

# THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 6 Volume 14

Lanchester, June 2013

For contact information, see page 2

## OPERATION VALENCIA



*Weardale Mountain Rescue members board the RAF Air Sea Rescue Helicopter. A staged rescue was carried out with canoeists in trouble near Malton.*

This important, unique event took place in the village on Thursday, 13th June. It began with a business breakfast at the King's Head at 7.30 am, where two presentations were given and during which bacon or fried egg sandwiches were available to those present, which included Lanchester residents and business owners. The first presentation, given by a representative from the Civil Contingencies Unit, detailed ways in which business owners could prepare for, prevent where possible and recover after a disaster; it seems that 80% of businesses close afterwards. There are 45 businesses in the village, all of which would be vulnerable should a crisis, not necessarily a flood, occur. Next a member of Community Resilience UK gave a talk on how they help people recover.

**Continued with more photos on pages 4 and 5**

*Right: Handcuffed! All Saints children enjoying Valencia Day with one detained for questioning. She was certainly enjoying the experience!*



*Below left: Four girls in a rescue boat just as a shower began.*

*Below right: Demonstration of a floating walkway for use in floods.*





# 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

After visiting the library and seeing the torrent of water coming down Newbiggen Lane, I called into the Methodist Chapel for a 'cuppa'.

I was wondering how I was to get home without getting my feet wet. However, a tall gentleman asked me where I lived. I pointed out my car was on the opposite side of the road and of course the road was flooded.

I gave him my car keys, he brought the car to the chapel, then he carried me (140 lbs) and put me in the driver's seat.

I do not know the gentleman, but I would like to say many thanks from a near 90 year old.

Bob Forster, Woodlands

Dear Village Voice

Last week Elizabeth and Tom Hall brought me a copy of the latest publication which showed awful flooding in Lanchester. We lived there from 1965 to 1988 and in the late 60s the village was flooded and the primary school was evacuated.

A combination of rain and rapidly melting snow was responsible.

My husband went down to The Black Bull, cellars flooded! There he met Jack Scanlon whose wife owned a children's wear shop in the centre of the village. The water was swirling around and Jack suddenly disappeared from the waist down. He had fallen into an open manhole and had he not been a rather portly gentleman, he would have disappeared altogether. The beck was widened and deepened later and that was supposed to prevent future flooding. Obviously it did not work. The village has changed so much since 1988 - people and buildings have gone - but I have fond memories of our life there. Sincerely, Margaret Bramwell, Beadnell

Dear Village Voice

Fiona, Robbie and David would just like to say a massive thank you to everyone for all of the kind gifts, cards, and messages we have received since the birth of our not so little man Matthew Edward Selby born 16th May at 10.26 am weighing in at a very healthy 11lbs 2ozs which at 4 weeks premature is the heaviest baby to be born in Durham. As we were told we would never have any more children this little bundle came as a massive shock to everyone especially big brother David who absolutely dotes on his new baby brother. We would also like to let everyone know that the girls we have looked after for the last 18 months left to live with their new mammy and daddy a couple of weeks before Matthew was born. We are receiving updates from the new parents at regular intervals and they are both totally settled. We are taking Matthew to see them in August and we can't wait. Once again many thanks.

The Selbys, Newbiggen Lane

Dear Village Voice

I would like to give a big thank you to all the people who helped clear the full street from top to bottom in Alderdene on Tuesday which took them several hours from start to finish. Previously I had spotted them helping vehicles up the street on Monday.

It was fantastic to come home from work and find the young adults all mucking in and showing great community spirit. I believe we have the clearest street in Lanchester!

Credit where credit's due! Your hard work is greatly appreciated.

I think I would speak for every resident to say well done and a big thank you.

The Lamb family

Dear Village Voice

Our family have been overwhelmed by the sympathy, cards and messages we have received recently after the death of Anne. We would sincerely like to thank all who sent messages of condolence, they were much appreciated and a great comfort to us.

With thanks,

The Kemp and Harrison families

### SUPPORT FOR VILLAGE BUS

Following the article in last month's edition, reporting on the 'Showtime' concert by Lanchester Male Voice Choir and Jane Westwater, we are pleased to announce that the final sum raised for the Village Link Bus was over £1000.

### LOST

A gold wedding ring was lost on Tuesday 21st May probably on the pavement of the A691 near The King's Head. The ring is faceted (the facets are rather worn). Please contact 01207 520646 if you are able to help.



David Selby with his new baby brother Matthew

### How to contact the Village Voice

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Email: villagevoice adverts@talktalk.net General and news enquiries: (01207) 520559

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

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## WEDDING CELEBRATIONS



*Carolyn, Peter and Holly*

The wedding of Carolyn Easten and Peter Gretton took place on a glorious sunny day on 4th May at All Saints Parish Church, Lanchester. The warm and friendly service was beautifully conducted by the Rev Rupert Kalus.

Carolyn, daughter of June and Stan was born and grew up in Lanchester where she attended Lanchester EP Primary School. Peter grew up in Coalville where the couple have set up home with their daughter Holly Catherine.

The Best Man was Richard, the groom's brother, and the ushers

were Stephen Barham and Peter's nephew Thomas. Chief bridesmaid was Joanne, sister of the bride, who was assisted in her duties by Holly Catherine and Peter's niece Abigail. The beautiful service was followed by a reception and evening celebration at Lumley Castle. The happy couple spent their honeymoon in Ireland.

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## KATE TINKLER'S 99th BIRTHDAY

A group of friends visited Kate on her 99th birthday in Shotley Care Home on Wednesday 29th June.

We enjoyed an impromptu birthday party with drinks and a birthday cake. The residents all enjoyed

the celebration. Kate is a very dear friend and is very popular with residents and staff. We are all looking forward to next year and the celebrations for her 100th birthday.

T Lovell



*Left to right: Freda Smith, Margaret Brown, Terri Lovell, Brenda Craddock and sitting on the chair centre is Kate Tinkler (99 years old)*

## COMMUNITY DRAW

The winning number in the Community Draw for May 2013 is 53. The draw was made by Mrs C Wardle of the Gym.

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## OPERATION VALENCIA

continued from page 1

This is part of the Prince's Trust and we were told that practical help, such as immediate replacement of equipment, is available which is of particular benefit to small establishments. It was from this charity that the money for funding our big day had been received by the County Council, who had chosen Lanchester because of the strong community involvement during the flood last year. Ged of the hardware shop, whose business was particularly badly hit by the flood, said the meeting had been very helpful.

After this we went to the Community Centre, where many emergency services, County Council

and voluntary, were gathered and the car park was full of various vehicles. Inside was the Community Coordination Centre, with, according to the leaflet I was given, 'representatives from the Police, Fire Service and Local Authority available at Bronze (Operational) level to co-ordinate efforts of the community in consultation with the statutory responders, voluntary sector and military.'

The voluntary sector included the Teesdale and Weardale Search and Rescue team and members of Raynet, a group of volunteers who use their own radio communication equipment to help on such occasions and

others such as long-distance horse rides. Members of the Territorial Army were there, too, in their distinctive camouflage uniforms and berets.

On the village green was a selection of stands, where the public could find out about the exercise and see what was available in the way of help to stop property flooding.

Also there were dinghies of various sizes to be used for rescuing people from their houses - heaven forbid we ever see the need to use them in our village!

The Methodist Church had been turned into a Rest Centre, so I volunteered to be an 'evacuee' and had a cup

**continued on next page**



*Talking Heads*

*Est 13 years*

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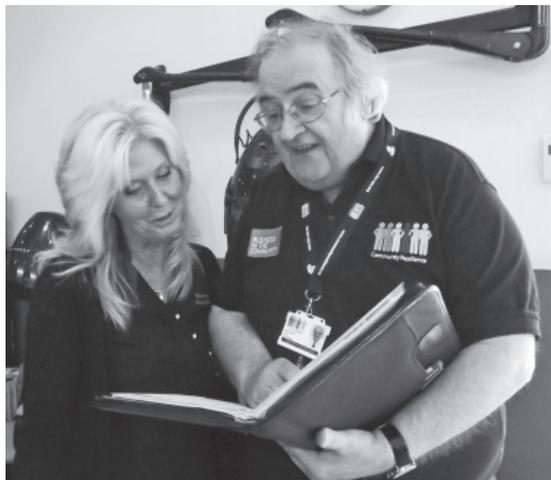
*Local MP Pat Glass has a talk with RAYNET members based at the Community Centre, who dealt with communications on Valencia day.*



*Breakfast Meeting at the Kings. Delegates enjoy the bacon butties at the start of Operation Valencia.*



Girls from the Youth Club painting flood emergency equipment before storing it in the hut behind the Social Club ready for Exercise Valencia. The girls are being led by STEPS worker Joanne Charlton. Left to right: Ellie Jenkins, Tyler Robinson, Joanne and Katy Turnbull.



John Smith, from the Prince's Trust, also known as Business in the Community and Community Resilience, interviews Mary Carr from New Image.

of tea. Before my tea, though, I was asked a lot of questions which were recorded very efficiently by ladies from the RVS and if I had needed First Aid the Red Cross was on hand with blankets and other equipment. I was not allowed to leave without telling them I was going, otherwise I suppose I might have become a 'missing person'!

However, the highlight of the event was the arrival of the RAF helicopter at about 10.30 am at St Bede's School. There it picked up members of the Search and Rescue team to go and find missing persons outside the village - near the Malton Picnic area and also

somewhere on the river Browney near Langley Park.

The whole event, organised by PC Steve Holden, County Council Operational & Contingency Planning ran very smoothly and no doubt there will be a report back at some time. It was a very interesting and indeed exciting morning, and fortunately the weather was kind most of the time, although some of the stalls had to retreat into the tents when the wind became strong. Both TV channels included the event in their local news reports that day and some young men from Cleveland college were filming on behalf of the Police, so perhaps we will get to see that too.

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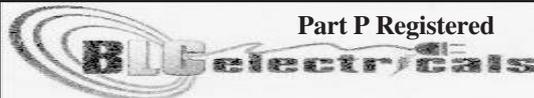
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# LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from the Ordinary Meeting held on  
20th May 2013

### Minutes

Ordinary meeting held on  
9th April 2013 - approved.  
Planning meeting held on  
16th April 2013 - approved.

**Police Report** - for the  
period 27th March - 24th  
April was discussed.  
Members were informed  
that Chris Hindmarch is the  
new Neighbourhood  
Warden for the  
Lanchester area.

### Grassed Area - Lanchester Valley Railway Path between Station Road and Newbiggen Lane

The County Council have  
stopped cutting the grass  
in this area which they own  
and have asked if the  
Parish Council would wish  
to take over responsibility.  
A licence agreement could  
be put in place which  
would mean that the  
County Council would  
retain ownership,  
management and  
maintenance for this area  
and would allow the  
Parish Council to arrange  
to have the grass cut.  
Councillors agreed that the  
Parish Council should  
enter into a licence  
agreement and undertake  
limited grass cutting of this  
area, this arrangement to  
be reviewed at the end of  
the year.

### Correspondence

(1) North Pennines AONB  
- Annual Forum -  
information received.

(2) Healeyfield Parish  
Council - winter  
maintenance - it was  
agreed to support  
Healeyfield Parish Council  
in getting Long Edge Lane  
added to the winter  
maintenance schedule.

(3) Lanchester and  
Burnhope Parochial Church  
Council - letter of thanks for  
donation received.

(4) Junior Football Team -  
request to use Kitswell  
Football Field for the  
2013/14 season. It was  
agreed that permission be  
granted subject to the  
usual conditions.

(5) Resident - letter of  
thanks - Village Green path.

(6) The Lanchester  
Partnership - letter -  
Neighbourhood Plan

### Area Action Partnership & Parish Councils Committee

Members  
discussed a request by the  
AAP for a date and venue  
for a village meeting to  
discuss the concerns and  
priorities raised in last  
year's survey. A drop in  
session has been arranged  
for 23rd July at Park House  
between 3.30 pm and  
6.30 pm.

### Lanchester Cricket Club

- **Bonfire & Fireworks  
Display** - A donation of  
£300 was agreed.

### Lynwood Care Centre Community Interest Company

The Community Interest  
Company are intending to  
hold an open session/  
exhibition on 26th June at  
Park House between 3 pm  
and 8 pm.

### Training Opportunities

Councillors were informed  
about a number of training  
opportunities.

### Parish Council

**Newsletter** - The quarterly  
newsletter was discussed  
and approved for  
distribution.

### Tree Report - Village Green

Councillors considered the  
recommended works and  
agreed to discuss further  
at a future meeting.

**Insurance Renewal** - The  
insurance premium of £705  
was agreed.

**9 Month Bond** Following  
the recommendation at the  
last meeting a 9 month  
bond has been secured.

**Internal Audit Report** -  
received.

**Financial report** -  
discussed and received.

**Accounts for Payment** -  
approved.

## Notes from the Ordinary Meeting held on 11th June 2013

### Minutes

Annual General Meeting  
held on 20 May 2013 -  
approved

Ordinary meeting held on  
20 May 2013 - approved.

**Police Report** - for the  
period 24 April - 19 May  
was discussed.

Chris Hindmarch the new  
Neighbourhood Warden  
for the Lanchester area  
attended the meeting and  
went through the  
Neighbourhood Warden  
report.

### Correspondence

Lanchester EP School -  
letter of thanks received.

### Grassed Area - Lanchester Valley Railway Path between Station Road and Newbiggen Lane

A licence agreement had  
been exchanged with  
Durham County Council.  
Lanchester Parish Council  
have arranged and paid for  
the grass to be cut in this  
area. The arrangement to  
be reviewed at the end of  
the year.

### Area Action Partnership & Parish Councils Committee

Members  
received an update on  
recent meetings. Members  
discussed a Highways

Issues document and  
asked that the issue of  
flooding on the roads be  
added.

**Tree Report - Village  
Green** - It was agreed that  
the recommended works  
should be undertaken.

### Farming, Wildlife & Environment Working Group

The group are working up  
proposals for a heritage  
based project for which  
grant funding will be  
sought. Approval was  
given for work to continue  
on developing the project.

continued on next page

continued from previous page

**Christmas Light Renewal**  
Councillors were informed that a grant of £18,000 had been received from the County Council Neighbourhood Budget which would enable the Christmas lights to be replaced in the remaining 6 trees on the Green.

**Lanchester Miners' Banner group**

Councillors were informed that the group had secured a grant of £23,500 from the County Council Neighbourhood Budget which would allow the project to go ahead. Work was now progressing on all elements of the project.

**Bag It and Bin It** - Members discussed the

recent campaign operated by Durham County Council to promote responsible dog ownership.

**Quality Parish Status**

This scheme is currently being reviewed. Lanchester Parish Council is due to reaccredit in September, however the scheme is frozen until the new criteria are known.

**Annual Report**

Following some minor amendments the annual report was approved for distribution.

**Financial report** -

discussed and received.

**Accounts for Payment** -

approved. The next Ordinary meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 9th July 2013 at 7.15 pm.

# A MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE ...

Once again the village news is dominated by flooding. A month ago the rain started, came down steadily for three hours, flooded parts of Lanchester and surrounding villages and cut us off from the rest of the county. I tried to leave the village at one point but had to turn back and for a short time was quite frightened by the force of the water and the speed of the flood.

I continue to work with insurance companies on individual cases still not settled from June last year and with the authorities on trying to minimise if not prevent flooding in the future. I have met with Durham County Council and the Environment Agency and have a meeting scheduled with Northumbria Water,

along with the other five MPs in the County to make sure these agencies are all doing what they should be doing to prevent flooding. That was why Operation Valencia was so important. It brought all of these authorities together in Lanchester to support local people and businesses to help themselves whilst the authorities try to find and fund a longer term solution. I was at the early morning business meeting about business resilience and continuity and took part in some of the 'rescue' scenarios throughout the day. As a result I now have a business continuity plan in place for my office, not just for flood but for all emergencies. Perhaps what was most useful for me was the contacts I

made. In the past my office has worked alone in trying to find ways forward for individual constituents but we are now in a much better position to know who to contact who can give help now, not some time in the future.

Operation Valencia and the lessons learnt from it could only work in a real community and I was so pleased and proud to see the way local people and businesses came together once again to show how strong community is in our village.

If you would like to contact me, please write to me at Pat Glass MP, Gledstone House, 26 Newmarket Street, Consett, Co Durham, DH8 5LQ, email me at pat.glass.mp@parliament.uk or phone my office on 01207 501 782.

## POLICE REPORT

The last Lanchester PACT meeting took place on Wednesday 22nd May 2013. Since then we have received 50 reports to the area of which 9 were community related calls. On Sunday 4th May a report was received regarding youths congregating in Deanery View woods and on police arrival a group of 8 local youths were stopped and found to be in possession of alcohol. All their details were taken and the alcohol was seized and poured away by officers. We've received 8 reports regarding anti-social behaviour, 3 of these calls were neighbour disputes and the remaining 5 calls were youth nuisance in the area of The Garths, Front Street, Deanery View and Valley Grove. At the PACT meeting the priority was changed to parking outside Lanchester EP School. Since then engagement work is on-going between the school and Police to address this matter through regular patrols and a school newsletter

advising parents of their manner of parking. On Tuesday 28th May officers from 6 north east Police forces took part in the largest Farmwatch Operation to date to tackle issues of rural crime and suspicious activity. Although the night was quiet within Consett, arrests were seen in Barnard Castle and Crook. On Thursday 13th June Lanchester Live Event took place. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who took part in the organisation and involvement on the day. Feedback received so far has been extremely positive and more engagement work is planned with local schools in the very near future. The date of the next PACT meeting is Wednesday 24th July at 7.15 pm in Lanchester Community Centre. In addition to this we will also be hosting Police Drop-ins at Lanchester Community Centre with the first one taking place on Friday 19th July from 10 am - midday. PCSO Lisa Jackson



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**MOTHERS' UNION OUTING  
TO WHITBY**



*Mothers' Union members with their leader Margaret Brown, about to board the bus for their annual 'Day-Away' on June 8th. They had a wonderful day at Whitby. Fun, Fellowship and Fish (Whitby's best) were the order of the day, enjoyed by everyone. Brenda Craddock*

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**NORTH DURHAM NRAS GROUP  
FUNDRAISER**

A Coffee Morning to raise funds for the National Rheumatoid Arthritis

Society was held at The Methodist Church on Saturday 24th May. This well attended event had several attractive tables selling various products which raised £230. Pam McNally, organiser of

the function, would like to thank all those who helped at the function and the people who supported the occasion by attending and giving so generously for the cause.

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*Pam McNally (right) organiser showing the goods available on this attractive table*

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*People enjoying the social occasion at the NRAS fundraising event*

## END OF AN ERA

Lanchester Lions Club held their final meeting before closure in Lanchester Social Club on Tuesday 18th June 2013, after 46 years of service in the local community, with donations as well to Lions International Projects. The club will be missed. At the meeting it was decided to distribute the last £1300 in the Welfare fund to various younger

organisations in the area. The photograph shows Lion Brinley Jones presenting President, Tommy Robinson, with the past president's badge. Those who attended the final meeting were, left to right: Ian Murray (Secretary); Brinley Jones; Alan Kelly; Tommy Robinson; Mike Stoddart; Martin Durkin

(Treasurer); Jim Goddard; Ken Gardiner and Tony Corry. Ken Gardiner completed the 46 years which was remarkable. Those members not able to attend the meeting were: Alan Hill; John Williams and Peter Richardson. Some of the Lions' Ladies met their men in the lounge after the meeting for a social occasion.



## HELPING BUSINESSES TO START AND GROW

An exciting new programme offering support to new and existing businesses is starting in the rural areas of the North East. Funded by DEFRA and the ERDF the North East Rural Growth Network Business Support Programme offers support and information to start ups and existing businesses in the region and aims to reach even the most remote rural areas. The RGN programme provides a direct route for people and businesses into all the business support available in the North East from advice and mentoring to grants and loans. In County Durham the project is being delivered by CDC Enterprise Agency (Iain Harris 01207 280011), Derwentside Enterprise Agency (Emily Edwards

01207 585901), East Durham Business Service (Sarah Marshall 07800 916932) and South Durham Enterprise Agency (John Atkinson 07702 475222 and Marzia Aloisio 07825589479). The dedicated team of Rural Enterprise Development Officers are available across the county to assist established businesses and new start ups by providing information, directing them towards existing support and pointing them to possible sources of funding. If you think you need assistance to start to develop your business, if you want to find out exactly what support may be available to help you or if you simply want to chat through your ideas with a willing listener then please get in touch with the above contacts.

## Lanchester Village Link Bus Service

*The Lanchester Village Link bus service helps members of the public, including those who are elderly or infirm, get around the village. It runs from Monday to Friday (except Bank Holidays) from 9.40am until 1.40pm. It picks up and sets down passengers at any safe point along the line of route except on Lanchester Front Street and Durham Road where it uses the normal bus stops.*

*It makes 8 runs a day. 6 of these are funded by voluntary contributions and commissioned by the Lanchester Partnership. 2 are funded and commissioned by the County Council. All are operated by Prophet Private Hire.*

### Route

*Kitswell Road (Cemetery), Newbiggen Lane, Mount Park Drive, Alderside Crescent, Mount Park Drive, Newbiggen Lane, Front Street, Station Road, Ford Road, West Drive, Humberhill Drive, Watling Way, West Drive, Ford Road, Station Road, Durham Road, Manor Grange, Burnhopeside Avenue, Peth Bank, Deneside, Manor Grange, Durham Road, Valley Grove, Durham Road, Front Street, Kitswell Road.*



### Timetable

*The basic fare is 60p, but usual concessions apply*

<i>Kitswell Road (Cemetery) Depart</i>	09:40	10:10	10:40	11:10	11:40	12:10	12:40	13:10
<i>Newbiggin Lane (Library)</i>	09:43	10:13	10:43	11:13	11:43	12:13	12:43	13:13
<i>Alderside Crescent</i>	09:45	10:15	10:45	11:15	11:45	12:15	12:45	13:15
<i>Front Street (Green)</i>	09:48	10:18	10:48	11:18	11:48	12:18	12:48	13:18
<i>Humberhill Drive</i>	09:51	10:21	10:51	11:21	11:51	12:21	12:51	13:21
<i>Station Road</i>	09:55	10:25	10:55	11:25	11:55	12:25	12:55	13:25
<i>Burnhopeside Avenue</i>	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30	13:00	13:30
<i>Valley Grove</i>	10:03	10:33	11:03	11:33	12:03	12:33	13:03	13:33
<i>Front Street (Green)</i>	10:05	10:35	11:05	11:35	12:05	12:35	13:05	13:35
<i>Kitswell Road (Cemetery) Arrive</i>	10:08	10:38	11:08	11:38	12:08	12:38	13:08	13:38

*This is an advert paid for by the Lanchester Partnership*

# THE GREAT NORTH DUCK RACE



*Off they go, set away by Peter Jackson*

The Great North Duck Race was held in the village on Saturday 15th June in aid of Willow Burn Hospice.

It was organised by Paul Jackson, local Parish Councilor and member of the Board of Trustees at the hospice. His family helped. John Jackson lowered to the ducks to his brother Peter, standing in Smallhope Burn at the rear of the family home. Peter set the ducks off at 1.00 pm. From there the ducks followed the flow under the Village Green with the first duck appearing at the King's Head bridge about 10 minutes later. There was a fair number of enthusiasts and Willow Burn supporters there.

One duck took the lead almost to the finish but got stuck in the rocks and bushes near the line. Just before this a little dog decided to jump in for a swim across the

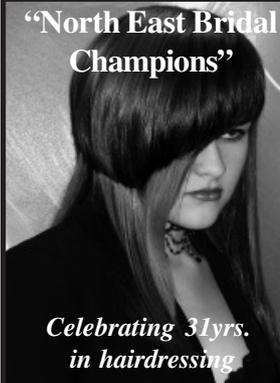
finish line. Luckily it missed the ducks otherwise the potential winner may have been retrieved!

Eventually after a further 15 minutes duck number 389 crossed the line gathered up by Paul Jackson to clinch the £100 prize. The next two ducks were neck and neck at the finish numbers 914, £20 prize, and 466, £10 prize. It was a great atmosphere which the onlookers seemed to enjoy.

There were some excellent homemade cakes on sale made by Willow Burn supporters which helped raised the funds on the day to an amazing £1750 plus funding from Barclays Bank, at this stage not known. Margaret Whaley from Barclays at Stanley was there to represent the bank. It was a pleasant half hour on one of our rare sunny afternoons.

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*Margaret Whaley, Barclays Stanley,  
appropriately attired*

# ARCHIE O'DAIR WINS HIS HEIGHT IN BOOKS ON RADIO 2 STORY COMPETITION



*Archie receiving his prize at the book festival*

12 year old Archie O'Dair, a pupil at Durham School from Lanchester, won a magnificent 3rd place in the Chris Evans Radio 2 five hundred words story competition in the 10 to 13 year section for his story 'Watching'. Archie attended the Radio 2 Breakfast Show live from the Hay on Wye Book Festival to receive his prize - his height in books - presented by Oliver Phelps who played one of the Weasley twins in the Harry Potter films. The link to his story is <http://bbc.in/137ixM8> where you can either read the story or listen to it (read by the 'BBC Radio Drama Company').

## OVER THE RAINBOW



*At the request of Churches Together, Rev Mark, Bishop of Jarrow, was invited to speak to a gathering at the Methodist Church. His talk was entitled 'Over the Rainbow' inspired by the song sung by Judy Garland. The talk had a strong theme of spirituality running through it but was also lighthearted, amusing and easy listening. As a result there were many in depth points discussed at the end before retiring for some tea. In the picture some of the members of Churches Together surround Bishop Mark.*



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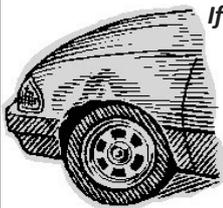
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## MARGERY FLATTS OPEN DAY

There are certainly a lot of green-fingered residents in Lanchester judging by the allotments and orchard which members of the group, with family and friends, visited on the afternoon of Sunday, 16th June. Signs of some very hard work having taken place were to be seen in the flourishing vegetables of all types, together with herbs and some flowers, in neat plots, surrounded by the young fruit trees and bushes planted by the Orchard Group. These looked strong and healthy too, with a good deal of blossom, hopefully producing fruit later. What better way could one spend a fine Sunday

afternoon than working in the peace and quiet of the site, on the edge of the village, with a view of the beautiful surrounding countryside, birds singing, lambs bleating in the background? An even better way, though, was to sit there consuming a cold drink and partaking of home-made cakes and scones, provided by the members, and watching everyone enjoying themselves! Hosts Sonny and Paul Shepherd had organised the afternoon, with a game for the children, hunting for information about the fruit trees and bushes and a couple of entertaining 'have-a-go'. A tour round



Left to right: Simon, Adam and Daniel Pinkney tending their garden.

the allotments and orchard was available too.

The original idea of this venture was very special and it is obviously succeeding, judging by what we saw today. Anyone can join the Lanchester Community Orchard and current subscriptions are £10 per household per year. If you are interested, contact Kate Wicks on 01207 520258. Also there are a few allotment plots still available; contact Bob Russell on 01207 521335 if you would like to try some very pleasant and productive outside work in lovely surroundings.



The great Jenga game which was lots of fun.

## Gardening in June

July is all about keeping your bedding plants blooming. Allowing plants to set seed stops them forming new flowers, so you need to deadhead each week. Bedding plants in pots and hanging baskets will require daily watering and once a week add a high potash liquid feed to the water to encourage more flowers to form.

**In the Borders**  
Cut back hardy geraniums and delphiniums after the first flowers fade to encourage new growth and further blooms and

also prune lupins to encourage further flowers. Dead head roses to keep them looking tidy and dead head sweet peas (or constantly pick the flowers) to keep them blooming all summer long and, if they grow too tall, provide further support for them. Keep an eye out for pests on plants with lupin buds being susceptible to green fly which can completely destroy the flowers.

**In the Vegetable Plot**  
Pick your courgettes whilst they are young as regular picking

encourages more fruit and similarly pick marrows by harvesting regularly. Pick runner beans regularly to prevent them becoming stringy; leaving mature pods on the plants can prevent further flowers forming. Harvest beetroot, peas, chard, potatoes, salad leaves, lettuce and tomatoes this month.

**General**  
Watering can be important this month so try watering around the base of plants rather than on the leaves and use water butts as often as you can.

# LANCHESTER FLOWER CLUB ANNIVERSARY LUNCH

The club had a very special meeting in May. All members met at Chapters Restaurant in Derwentside College for an anniversary lunch to celebrate 45 years of flower arranging and demonstrations. The young students, our founder members, teachers and trainers, gave us an exceptional meal with a good and a really friendly service. Everyone enjoyed the afternoon. Helen Tomlinson, who is our Chairperson and one of our founder members, thanked everyone for all their support over the years and a special thank you to all the committee members even remembering those who are no longer with us.



*Members at Chapters Restaurant in Derwentside College at their anniversary lunch to celebrate 45 years of both flower arranging and demonstrations.*



*We thought it might be interesting for some readers to see what the club was doing in 1988 and one of our members found some old photos. The club organised a Flower Festival in All Saints Parish Church, the funds going towards the building fund for the Chapter House. I am sure many of you will recognise some of the members. Many of them are still in the club today. Back row: Kathy Smith, Helen Tomlinson, Lord Mayor and Reverend Peter Waterhouse; front row: Ethel Taylor, Lady Mayoress (Mrs Pears), June Hulburt and Mrs Waterhouse.*



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# HOSPICE STARTS CARE AT HOME AGENCY

The Hazelbrook Specialist Care at Home service has just started operating and is a wholly owned trading subsidiary of Willow Burn Hospice in Lanchester, which has been serving local communities for over twenty four years. Hazelbrook offers personalised care and support services to those with a life-limiting illness. While it is a commercial organisation, all profits

go back into Willow Burn Hospice. The services provided at the hospice, including in-patient care, support groups and clinics are still free of charge.

Wendy Wilson, who has been a staff nurse at Willow Burn for seven years, and is now in charge of patient care at Hazelbrook, said the caring ethos for which the hospice has gained

a well deserved reputation will be spread to home care through Hazelbrook. "Some patients and their families prefer to be cared for at home rather than in a hospital and our experienced carers will help people to live in comfort and dignity in their familiar surroundings." Initially the service will cover the Derwentside area.

Patients may receive return to home assistance, to ensure an easy transition when they are discharged from hospital or hospice, and also personal care and support for daily activities within the home and local community. For more details please contact Wendy on 01207 593888 or email [enquiries@hazelbrook.org](mailto:enquiries@hazelbrook.org).

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You can apply for a free place if you receive one or more of the following:

- \* Income Support;
- \* Job Seekers Allowance;
- \* Support for a 'Looked After' child;
- \* Child Tax Credit - income below £16,190;
- \* Guaranteed

Element of State Pension Credit; Support under the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; Employment and Support Allowance - income related.

If you, or someone you know, has a child who will be 2 years old by September 2013 you can check if they are eligible for free Play and Learn sessions by contacting the school office for an application form on 01207 520243 or by email to [c.dunn100@durhamlearning.net](mailto:c.dunn100@durhamlearning.net). Places are limited so don't delay!

## WI

President Jennifer Macdonald welcomed everyone to our May meeting then Maisie Raine, a member who is a published author of a children's book, told us how her love of reading led to her always wanting to write a book. When she retired after 30 years of teaching, she wrote her book called 'The Summer of the Witch' which is set in Dunchester based on Lanchester. She is now waiting for her second book to be published very soon and has invited her WI friends to celebrate the launch with her. This made me see it is never too late to follow a dream.

Lists are out for the History Wardrobe on 29th October and an evening visit to Whickham Heritage Gardens on Tuesday 20th August.

Raffle tickets at £1 each are available for the yearly money raising for County. Pauline Griggs won the raffle and the competition winners were Jessie Goodall and Janis Suddes.

Our speaker this month was Lesley Holborn (accompanied by husband Les who makes and designs jewellery) talking about precious stones. All precious stones are judged on colour, clarity, caret and cut and she explained

little known facts such as aquamarine fades in daylight, heat is used on rubies to make them clearer and peridots can actually be found inside meteorites. Opals have not only been found to contain fossils but contain between 3 and 21% water, pearls from different parts of the world have different colours and when tapped on the teeth feel sandy and grainy when they are real. This was a very interesting and very informative talk. Jennifer gave the vote of thanks and the evening ended with refreshments and the opportunity to purchase some very beautiful jewellery.



Barbara Sproat running the Higher and Lower game at the WI members garden party this month, which raised £210 for Willow Burn.



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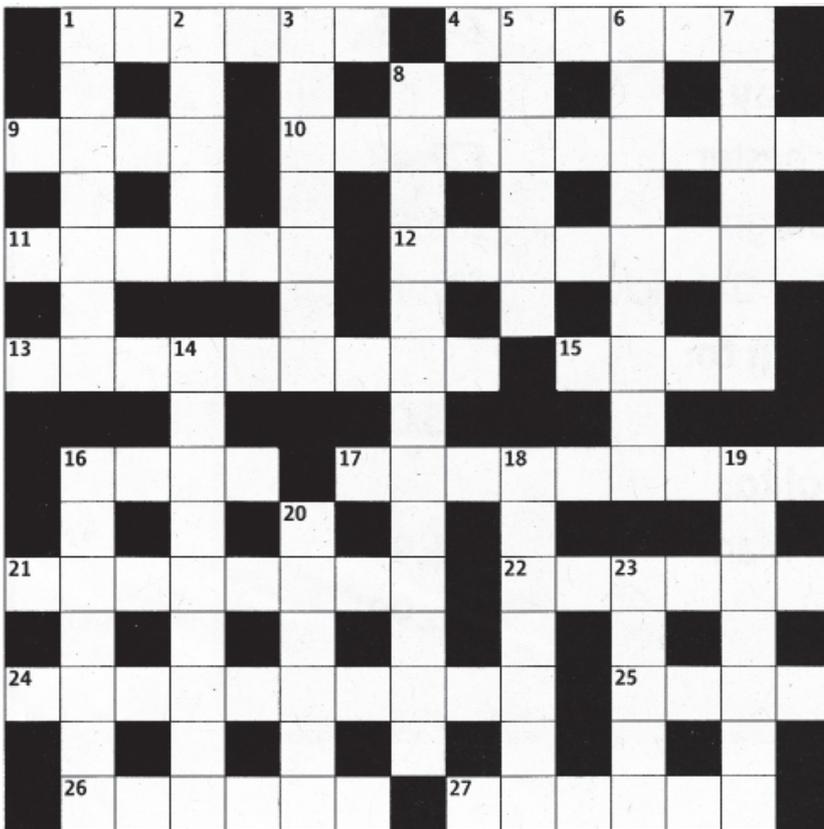
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# CROSSWORD 86



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## ACROSS

1. Foundation garment (6)
4. Rivets try hard (6)
9. Remnant from humdrum party (4)
10. Enterprise (10)
11. Lines of verse (6)
12. Person one owes (8)
13. Dickens' character (5,4)
15. Raised area for addresses (4)
16. Spend time at the computer (4)
17. Important person (3,6)
21. Citizen of Monrovia? (8)
22. Continent (6)
24. Go in a refined bog for crime writer (5,5)
25. Vegetable sounds like a drip (4)
26. Urge (6)
27. Bird with a curved beak (6)

## DOWN

1. Grumble (7)
2. Come to fruition (5)
3. Hip tape records final judgement (7)
5. Hot rivets hold stand (6)
6. Complicated (9)
7. Green-eyed (7)
8. No direct ray is optional (13)
14. Concur (5,4)
16. Beach pebbles (7)
18. Russian playwright (7)
19. Ian's pet is wise (7)
20. Seethe (6)
23. Remnant (5)

## ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 85

### ACROSS

1. apricot
5. espouse
- 10,17. blueberry
11. Green Party
12. damson
13. oblige us
14. death camp
- 16,17. strawberry
17. berry
19. crab apple
23. Jonathan
24. no lies
26. minor route
27. grow
28. catseye
29. asinine

### DOWN

2. pulsate
3. ideas
4. organic
6. senile
7. Orange Tip
8. satsuma
9. lemon meringue
15. tornadoes
18. exotica
20. bonkers
21. lie down
22. cherry
- 25,17. loganberry

## CROSSWORD 85

There were just 16 entries in last month's crossword competition. Congratulations to R Christon of Woodham Court who was the winner in the draw and will receive the £10 prize.

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

# SPONSORED TODDLLE



Lanchester Nursery children always warm up for their sponsored toddle to the play park for Barnardo's by dancing in a circle to the 'Toddle Song' led by Mrs Sarah Hume. The total amount raised from the toddle for Barnardo's was £363.22.

## LAWS OF NATURE

Forget Newton and Galileo. Here are the real laws of nature:

**Law of Probability** - The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

**Law of the Bath** - When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone rings.

**Law of Biomechanics** - The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.

**Supermarket Law** - As soon as you get in the smallest queue, the cashier will have to call for help.

**Law of Marketing Strategy** - As soon as you find a product that you really like, they will stop making it.

**Law of the Result** - When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, it will.

## LADIES WHO LUNCH

We've just been to Knitsley Mill which sits amidst its own extensive grounds with tranquil stream + ducks, working water wheel, it looks totally idyllic. Obviously water does sometimes cause problems and they recently had to close due to awful flooding. However, come February they were open for business again and now are up and running with the whole place looking immaculate and quite lovely. The staff are most welcoming and we were quickly settled at our table with all the menus to peruse - they have a light

sandwich menu, an a la carte and a 2 course (starter + main course) + coffee for £12.95 and we sampled bits from all of them. We ate a bacon, brie and cranberry baguette. For starters we had teri yaki duck breast with pak choi salad and breaded mozzarella with chunky tomato chutney. Mains were deep fried chicken goujons, handcut chips with bbq sauce and salad, pan fried trout fillet (from their own stream) with warm chorizo, new potatoes and peas, Chef's home made chicken curry and naan bread, grilled chicken breast with a leek and bacon sauce and oven

baked salmon fillet, sauté potatoes, beetroot and onion rings. For puds we sampled lemon meringue pie, cheesecake, rhubarb crumble with lots of custard and ice cream. All the meals were presented with flair and imagination, tasted quite delicious and we were most impressed. We actually had a visiting friend with us and her take on everything was 'superb' - and we had to agree with her. Fortunately for us though, we weren't 'just visiting', we have Knitsley Mill right here on our doorstep to be enjoyed again ... and again ... and again...

**The Gourmet Girls**

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ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S  
SUDOKU

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

# WHAT'S ON?

## WI

Our next meeting will be held on Monday 1st July in the small hall of the Community Centre arriving at 7 o'clock for 7.15 start. Please note the slightly later arrival and start time, thank you.

Our speaker is Judith Hodson from Clarins doing a makeup demonstration and the competition a perfume bottle. Social time will be a delicious strawberry supper.

## Open House

Light Lunch at the Open House in the Chapter House of the Parish Church welcomes everyone. July 4th, 11.30 am to 1.00 pm.

## LMVC Annual Concert

Lanchester Male Voice Choir present their 45th Annual Concert on Friday 5th July at 7.30 pm in Lanchester Methodist Church. Guests include Sarah Ogden Soprano with Ewan Gilford Accompanist and local young instrumentalists Callum Mellis and Hugh Morris. Tickets: £6.00, Patrons and Concessions: £5, Children: £2, available from choir members or telephone 520676 or 520249.

## Country Market

On Saturday 6th July, 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.

## Festival of Flowers and Music

To celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Priestly Ordination of Canon Robert Spence at All Saints Catholic Church, Kitswell Road.

Displays will reflect the life and ministry of Canon Spence.

Saturday 6th July 10.00 am - 4.00 pm, Vigil Mass 6.30 pm, and Sunday 7th July 10.00 am - 4.00 pm, Parish Mass 10.00 am, Missa Brevis' Mozart, Benediction 4.00 pm. Everyone is welcome. Refreshments available. Entrance free.

## 'Grandad'

Lanchester Community Centre presents the uplifting comedy 'Grandad' performed by Matchbox Theatre Company on Saturday 6th July starting at 7.30 pm. Tickets £5 from the centre 01207 521275 or the village newsagents. Profits will go to the Community Centre.

A recent review of this production said: "Although billed as a comedy, and indeed there were many laugh out loud moments, the story also gave the audience plenty of moral dilemmas to consider".

## Lanchester Social Club Entertainment

Saturday, 6th July, Hayley Storm, Stunning Young Vocalist

Saturday, 13th July, Tony Bulley, Versatile Male Singer

Saturday, 20th July, Eddy, Fabulous Vocalist. Tribute to Elvis

Saturday, 27th July, Tia Louise, Super Young Vocalist

## Churches Together

'Summer Songs of Praise' will take place at 6.00 pm on July 7th Anglican Church, August 4th Catholic Church, September 1st Methodist Church. Services will be held outside when appropriate. Do come along. Everyone very welcome.

## Derwentside Byways and Bridleways

July 9th, Chopwell Wood. Meet in layby at Lintzford Garden Centre on A694.

July 23rd, Meet at the Punchbowl, Satley, on B6296 road between Lanchester and Tow Law.

Walks start at 7.00 pm.

## Short Circuit Walks

July 13th, Croxdale Estate, 5 miles. Park at Sunderland Bridge, NZ266378.

July 27th, Allendale/Catton circle, 5.5 miles. Park at Allendale Bakery/Brewery, NZ832565.

Walks start at 10.30 am.

## Lanchester Flower Club

Numbers are being taken for our annual outing on Wednesday 17th July - we will visit Walton Manor having stopped first for lunch at Heighley Gate Garden Centre. There will also be our usual Flower Demonstration on Wednesday 24th July in Lanchester Community Centre at 2 pm; the demonstrator will be Amelia Forrester of Washington and her theme will be 'My Love of Flowers'. Everyone is welcome and I can assure you of a lovely interesting and relaxing afternoon. So come and join us.

## Mothers' Union

The meeting on 10th July is the AGM, 7.30 pm in the Chapter House. After the business there will be strawberries, cream and bubbly.

## Willow Burn Summer Fair

This popular annual event will be held from 1-4 pm on Saturday 13th July, at St Bede's School.

It's an opportunity for patients, visitors, volunteers, supporters and staff to come together and join in the fun. It's a great way to pick up a bargain, buy an unusual gift from the craft stall, get the pick of the home-made cakes and let the kids loose in Kids' Corner. A continuous shuttle bus will run from Lanchester to Willow Burn Hospice from 12.45 pm onwards and the last return will be at 4.15 pm.

If you have any prizes to donate to the raffle or tombola, or could help with raffle ticket sales, please contact Claire Ross on 01207 523296 or email [cross@willowburnhospice.org.uk](mailto:cross@willowburnhospice.org.uk).

## Lanchester Choral and Operatic Society

The Society will be presenting 'The Best of Rodgers & Hammerstein' including songs from The Sound of Music, The King and I, Carousel, South Pacific and Oklahoma, with live band, on Thursday 18th and Friday 19th July, commencing at 7.15 pm in the Methodist chapel. Tickets £8 including refreshments available from any society member or by telephoning 521458 or 520172.

## Charity Ride

William Reddaway and his horse Strider are riding to each of the four corners of England, to raise £250,000, which will be split between two charities: (i) The Family Holiday Association which funds holidays for families for whom a break may represent the difference between survival and collapse, and (ii) the Wormwood Scrubs Pony Centre riding for disabled, which works with challenged inner London children and youth.

William and Strider will be travelling 2,500 miles - at least 6 months riding - and visiting thirty cathedrals and abbeys along their way. On 19th July they will arrive at Durham Cathedral. The night before their Cathedral visit William and Strider will be staying over at Low Meadows in Lanchester and you will be able to cheer them along in the village when they set off. See the website [www.rideroundengland.org](http://www.rideroundengland.org) for more details.

## Wildlife Group

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th July at 7.30 pm in the small hall of the Community Centre.

## Junior/Family Wildlife

On Sunday 21st July, the Junior and Family Wildlife group meet in the Community Centre car park at 9.30 am. Visit/venue to be confirmed on the morning.

## PACT Meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 24th July at 7.15 pm in the Community Centre. All are welcome to attend the meeting.

# GREAT WEATHER, FANTASTIC GAMES

It was a great month for weather and the resultant cricket matches saw some thrilling games.

The first team picked up two wins against Ryton and Consett before succumbing to runaway leaders Swalwell. They've finished the month with a win over Burnopfield that sees them in joint third spot. The Ryton game was dominated by Michael Lukic who took three wickets and scored an unbeaten 34. The Consett game was low scoring and Lanchester were indebted to good contributions with the bat by Lee Murray and Stu McPhail. Consett looked to be cruising to victory but Kieron Taylor and Michael Lukic took three wickets each to stop their charge and we ended up with a two run victory. Swalwell have a well paid line up and our guys came up short. Finally, along came Burnopfield and that saw Paul Underwood make some runs before Lukic and Taylor took four wickets apiece to guide us home. The firsts also racked up three cup wins in the month.

The seconds also had three wins and a defeat. They started with a great win at Ashington, Paul Burn scoring 81 and a late flourish from Darren Wingfield to claim

victory. Consett came next and again Paul Burn top scored with 69 before Mattie Callaghan ripped the Consett order apart with 7-41. Swalwell were too strong. They then finished the run with a win at Backworth, Paul Burn again amongst the runs and the wickets. Tony Dumighan also bowled well whilst Jonathan Hames made a welcome return to form with the bat.

The thirds picked up three straight wins, starting with a win in the Bob Langford cup. We then entertained Boldon CA with Neil Graham dominating the batting with 74. Boldon were then dismissed for a paltry 62 with 13 year old spinner Chris Tully taking 5 for 8 off 7 overs including three wickets in four balls. Then a record breaking run chase at Lintz. The home side scored 324 for 4 on a fantastic track but despite losing early wickets, the thirds chased that score down. Andy McConnell had an unbeaten 112 but had support from Ashton Hughes with 66 and Stu Beaumont with an unbeaten 52. Special mention goes to 15 year old Connor Hunt who started the run chase with a maiden senior 50. In the under 15s he's had three 50s so far.

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### Festive Sweet Corn Salad

For 4 portions:  
4 inch piece of cucumber  
4 sticks of celery  
1 large can of sweet corn  
3 rounded tablespoons thick mild mayonnaise  
¼ level teaspoon salt  
Pepper

1. Cut cucumber into ¼ in dice. Wash and slice celery. Drain sweet corn.
2. Place cucumber, celery, sweet corn, mayonnaise, salt and a shake of pepper in a bowl. Stir mixture until coated with dressing. Place in a serving dish and serve with cold meats.



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- ✓ Tutored tasting of 8 – 10 superior wines
- ✓ Discount on list prices

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# TOP BOWLING COMPETITION COMES TO LANCHESTER



*Lanchester Bowling Club members and the BOWLS Durham Presidents Team group together before their match. 2013 President, Ken Raper of Lanchester, (centre purple shirt) played for the opposition.*

Everyone is welcome to come and watch our games but I would particularly recommend you to come and see the BOWLS Durham Men's County Competition Finals on Sunday 28th July. Bowlers from all over the county have been competing to play in these

finals which are for individuals (singles, champion of champions and juniors), pairs and teams of three and four players. Morning matches start at 10am with afternoon games at 2pm. See the top county bowlers fight it out in the finals. You can follow the

current stages of the competitions on the BOWLS Durham website. The Club's season continues with regular matches on Monday, Tuesday and Saturday afternoons as well as Wednesday evenings. Our results are following a familiar pattern. We win

some, we lose some, we are not the best and not the worst. Just a village club where members play for the fun of it and while being competitive try not to take it too seriously. We have had a welcome influx of new members and some of them are already playing in our teams. We

recently held a match against the BOWLS Durham Presidents team led by current President and Lanchester secretary Ken Raper. A very enjoyable afternoon when no less than 24 of our members played (and enjoyed tea afterwards) on the same day; probably a record.

## ICELAND MOUNTAIN CONQUERED

Two people from Lanchester, Dave Bartles-Smith and Richard Hume joined friends Izzy Barnes and Pete Bell to complete a successful ascent of Iceland's highest mountain on 18th May. Hvannadalshnukur stands 2119m high on top of the 8,500 sq km Vatnajokull icecap. An attempt three years ago was thwarted by very difficult crevasse conditions but this time deep winter snows covered

up most of the crevasse problems and the sun shone. The climb was completed over two days. Hvannadalshnukur is a large dormant volcano and the view down onto the island peaks emerging all round was absolutely stunning and a rare moment on this often challenging mountain. Dave completed the climb as part of a trilogy of challenges in aid of the MS Society.



*Left to right: Richard Hume, Izzy Barnes, Dave Bartles-Smith and Pete Bell (the latter two are with Mountain Rescue)*



*A line of climbers in the snow*

### NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any **articles** for the next Village Voice by Tuesday 16th July. The deadline for **adverts** is 14th July.

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