

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 10 Volume 13

Lanchester, October 2012

For contact information, see page 2

ORNSBY HILL HOLIDAY LODGES DEVELOPMENT

A consultation event led by Coldstream architect Walter Ross was held from 4.30 pm to 7 pm in the Community Centre. Although advertised in 'The Journal' and a Durham County newspaper, the Village Voice had not been notified, so the event came as a surprise to residents and not many attended.

Plans for eight timber lodges, to be let on a weekly basis, and a house for the site manager were shown. The 3-bedroomed houses are to provide five-star accommodation and four have a hot-tub and sauna attached. Some will have facilities for the disabled. Access to and from Maiden Law Bank will

be in the wooded area below the present access to the houses and the gate into the wooded area. Low-light, on demand lighting will illuminate the road and a novel, acorn-shaped bus shelter will be at the entrance.

It is hoped that the lodges, which will be available for 12 months of the year, will provide a quiet, rural experience for those staying there and that the visitors will use the village shops and other amenities; there will not be a shop on site.

Those people present put questions to the two other consultants

present, David Houldershaw, ecologist/ arboriculturist and Glenn McGill from MD2 planning consultants. Subjects for concern were the visibility of the lodges from various parts of the village - trees and bushes are to be planted and pictures showing the estimated growth of these trees were on display. It was suggested that photographs could be taken from anywhere in the village to show visibility if requested. Flooding and drainage in an area which is quite wet could be a potential problem, but a

sustainable system is planned with a pond with reed beds where water will be cleaned, stored and then released in to the existing drains. Although this is part of the wildlife corridor (deer have been seen in this field) it is envisaged that this will not be disturbed and the adjacent woodland will be managed. The consultants tried to allay fears of the impact this development, in a field which has been used for the production of organic hay for many years, may have on the area, but it remains to be seen what the County planners think.

FIREMAN JACK

What a surprise for 3 year old Jack Walker of Broadoak Drive! While helping mum Suzanne in the garden a shiny red fire engine stopped outside his house. Firefighters were checking the hydrants in the village The friendly crew, Alan

Robson, David Bell and Tom Pattison, let Jack see the engine, posed for a picture with it and sat him in the cab with a helmet on. Then, a short blast of the siren and they were off to complete their job making a very happy day for a little boy.



Jack with firefighter Alan Robson with the fire engine. Thanks to Eric Burns for the photo.

MORE TRAFFIC CHAOS FOR LANCHESTER



The latest hole in the road for several weeks in Front Street, courtesy of British Gas (Centrica).

November 15th is Polling Day.

Vote for Durham's first Police and Crime Commissioner (see page 9)



Dear Village....

THE VILLAGE VOICE

IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

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 Proposed Development at Cadger Bank

I am a Partnership trustee and Parish Councillor, but what follows is my personal view. I am undecided about the Cadger Bank proposal, but urge consideration of the Co Durham Plan in its entirety rather than simply focusing on Cadger Bank. The Plan envisages regeneration of Co Durham through emphasis on high value goods and services. NETPark at Sedgfield is just one example of such development. Inspired by Durham, North Carolina - transformed from a depressed to a thriving economy via technology parks where every one job

within generates 3.5 outside - NETPark houses spin-out companies that make novel high value products. The wider economy in Cambridge is driven by the innovation within its science parks. Why shouldn't similar benefits be reaped here? Entrepreneurs are being attracted to NETPark from all over the world. They want to know they will be working in an **open, dynamic and innovative environment** with attractive places to live - places like Lanchester. As well as executive homes, affordable homes are required for those filling jobs generated from increased economic activity at NETPark and similar science parks under development. Being a site of archaeological value may make CB unsuitable for housing. (Why not then develop it as a heritage centre, creating potential for academic study, construction and tourism?) But let us not dismiss it without considering alternative housing sites. Let's approach the Plan from a wider perspective

and share its vision and promote our County and region? Lanchester is not a Palatinat, but a Parish in County Durham.
Alan Myers

Dear Village Voice
Mam and I held a coffee morning for Macmillan Nurses on 28th September. We also had a home made cake stall. There was laughter and chatter, old friends talked and new friends made. We would like to take this opportunity to say a **VERYBIGTHANKYOU** to those people, present or not, for giving generously to this good cause. £250 was the sum donated.

Thank you again,
Betty and Ann Calland

Dear Village Voice
I would just like to say a big thank you to my family and friends for supporting the 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' for Macmillan Cancer Support. We managed to raise £280.
Thank you,
Chris Emerson

Dear Village Voice
I would just like to say thank you to everyone who has wished me a 'Happy Retirement' from my job as 'Health care Assistant' at Parkhouse Surgery. It has been a privilege to have known so many people from Lanchester and surrounding areas and to be able to help in keeping you all healthy. Thank you for all the wonderful cards, presents and words of reassurance during the last few weeks at the surgery. I will miss you all and if you see me when I am out and about, please say 'hello'. I wish everyone the best of good health for the future.
Thank you all,
Norah Brown

CAN YOU HELP THE POLICE?

Consett Police have received a report that 4 x alloy wheel centre caps have been stolen from an Audi A2 parked on Manor Grange, Lanchester. This offence occurred between 1700 hrs on Sunday 7th October 2012 and 0830 hrs on Tuesday 9th October 2012. If anyone has seen or heard anything that they may think was suspicious could you please give us a call. If your home has a CCTV system installed, can you please check to see if anything suspicious was captured. The officer dealing with this matter is PC 2326 Mal Ord who is based at Consett Police Station as part of the Priority Crime Team, If you can help, please tel 101 ext 6642457.

COMMUNITY DRAW

The winning number in the Community Draw for September 2012 is 72. The draw was made by Mr S McDermott of the Gym.

To contact the Village Voice

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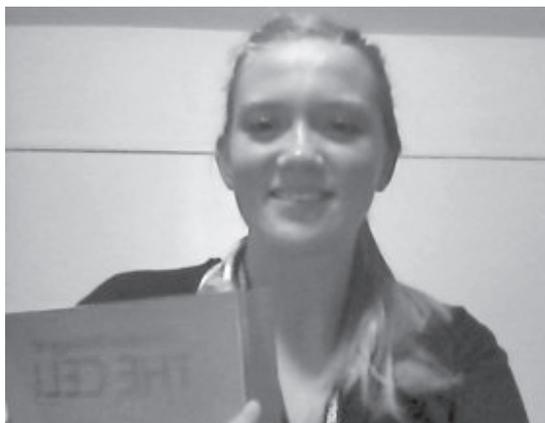


Harriet and Jeff at their wedding in Lanchester Parish Church

Harriet Mant-Smith of Catterick and Jeff Hollows of Lanchester were married on 4th August at All Saints Parish Church, Lanchester. Their reception was held in the Hall Garth Hotel and Country Club, Darlington and they flew off to Thailand for 2 weeks for their honeymoon.

CONGRATULATIONS HAYLEY

After achieving outstanding A level results in Biology, Chemistry and Maths as a student at St Bede's Hayley Alice Donnelly of Alderside Crescent gained a place to study Medicine-Bio-Medical Sciences at Newcastle University, a prestigious and highly sought after degree. Many thanks to her Science and Maths Teachers.



Hayley at Newcastle University

Hayley, you are an inspiration to us all. We love you and are extremely proud of you. Love Mam, Dad, Angelica, Michael, Rachel and all your family.

REQUIRED - REPORTER FOR PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Mavis Datta, who covers the Parish Council meetings for The Village Voice, has decided to retire from this part of her work at the end of the year. Mavis has been in post for 6 years and has been extremely dedicated. She will remain with the paper and cover associated events with the Parish Council and the Partnership. We, therefore, require a volunteer who is interested in this type of voluntary work and has the time to take up this position. It is important to meet deadlines for the paper. The Parish Council meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.15 pm, except August. Only the main meeting needs to be covered. The Police Report is emailed to our Editor directly and the Planning Report is completed and emailed by the Lead Officer/Clerk to the Parish Council. Would interested people please contact Brian Oram on 01207 520559 or by email lanchestervillage voice@yahoo.co.uk as soon as possible.

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LANCHESTER BRASS BAND AT SHILDON



The bandstand in Shildon with Lanchester Brass Band

After a summer break Lanchester Brass band have resumed their practices and are taking bookings for various events. They are looking forward to attending various venues nearer Christmas and will be present as always on the village green for Remembrance Sunday and for the switching on of our Christmas lights on November 24th.

On Saturday September 22nd the band had a very enjoyable afternoon at Shildon, playing in the bandstand there. The event in Shildon's very large park was a special Fair to mark the 100th anniversary of its existence. Hackworth Park bears the name of a distinguished gentleman Timothy Hackworth who lived in Shildon. He was born in Wylam in 1786 and died in 1850 and was a steam locomotive engineer, the first locomotive superintendent of the Stockton and Darlington Railway. He has links with William Hedley, and Robert and George Stephenson. Notably, Hackworth built at Shildon, in 1836, the first locomotive to run in Russia for the St Petersburg railway, of which his son was responsible for the safe delivery and preliminary trials. Also in 1838, Hackworth built the Samson for the Albion Mines Railway in Nova Scotia which was one of the first engines to run in Canada. Shildon can be very proud indeed of this famous, historic figure.

The celebration fair had everything that a good fair should have; there was something to please everyone. There were roundabouts and fun rides, a craft tent, a tent for dancing displays, brass band concerts, a vintage car display, hot-dogs, burgers, doughnuts, an interesting 'past times' tent where Beamish Museum had a fascinating display and offered information for their curious exhibits, and much more. The sun shone and it was a joy to see so many families finding so much to see and do. Lanchester Brass band felt honoured to be asked to play for this important occasion. Remember that if you are interested in 'making music' there

continued on opposite page



Pete Bradshaw and Adam Towse



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RANGERS AND VOLUNTEERS CLEAR THE 'MEADOW'



Rangers Jennie (with rake) and Glenn (on grass cutter) with volunteers, and E S P A (Educational Services for People with Autism Sunderland) clear the 'meadow' near the Station House. Glenn is holding up his SIM card which was all that was left of his mobile phone after he had run over it with the sit on mower.

LANCHESTER BRASS BAND AT SHILDON



Some members of Lanchester Brass Band, happy in the sun

will always be a welcome, even if you do not actually play an instrument. The band can supply your instrument and teach you how to play. The tuition is absolutely free. It is a great hobby and very satisfying. Come along to a practice in Croft View, either on a Sunday afternoon, 3-5 pm, or on Wednesday, 7.30-9.30 pm. We really would like to see you. Brenda Craddock

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LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 9th October

An unprecedented number of residents attended this meeting and it was standing room only in the Conference Room at Park House with more than 50 people. Unitary Authority Officer Mike Allen and his assistant Michelle Robinson were introduced and Mr Allen then gave a presentation of the County Durham Plan of Preferred Options for the future development of the County. After stating the challenges facing the County Council, such as very high unemployment, and the opportunities the County already has, eg business parks, a skilled workforce, good communications and strong partnerships, he described the vision and strategy of the Council

before revealing the content of the plan. This, for the needs of the County up to 2030, has been identified as being at least 30,000 new homes of mixed type, size and tenure and land to be developed for office, industrial, warehousing and retail space. 95 houses have been allocated to Lanchester, in an area of 3.61 hectares which is in private ownership, with access on to Cadger Bank and spreading across the field to Briardene. This will include 30% affordable housing and 10% built specifically for the disabled.

This was followed by other proposals in our AAP, defining, protecting and promoting business in the village and protecting the heritage assets, and then an explanation of the Local Development scheme with submissions, public examination and adoption of the plan in July 2014. The context of the Neighbourhood Planning was also mentioned. Amongst other things this 'empowers communities to take control in setting their planning agenda in their neighbourhoods'. The Neighbourhood Plans must also 'be in accord with national planning policies and legal requirements' and 'have to respect the strategic policies of the County Durham Plan'.

Cllr Wardle referred to the Parish Plan produced in 2005 which acknowledges that changes will happen and the task is how to manage change, not to deny it. Cllr Myers agreed that the plan has economic vision but Cllr Leary said he is concerned that there might be Roman remains there, given the site's proximity to Longovicium, and would a geophysical

survey be done. Cllr Walker asked about the infrastructure such as the road network, as the present road to Durham cannot cope with the amount of traffic at busy times. Mr Allen replied that two relief roads around the city are planned. Concerns about the water from the roads to be built were raised, but Mr Allen assured members that underground tanks which release water gradually were to be built. At this point Steve Bailey presented Mr Allen with a petition which had been carried out by 21 volunteers, showing that 96% of residents who expressed an opinion were against this proposal. Mr Allen accepted this and said it would be considered accordingly. Residents were then able to ask questions and these covered concerns over the already crowded schools, inadequate parking in the village, the possibility that this had been a mining site as a hole had appeared in the field, the potential dangers of traffic coming out of the estate at the top of Cadger Bank, public transport and flooding. Photographic evidence was produced of an enormous amount of water in the field in June this year and another resident produced a copy of a letter from the County Council, dated 1988, refusing development of this site because of access and the detrimental effect it would have on tourists visiting Longovicium.

Mr Allen answered all these questions individually, stating that the appropriate bodies and authorities, such as the Coal Board, Education, Transport and Highways Departments,

would be consulted. When asked why this site has been proposed now, Mr Allen replied that it is available now and it makes sense to include it in the first phase, but that alternative sites could be suggested. He stressed that more development could take place, but not less under the Plan.

Cllr Wardle told those present to make representations to the County Council or the Parish Council before the next meeting as the official response had to be submitted by 2nd November and Cllr Johnson suggested that people respond individually to the County Council as this carries more weight. It was decided that a Special Meeting of the full Council will be held Monday, 29th October at 7.15 pm with two items on the Agenda, ie Cadger Bank Response and the County Plan.

Correspondence. A letter had been received from Lanchester Partnership asking what action the Parish Council was taking with regard to the County Plan. A copy of the Council's response will be sent to the Partnership. Hollinside Play Area - request for a seat. It was agreed that the Lead Officer should get prices and contact the landowner.

Correspondence received from the Environment Agency re the wall along Smallhope Burn. The wall, which is owned by various landowners, needs repair in various places. Under a new law, the Environment Agency has the right to enforce that the barrier is maintained. Members supported Cllr Jackson's suggestion of a whip-round among the shopkeepers to repair the wall.

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LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

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Willow Burn Hospice update. Members are looking forward to seeing the new building.

Letter from All Saints Catholic Church regard the state of the path in front of the church. This has been reported to the Highways Authority and will be repaired in eight weeks.

Maintenance Progress Report. The Lead Officer was asked to pass on the kind regards of the Council to David Maddox.

Christmas Tree Lights. The Lead Officer reported the arrangements she has made for this annual ceremony which will take place on Saturday, 24th November at 6 pm on the Village Green. Dennis Laycock (Olympic Torch Bearer) will be invited to perform the ceremony, assisted as usual by two children from each primary school. Other special guests will be members of the sporting clubs in the village. Lanchester Brass Band will play Christmas carols and a buffet will be held in the Chapter House, catering arranged through the church.

Date of Next Meeting. A Special Meeting of the full Council will be held on Monday 29th October to discuss the County Plan and the proposed development on Cadger Bank at 7.15 pm in the Conference Room, Park House.

The next Ordinary Meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th November at 7.15 pm in the Conference Room, Park House, Lanchester.

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

6th September

The planning committee considered two proposals for new buildings at Greenwell Farm comprising stables, tack and equipment room, hayloft, tool store and workshop. All proposals were opposed by members. A number of concerns were raised including, where horses would be grazed and exercised, increased traffic from customers and service support. Members felt that the scale of some of the proposals were too large and an inappropriate development in the countryside.

Felling and pruning of trees at Colepike Hall. Members asked that the matter be referred to the County Council officers for their professional opinion; they also request that the felled trees be replaced with a suitable alternative.

Members raised no objection to the following applications:

- Window alterations at Stonebeck, Front Street.
- Pruning of a Silver Birch at Ladie Garth Cottage.
- Erection of side and rear extensions incorporating a garage at 1 Watling Way.
- Increase of roof height to incorporate new first floor and rebuilding of garage at Tall Trees, Cadger Bank.

The following planning applications had been approved by Durham County Council:

- Creation of a roof terrace above an existing single storey rear extension at 8 Ashdown Grove.
- Temporary mobile home to accommodate essential worker for Lanchester Dairies Upper Houses Farm.

• Amendment to planning permission to change rear door on land to the north west of 12 Ashdown Grove.

• Proposed erection of a wooden storage building at Newfield Hall.

• Proposed two storey side extension at Hollybush Farm.

• Porch to front and erection of single storey rear extension at 6 The Paddock.

• Fell 2 conifers at The Nook, Cadger Bank.

• Pruning of overhanging branches at Glendene, Smallhope Drive.

• Amendment to applications regarding windows and doors at 81 Alderside Crescent.

• Listed building consent for replacement window at 16 Hollinside Terrace.

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

26th September

Demolition of former care home to enable re-development of site to provide 33 units of sheltered accommodation, GP Surgery and Community Hub at Lynwood House.

Members considered the plans for the development and discussed the access from Woodlands, flood prevention and level of car park spaces.

Twenty members of the public, mostly from Woodlands attended the meeting and raised various concerns about the application, including the following:

- Lack of parking spaces in the development.
- Access to the car park through Woodlands.
- Increased traffic in Woodlands.
- Increased noise from traffic.
- Entrance to car park is on the bend.

continued on next page






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PLANNING

continued from previous page

- Bad visibility.
- Entrance is opposite existing access to the Valley Walk.
- Creating a problem of overspill parking in Woodlands.
- Many residents considered that extra car parking could be accommodated within the site without the need for a car park accessed from Woodlands.
- Negative impact on existing residential area due to scale of development.
- Concern that the development will increase the flood risk in existing properties. There is a contradiction in the planning documents with regard to flood risk.
- Sewerage/drainage - can the proposed infrastructure cope with the proposed development? Concern that the

development will cause problems for existing properties.

- Fence for development should be on correct line and not on the line of Woodlands perimeter fencing as shown on plans.
- Plans still show a path leading to a possible footbridge. It was understood that this path was to be removed from plans. This needs clarifying.
- Concern that there is no access through Woodlands during the construction period. The Parish Council resolved that the application is supported in principle. However members are aware of the weight of concerns of residents, particularly those from Woodlands and would request that the developer and planners consider their concerns and work to address these issues to residents' satisfaction.

Felling of two pine and one spruce tree, and pruning of nine pine trees, 6 The Paddock. Members raise no objection to the application but would request that the felled trees be replaced with a suitable alternative. Members raise no objections to the following applications:

- Erection of a grain dryer cover and siting of a shipping container on land to the North East of Dunley Ford House, Newbiggen Lane.
- Erection of agricultural storage building (retrospective) and erection of rain water storage at Colepike Home Farm.

Members were informed that a community consultation event was to take place on 4th October at the Community Centre regarding a proposed planning application for holiday lodges at Ornsby Hill.

The following planning applications had been approved by Durham County Council:

- Window alterations at Stonebeck, Front Street.
- Change of use of first floor from residential to restaurant and installation of flue to the rear and fire escape at rear at 21a Front Street.
- Installation of roof lights to front and rear at 23 Victoria Terrace.
- Pruning of silver birch tree at Ladie Garth Cottage.
- Pruning and other tree maintenance at Colepike Hall.

The following planning applications had been refused by Durham County Council:

- Proposed tool store and workshop, stables, tack and equipment room and hayloft, first floor extension above existing dwelling, raising roof and eaves, two storey extension to front and single storey extension to rear at Greenwell Farm.

attended and found occupier had been holding a party. Malton Picnic Area - Report of sound of chain saw and tree having been taken. Police attended and can confirm that the Council cut down a tree due to adverse weather. No crime committed.) Criminal Damage 0 All thefts 1 (Ford Street - unknown person took central caps from parked unattended vehicle.) There is currently no PACT Priority for Lanchester. Regarding question from previous PACT meeting attendee concerning 101 non emergency number reportedly taking a few minutes to answer: there may be delays when operators are answering 999 calls. Therefore, if the call is not a 999 call but a non emergency call then the other non emergency number may be answered quicker as it has no preamble: 0345 6060365.

POLICE REPORT

Reporting period: 22/08/2012 to 25/09/2012
Number of calls for area: 74
Alcohol seizures 0
Dwelling burglaries 0
Burglary (other) 1
(Farm - unknown person removed padlock from secure sheds overnight and stole 15 chickens and feed)
Bogus callers 0
Anti-social behaviour and motorcycle incidents 5
(Front Street - report of males fighting; gone prior to police arrival.
Lee Hill Court - report of group of youths entering rear garden; gone prior to police arrival. NB police patrols are frequent in this area.
Woodham Court - report of youth nuisance; police

Crime prevention advice

Now that darker nights are upon us, please remember to look at your own personal security and that of your dwelling, garage, shed, etc. Keep a light on and curtains drawn when leaving your dwelling in the evening (and leave a radio on?); make sure all windows and doors are locked (and don't leave keys in lock on inside of door). Consider setting up or joining a free Neighbourhood Watch in your area. They work! For information please speak to PCSO Vanessa Gray or PCSO Vikki Ordat Consett Police Station (via non emergency number 101). Please report any suspicious behaviour to police via 101 or 999 if you believe a crime is being committed.



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A MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE ...

In my role I have spent a great deal of time working on future transport policy over the last year. Transport is not generally seen as a glamorous issue but it underpins the ease or otherwise of how we live our lives.

We in the North East depend on improving infrastructure to support growth in jobs. However, we seem to fare badly in comparison with other parts of the country over roads (a third lane on the M1 stops at Scotch Corner), and rail (no plans for High Speed 2 to us).

In this village we know

only too well the impact of transport cuts (in our case bus subsidy cuts) on people's lives and anyone who has no choice but to use their car for work knows how fast fuel costs rise and how slowly they fall.

None of this is helped by public transport subsidies that saw £5000 per head spent on transport subsidy in London last year but only £5 per head in the North East. Poor and expensive transport hits us all but the elderly and the young hardest. Cuts to home to school/college transport are self evident but older

people tell me there is no point in having a bus pass if there are no buses to travel on. It is vitally important that governments, national and local, plan for transport to support people's lives, the way we work and socialise, so transport improves and does not restrict our lives. And as a Transport PPS I am glad to play my part in helping to achieve this. Pat Glass MP, Gledstone House, 26 Newmarket Street, Consett, Co Durham, DH8 5LQ, email pat.glass.mp@parliament.uk or phone 01207 501 782.

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER ELECTIONS

On 15th November, for the first time ever, the public across England and Wales (except London) will elect a Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) who will be accountable for how crime is tackled in their police force area. The PCC will be responsible for holding the Chief Constable and police force to account on the public's behalf, will oversee how crime is tackled in their area and aim to make sure the police are providing a good service.

The PCC will not 'run' the police force; Chief Constables will continue to be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the police force. The Police and Crime Commissioner's role will include:

- * meeting the public regularly to listen to their views on policing;
- * producing a police and crime plan

setting out local policing priorities;

- * deciding how the budget will be spent;
- * appointing Chief Constables and dismissing them if needed.

The candidates for the Durham Constabulary are: **Michael Costello, UKIP**, who spent 18 years with Durham Police implementing IT systems for the force, magistrates' courts and the Crown Prosecution Service.



Michael Costello

Ron Hogg, Labour, former assistant chief constable of Durham Constabulary and deputy chief constable of Cleveland Police.



Ron Hogg

Kingsley Smith, Independent, former chief executive of Durham County Council and currently chairman of Newcastle Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.



Kingsley Smith

Nick Varley, Conservative, who stood for the party as a candidate for the City of Durham in the 2010 General Election and now works for the Conservative MP for Finchley and Golders Green.



Nick Varley

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BBC INTERVIEWS



Russell Ward of BBC Radio Newcastle interviews local farmer, Nick Greenwell, about the appointment of a Police Crime Commissioner, and the effect it may have on policing in Lanchester. With the aid of The Village Voice various interviews were held with villagers from all walks of life on the same subject.

MORE GOOD NEWS FROM LANCHESTER DAIRIES

Lanchester Dairies is celebrating doubling its business by winning a new £10 million a year contract. The Dairy was already processing in excess of 20 million litres of milk each year, but the new business with Hanover Dairies of Blaydon, means more jobs and opportunities for local companies who support Lanchester. General Manager Barry Peacock said: "This is great news for us, and for our staff and suppliers, and it will mean we take more milk from local farms. We have already taken on about 10 new staff,

drivers and workers in refrigeration, production and loading, and these people come from the local area. All the local companies who keep us on the road, the diesel suppliers, truck repairers and tyre businesses, will also benefit from the increased business." Lanchester Dairies started in the early '90s, when the Austin family diversified their dairy farm to incorporate a processing plant. Business expanded over the next years, and by 2000 the decision was made to purchase a larger capacity poly bottle filling line. The dairy herd was

sold, along with the milk rounds and all efforts were then focused on milk processing. More growth in business came in 2002, with the installation of two filling lines, one glass bottle line and a line for poly bottling. The farm buildings were converted to industrial use, and the previous cattle facilities were transformed into a modern filling hall with refrigeration units and undercover parking for the refrigerated vehicles.

In 2005, the dairy started collecting milk direct from local farms, using their own fleet of tankers. Barry Peacock has been in the business for nearly 20 years and he explained how the customer base included milk men, local shops, national supermarkets, cafes, pubs, restaurants and nursing homes. The Dairy also serves as the Asda hub in the North East, supplying local products to 24 Asda stores and to 16 Tesco shops. Every

day, 40 trucks make approximately 600 deliveries across the region. Negotiations with Hanover Dairies had been ongoing for 6 or 7 months before the deal reached fruition. Despite its recent growth in business, Lanchester Dairies remains a truly 'local' company, owned by Billy and Julie Austin, and true to the old ethos, of providing a quality product at competitive prices.



Milk ... as far as the eye can see!

LOCAL LANCHESTER FAMILY OPENS UP A LETTINGS AND SALES OFFICE IN THE VILLAGE

Alexander Sales & Lettings are taking up residence in Lanchester village. Paul Morgan

with a little help from his family has been operating from a home office. Paul is very proud to have been living in the village for the last 23 years. He started out in the property business 20+ years ago under the guidance of the lovely Lanchester couple Peter and Ann McElrue in their estate agency business. Paul is extremely keen to do business with fellow Lancastrians and believes that if we all help each other with reciprocal business we can all help each other

through these tough times. On that reciprocal note Paul enjoys a tippie of Lanchester wine, eats at Crinnions with Paul and Fiona "as well as using the other eating houses", we use Tennis Dennis' gardening services, we never walk past Ged's hardware store as he's a true gent and has everything, Stuart the carpet man, nice guy, and finally my brother lives in the village and is a quality plasterer. That's why we believe any business that's worth its while will flourish in our village if

we all use and help each other. If you require any help in Letting or Selling a property in the village or beyond "we would love your business" please. We are happy to run alongside your current agent if required to do so and operate a No Let No Fee policy or on a No Sale No Fee basis. Please pop in and say hello when you're passing. Paul Morgan, Alexander Lettings
www.alexander-lettings.co.uk
info@alexander-lettings.co.uk

LANCHESTER CARPETS RE-OPENS

Stuart Marley, proprietor of the above, is pleased to announce that his shop re-opened on Saturday 13th October, with a 'welcome event' for his loyal customers. Having been shut since the flood disaster of June 28th, Stuart felt it was like starting all over again. Stuart would like to thank all his customers for their loyal support during the closure. Even when insurance companies demanded they go to their appointed carpet business for replacements they insisted on dealing with Stuart at Lanchester Carpets. During the closure time

many customers were directed by notices in the window to Derwentside Carpets, Medomsley Road, and were looked after by Stuart's business partner, Brian Taylor. Lanchester Carpets has been fully refurbished and revamped. It now looks more spacious and there is room to hold full rolls of stock on the main floor which can be pulled out and displayed. This, of course, means instant deliveries where needed. Stuart would like to reiterate his thanks to customers who have shown great loyalty and patience during this difficult period.



Stuart Marley, with customers Lorraine and Pauline who happen to be twins, from Burnopfield. All three are enjoying a glass of champagne, whilst looking at the newly stocked carpet rolls.

LANCHESTER KOGS

Lanchester KoGs is a Christian youth group for people aged 8+. It was started by two best friends Laura Burdon and Jonathan Quinlan in April 2008 as they realised there was nothing local to entertain kids. They meet on Monday evenings to take part in different activities that include: Games, Arts and Crafts, Drama, Dancing, Bible Study, Messy Games, Day Trips, Night Trips, Weekend/Weeks away etc. KoGs starts at 5 o'clock for children aged school

years 4 to 6 and ends at 6.30 pm. For school years of 7+, KoGs starts at 6 o'clock and Cell starts at 7.30 to 8.30. Both age groups come together at 6 o'clock for a 2 course meal. Subs are £1.50 per week or £16 per term to cover food/activity costs. Your first week is free! For more information contact: Laura Cole - 07411721529, Mervyn Burdon - 01207 237161 or email us at - kidssofgod@hotmail.co.uk and there is a website - www.kidssofgod.webs.com

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HARVEST LUNCH IN AID OF THE PEOPLE'S KITCHEN

A Harvest Lunch was held at the home of Margaret Walters on Wednesday 17th October. Thirty eight people attended and were treated to a

selection of wonderful soups created from the harvest taken to All Saints Parish Church. Various people from the church made the soups which were

accompanied by bread, with biscuits and coffee to follow. With the help of a raffle and small entrance fee an amazing £237.00 will be sent to the 'People's Kitchen'.



Guests at the Harvest Lunch at the home of Margaret Walters, with proceeds going to the People's Kitchen.

Gardening in November

November is the time for clearing up in the garden ready for winter and watching out for frosts as the nights get longer and the days shorter.

Borders

It is now time to plant tulip bulbs and you can also still plant daffodil and other spring flowering bulbs for a good display next spring. Remember that the rule of thumb is to plant them to a depth of twice the height of the bulb. On good, sunny days you can still plant out spring bedding of pansies, violas, bellis, wallflower, forget-me-nots and primulas. Bare root roses can be planted any time between now and March and you can plant heathers, grasses

and trailing ivy in pots to provide some winter colour. Continue to lift dahlia tubers, begonia and gladiola corms to store dry over the winter but remove any dead foliage before storing. Also, continue to cut back yellowing foliage of herbaceous perennials and lift and divide overcrowded clumps to both increase your stock and maintain the vigour of the plants.

Vegetable Plot

November is a good time to divide mature clumps of rhubarb once they are dormant. I also put some spent compost over the bed to provide some additional goodness. If you haven't already done it, you should stake any top heavy brassicas and draw up some soil

around the base of the stems to prevent wind rocking the plant and causing root damage. In any area that has been cleared of crops, you can sow a green manure such as mustard or winter forage rye. The roots will break-up heavy soil, stop nutrients leaching away in rain, and can be dug in during spring to improve fertility.

General

Continue to gather up fallen leaves especially from your lawn as they will be an invitation to moss to grow in the grass as they decompose. Also remember that the fallen leaves make lovely leaf mould which can be used as a soil conditioner and border mulch once it has decomposed.

THE FLOWER CLUB IS BLOOMING!



Marion Hinchley and some of her beautiful arrangements

The members of the Flower Club are currently enjoying an eventful time. In June, the ladies took part in an outing to Thornton Hall Gardens, where the ancient walled gardens are being restored to their former glory. There is to be a Workshop on 24th October, to be led by Phyllis Wilkinson of Shildon Flower Club, and a very special Christmas Demonstration is planned on Friday 23rd November, with the seasonal title 'Berries, Baubles and Bling'. The Committee are hoping to arrange 'Starter Classes' next year if there is interest with 5 flower arranging classes aimed at beginners. This is a great opportunity for people who have always loved looking at beautiful floral arrangements and dreamed of reproducing them for their own homes. There are also plans to celebrate the Group's 40th Anniversary in 2013. On September 26th, Marion Hinchley of Widdrington presented her demonstration 'Seeing Clearly'. Marion asked "When you look at something in nature - do

you really see these things clearly?" Can you appreciate the different shapes, forms and textures of various items, and visualise how they can be used? Marion's demonstration was informative. She showed how containers could be used to make unusual and attractive displays, some of them traditional, and some modern. Marion showed how to hand tie flowers to give a beautiful effect, and how to make

ornamental baskets using coloured wire. For anyone interested in finding out more about Lanchester and District Flower Club, they are invited to contact one of the following numbers: Mrs H Tomlinson 01207 503667, Mrs L Kelly 01207 521494, Mrs N Jenssen 01207 520574. Newcomers can be certain of a warm welcome from the Group members, and of learning wonderful new skills.

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CROFT VIEW AUTUMN FAIR

This fundraising fair had something to please everyone. For a start the atmosphere was extremely convivial and conducive to chatting with friends and neighbours from all different parts of the village. The ubiquitous 'Tennis' Dennis Laycock was there with his Olympic torch much to the delight of those who had photographs taken with him. The stalls were excellent. They were run by those people whose organisations use the hall. The cup cakes looked fantastic and there was plenty to choose from: bric a brac, toys, and savouries. The refreshments looked delightful and the handcrafted small games looked really interesting with both young and elderly enjoying them. In the top hall there was a bouncy castle for the youngsters and a magnificent display of photographs on several tables, which included: the recent flood; the Big Jubilee Lunch, and from the past - Boys Brigade, Brownies, Girl Guides, Schools, old photos of the village, and the previous flood in the 1960's. Many of these photographs were also featured as slide shows on laptop computers as well. It was an enormous, fascinating display which must have taken a tremendous amount of hard work and time to collate. Early afternoon saw the Lanchester Brass Band thoroughly enjoying themselves and pleasing their audience by playing a medley of popular music, songs and marches. The money raised will go to the fund for refurbishing the hall.

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Ronnie Dixon points out a photo taken 33 years ago, of the photographer taking the photo!



Great toy stall with some interested and potential buyers

BREAST CANCER CARE – A PARTY AND A FUNDRAISER



Some of the partygoers at Jan Grigg's fundraising party for Breast Cancer Care

What a party!
What a result!
What a fundraiser!
That just about sums it all up. Once again Jan Grigg of Briardene has hit the jackpot with her really very extraordinary and ambitious fundraising talents. Jan pre-sold cakes, hampers, and goody bags and gathered together some amazing raffle prizes from friends and also at her place of work. The party was held at her home on Friday 12th October, and it went on into the early hours of the next day. Neighbours, friends and relatives attended and all of them were ready to part with more money buying tombola tickets, name the teddy, guess the number of sweets in a bag, reindeer dust and bangles. The food was very willingly donated by

the partygoers themselves. Last year's target was beaten very easily which could make next year a problem. On the night Jan raised £487.20. In total, the amount was an amazing £1527.20 all of which will be going to Breast Cancer Care. Jan would like to thank everyone who has supported her in this very worthwhile cause. One of Jan's colleagues said "Despite some of the 'ever so gentle pressure' that she puts on all of us, we are all really very proud of her and admire Jan so much for everything she has achieved and

the way she goes about it".

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LANCHESTER MINERS' BANNER GROUP

The Fenhall Drift Banner has now been returned to Lanchester under the custodianship of Lanchester Parish Council. The banner which was made in 1960, carries illustrations of the Parish Church on one side and a Roman figure and miner on the other side. Advice has been sought on the work and repairs needed to the banner and Lanchester Miners' Banner Group has been established to co-ordinate the works and raise the necessary funds for the project to progress. In addition to the repairs to the original banner the group hopes to raise funds for a replica banner and to co-ordinate activities in the schools and community. Lanchester Miners' Banner Group would like to make contact with anyone who worked in Fenhall Drift Mine or indeed anyone who may have memories or photos of the drift mine. The group are meeting regularly to progress this exciting project and

are busy completing funding applications to raise the necessary monies. If anyone would like to make a donation towards the project please contact Sally on 01207521957. The group would welcome new members. If any members of the community are interested in becoming part of the working group please contact Sally on 521957.

RED CROSS GIVE AND GAIN LOYALTY CARD

From Thursday 8th November the Red Cross shop will be offering customers a loyalty card called 'Give and Gain'. You will be able to collect points on all your purchases, 1 point for every £1 spent, you will receive vouchers, £1 voucher for every 100 points at least twice a year in the post with news of special points offers. By using the card when

donating you can reclaim tax on all money made from the donation, that's an extra 25p for every £1 gained or donate the amount to the Red Cross. To take part, call into the shop from 8th November to complete a form and we will give you a card that is swiped each time you make a purchase or donation. We look forward to seeing you.

THE GREEN



An old postcard of The Green, probably from the late twenties or early thirties. Thanks to Les Richardson for sending it in.

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LADIES WHO LUNCH

We have recently been to Gadds Townhouse in Durham located just up the road from the Royal County and it is just that, a town house with a plate glass door that opens up as you enter the hallway, almost like a butler seeing you in - most welcoming and impressive at the same time.

The whole place is most impressive in a decidedly decadent kind of way - totally 'Over-the-Top' with plush furnishings, chandeliers, and a leopard print carpet - but, really we had come for the food. And it didn't disappoint,

everything being beautifully presented, a veritable feast for the eyes. We sampled for starters a fresh hen's egg wrapped in speciality sausage, shredded duck spring rolls with hoisin and chilli sauce and duck pâté with pear and ginger chutney (in individual kilner jars - we all wanted one!) with toast. For main course we tried slow roasted crispy belly pork with creamy mash, buttery cabbage and a toffee apple and chicken stuffed with spinach in a mushroom sauce with some roast potatoes. The puddings were crème brulée with

chocolate shortbread and boozy cherries, peach cheesecake and strawberry consommé with basil.

Somewhere along the line we all ate a few of the thrice fried chips which arrived in a miniature frying pan. All in all the food was delicious and we thoroughly enjoyed it amid the atmospheric surroundings listening to some lovely and relaxing unobtrusive background music.

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WI NEWS

President Jennifer Macdonald welcomed everyone to our October AGM then presented Eileen Curnow with flowers for her golden wedding.

Business was dealt with before Stephen and Kath Bailey gave a very interesting talk and slide show about their trip to India where with staff from Villa Real school they helped at the Deeptie Centre. This was set up in 2009 to help children suffering from Cerebral Palsy and showed what can be achieved with the right staff and equipment. A truly inspirational talk. Ann Carr gave the vote of thanks.

Treasurer Angela Vellaman presented the

financial statement and Secretary June Wallis the Committee's annual report both of which were accepted and seconded.

Jennifer then gave her President's address in which she thanked everyone and invited members to join the committee. Everyone laughed at memories of our early WI including plays from 1926, competitions and badges. Early meetings had been held in venues ranging from a ladies' parlour to the billiard room in the King's Head. Jennifer ended by thanking all members for making Lanchester such a friendly and happy WI. Ann Arnell won the raffle, competition runners up

for the year were Jean Forster and Maureen Barker; the overall winner was Ann Carr.

WIA Tina Bickerdike oversaw the elections and Jennifer was voted in again and accepted the post of President. Tina gave a short address in which she said Lanchester WI was always a pleasure to come to. Jennifer thanked Tina and presented her with a plant.

Eileen Curnow gave a vote of thanks to Jennifer and the committee and the evening ended with refreshments.

Our coffee morning was very successful, thank you to everyone who helped and supported us in any way.



President Jennifer Macdonald presenting competition winner for the year Ann Carr with the Nancy Walker cup.

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VILLAGE VOICE QUESTIONNAIRE

In our last edition of The Village Voice we included a questionnaire to collect opinions from you of your preferences about the paper. The results are shown below.

Unfortunately, there were only 7 responses received at the Community Centre (and one respondent only ticked 2 items). From 2,700 papers delivered in Lanchester and the local area, this is approximately a 0.25% return. Questionnaires of this

type traditionally get a poor response rate but 0.25% is even worse than usual.

Why is this? You find it difficult to get to the Community Centre to hand in your form? You are very busy with family matters? You just like it as it is and want to maintain the status quo? Whatever the reason, we are grateful to those few who took the time to respond.

Overall, it shows that more would be useful on 'What's

On' and 'News from Clubs and Societies'; less should be on 'MP's column', 'Weddings and Birthdays'; 'about the same' for 'The Council and Planning News', and 'Police Reports'.

If this has prompted you to want to add your views, there is still time and we would be very pleased to hear from you, whether you want to see changes to the Village Voice paper or would just like us to keep it as it is.

Questionnaire

We would like to collect your opinion of The Village Voice in order to make improvements and would be grateful if you would complete each of the items below.

Please let us know if you would like **more** or **less** or **about the same** coverage of the following items by **ticking** the relevant boxes below:

	More	Less	About the same
1. Village issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Letters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Parish Council/Planning news	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Police reports	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. MP's column	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. What's On	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Sport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. News from Clubs/Societies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. School events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Church events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Concerts/Musical events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Community Centre/Library news	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Fairs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Charity events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. News from businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. Restaurant reviews	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Weddings/Birthdays/Anniversaries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. Gardening	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. Recipe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Crossword	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. Sudoku	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

22. Are there any other items you would like to see included in the newspaper? *Home Security; Interviews with local bands; Monthly profile of people involved in Village Voice; Lanchester restaurant reviews.*

23. How can we improve our newspaper? *More colour; More for teenage audience; Medical views; Balance just about right.*

LANCHESTER BOWLING CLUB REPORT

After a good year we finished in third place in the Saturday league. Our best finishing position in this league and we have won the John Warren trophy for the most improved team. Hopefully we can make further

progress in 2013 as our players are getting better every year. Congratulations to Joe Newton for winning the Challenge Trophy and partnering Alan Wharton to win the Pairs Competition.

Commiserations to Tom Forster who was losing finalist in both competitions and his pairs partner Stan Easten. Sadly not all bowling clubs are in as strong a position as Lanchester. Some are struggling for members.

We are now at a time when the baby boomer generation is coming up for retirement. Bowls is a great sport and leisure activity, inexpensive and an ideal way to make friends. We hope to see more new members next

year. At the time of writing there is a strong possibility that the best bowlers in the county will be visiting Lanchester next year to compete in the County Championships. Information will be given in the Village Voice.

LATEST FROM THE CRICKET CLUB

The winners on the presentation night were as shown below:-

Under 11s	Batting: Mattie Butler	Bowling: Mattie Butler	Catches: Josh Killeen	Player of the year: Aaron Telford
Under 13s	Batting: Aaron Halliday	Bowling: David Selby	Catches: David Selby	Player of the year: Chris Tully
Under 15s	Batting: Greg Patterson	Bowling: Greg Patterson	Catches: David Killeen	Player of the year: Greg Patterson
Under 18s	Batting: Greg Patterson	Bowling: Aaron Halliday	Catches: Lee Murray	Player of the year: Lee Murray

Overall most improved player: Michael Butler

During October the Lanchester Cricket Club held its presentation nights, with the junior night held on the Saturday 13th October and the seniors held theirs the following week.

There was a cracking turn out for the junior night with prizes awarded to the four age groups as shown in the table above. Bob Gardiner did most of the talking, but did hand over to a very emotional Vicky Kennington as she presented the under 11s awards. After she had made the presentations she announced that she was stepping down for the 2013 season.

First team captain Stu McPhail was present to dispense the awards to all of the worthy winners, including the really fairly major accomplishment of twelve year old Aaron Halliday winning the under 18s bowling. Parents served up a

huge buffet and a quiz kept all of the minds occupied whilst the eating took place. Finally things were wrapped up with the raffle of a host of prizes kindly donated to provide some revenue for the junior section for the season of 2013.

Wish tokens from the Evening Chronicle are also to be collected again to hopefully provide the income to buy kit for the players for the new season.

As an addition, the Lanchester Cricket Club will be helping to provide some stewards for the Lions firework display on 3rd November to show that the club can help support the other organisations in the village.

Other forthcoming events include the Christmas Feast on 22nd December with tickets available at £18 for a three course meal and some great entertainment.

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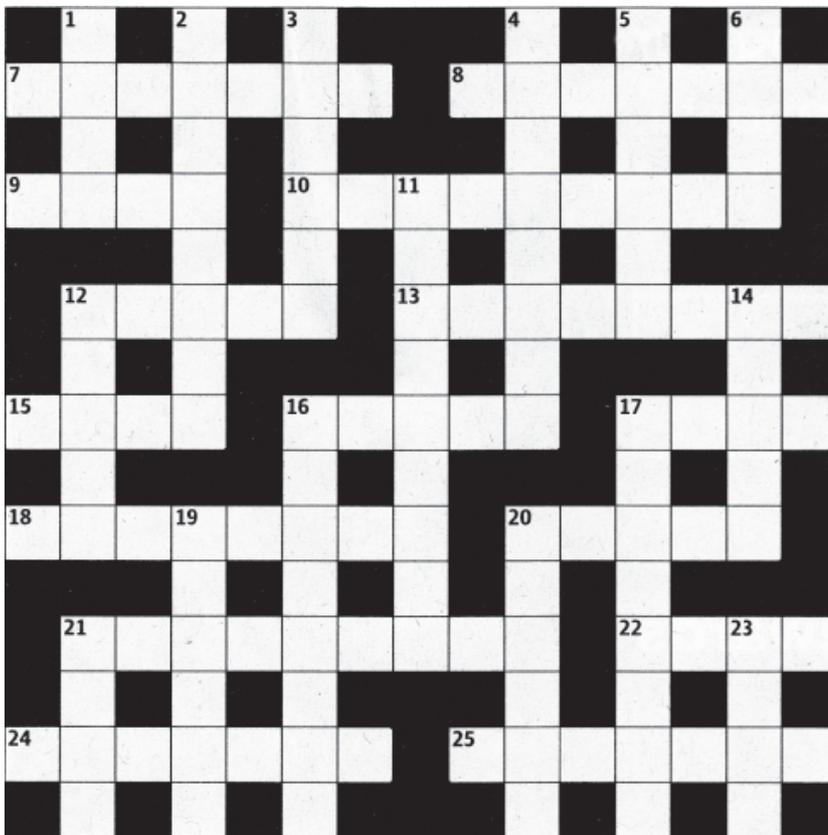
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CROSSWORD 78



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ACROSS

- 7,9. Get on with a task (7,4)
8. TUC dare to denigrate (7)
9. See 7
10. Equipped with a crude cot (9)
12. Spirit (5)
13. Retuned piano hid snake (8)
- 15,20 down AD (4,6)
16. Flower (5)
17. Cut very short (4)
18. Protective cover (8)
20. Outline (5)
21. Temporary (5-4)
22. Archbishop and Nobel laureate (4)
24. Sympathize with cold one (7)
25. Extraordinary (7)

DOWN

1. Release horse from gundog (4)
2. NE Cairo's new situation (8)
3. Delight (6)
4. Rough morning after second letter concerning carriage (8)
5. Loved (6)
6. Race from escudos (4)
11. Goes with egg, white and milk (9)
12. Poison from elusive nomads (5)
14. Approximately (5)
16. I let belt run down (8)
17. Rubbish! (8)
19. Queen takes car to Welsh valley (6)
20. See 15
21. Pack (4)
23. Bite from gnat (4)

CROSSWORD 77

There were just 10 entries in last month's crossword competition. Congratulations to Mr A Dodds of Croft Court who was the winner in the draw and will receive the £10 prize.

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 77

ACROSS

7. Chinook
8. the cat's whiskers
10. scatty
11. luscious
12. fete
13. swine fever
14. Kate Winslet
19. walky-talky
22. tool
23. forewarn
24. hornet
25. silence
26. Hogarth

DOWN

1. Chechen
2. anathema
3. polyps
4. see 8
5. active
6. strudel
9. Ellis Island
15. entrance
16. external
17. laconic
18. modesty
20. keeper
21. yahoos

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.

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

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Sweet Mince Pies

Using the mincemeat (that you made last month) make this 'melt-in-the-mouth' pastry for your mince pies and pop them into your freezer ready for Christmas.

Ingredients

12 oz (350g) plain flour
3 oz (75g) lard
3 oz (75g) margarine or butter
A pinch salt
Cold water to mix
Jar of mincemeat (a little milk and icing sugar for the top)
Patty tins and one fluted 3 inch pastry cutter and one 2½ inch.

Method

1. Pre-heat the oven to Gas Mark 6 - 200 C.

2. Make-up the pastry by sifting the flour and salt into a mixing bowl and rubbing the fats into it until the mixture resembles fine crumbs. Then add just enough cold water to mix to a dough. Leave the pastry to rest in a polythene bag in the refrigerator for about half an hour, then roll half of it out as thinly as possible and cut into 24 3 inch (7.5 cm) rounds, gathering up the scraps and re-rolling. Then repeat with the other half of the pastry this time using the 2½ inch (6 cm) cutter.

3. Grease the patty tins lightly and line them

with the larger rounds. Fill these with the mincemeat to the level of the edges of the pastry. Dampen the edges of the smaller rounds of pastry with cold water and press them lightly into position to form lids, sealing the edges. Brush each one with milk and make 3 snips in the tops with a pair of scissors. Bake near the top of the oven for 25 - 30 minutes until light golden brown. Cool on a wire tray and sprinkle with icing sugar.
4. When cold, pack and store in your freezer.

ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU

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

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CHRISTMAS IS COMING!



Members of Beamish Quilters are busy preparing for Christmas. Our picture (see above) shows the members making a start on their latest craft project using materials on which are placed some festive patterns.

The group meets occasionally on a Saturday from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm. They would welcome both new members and visitors who would like to join them.

The next meeting will be on Saturday 1st December in the Community Centre. For more details contact Lyn Davison on 07703 218984, or Elaine Williams on 01207 520063.

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Open House

On Thursday 1st November, a light lunch will be served in the Chapter House of the Parish Church from 11.30 am - 1.00 pm.

Country Market

On Saturday 3rd November, 10 am - 12 noon, come along to the Country Market in the Community Centre for your fresh produce, cakes, pies, jams, chutneys, eggs, plants, etc, and crafts.

Charity Evening

Saturday 3rd November at the Derwent Manor Hotel, Christmas Charity Evening in aid of Henry Dancer Days and Willow Burn Hospice. Tickets £14 include a 2-course Dinner, Charity Auction (items range from Beauty Treatments to Paintballing!), Raffle, Tombola and Disco. For tickets or to make a donation please contact 07919497491/01207437811.

North Country Theatre

Nobby Dimon presents his latest play, 'The Lighthouse on Shivering Sands', on Saturday 3rd November at 7.30 pm in the Community Centre. Tickets £8.50 from the Centre or the newsagent.

Sunday Bridge

Come and enjoy a relaxed afternoon playing Bridge in the Community Centre on November 4th from 2.00 pm. Only £3. Everyone welcome.

Lanchester Lions Fireworks

Lanchester Lions Club have finalised their plans for what is hoped to be an excellent fireworks display in its new format at Lanchester Cricket Club on Saturday 3rd November. Everybody is reminded that the display which has no bonfire this year starts promptly at 6.30 pm and every effort should be made to be at the venue 10 minutes early to avoid missing the start.

Parking is very limited at Kitswell Road and drivers should especially be there to find an appropriate parking space early to avoid disappointment. Police will be present in Lanchester on the evening and a reminder is issued to all drivers not to park on verges and cause any damage. Everybody is also reminded that alcohol should not be brought to the fireworks display as it is likely to be confiscated. For Health and Safety reasons sparklers are not to be lit on the field and anyone caught doing so will be asked to put them out. The Lions would also request neighbours whose gardens back on to the Cricket field do not light their fireworks until after the organised display has been completed and the crowd left in order to avoid the risk of any of their fireworks injuring any spectators accidentally. All we need now is good weather on the night. Lanchester Lions look forward to your support.

Canon Spence - Forthcoming Jubilee Events

Sunday 4th November, Jubilee Coffee and Cake Sale (Organisers Parish Women's Group)

Thursday 15th November, Race Night - Social Club 7.30 pm. (Organisers - Craig Forrest, Pat Dixon, Margaret McCabe)

Paradiso Club

The next Social will be on Sunday November 4th, 7 pm - 9.15 pm in the Main Hall of the Community Centre. There will be the usual Raffle, Refreshments and an opportunity to see the film 'WARHORSE' on the Big Screen.

Based on the story by the famous children's author, Michael Morpurgo and the award winning stage production, the story has now been made into a film. This is a tale of incredible loyalty, hope and tenacity set against the sweeping canvas of World War 1. This deeply heartfelt story begins with the remarkable friendship between a horse named Joey and his young trainer Albert. When they are forced apart by war, we follow Joey's extraordinary journey as he changes and inspires the lives of everyone he meets. A great tale of friendship set against the background knowledge of the thousands of horses who died alongside the soldiers in that war. All are welcome. Annual

WHAT'S ON?

Lanchester and Burnhope Parish Churches

Remembrance Sunday
November 11th at 9.30 am, Service at the War Memorial on the Village Green with Lanchester Brass Band, Uniformed Organisations, Representatives of the three churches, plus Parish Councillors, British Legion, Red Cross, Lanchester Lions and WI.

Taize Worship
Sunday 11th November at 6.00 pm in Lanchester Parish Church. The final practice will be held on Thursday November 8th in the church 6.00 pm - 7.00 pm. All are welcome. Please do come and sing - no experience is needed.

Autumn Fair
10.30 am in the Community Centre on Saturday 24th November. There will be a large variety of stalls including the Christmas Stall, Deli and Cakes plus the Grand draw. All are welcome.

Wildlife Group
On Tuesday 13th November at 7.30 pm in the Community Centre, John Olley will give a presentation about 'Birds of Durham'.

Junior/Family Wildlife

The meeting on Sunday 18th November will take place at Malton. Meet in the car park at 10 am.

Mothers' Union

Ann Sinclair is the Speaker at the meeting on Wednesday 14th November at 7.30 pm in the Chapter House.

PACT meeting

Wednesday 28th November at 7.15 pm in the Community Centre. All welcome.

membership of the club is £5 pa (worth it if you expect to come regularly!) as members then pay £2.50 per entrance. Occasional visitors are welcome and would pay £3.50 for the Social. The entrance fee includes the raffle, refreshments and film.

WI

Our next meeting is our special birthday meal which this year will be held on Monday 5th November at Yannis starting at 7 o'clock. Will members please arrive for 6.45 pm.

Thursday Club

Our normal meeting on November 15th is cancelled and we shall instead be off out to Blackfriars in Newcastle for our pre-Christmas treat. The bus will leave from outside Peters at 10 am on Wednesday November 7th.

Short Circuit Walks

November 10th, Barnard Castle/Egglesstone Abbey, 5 miles. Meet at the riverside, NZ055163.
November 24th, Newcastle Moors and Mansions, 5 miles. Meet at West Jesmond metro station. Limited meter parking nearby. NZ 252667.

Coffee Morning and Table Top Sale

Lanchester Methodist Church Wives and Friends Group will be hosting a Coffee Morning and Table Top Sale on Saturday 17th November from 10.00 am until noon.

Bookings for tables at £5 each can be made by contacting Dianne Emerson tel: 01207 520817.

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Village Voice AGM

All are welcome to the Annual General Meeting of Lanchester Publications Ltd (publishers of The Village Voice) which will be held at 7.00pm on Sunday 18th November in the Dining Room of Lanchester Community Centre.

Table Top Sale for Village Bus

A table top sale will be held on 22nd November between 11 am-1 pm in the Lanchester Social Club, to raise funds for the Village Bus. Things for sale will include handmade jewellery, cards, toiletries, books, etc. There will be a raffle with prices donated by Lanchester Businesses and also a tombola. Why not come along, have a browse and then sit down with a cup of tea/coffee and a piece of cake or some cheese and biscuits (which is included in the ticket price of £2.50) Tickets are available at the door, from Fred the bus driver, or from Karin Bravington. Or why not raise some money for your own charity or a little extra cash for Christmas by selling some of your own things. A table costs £5 and can be booked by phoning Karin Bravington on 520784. The previous events have been very successful, a great amount was raised

for the Bus and the sellers were happy with the money they made. So, please make a note in your diary, come along and give your support to our much needed Village Bus. The bus will pick up and drop of at the Club on his route.

Flower Club

On Friday 23rd November at 7.00 pm in the Community Centre, there will be an open meeting with a demonstration "Berries, Baubles and Bling" by Val Guest.

Willow Burn Events

The total amount raised on our August Bank Holiday Walk has been totted up - it brought in a fabulous £2850 for the hospice - thank you to everyone who attended. Please put the date in your diaries for next year.

Paul Jackson's Wine @8 Evening held in All Saints' Parish Centre in September raised £640.

On **Saturday 10th November** Willow Burn will be taking lots of happy shoppers off to York for the day by bus, where they will be able to access top high street outlets, offering quality goods at knockdown prices in the McArthur Glen shopping complex, and then wander along the Shambles and see the historic sights of York City and do even more shopping! before their return journey. Tickets are £15 each - for more details or to book contact Janet McCrory on 07932187555. **Saturday 24th November** - note a change of date, 11 am-2pm. The hospice's

Christmas Fair will be held at St Bede's School, Lanchester and will feature craft stalls, handmade cards, books, tombola, children's games, hot and cold refreshments, home baked cakes and pies, Christmas raffle, and Santa's Grotto. Admission is 50p. Everyone is welcome. If anyone would like to donate a cake or pie on the day, or add to our tombola prizes, or buy raffle tickets or sell them for the hospice in advance of the fair, please tel. Laura Elliot on 07702846683.

Last year, the Tree of Remembrance that was so popular, will once again be located in the foyer of Matalan, Consett every day from 10 am - 7 pm (Sundays 10 am - 4 pm) from **Saturday 1st to Monday 24th December**. For a small donation, baubles bearing your own personal message can be hung on the 10-12 ft tree, which is being donated by Lanchester Nurseries again. There will be another tree located in the hospice lounge this coming Christmas too and at the Charity Shop in Stanley. Many, many thanks to Matalan for affording the hospice the opportunity again. The 2011 Tree of Remembrance raised over £3,000 for the hospice.

Willow Burn is holding its Christmas Gala Evening on **Saturday 1st December** at Lumley Castle this year. A five course Elizabethan banquet plus some entertainment and dancing will be the order of this fantastic evening, and a raffle and auction will be

held with all proceeds going to Willow Burn. Corporate tables are to be available, or individuals or groups can buy tickets

which are priced at £45 each from Paul Jackson on (01207) 500463 or email p.jackson@mis-environmental.co.uk.

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SPORTS CLUB OF THE YEAR!

Lanchester Table Tennis Club was named Sports Club of the Year at the annual Derwentside Sport and Physical Activity Awards for 2012 which took place at the Empire Theatre in Consett on 20th September.

The award, which is given to a local club which has demonstrated 'commitment and passion to sport through the activities and opportunities they provide for their members' was presented to club chairman, Frank Clarke. As local winners, the club will now be put forward to compete for the County Title at the Durham County Awards event later in October.

The nomination recognised the development of the club from its start in 2009 and the wide age and ability range of its membership, from primary school children through to senior citizens, from complete beginners through to league players.

Also highlighted was the club's emphasis on learning to play table tennis in a fun and relaxed environment. The club would like to thank all its supporters, and particularly those who made generous donations in order to get the club started. These include Durham County Council (via Councillors Ossie Johnson and Richie Young) and



Senior members, coaches and secretary display the trophy and plaque they recently received from Derwentside for 'Best Club award'.

Leisureworks (through the HITS programme), Bill Woods, the late Mavis Maughan and the CDCF (The County Durham Community

Foundation Wind Farm Compensation programme). The club meets on both Wednesday and Friday evenings at the

Community Centre (6-7 for children's coaching, 7-9 for adults), and is always keen to welcome new players of any standard.

MARIE CURIE ETAPE PENNINES 2012

This was a new massive cycling event for Durham. It followed the very successful Caledonian ride held recently, but according to many comments on the internet by participants, the Durham ride was held in much more beautiful surroundings. About 3,000 cyclists took part on this circular route setting off at minute intervals in blocks of 200. Logistically this was quite a feat by the organisers. The ride started at 6.45 am at Ushaw College, with the first four leaders finishing just after

11.30 am. The majority of the remainder arrived at the finish by about 2.45 pm. It was a glorious autumn day with the route of some 78 miles rising to a height of just over 5000 ft. passing through Willington, Hamsterley Forest, Eggleston, St John's Chapel, Edmundbyers and Waskerley, to name but a few places, before returning across the junction at the top of Ford Road, Lanchester, through Wilks Hill, Esh and back to the college. There were several well spaced drinks stations on

route and 135 marshals on duty. However, the event was not without its problems. At the aforementioned junction the roads were closed from 9.40 am - 2.15 pm. This caused chaos for motorists who had missed the signs or thought they would get through. Police were on duty with a marshal and when the former left, the young PCSO normally based at Durham received a huge amount of abuse from motorists who could not reach their destinations. Some were heading for work, a group of lads needed to play a football match. It was simply impossible to reach some



Cyclists on the final leg of the Marie Curie Etape Pennines

villages due to the circular route with many road closures and probably not enough information on the signs. Scenes became quite ugly and a number of spectators moved their families away. Subsequently, the police were called back to the

junction to calm things down. Despite the problems it was a really good event with riders coming from all over the UK and at least eleven from Europe. Many thousands of pounds were raised for Marie Curie and other charities.



Another group of the cyclists enjoying the good weather

NEXT DEADLINE

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

Published by Lanchester Publications Ltd, 49 Lintzford Road, Rowlands Gill, NE39 1HG and printed by Durham County Council, Design and Print, Comeleon House, Tanfield Lea Industrial Estate North, Stanley, County Durham, DH9 9NX. Tel: 01207 217167.

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