the sound of the hotel's fire alarm.

A wedding party was staying overnight, and someone decided to light the logs laid in an open fireplace. Unfortunately, the fire was purely decorative, lacking a chimney. The burning

logs set the room alight and a fire engine eventually arrived. Luckily, no one was hurt. Fairley and the other guests again settled, only to be woken by the fire alarm sounding at 3.00 am. Although choking from thick black smoke in his room, Fairley managed to bang on all the doors on his floor, waking everyone before joining other guests outside for a head count. When it was discovered that an elderly man was still in his room, Fairley with another man went back inside, broke down his door and rescued the sleeping person. When the fire engine arrived again, officers thought the fire

had probably been caused by someone smoking in bed.

The owner of the Mill realised that although all his guests were safe, the power supply was completely lost, and to his plaintive query "Where can I find an electrician at 5.20 am on Sunday?" Fairley again volunteered his services and the electricity was working by 10.00 am. After everything, Fairley said he'd greatly enjoyed his breakfast. Fairley Downs claims he did nothing special, and anyone would have done the same, but this was obviously a very brave thing to do! A case of being in the right place at the right time!



Fairley Downs poses for a photograph after helping out at the Knitsley Mill with both fire and electrical problems in the Hotel

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THE APPRENTICE

Tony Blair was featured last month, is it Lord Sugar this month? Not likely, it's Dave Donnelly, from the Witbank Garage, who has employed a remarkable 19 year old Rebecca Costello who hails from Stanley but now lives at Consett. Rebecca showed such initiative by walking from Consett to Lanchester to present her CV to Dave, and then pestered him with phone calls and visits until he gave her a trial. Before the trial was up 'Muck Magnet', as she is now nicknamed, because she likes to get her hands dirty and get into the thick of things, had been enrolled at New College, Durham, as an Apprentice Mechanic.

She previously won a student of the year award on a different course at the college. Her interest in cars developed when she was young as she assisted her father with repairs on his classic Morris 1000. She owns an off road motorbike, enjoys tinkering with that and obviously has some knowledge of engines. Rebecca or Becca as she likes to be called, has no fears about what is generally accepted as entering a man's world, and according to her boss, Dave Donnelly, and his mechanic, she has the determination, character and ability to succeed.



Apprentice Mechanic, Rebecca Costello testing a car at Witbank Garage

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LUCY AND SIMON'S WEDDING

Family and friends came together from across the country, some from overseas, on a beautiful summer's day to celebrate the wedding of Lucy, daughter of Sam and Olive Simpkins and Simon, son of Janet and John Christian of Boughton Heath near Chester, in Muswell Hill United Reformed Church. Lucy looked quite lovely in a delicately simple dress from Monsoon, and was attended by her stepdaughter Erin and Jenny, daughter of her friend Annette from Newcastle. The flowers were all white, and with Sylvia's (the church flower lady) help I finally got to decorate the church for my own daughter's wedding - what a delight that was. Lucy's friend Rev Kate was conducting her first wedding ceremony so not only was that special but also she was doing it in tandem. Lucy is a teacher of the deaf so every part of the day was

signed for guests who were deaf. The reception was held over the road in Tetherdown Hall where fairy dust had been sprinkled. There was a magical brightly coloured bedouin tent, decked out with fancy floor cushions and twinkly fairy lights for children, no adults allowed. They had a photobooth. Everyone had photos to take home and Lucy and Simon had a book of everyone's photograph and messages by the end of the evening. After food,

speeches, and cake cutting, we were entertained by the amazing 'Angels of Kaos' choir. Lucy had walked with her dad to the church, and afterwards we all walked over the road to the reception. From the big white bows on the church doors down to the last detail, everyone got the feeling of being at a country wedding rather than nearly the middle of London. On reflection, the day was - just perfect. Olive Simpkins



A gloriously happy day

WEDDING CELEBRATION

The wedding of Andrew Deans and Kirsty Harrison took place at St Nicholas Church, Cramlington on 5th August 2011 on a gloriously sunny summer's day.

Andrew, son of Malcolm and Susan, grew up in Greenwell Park, where his parents have resided for 25 years, and attended Lanchester EP Primary School. His bride Kirsty grew up in South Shields, and they both now live in Cramlington.

The best man was Richard Smart, and the ushers were Michael Glendinning, Chris Smith and Kirsty's brother, Peter. Kirsty's bridesmaids were friends Sarah Smith, Nikki Kinvig and Andrew's sister Debra.

A beautiful service was followed by a reception at



Lindon Hall, Longhorsley, magic! The happy couple honeymooned in Portugal.

WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT

Aidan and Lynn Hedley are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter, Aimee, to Oliver Walters. The wedding took place in Petersfield Registry Office, Hampshire, on the 26th July 2011 and was attended by a small party of close family and friends. A celebratory meal took place afterwards in Farnham.

Aimee and Oliver have now left the UK to live and work in Dubai, Oliver to continue to pursue his career in aeronautical engineering and Aimee will be teaching Drama in an International School. The couple had initially planned their wedding for 26th August 2012 in Alnwick Gardens Northumberland but plans to move to Dubai

this summer meant that being married before the trip made the move less complicated for them both. They will return to celebrate their marriage in August next year with family and friends at Alnwick Gardens as previously arranged. We wish them well and every happiness in their new life together.
Lynn Hedley



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Do we all like ice cream? "DA!" Children and Dominic Bunney from Lanchester Dairies.

Twenty five years ago, the world witnessed the worst nuclear accident ever known. Radioactive particles still cover a huge area now an exclusion zone, the land abandoned and uninhabitable after the catastrophe.

'The Chernobyl Children's Lifeline' was established in 1992, to help with the problems which will affect the many generations to come. Thousands of children every year are born with, or go on to develop, thyroid cancer, bone cancer and leukaemia. Since its foundation, 'Lifeline' has sent over thousands of tons of multi vitamins and basic healthcare products as well as providing some chemotherapy medicines and helping medical provision in the affected area. Most of its work is centred in Belarus, which received over 70% of the fallout. Affected children are also brought to the UK for recuperative breaks of four weeks,

and over 46,000 youngsters have stayed with host families over the years. On July 26th, 12 Russian children aged from 8 to 10, along with their host families, toured Lanchester Dairies. They were interested to see how the ice cream was made - and even more interested in sampling some!

The event's co-ordinator, Heather Smith, was pleased that the youngsters had settled into life in England so well, and was delighted at the welcome they had received here. They have enjoyed a full programme of events, including visits to Alnwick Castle, Flamingoland and White House Farm, near Morpeth. They've tried scuba diving, watched birds of prey at Washington, and enjoyed a day with Durham School for Girls. The children return home on Friday, after a farewell party, and it is thought that they will have some great memories of the north east!



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LIVING WATERWAYS - Continued from page 1

But then at about 11 am the sky looked brighter and the rain stopped. Everyone's spirits lifted and several families came to join in the fun. Faces were painted, guinea pigs and rabbits were brushed, badges were made as well as flying bats, 3D cows, sheep, and tractors, children followed the nature trail hunting for hidden animals in the undergrowth. Project Officers chatted about their projects and scrummy cakes were bought for tea. But it didn't last and by 2 pm the sky darkened again and the rain returned with a vengeance. By 3 any hope that it was just a brief shower had disappeared and we called it a day. By 4 pm most people had gone and the marquees were coming down. It's a shame we couldn't have had better weather but there was still plenty of fun had by all those involved. What a day! If you would like to know more about the Lanchester Locality Map Project, which is funded by Leader, the Heritage Lottery Fund and Lanchester Parish Council, you can visit the Parish Council Website (www.lanchesterparish.info) or give Sue a ring on 07585001355. If you would like to know more about the Living Waterways Project, which is a joint Project with Durham Wildlife Trust and the Environment Agency, you can always visit the Durham Wildlife Trust website at www.durhamwt.co.uk or contact Michael Rogers on 0191 584 3112.



Scales 'n' Tails stand; Rachel Jent; Natalie McCourt; Cheryl Furness obviously enjoying their work



Braving the rain with a smile on the Durham Wildlife Trust's WildWoods Project Stand



Jess Petrie; Kath Marshall-Ivens; Fern Hodgson, Robert Tomlinson and William Hodgson making crafts

THE VILLAGE VOICE

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CHARITY CONCERT

The Annual charity event Piddlers Pot could only be described as a success on Saturday night, as it raised money in aid of the Children's Heart Unit, at The Freeman Hospital.

Held in Woodlands Hall, on the hills overlooking Lanchester, various artists took to a make-shift stage all in the hope of making a difference.



Jim, Paul and Steve on stage; Juliana far right and James' son centre

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It was a line-up that, while not Glastonbury, still packed just as much punch.

First to the stage were three Consett lads who had come together just for the event. Jim, Paul and Steve were greeted with thunderous applause and people settled in for a fun, if cold night.

Beginning with a cover of Oasis's 'Wonder wall' and closing with John Lennon's 'Imagine', the boys kicked off the night in style.

Next was James who played not just for the crowd, but his 8 year old son who sat, to the amusement of many, with the attention you can expect any 8 year old boy to have.

A new face appeared on the stage, that of Juliana, who went on to prove once and for all that two, really is the magic number. The duet went down a

treat, with 'Someone like you' by Adele stirring the crowd into an excitable shuffle, resulting in some interesting drunken renditions from the crowd. Sadly only one member of Piddlers Pot was able to attend this year, but this didn't stop the one attending member, Garry, for giving it his all, and although the trio were no doubt missed, Garry still made quite a favourable impression.

It's not just the Children's Heart Unit that would see a donation this month however, as companies Lloyds and ATOS announced that they would match up to £200 in charitable donations. The event, named after the first band to perform at the gathering, has in the past raised money for Willow Burn Hospice. Matthew Johnson

A MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE ...

This message does not come from the House as Parliament is currently in recess, although it has been recalled twice so far. Firstly as a result of the phone hacking scandal and again, in the middle of August, as a result of the disgraceful rioting, looting and criminality that we saw on our TV screens in London and in other cities across the country. I am absolutely clear that what we saw was criminality for which there is no excuse. Those who took part need to be caught and put before the courts as soon as possible. However, once we have control of our streets again we do need to take stock. The Prime Minister told us that to understand is

not to excuse and I agree with that. I have written to the Prime Minister to ask him and the Chancellor to look again at the cuts to Police Service budgets, and the government's policies on lenient sentences, reducing CCTV (which has proven so valuable in identifying rioters and looters) and the closure of prisons. When I was recalled to Parliament for 11th August I drove to London the day before, stopping at a number of motorway service stations on the way. At each I saw significant police convoys on their way back to the North from London. I spoke to officers from South Yorkshire, Cheshire, Cleveland, Durham and Northumbria and it was clear to me that whilst

officers from all over the country had surged into London to deal with the rioting and looting there, it had left the thin blue line in the rest of the country thinner still. It is right that police services across the country support one another in emergencies but many of you have already been in touch to share your fears about copy-cat rioting and looting, and with concerns about any proposals that will reduce the number of police and community support officers on our streets in County Durham. I will make sure your concerns are heard in Parliament. Parliament is in recess but I am working in the constituency so if you need to contact me on any issue of concern, then please write to me

at Pat Glass MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA, email me at p.a.t.g.l.a.s.s.m.p@parliament.uk, or phone my office on 01207 501 782.

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GOODBYE TO WILLOW BURN Continued from page 1

an attractive display of locally produced accessories from new range 'Viva.' Many enjoyed the refreshments in the afternoon sunshine, donkey rides proved popular for youngsters, and some unusual visitors attracted attention - a pair of beautiful alpacas!

There was a chance for visitors to view artistic impressions of how the new buildings would eventually look, and the plans are very impressive. Press Officer Ruth Shepherd was on hand to explain that planning permission had been given in 2010, and the land purchased, ready for the construction of the 5.7 million pound development. Plans include increasing the number of in-patient beds and additional facilities

such as a health spa and a therapy suite. The construction will be completed in phases, with work on phase 1 about to begin. Helen Mills, Chief Executive of Willow Burn paid tribute to the strong local support which has always been evident within the

local community. She hopes that the new developments will ensure that Willow Burn would continue to serve the community, as the community had served and supported the Hospice for so long. Every good wish to Willow Burn!



Some elegant visitors to the Fair - two alpacas

UK **onlinecentres** ONLINE LEARNING

Computers for All at the Community Centre has become a registered UK Online Centre for online learning.

This project, designed to encourage people to use the internet, has been promoted by the BBC and is supported by software companies. It is designed for internet beginners and for those who wish to learn a little more about what the internet can do.

Even some experienced computer users have found the online basics courses helpful.

Computers for All run a drop-in facility in Lanchester Community Centre on Monday and Thursday mornings from 9.30 to 11.30am. Come in and have a chat and see what we can offer. Access to the internet and all courses and assistance are completely free.

LOCAL COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS AND HEROES TO STEP FORWARD

Durham Police Authority is asking for local people to come forward and nominate an individual or group of individuals they know about in their community who they feel deserves to be recognised for the work that they do. Members of the Authority are keen to give recognition to these outstanding

individuals who go above and beyond what is often expected of them, by presenting them with an official Police Authority Award.

The Authority's Community Awards Event will take place on 1st December 2011 at The Ramside Hall Hotel, Durham. It aims to recognise and thank individuals and/or groups of individuals who have made a real difference in making their communities safer.

There are six nomination categories as follows:

1. Caring;
2. Serving;
3. Volunteering;
4. Achieving;

5. Courageous;
6. Dedicated.

Durham Police Authority recognises that it is not just the police and community safety partners who do good work in keeping our streets and communities safe but there are local people and groups in our communities who have gone to extraordinary lengths to make their area a better place to live in.

Members of the public can get a nomination form/leaflet by calling 0191 3835511 or through their website at www.durham-pa.gov.uk.

The closing date for nominations is 16th October 2011.



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COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAMME OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS

The County Durham Community Foundation, in partnership with three other local foundations, has won the contract to deliver a £1 million European Social Funding Community Grants programme across the North East from the period of 2011-2013. European Social Fund Community Grants, of up to £12,000, are available for both community and voluntary groups who are working to bring individuals closer to employment.

Key target groups include:

- * disabled people;
- * lone parents;
- * people who are aged over 50;

- * people from ethnic minorities;
- * people who do not have good qualifications;
- * young people who are not in either education, employment or training.

Anyone who wishes to apply for a grant should contact Brenda Dye on 0191 378 6344. Details of the programme, guidelines and application forms can be downloaded via www.cdcf.org.uk/european-social-fund. The deadline for applications for round one of funding is 12th September, but round two will remain open until December 27th 2011.

LYNWOOD SITE REDEVELOPMENT - THE NEXT STEPS

Readers may already be very aware that, for some time now the Lanchester Parish Council has convened a steering committee to consider the redevelopment of the Lynwood House site. This committee includes representatives of Park House GP practice, Lanchester Pharmacy, Derwentside Homes and Mental Health Care and Durham County Council. Together we hope to provide on the site new premises for the GPs, a new pharmacy, a twenty bed mental health unit and twenty nine two-bedroomed flats for elderly people as well as some rooms which will be available for use

by the community. We are currently seeking funding for an exciting new development which was welcomed by the hundred or so residents who recently took part in the public meeting at the Social Club when all this was explained in some detail. Negotiations are also in hand with Durham County Council regarding the lease of the site. As was explained at the public meeting, we plan to manage all this by creating a Community Interest Company whose board will include, in addition to those organisations which

have been noted above, representatives from the community of Lanchester and North West Durham. The Steering Committee for the redevelopment of the site would like to take this opportunity to invite those interested in helping achieve this important resource by joining the newly-created Board to get in touch for informal discussions with either Mike Wardle (Chair) or Sally Laverick (Committee Secretary) before September 12th. Mike Wardle can be contacted on 01207 521622; and Sally can be contacted on 01207 521957.

Gardening in September

September is still warm without the heat of August and there is a temptation to think that summer is over. But often we are delighted with soft, summer days with no shortage of late summer flowers and fruit to pick from trees and hedgerows. However, in both borders and vegetable patch we need to think about autumn and next year.

Borders

September is the time to support tall asters and other herbaceous plants before the wind gets hold of them and cut down stems of perennials and lift and divide clumps which are becoming old and bare in the centre. It is time to plant spring flowering annuals and biennials like bellis,

foxglove and wallflower so that they become well established before the cold nights. You also need to continue to plant spring flowering bulbs including daffodil and hyacinth and plant window boxes and pots for winter interest - I find viola excellent for this purpose which last year existed through all of the heavy snow which we had in December and January. **Vegetable Plot** You need to protect cabbage and other brassicas from pigeon attack by covering them with netting, pegged down around the edges. Tomatoes are unlikely to ripen after the end of the month so pick the green ones and put them in a

paper bag with a banana to encourage their ripening. You can also sow a crop of fast maturing green manure (eg mustard or field beans) which can be chopped up and dug in as a soil conditioner. Finally, turn your compost heap before winter.

General.

During this month clean out bird feeders and replenish them with food; add fallen leaves, grass clippings and other clippings to the compost heap; cut back tree branches overhanging your boundaries and give hedges a final trim to make them look neat through the winter; and choose a dry day to paint sheds and fences to help to preserve them.

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COME (GREEK) DINING WITH ME



Peter Skotidakis, his parents, and trainee chef Andrew at the opening of 'Yannis'

This month sees another successful 'Valentino's' restaurant a few years ago. Now, Peter is bringing traditional Greek cooking to the area. Peter Skotidakis is well known locally as one of the team which opened the popular and rustic wooden tables and chairs, and black and white photos of village life displayed around the two rooms. The food served is also traditional, and includes Greek specialities, such as

gyros, which is pork roasted on a vertical spit, and souvlaki, seasoned chicken or pork cubes cooked on a grill and threaded onto wooden skewers. Special dishes will be offered regularly. Various salads, breads and pitta breads are also on the menu, along with filo parcels and beefteki, a home made burger made from pork and beef mince, seasoned with onions, parsley and oregano. It is hoped that a delivery service will soon be available, covering areas within a 6 mile radius, and 'Yannis' will open daily for coffee, crepes and cakes from 9.00 am. Peter was born in Crete, where his parents still run a taverna but have come to England to help out over the initial opening period and to assist with the cooking. 'Yannis' is the latest venture for Peter, and joins his 'Deano' restaurants in Chesterle-Street and Wickham. He admits that he retains an affection for Lanchester, he has made a lot of friends in the village and this return "feels like coming home"!

FULL THROTTLE - BANDS FESTIVAL

Residents of Cadger Bank and the Newbiggen Lane farm complex may have been aware of some loud music on Friday/Saturday 22/23rd July. Three marquees had been erected to accommodate over 40 rock bands and one heavy metal group who have not signed contracts with organisations in the music industry. The bands were given 40 minutes to an hour each, to perform in the Main Stage Marquee between early afternoon and late at night. Some solo acts and duos performed in the two smaller marquees named BishopFM Stage and Olly's Lounge, with DJ's Chris Tarn & Trevor Redshaw, Jamie & Ritchie playing their music in these locations as well. A tented village almost covered the field and there must have been at least 200 or more tents and at least 500 people. Most of the festival fans came from Bishop Auckland where the Full Throttle organisation started and others travelled mainly from Tyneside. These band festivals have taken place for the last 6 years and are proving to be extremely popular. The location changes from year to year but the organisers are very impressed with the current location at Lanchester Dairies farm and will probably return sometime in the near future. Strict rules are enforced very similar to those of the bikers when they visit the area.



'All at Sea' blast out some heavy metal



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A SONG FOR MARION

Lanchester film extras Irene and David Rees were on location at Newcastle City Hall and the Journal Tyne Theatre for the film 'A Song for Marion', a 2012 release.

The plot involves 72 year old Arthur, (Terence Stamp) a grumpy man who gets more than he bargained for when he joins an unconventional choir. He is at odds with his son (Christopher Eccleston) and tries to resist the charms of the choir director (Gemma Arterton). He is a reluctant latecomer who learns to love again.

Twenty accredited extras were joined by 800 members of the public and local choirs including the Hexham Orpheus and the Backworth Male Voice who invited the extras to join their spontaneous pre-stage rehearsal.

At the end of filming the extras were privileged to see the cast singing on stage as the final scenes

of a choral competition were shot.

However, the most productive, enjoyable and strange episode occurred while the extras were mustering on arrival.

The chorister adjacent to David related how sadly he had lost contact with an old friend who happened to live in Lanchester. David noted the name of the singer and on return home emailed his friend in Lanchester.

The friend was none other than Brian Oram of the Village Voice!

With 1000 extras milling around the theatre David wondered what the odds were on such a brief encounter taking place. Was it coincidence or guidance from above? David feels the latter explanation is the more logical.

The film has undoubtedly contributed to the local economy but on a personal level these two extras left Newcastle feeling that they may have brokered contact between friends whose contact had lapsed.



Lanchester resident, David Rees, wearing his T shirt with the title 'A Song for Marion' a recent film produced on location in Newcastle in which both he and his wife were extras.

MOVING STORY OF EMILY

Emily's parents Neil and Barbara Colledge were watching an appeal on television for donations for poverty stricken and sick children in Africa along with young daughter, Emily. Having seen these graphic scenes and pictures Emily immediately rushed to get her purse, emptied the contents into her

favourite mug and said she wanted to give all her money to the children and babies in Africa. She did not want the babies to die and the children to be without food and water. Within a short time Emily and her mum were in Lanchester Red Cross Shop where Emily repeated her request that she wanted to give her

money for food and water for babies to live. It was a very moving moment for her mum and staff at the shop! The money was her pocket money saved and amounted to £4.44. What a kind generous gesture from a lovely little girl just turned four years old, who will be going to the EP School in September.



Four year old Emily Colledge donates her money to the Red Cross 'east Africa food crisis appeal', accepted by Joyce Burt, founder member of the Red Cross Shop, Lanchester.



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THE SOUND OF MAGIC AT ALL SAINTS' SCHOOL



All Saints' School choir in good voice for the special Assembly

All Saints' School rang with music on July 19th when they held their end of term musical assembly. This assembly is now an annual event, marking the transition of Year 6 pupils to secondary education, as well as celebrating the strong musical tradition within All Saints' School. Head Teacher Karen McKenna welcomed the

audience packed into the school hall, expressing her pride in the hard work of the students, allowing them to make such excellent progress in their musical skills. Many of the youngsters performed pieces which they had practised for their recent music exams, and they were supported and accompanied by Mr Senior, Brass teacher

from St Bede's School, and by Mr Coates, who is tutoring a group of pupils who have begun to play the guitar. Both teachers praised the commitment of their students, and encouraged them to keep up their effort and interest in their future school careers. The young musicians confidently performed on several instruments,



A rock guitarist of the future?

including brass, the piano and guitars, and Miss Egglestone led the school choir in the lovely songs 'You raise me up' and 'I close my Eyes'. On several occasions, students played their own compositions or variations, a mark of their confidence and musical competence. One of the many highlights came when two future rock

guitarists played 'In the Hall of the Mountain King' and 'Lord of the Dance'! As Mrs McKenna remarked, this musical assembly grows bigger with every year, as more and more pupils become involved. Well done everyone! In the evening the whole school performed the moving production of 'Yanomamo' (see below).

ALL SAINTS SING THE 'SONG OF THE FOREST'



'Yanomamo' - just part of the whole-school cast, the finale

'Yanomamo' is an ecological musical, which has been performed world wide and presented on TV as 'The Song of the Forest' with Sting as the narrator. The Yanomamo tribe have lived in the Brazilian

rain forest for 20,000 years. Now, their existence, and that of millions of animal and plant species is threatened by the destruction of the tribes and the arrival of outsiders. The delicate and complicated balance of nature is under threat, and soon, the Rain Forest, crucial to the world's eco system will disappear, together with the Indians and the wild life. The hall was packed on the evening of July 19th as the whole school took to the stage to entertain, inform, and move their audience. Dressed in colourful tee shirts, the students, through song, actions and expressions, showed how the forest people, the trees, birds, plant life, animals and insects all had their place in the 'Tree of Life'. A sloth told us there was

'No need for Speed', chimps were 'Simply hanging around' and an army of the smallest children became ants, the 'Soldiers of the Forest'. A jaguar sang his lonely, haunting lament and Indians told us how the land gave them all they needed. Sadly, life is changing, as the trees are felled for commercial timber, the land is cleared for ranching, and shanty towns develop as thousands of peasants from Brazil's over crowded cities arrive in search of a better life. The students of All Saints enjoyed giving their performance, and had obviously learned much about this major world problem. They gave us a sympathetic and sensitive account, for they are the generation who must face the future problems of the world.

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HERE COME THE BEASTS!

As usual over the school holidays, there are some exciting things happening for youngsters in our library!

During craft sessions this month, amusing and colourful 'mini beasts' are being created. In the first session, flies and caterpillars were brought to life, and on Thursday August 4th, mice, frogs and snails all made their appearance ready to join the menagerie.

The library's Chris Nash led the session, which showed the children how to transform an ordinary paper plate into an amusing mouse mask. Using card for ears, noses and teeth, and with the aid of scissors, felt tipped pens and glue, the group of youngsters chattered together as they cut and stuck, adults on hand to help the little ones with the most fiddly bits. One

mouse looked very glamorous with her long mascara eyelashes! Next came work on funny frogs seated on lily pads, these had been cleverly planned using different coloured card. The young people really

enjoyed seeing the creatures taking shape, and shading the faces, which were completed with long curly tongues. The final "mini beast" was a snail, complete with its shiny shell and smiling face. Shapes were cut, coloured and

then carefully placed on display card. This was a great chance for the children to practise their creative skills, use their imagination, meet with old friends and make new ones. A very enjoyable session for everyone - thank you Chris and Monica!



We're having a great time



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EP SCHOOL LEAVERS SERVICE

The Year 6 Leavers Service held at the Parish Church is always a happy day for some and a sad day for others, but one thing it always contains is emotion. This well organised service was quick moving and children led. The first hymn which set the mood was very lively accompanied by the whole school singing and signing. There followed four prayers along with Taize chants and three appropriate readings from the bible by pupils.

Nineteen children stood at the lectern in turn and recounted their favourite memories from their time at school. These were mostly amusing and stemmed from certain situations from school itself, and from trips away and the Comenius Project in Portugal.

It seemed in no time at all that it was time for the graduation certificates to be awarded following anecdotes and stories about each child read by the Head Teacher and Deputy in turn. This

caused much laughter from the very large congregation.

The presentation of awards began with 100% Attendance Certificates and it was surprising how many pupils managed to achieve this award. The Rotary Club Award was made by Fiona Wood OBE, Vice President of Consett Rotary Club, who gave a brief outline of the goals of Rotary International before

presenting a cheque to Oliver Bartles Smith and Freya Duffy on behalf of the Explorer Group who helped host Comenius visitors. The year 2 Lions Club Award for Citizenship went to Luke Young and the same award for Year 6 was presented to Ellen Barnett. After an emotional speech by Head Teacher, Jane Davis, the The Henry Dancer Memorial Award was

presented by Jane Dancer to a very worthy winner, Luke Suddes.

Just before church warden, David Baggot, closed the service with the blessing, Mrs Davis read out a lovely letter from Canon Peter Waterhouse who retired just a few weeks previously. She also made a tribute to teacher, Mrs Jarvis, who is beginning her phased retirement next term after 21 years in the school.

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Award winners at the EP School Leavers Service were - left to right: Freya Duffy (Rotary Award); Oliver Bartles-Smith (Rotary Award); Luke Suddes (Henry Dancer Memorial Award); Ellen Barnett (Lions Citizenship); and Luke Young (Year 2 Citizenship)

MALTON BRIDGE



Progress report on Malton Bridge. The bridge is now in place and on schedule for opening in September.



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BURNHOPE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Cricket Galore

Burnhope Primary School pupils have had a very successful sporting season. The girls' cricket team were Derwentside Kwik Cricket champions and qualified for the County competition where they reached the final and became Durham County Winners. They then travelled to Carlisle to

take part in the Regional finals where they secured 3rd place in the whole of the North of England. The boys' cricket team also achieved Derwentside Kwik Cricket champion status and then runners-up in the County competition. This also qualified them for the Regional finals in

Carlisle where they played well against the top 12 teams in the north of England.

Our Year 3/4 Cricket team played at the Derwentside Kwik Cricket Festival at Leadgate and won all 5 games to become Derwentside Winners. Well done to all our excellent teams!



Burnhope County Cricket Finalists

Goodbye to Year 6 children

Councillor Ossi Johnson, School Governor, visited school at the end of the summer term to say goodbye to our Year 6 children who are leaving us to move to the next phase of their

education. He called in to see them on our non-uniform day, when all our children and staff dressed as something related to 'castles' which was the theme of our creativity

fortnight. As you can see, they all made a good effort, whilst also raising money for the local NSPCC. We wish all our leavers every success in their new schools.



Burnhope Year 6 students with Councillor Ossi Johnson

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'THE GLEAMING ART OF THE EARLY CLARINET'

The opening concert in the Lanchester Early Music Festival saw the first appearance of Dr Jonathan Caudle playing both the clarinet in B flat and E flat. The concert opened with an organ arrangement of an 'Andante' from a Haydn concerto. The music throughout was permeated by a folksong quality to the main themes.

The first of the evening's Clarinet works followed with a Sonata by F Devienne. It began with a fast movement featuring alternating passages for harpsichord and clarinet; Dr Caudle was able to show his articulate and flawless playing to great effect. An expansive Adagio followed with a cantabile clarinet line flowing over the still harmonies. The work finished on an earthy rondo allowing the clarinet to dart to and fro between the harpsichord accompaniment.

Another organ arrangement of Haydn

followed: the Adagio from Notturmo No 7.

The next Clarinet work was the Concerto in G by J M Molter, for which Dr Caudle used the smaller E flat Clarinet (nicknamed the mock trumpet). The music began in a typical 'sturm und drang' fashion, the slow movement being a contrast to the first with a gentle lyrical almost bohemian theme. The finale again used the high registers of the Clarinet sound true to its name the 'mock trumpet' with the harpsichord driving the music insistently on. The first half of the concert closed on an aria from a 'Pimpinione' by G P Telemann. This was typical of Telemann showing not only the dexterity of the clarinet but the cantabile element in the higher registers.

The second half of the concert began with a late Mozart Organ work, (Andante in F), originally

written for mechanical organ.

Next followed an arrangement of the organ Trio sonata in E flat (BWV 525). The arrangement worked well with Dr Caudle's articulation of the main themes in the two outer movements and eloquent and expressive playing in the central Adagio.

The final piece was a suite arranged from the harpsichord music of J P Rameau. The work came to a dramatic conclusion with the Gavotte et Doubles being a series of variations, each becoming faster as the music proceeded, ending a frenzy of activity. The playing and interpretation of the music was, as ever, of the highest order throughout. Dr Caudle was able to display his flawless technique and musicality clearly putting his own interpretation and mark on the music making it become vital and alive.

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'A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC THE ROSES HEARD'

The second Early Music Festival concert (30th July) featured Andrew Jakob, bassoon and Dr Ian Brunt, harpsichord and organ.

It opened with a lilting siciliano from Haydn's Divertimento No 21 for organ, to which the music was well suited.

A bassoon sonata by J Besozzi began with a melodic allegro, with instrumental interplay. The expressive adagio ensued, high in the bassoon register. The Sonata finished on a dance-like presto. Andrew's control and interpretation animated every stage of the performance.

Dr Brunt played the adagio from Haydn's Symphony No 49 'La Passione'. A mysterious opening led into fragmentary melodies, then a chorale motif abruptly stopping and starting, returning to the atmosphere of the introduction.

Andrew continued with a bassoon sonata by J E Galliard, showing excellent articulation throughout. The first half of the concert ended with the sonata in C major by J F Fasch. Andrew eased his way through a demanding largo, then an angular allegro, clearly expressed. The andante demonstrated the lyrical character of the

bassoon. An allegro assai brought the work to a virtuosic finale.

Part two opened with Handel's andante from Organ Concerto in F, skilfully played, full of Handel's long melodic sequences.

The bassoon continued with the sonata in G minor by L Merci, with an allemande, a gentle cantabile and two menuets. A Telemann sonata followed delighting with constant invention and varied expression throughout.

Vivaldi's concerto in A minor opened with pulsing chords preceding the bassoon with dramatic *continued on opposite page*

'A MUSICAL POSTCARD FROM HAMBURG'

The 3rd concert in the LEMF (Saturday 13th August) featured the return of Philip Cull (oboe) and Brian Stewart (flute). Dr Brunt also returned to play the organ, flute and harpsichord.

The concert opened with two short organ pieces by Scheidemann. The first piece hinted at the forthcoming musical developments and the second was a short Chorale prelude.

The first work featuring the ensemble was a Trio sonata by Telemann. The music began gently, setting the scene for the first two

movements. The Largo came as an expressive contrast with the final Allegro returning to the bright mood of the opening.

A Duo for two flutes by Telemann followed, featuring Dr Brunt and Brian Stewart. The first movement was calm and other times playful. This led into a brisk Presto full of motoric drive. The middle movement let time stand still as the music gently rose and fell. The final Allegro acted as a brilliant contrast. The interpretation and playing of the duo was exemplary. Two short Harpsichord

works by Handel and Mattheson followed.

The first half closed with another Trio sonata by Telemann, the highlights being the insistent rhythmic drive reminiscent of a folk dance in the first movement and the slow largo with many passages of imitation and echo between the performers.

The second half of the concert opened with a gentle Arioso from a CPE Bach Organ sonata.

A Trio sonata by Quantz featured next; the music was elegant and well crafted.

Next, Dr Brunt played two works by Weckmann on the harpsichord. Both contained motifs and sonorities reminiscent of both the style and exquisite darkness of Couperin.

The final work of the evening was a Trio sonata by CPE Bach. The music itself was original ranging from the almost orchestral writing of the opening movement to the sparse two part counterpoint of the central Andante, the last movement finishing on a flourish of activity.

The three performers were able to display an intimate understanding of chamber music with

Philip Cull's style of oboe playing perfectly complementing that of Brian Stewart's flute

technique. It can only be hoped that all three will return for a further evening of fine chamber music.



Philip Cull, Dr Brunt and Brian Stewart



Dr Brunt and Andrew Jakob

continued from opposite page

runs over the bold harpsichord figurations. The larghetto was more expressive and lyrical, allowing the bassoon to shine. The concerto finished on a brisk allegro, but broke into brief lyrical episodes before returning to semiquaver runs on the bassoon, bringing the concert to an exciting finish. Both musicians played beautifully throughout. Andrew displayed the full range of the bassoon from its voluptuous lower registers to the plaintive melancholy of the high registers. Everyone hoped he would return for a further concert.

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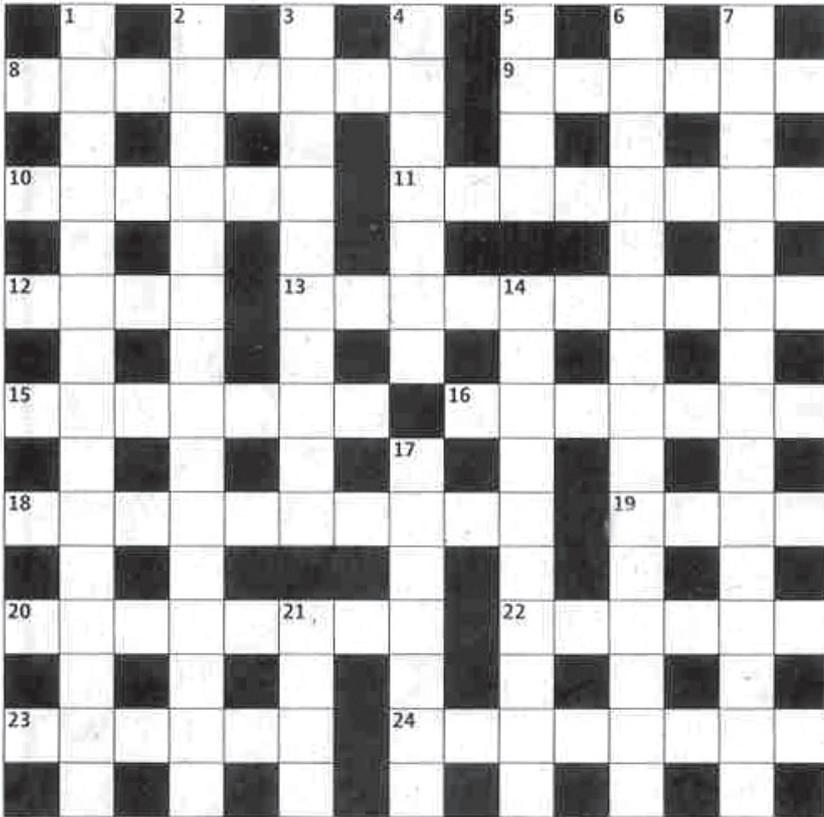
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CROSSWORD 64



- | ACROSS | DOWN |
|---|---|
| 8. By the sound of it (8) | 1. Refresh late ship for opera (3,5,7) |
| 9. Nag (6) | 2. Background noise from clash with aluminum score (10,5) |
| 10. Stalking position in built-up Windsor (6) | 3. Reform proud, gutsy set of experts (5,5) |
| 11. English county (8) | 4. Drink cooler (3,4) |
| 12. Came for spice (4) | 5. Mark for darts player (4) |
| 13. Agents (2-8) | 6. Apply pressure (fig) (7,3,5) |
| 15. Bliss from toenail manicure (7) | 7. Not so often (5,3,3,4) |
| 16. Grovels (7) | 14. Rodeo editor drops me for being very tidy (3,7) |
| 18. Surrender control (5,5) | 17. Swindler (7) |
| 19. One's a long time! (4) | 21. Mark from the editor (4) |
| 20. Reflections (8) | |
| 22. Thrill (6) | |
| 23. Like Pooh perhaps (6) | |
| 24. Scrooge perhaps (8) | |

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 63

- | ACROSS | DOWN |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 7. contrast | 1. hologram |
| 9. medium | 2. see 10 across |
| 10,2, four-star | 3,19. cancan dancer |
| 11. Coldstream | 4. emission |
| 12. Cretan | 5. adornments |
| 14. opium den | 6. Mugabe |
| 15. impeach | 8. tallow |
| 17. ensnare | 13. the year dot |
| 20. sweetpea | 16. cupidity |
| 22. insect | 18. Rochdale |
| 23. horrid acts | 19. see 2 |
| 24. sideshow | 21. whoops |
| 25. opt out | 22. insane |
| 26. randomly | 24. see 24 across |

Name _____

Address _____

Please send your entries (by deadline date on back page) to The Village Voice, c/o Lanchester Community Centre, Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester, DH7 0PB.

CROSSWORD 63

There were just 12 entries in last month's crossword competition. Congratulations to Mrs B Whittingham of Greenwell Park who was the winner in the draw and will receive the £10 prize. Test your skill on John Wilson's latest challenge.

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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.

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

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WI NEWS

President Jennifer Macdonald welcomed members and visitors to our June meeting, Ann Carr read a humorous poem and transport arrangements were made for visits to Lanchester Dairies. Sue Lynch from Edmundbyers WI reported on the National AGM which was held in Liverpool. This was very interesting and included the information that 21,000 new members joined last year. June Wallis won the raffle, competition winners were Maureen Barker and Angela Velleman.

Our speaker this evening was Ethne Brown who brought along a puppy in training, Quilla. Ethne told us the history of guide dogs from the first world war when experimenting with guide dogs started in America, to the 1930's when guide dog training moved to Britain, to guide dogs used during and after the second world war to give people their lives and independence back. In the early 1950's all breeds of dog were tried; from these they chose the dogs they use today. At six weeks the puppies go out to trainers for a year for their initial training then they move on to their

next training which includes crossing roads. They are then matched with their new owner and they work together till they are ready to go home. Children as young as twelve can now be considered for a guide dog and everyone who applies is given a three day assessment to see if they are suitable. This was a very interesting talk and Quilla was a star. Jennifer thanked Ethne for bring Quilla along and sharing her experiences with us. We also sampled some of Margaret Bond's scones and jam which were a delicious addition to the refreshments.



Jean Forster talking to speaker Ethne Brown about guide dog puppy Quilla

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Rumbledethumps – serve with a roast

This is a variation of a much-loved vegetable dish from the Borders. It can be prepared in advance and popped into the oven towards the end of a joint's roasting time. Serves 4

Ingredients

½ kg/1lb2ozs potatoes
300g/10ozs swede/turnip or carrot (or a mixture)
50g/2ozs butter
200g/7ozs Savoy cabbage, finely sliced
50g/2ozs cheddar cheese, grated

Method

1. Peel and chop the potatoes and swede/turnip and boil them together in a large pan of salted water until tender.
2. Preheat the oven to 170C/Gas3/fan oven 150C. Drain the vegetables well, return them to the pan and cover tightly, then shake over a low heat to dry them off completely.
3. Heat half the butter in another pan, add the cabbage and cook until just tender but still bright

green (3-4 minutes). Tip all the buttery cabbage into the potato pan and add the remaining butter. Roughly mash everything together and season to taste with salt and pepper. Tip into an ovenproof dish, top with the cheese and bake for 30 minutes.
4. Before serving, preheat the grill. Flash the rumbledethumps under the grill for 5 minutes to brown the top.



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ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU

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

Country Market

The next market will take place in Lanchester Community Centre on Saturday 3rd September from 10.00 - 11.30 am. The usual cakes, scones, pies, jams, chutneys, crafts and plants will be on sale.

Scottish Country Dancing

A class for new and recent beginners, run by qualified teacher Doris Jackson, will resume on Friday 9th September at 7 pm in the Small Hall of Lanchester Community Centre.

Scottish country dancing is excellent aerobic exercise in a social and enjoyable setting. Light weight shoes are best and a kilt is not necessary! Do come and join in the fun!

WI

Our next meeting will be held in the small hall of the Community Centre on Monday 5th September at 7 pm.

The speaker will be Hazel Stephenson giving a talk about how she wrote a book against all the odds called 'Land Girls and Lovers', and the competition is a bookmark. A trip to the Gala Theatre is planned for Wed 28th March 2012 to see 42nd Street. If you would like to go, please bring £15.50 in an envelope with your name on and give it to Jennifer.

We also need £5 deposit please for the November birthday meal with the balance in October.

If you have been thinking of joining us why not come along as a visitor when you can be sure of an interesting evening and a warm welcome.

National Lacemaking Day

On Saturday 10th September, there will be a demonstration of Bobbin Lacemaking in Lanchester Library from 9 am - 12 noon.

Early Music Festival

On Saturday 10th September at 7.30 pm in Lanchester Parish Church, The Chapter House Clerks of Durham will present 'Requiem from the Renaissance', directed by Andrew Fowler with Dr Ian Brunt (harpsichord and organ), a programme by Tallis, Byrd, Gibbons and Tomas Luis de Victoria celebrating his 400th Anniversary.

Tickets £8/£5 concessions, with unwaged, full-time students, under 18 years free available at the door or in advance by sending a SAE to Dr Ian Brunt, The Lodge, Lanchester, DH7 0LF, with cheques made payable to All Saints Lanchester PCC.

Wildlife Group

On 13th September at 7.30 pm in the small hall of the Community Centre, Steve Ashton, People and Wildlife Officer, Tees Valley Wildlife Trust, will give a talk on 'Birds'.

Junior Wildlife

On 25th September there will be a visit to Hedleyhope Fell. Meet in the Community Centre car park at 9.45 am.

Short Circuit Walks

3rd September, 10.30 am, East Rainton, 5 miles. Meet adjacent to St Cuthbert's Church, Quarry House Lane, East Rainton, off A690, NZ335477.
17th September, 10.30 am, Derwent Valley, 5.5 miles. Meet at Swalwell Visitors' Centre, NZ197620.

WHAT'S ON?

Lanchester Valley Conservation Volunteers

The next meeting of the Lanchester Valley Conservation Volunteers will be on Sunday 11th September. We will be joining Durham County Council Ranger Service to manage the grassland at Hurbuck Triangle, a Local Nature Reserve in the Parish. This is a beautiful orchid rich grassland and the job for the day will be to give it its annual cut and rake.

No experience is needed as full training is given on the day, so if you are 14 or 114 and would like to meet new people, get a little fitter or help protect local wildlife please get in touch.

You can contact Sue via email sue.charlton@lanchesterparish.info or by phone on 07585 001355.

Mothers' Union

The meeting on Wednesday 14th September, 7.30 pm in the Chapter House is the first in our new programme when Dorothy Rand will speak about growing up in the 1950's.

Lanchester Reading Group

We would welcome new members when we start our next ten week session on 20th September - 2 pm to 3.30 pm in the upstairs room at the Community Centre.

Suggested books with which to start are: Felicia's Journey - William Trevor (Penguin) The Hare with Amber Eyes - Edmund de Waal (Vintage)

Subsequent books to be members' suggestions. Further information from Suzanne Eckford (529155).

Ceilidh

Ceilidh tickets are selling fast for the Lanchester Partnership's forthcoming fundraising Ceilidh to be held at Lanchester Social Club Saturday September 24th 7.15 to 11pm.

Music will be from the legendary local Steel Strings Band.

The Bar will be open for drinks but please bring food to share with others.

There will be many raffle prizes to be won, several donated very generously by local businesses.

Please contact Kate Wicks 520258 and Jill Gladstone 528114 for tickets or ask any other Partnership Trustee or Group Leader. £7.50 per adult with family tickets available.

All proceeds to go towards helping to run the many Village projects the Partnership supports.

Flower Club

On Wednesday 28th September at 2.00 pm in the Community Centre, Val Guest will give a demonstration entitled 'Fruits of Autumn'.

Centenary Dinner Dance

Lanchester Lawn Tennis Club will be holding its Centenary Dinner Dance on Friday 30th September at 7 pm in South Causey Inn, Stanley. There will be a 3 course dinner with a glass of wine and coffee, followed by a Singer and Disco until 11.30 pm. Tickets £30.00.

PACT Meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 28th September at 7.15 pm in Lanchester Community Centre. All welcome.

Lanchester Community Centre

Sunday Bridge

Sunday Bridge will be held on the following dates. Entrance is £3 starting at 2-00pm, everybody is welcome so put these dates in your diary.

Oct 2nd 2011
Nov 6th 2011
Dec 4th 2011



Jan 8th 2012
Feb 5th 2012
Mar 4th 2012
Apr 1st 2012

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Being prepared for an emergency

How would you prepare and respond to an emergency situation in Lanchester?

Come along to an Open House event in Lanchester Community Centre on Monday 26th September from 2.30 pm till 8.00 pm where there will be information on flooding, drainage, rivers, other emergencies, how to prepare, respond and recover personally and as a community. This event has the support of the Lanchester Partnership. Look out for more information on posters and leaflets nearer the date but in the meantime if you would like to know more please contact:

Karen Gibson, Community Flood Engagement Officer, Civil Contingencies Unit (CCU), Durham County Council, Green Lane Council Offices, Green Lane, Spennymoor, County Durham, DL16 6JQ.

Tel: 01388 824021

Email: karen.gibson@durhamdarlingtonccu.gov.uk

Paradiso Club Advance Notice

A new season of monthly 'Socials' will start on Sunday October 2nd at 7 pm in the Main Hall of the Community Centre. There will be wine, soft drinks, nibbles, raffle prizes and an opportunity to see the award winning film 'The King's Speech' on the superb projector and big screen.

Membership lasts for a year and is £5.

Entry to each social is £2.50 which covers raffle tickets, refreshments and the film.

Members can bring occasional guests, guest entry is £3.50.

Cranford

Durham Dramatic Society is staging a production of Cranford at the City Theatre, Fowler's Yard, Back Silver Street, Durham, from Sunday, 17th September to Saturday, 24th September.

Cranford is the much-loved story of Miss Matty, and the other ladies of Cranford, as they encounter the forces of change: the marriage of an aristocrat to the local doctor of humble origins, and the loss of Miss Matty's money, leading to the reversal of roles between her and her erstwhile servant, Martha.

Performances start at 2.30 pm on Sunday, and at 7.30 pm on Monday to Saturday. Tickets cost £6.00. Concessions at £4.50 are obtainable for the performances on Sunday and Monday.

Alter Ego

Identity theft is no laughing matter. Or is it? In the hands of Durham playwright Tom Casling it certainly is. A number of Lanchester playgoers enjoyed Tom's last play 'Grandad' when it played at Chester le Street. Tom's latest play 'Alter Ego' is just as funny while keeping the audience guessing right up to the last line. The play is on at Chester le Street Community Centre from Tuesday 27th September to Saturday 1st October starting at 7.15 pm. For tickets ring 0191 3883778 or 0191 3885957.

Social Club

Saturday 3rd September, Hayley Storm, Stunning Young Vocalist

Saturday 10th September, Jolene, Super Vocalist

Saturday 17th September, Chris Small

Saturday 24th September, Sonia Michelle, One of Clubland's Finest Singers

Members' Evening

Durham Dramatic Society is to hold a Members' Evening on 2nd September, to which potential new members are invited, to see what the Society does and how they can get involved. Society members do not necessarily act: they can make scenery and costumes, select props, provide sound and light, and help front-of-house, selling programmes and refreshments.

On the Members' Evening, interested potential members will have the opportunity to see round the theatre and take part in the entertainment planned for the Evening: songs from Gilbert and Sullivan. The Evening will start at 7.30 pm in the City Theatre, Fowler's Yard, Durham, DH1 3RA. For further information contact Lesley Anderson on 01207 521678.

New Writing Festival

Durham Dramatic Society is holding a New Writing Festival at the City Theatre, Fowler's Yard, Back Silver Street, Durham, on Friday, 30th September and Saturday, 1st October.

The festival will consist of the performance on each evening of 3 new plays, written by members of the Society. The First Sign of Madness by Chris Neville Smith, concerns the relationship between Joanna and Craig; Plan C, by Alan Godfrey, depicts the members of a terrorist cell when their Plan B fails; Crossing the Line, by Chris Joby, concerns the artist Mondrian in dispute with a fellow artist and an intervention from an unexpected source.

Performances start at 7.30 pm. Tickets cost £5.00 and are obtainable at the door.

CHORAL SOCIETY CELEBRATES 40 YEARS WITH HANDEL'S MESSIAH'

2012 marks the 40th Anniversary of Lanchester and District Choral and Operatic Society. The society was founded in 1972 by David Hughes along with John Ord and Stan Hunter. David, who still conducts the choir, comments that the society still adheres to its original concept of performing Choral works in one half of the year and presenting a staged musical in the other. Over the years the society has brought a wealth of music to the village to much acclaim. David says "We no longer perform full operettas, Anno Domini and a lack of venue that suits us (what a wonderful asset the lecture and drama theatre in St Bede's School were to the village!) has brought this phase to an

end. However we have moved to costumed presentations of medleys of the music of popular composers of the last 150 years which our audiences seem to enjoy greatly (see last month's Village Voice). There still are several founder members singing in the choir and many who joined within the first year or two."

The first performance the society gave, back in December 1972, was Part 1 of Handel's 'Messiah' along with Vivaldi's 'Gloria,' and the committee felt it would be very appropriate to celebrate 40 years with a full 'Messiah' in February 2012 with specially invited soloists. We want to issue an invitation to any former members, to anyone who has sung in Messiah

before, or indeed to anyone who has never performed this work or even sung in a choir before to come along and take part in what we hope will be a fantastic experience. Rehearsals are held every Friday at 7.15 pm in All Saints RC Primary school starting September 2nd. Don't worry if this edition does not reach you in time, just come along when you can. Further details from David on 01207 520427 or the chairman Bill Whitehead on 01207 521458.

BARITONE WANTED

The Derwentside Singers (a small mixed Ensemble based in Consett) are looking for a Baritone to join them. They were formed over fifty years ago, and have performed both regionally and nationally at Celebrity Concerts, Festivals, Charity Concerts, Church Events and many others. Their repertoire spans a wide genre of music from Classical, Light Music to Musical Theatre. For further details please contact Mrs Isobel Varty, Tel. (01207) 591194.

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LONDON TO EDINBURGH CYCLE RIDE

The London to Edinburgh cycle ride passed through the village where there was a drinkstop station, late morning on Saturday 23rd July. There must have been more than 50 riders on a 5 day sponsored ride who had stayed overnight at of disadvantaged children, families and local communities worldwide to allow them to fulfil their potential and realise their dreams. More information can be seen on their website: www.quintessentiallyfoundation.com



Tired riders have a welcome break on the corner opposite the Village Green and King's Head

BOWLS REPORT

The season is winding down but there is still a month of bowling left. We finished in mid table in the Tuesday league and eighth in the mid-week evening league. There are a few more games to play on Mondays and Saturdays. The veterans' knock-out competition starts soon. We finished runners-up last year so we have hopes of going one better. To finish the season we arrange some friendly matches. The game against our friends at Birtley Town Bowling club is always well anticipated. A close fought match resulted in Birtley winning by the narrow margin of 3 shots but yours truly was delighted to be on the best winning Lanchester rink and received a generous gift from our visitors.

Non-members can come and play on our green for the princely sum of £2 a person. Bowls can be provided. Please bring flat soled shoes and if you want a little advice ask someone for a few tips. You will usually find someone on the green most fair afternoons, not that we have seen many of those this year. If you enjoy your game, how about joining the club next year?

Jumbles (informal competitions where players get to play with different partners during the afternoon) will start on Tuesdays after the Tom Burleigh Knockout and on Saturdays after Club Competition Finals Day, September 10th.

FUN DAY AT ST BEDE'S

St Bede's was the place to be on the 18th July. There were giant traditional games including inflatables, as well as a very busy ice cream van. The inclement weather certainly didn't dampen spirits. This was all in aid of the year 9 fun day to put a memorable end to their year, before embarking upon their next year of studies at St Bede's.

Giant Jenga, Twister and mini golf were some of the traditional games set up in the yard for the pupils to enjoy. However, certain sixth formers certainly took a liking to some of the activities and joined in. Inside the buildings a number of inflatable games, an assault course and a bouncy castle were erected, which proved to be very popular and enjoyable. Throughout the day, the children had a chance to take part in a number of taster sessions in a variety of different areas. Steel drums, Bollywood

and Zumba dancing were available, all provided by professionals. Overall there was a positive outcome seen in all the children as they enjoyed their chosen activities throughout the day. From what we saw, the day was a huge success both with the pupils and the staff. The St Bede Reporting Team



Boys and girls learning Taekwondo

ST BEDE'S PROM



Young men from St Bede's School dressed in their finery for the 'Prom' held at Slaley Hall at the end of the summer term.



The steel drummers

NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any articles for the next Village Voice by 20th September. The deadline for adverts is 18th September.

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The views expressed in this periodical are not necessarily those of the publishers. Whilst all efforts are made to check the authenticity and accuracy of all articles submitted for publication, occasionally something is bound to be printed incorrectly. Please let us know and we will endeavour to correct the mistake.