

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 2 Volume 16

Lanchester, February 2015

For contact information, see page 2

KUNG HEI FAT CHOI Happy New Year

Once again Chinese New Year has come around. The Festival is somewhat similar to a combination of our Christmas and New Year together, but it runs from the end of December to March. Chinese New Year, however, is generally celebrated in the UK sometime in February. The event took place this year on the 21st, a glorious spring type day with lots of sun, but a cold wind. Families turned out in large numbers to witness the famous Lion Dance. Again this was courtesy of Guang Cheng and Winnie Wu from the Golden Valley Takeaway, who were able to secure the services of their good friend Shaka Brown and his group of Kung Fu students, to help with the celebrations. Assisting at the takeaway were family friends from Stanley, Wei Sun, You Rui Sun and Rui Huan Liu. Winnie is due



The Lion teasing the children in the crowd

to give birth in April so she had to stay home today.

The big question this year has been which is the correct animal symbol to use? The answer is the goat and sheep! The reason is that in different regions of China, there are varied translations which could mean either animal.

So there we have it. The problem is solved.

The Lion Dance began in the car park followed by the Kung Fu group with the drummer. As they turned the corner the Lion danced around leaping into the air inspecting anything of interest, en route to the front of the takeaway. At this point

the real dance began with tremendous energy and enthusiasm to the loud rhythmic beat of the drum. Eventually the lucky lettuce was hung from the door which the dragon ate, then spread it about to bring good luck to those who dared pick up some of the leaves. Children were excited and

mesmerised, with some taken aback by this wonderful celebratory occasion, but nevertheless were able to enjoy the fortune cookies, sweets and spring rolls provided by the hosts. This was another fabulous Chinese cultural event enjoyed by so many people from the village.



The Lion being friendly to a little boy



The Chinese family and friends, Shaka Brown and his Kung Fu Group, with children from the village

OPEN VILLAGE MEETING - Sunday 1st March 3 pm
Re Proposed Housing Development See article on page 3

ANNE MCKENZIE 1939-2015



Anne died on January 28th, aged 76. Her funeral, conducted by Father Park, was held at All Saints' Catholic Church on February 20th.

Anne and her late husband Malcolm, moved to Lanchester 15 years ago having spent most of their married life in the village of North Muskham, near Newark, Notts.

Anne, with Malcolm and others, was a founder member of The Village Voice in the year 2000. Anne became Company Secretary of Lanchester Publications Ltd, carrying out that function as well as occasional reporting for several years. Latterly she became the Proofreader for The Village Voice. As a voracious reader herself,

that job really suited her talents. Anne was a kind, caring person, interesting, but more importantly, interested in others and so many activities.

Her degree was in Spanish, but she taught for a short time other subjects before training and becoming a Social Worker. Throughout her life she was a volunteer for the Citizens Advice Bureau.

Anne was known by so many people in the village for her participation and enthusiastic membership of so many organisations. What follows is a list of Anne's interests: Quilters; Friends of Longovicium; History Society; The Partnership; Painting Group; Reading Group; Creative Writing Group; the Julian Group; Bridge; Film Club; The Archaeology Department at Durham University where she washed and labelled artefacts; Folk Group, where she sang, accompanied by Malcolm (Anne also sang folk songs on local radio in Nottingham). And, of course, she was a great

rambler both in the Midlands and locally. Anne must have been one of the busiest people in the village. Most of her time was given for others.

Anne was a devoted member of All Saints' Catholic Church. She had chaired at various times the Parish Pastoral Council and the Justice for Peace group and was a regular reader at mass on Saturday evenings.

Anne fought her dreadful illness with stoicism and bravery. She refused treatment and managed to enjoy two holidays, one in her beloved France visiting friends, and the other, a painting holiday in Yorkshire.

Anne will be missed by her caring sister, Elizabeth, who lives in Durham, who has been constantly beside her throughout the past few months and her loving daughter, Katherine, who has travelled from Derbyshire on a regular basis, also her son, Andrew, his two girls, Amber aged 15 and Lily aged 12, who live in the Gloucester area. So many people will miss her.

**A MESSAGE FROM
LANCHESTER
CHURCHES
TOGETHER**

The three churches in Lanchester - Lanchester Methodist Church, All Saints' RC Church, and All Saints' Parish Church - are keen to ensure that the whole village is aware of events taking place within each of our churches. They would also like to encourage everyone to find out what the churches have to offer, and to enable people of all ages and backgrounds to feel supported by the churches.

As well as our regular worship opportunities, for example, the Methodist Church has a weekly Coffee Morning on a Saturday, and any money raised goes to a different charity each week. The church is now open every Thursday morning, for anyone to pop in - there is a crèche, IT support, refreshments, and the church is open for

prayer (also on a Tuesday morning). The Parish Church has an Open House every first Thursday morning in the month, with a light lunch available, free of charge. This takes place in the Chapter House, and there is an opportunity for prayer in the church towards the end of each session. Messy church takes place on the third Sunday of each month at 3.45, and is open to all. The Roman Catholic Church has a Monday Club, a weekly social activity evening, also open to all, between 6.30 and 8.30, in the Parish Hall on Kitswell Road.

We look forward to next month's edition of the Village Voice for news about how we are going to pray continually for the whole village.

LOST

A camera case was lost at the Carol Service on the village green on Christmas Eve. If anyone found the case, could you please telephone the owner on 0191 3734136 or mobile 07717 222730. Thank you.

**COMMUNITY
DRAW**

The winning number in the Community Draw for January 2015 was 55. The draw was made by K Bragan of the Gym.

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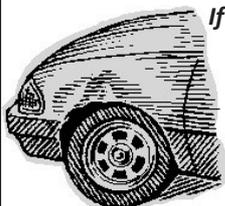
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BURNS NIGHT CELEBRATIONS



On a bitterly cold bright morning, Hanley and Swinbank once again invited John Stafford, piper from Consett, to play his bagpipes outside the shop for Burns Night celebrations. Customers were invited into the shop to sample some tasty foodstuffs.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT NEWBIGGEN LANE

The Campaign to Protect Rural Lanchester has informed the Village Voice that Story Homes have now submitted amended plans to DCC regarding this development and we now have the opportunity to comment on these amendments.

The amended application is now for 149 dwellings (previously 151) with less affordable housing than originally suggested. It includes a few minor changes to plot position, additional information on Lanchester's housing needs, extra information to

show the visual impact of the site from Newbiggen Lane and the railway path, updated information on highway matters and information to show the biodiversity features of the site.

The Campaign together with Lanchester Partnership have organised an open village meeting for Sunday 1st March 2015 at Croft View Halls at 3pm to discuss these amendments in more detail and formulate our response to them.

If this development goes ahead it could open the floodgates as regards

further building in Lanchester and it is therefore important that you let DCC know your views. Once all our responses have been received by DCC it is likely that a decision will be made around May.

If you do not want this application to go ahead then you must forward your comments to Henry Jones at dmstrategic@durham.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Development (Strategic), Durham County Council, Durham DH1 5UQ, by Tuesday 10th March 2015.

Enjoying the music are Allan Rowe, Ann Rowe and 94 year old Betty Calland, who last appeared in The Village Voice on her 90th birthday.

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LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from the meeting held on Tuesday 10th February 2015

Minutes

Ordinary Meeting on 13th January 2015 - approved.

Safer Homes Awareness Training

Ann Hazel, the Safer Homes Co-ordinator, attended the meeting and gave a presentation on this new initiative.

The scheme provides collaborative working between County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service, Durham Constabulary and Durham County Council and aims to improve safety and wellbeing of residents in their homes.

Ann presented information about the scheme which aims to identify vulnerable people in their homes. Once identified, the fire service, police and county council can provide free advice and resources to help make homes safer from fire and crime.

Neighbourhood Warden Report

- December - discussed and received.

Correspondence

1. Letter of thanks from a resident - received.

2. EnergieKontor - Windy Hill Wind Farm

Correspondence had

been received from EnergieKontor stating that 35 people had attended the public exhibition in December regarding the proposed wind farm at Windy Hill.

3. Lanchester Agricultural Show

Members considered correspondence received seeking ideas and suggestions for Lanchester Show. Members support the show and welcome increased community involvement. It was agreed that several funding contacts be passed to the group and suggests that contact is made with the schools with a view to including children's activities in the show.

4. The Clerk Magazine - January - magazine received.

5. Clerk & Councils Direct - January magazine received.

Neighbourhood Plan

Members were informed that the first consultation had taken place in the form of a questionnaire. This had been distributed around the Parish using a range

of methods. The closing date for questionnaire returns had been the end of January. The working group are currently analysing the responses. The results of the questionnaire analysis will be presented at the next meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan working group which will take place on 17th February. The results of the questionnaire should identify key themes and issues that will be investigated further. Mike Wardle thanked all the members of the working group who had distributed the questionnaire to the community.

Members were informed that a new programme of financial support for communities preparing a Neighbourhood Plan would become available from April 2015. The working group would need to consider making an application.

Memorial Plaque - World War I

Members discussed arrangements for a small event now that

permission has been received to display the plaque at the Community Centre. It was agreed that a small ceremony takes place in April. An article is to be submitted to the Village Voice inviting the community to attend and light refreshments are to be served.

Newsletter

The newsletter was considered and approved for distribution.

DIAL Document

(Directory of Information About Lanchester) Members received a copy of the recently printed DIAL document and discussed circulation. It was agreed that the DIAL document be distributed by Top Banana and that a quantity of the document is placed in community buildings. It was agreed that thanks are sent to Carolyn Wardle for her help in producing the document and that thanks are sent to the Mid Durham AAP for their help in producing and funding the document.

Financial report

- discussed and approved.

Accounts for Payment

- approved.

Chairperson's Announcements

The Chair informed Members that he had

recently received correspondence from Durham County Council regarding an amended proposal for the residential development of 149 dwellings with associated access and landscaping at land to the west of Mount Park Drive and the north of Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester, for Story Homes.

Questions from Members

Members reported several areas of overhanging trees on footpaths. It was agreed that this is reported to Durham County Council. Members discussed a problem with litter on the side of the burn by the side of the King's Head pub. It was agreed that a letter is sent to the Environment Agency and the King's Head pub are informed.

Members were informed that a member of the community had commented on the poor cutting of the hedge verges. It was agreed that the County Council are informed.

The next Ordinary meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 10th March 2015 at 7.15 pm at Lynwood House.



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POLICE REPORT

Since November the PACT priority for Lanchester has been antisocial behaviour because of an increase in large groups of youths congregating in the village and causing nuisance to residents and business owners. Over the last few months we have targeted the village heavily with Police resources during peak times. We have seen positive results and a reduction in incidents reported to the police. As a result the community has removed this PACT priority for this month. At the beginning of December we received

approximately eight reports of car wing mirrors being kicked off unattended vehicles. Through community information three male youths were spoken to and admitted to causing the damages. A 16 year old has reimbursed the owner the fee to repair damage, a 14 year old has been referred to the Youth Offending Team and a 16 year old has been reported for the offence. The next PACT meeting will take place on Tuesday 3rd March 2015 at 6.30 pm in Burnhope Primary School. PCSO 6780 Lisa Jackson

OPERATION WHITEHALL

Police and partners have been targeting vehicles and persons who collect scrap illegally in Consett and surrounding villages, due to an increased number of reports from members of the public in relation to 'Scrap Vans' trawling back streets and entering property without permission. Partners include our Road Policing Unit, HMRC, Durham County Council Neighbourhood Wardens, Benefit Fraud Teams and Police who are actively stopping and checking suspect vehicles in the area

and taking positive action when required. This will involve the seizure and impounding of any vehicles which do not have the necessary licences to collect or transport scrap metal. On Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th February, one vehicle was successfully seized, there were 48 stops on vehicles to be tested by HMRC, one fine for approximately £540 which was paid after positive testing, 12 referrals were made

to the benefits team from those stopped and 3 referrals were made to licensing and the Environment Agency. Many thanks for your continued support on this matter. Should you see activity of this nature, please don't hesitate to contact us on our 101 non-emergency telephone number with registration numbers and any descriptive information which will assist officers to take immediate action. PCSO 7425 Vikki Ord

PROPOSED MULTI-PARTY HUSTINGS

It is proposed to ask the Prospective Parliamentary Candidates for this constituency to attend a questions and answers session at the Methodist Chapel during April. If you have a question that you would like to put

to them, please put it on a card and leave it at the Methodist Chapel with your name and address and a contact number. If your question is selected then you will be given the opportunity to put that question to them directly.

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A NEW AND INNOVATIVE SCIENCE CENTRE COMES TO THE VILLAGE



Some of you may have seen the facelift and curious signage 'The Durham Genome Centre' at Park House, the previous home of Durham Rural Community Council.

The new centre is dedicated to the new genetic testing and biomarker technology, which has a wide range of applications, including medicine, ecology, agriculture, biotechnology, veterinary science, right though to bioremediation. One of the first tenants is the leading genetic testing company, Complement Genomics Ltd, which is at the forefront of DNA testing for paternity and other human relationships. Customers are solicitors, social services and the general public.

In addition, the company looks at how people break down medicines and hence this enables the right dose to be given to the patient. Some of you may have heard of 'personalised medicine', well this is the very same thing. The company also has its own research programmes, notably looking at the healing process in diabetic foot ulcers, where it is at the forefront of understanding the molecular interactions in this condition, which will lead to new methods for treatment.

The CEO, Ms Louise Allcroft, hopes to create new businesses and jobs, including for graduates who hail from the village and wish to find

employment near to their home.

Also joining the Centre will be SensaPharm Ltd, a company which specialises in looking at malaria treatments and analysis of ingredients, again using biomarker technology.

The Director of the Centre, Dr Neil Sullivan said "We are dedicating part of the building to start ups and look forward to helping them with our new model for business incubation, whereby they can access equipment and expertise. Genomics is here to stay and we hope that by creating this centre, we can play a small part in bringing this technology to the wider public and also create opportunities for local people".

The Durham Genome Centre is now actively looking for new businesses that would like office or laboratory space in Lanchester and can be contacted on 0191 543 9386 or enquiries@durhamgenome.com.

So what is a genome?

The cells of all living creatures have a unique string of chemicals which contain all of the necessary instructions required to make that creature, whether it is a plant, an animal or a microbe. This is called its genome and it is in fact, the organism's DNA. Recent advances in technology have made it possible to study genomes in their entirety and this is bringing forth a great deal of information of biological interest. It is helping us to understand the differences between living organisms, to investigate the past and to decipher diseases, not just in humans, but in other animals and plants too. From this DNA and using other technology we can identify chemicals called biomarkers which we can use to diagnose, predict and treat disease. It is often heralded as the subject that will be bigger than computers over the coming decades!



Director of Complement Genomics Ltd, Louise Allcroft, who hopes to create new businesses and jobs in Lanchester.

SUCCESS FOR COMMUNITY CENTRE

The County Durham Community Foundation has awarded Lanchester Community Centre a grant of £2,000 to be used to replace the cabinets and sink in the Small Hall Coffee Bar and to refurbish the two upstairs rooms. This funding has been provided by the EDF Energy High Hedley Hope 11 Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund and the EDF Energy Langley Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund. The Mid Durham Area Action Partnership has also awarded £400 to carry out a trial of

Light Emitting Diode (LED) panels to replace the fluorescent lights in the upstairs rooms. If the trial is successful it is intended to seek funding for about £5,000 to convert all of the Community Centre to LED lighting. During the past few years the County Durham Community Foundation and the Mid Durham Area Action Partnership have been supporters of Lanchester Community Centre and the volunteers and staff of the Community Centre are very grateful for their support.

LANCHESTER NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Lanchester Parish Council is preparing a Neighbourhood Plan which will be a community-led framework for guiding development, regeneration and conservation over future years. The plan will set out the views of the local community in terms of planning issues such as how much and what type of new housing may be required, and whether there is a need for new shops, offices, workshops and leisure facilities etc. It can also look at things like green open spaces, play facilities, surgeries, schools and parking - as well as measures to address the heritage assets in the Parish. Once adopted the Neighbourhood Plan will be very influential in shaping the way Lanchester and the Parish might look in the future.

During January a questionnaire was distributed in the community. This questionnaire asked some general questions about your likes, dislikes, ideas and concerns about living or working in the Parish. This early community engagement aims to identify key themes and issues that can be further investigated to develop a Neighbourhood Plan. Completed questionnaires were received which represented views from 450 members of the community. The Neighbourhood Plan Working Group will be analysing the questionnaire returns in February. Following this, additional, more in depth work will be undertaken to develop policies for the Neighbourhood Plan. The community will be informed and involved as the next stages of the plan take place.

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RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Teriyaki Roast Salmon steaks

Salmon is a delicious fish, and very easy to cook. Smear a little Dijon mustard over a steak, top with a little honey and roast in cooking foil... or just use honey and it makes a really good, easy meal. This teriyaki sauce is quick and easy and tastes as if you had spent ages preparing it!

TERIYAKI SAUCE

- 100 ml soy sauce
- 100 ml dry white wine
- 1 large garlic clove, thinly sliced
- 2 cm fresh root ginger, grated
- 1 tbsp mustard
- 1 tbsp soft brown sugar

FOR THE SALMON

However many salmon steaks you need

1 leek, thinly sliced, blanched and drained

Olive oil

- 1) Put all the sauce ingredients into a heavy-based saucepan, stir well, bring to the boil and simmer for 5 minutes. Put to one side.
- 2) Preheat the oven to 200 degrees C, Gas 6.
- 3) Season the salmon steaks with salt and pepper. Heat some oil in an ovenproof pan, add the steaks and brown on both sides.

Remove pan from the heat and leave for 30 seconds. Lift the salmon steaks and put the leeks under them. Spoon a little of the teriyaki sauce over the steaks, transfer to the oven for about 5 minutes until the salmon is tender.

4) Remove fish from the oven, spoon more of the sauce over the salmon and serve immediately with any remaining sauce in a dish.

Serve with vegetables of your choice.

OLD LIONS CARNIVAL PICTURE - CAN YOU DATE IT?



Thanks to Brian Naylor for this old Lions Carnival parade photo. It was probably taken in 1970 or even earlier. Are any of these people still living in the Lanchester area? Note the old petrol pumps and telephone box in the background. If you know the year this picture was taken or can recognise anyone in the crowd, please contact us.

LANCHESTER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S UPDATE

The last meeting was held at The Black Bull in January and we have agreed that this year we will be putting a much bigger focus on children's activities. So far we have agreed a fun fair area with rides for the children and a Lanchester Guiding marquee where the Brownies and Guides will be providing face painting, crafting activities, homemade produce and a place to rest for weary parents whilst children are entertained!

We will also have an animal petting zoo where children can feed, stroke and learn about lots of different types of animals, and we have agreed the return of the children's competition section where local children will be able to enter various classes in baking, crafting, photography and art to win prizes and rosettes! Schedules will be distributed to local schools and clubs

over the coming weeks or you can email helenfletcher10@googlemail.com. We are also extremely pleased to announce that the 2015 Show will see the return of the vintage tractors! Many thanks to the Lanchester Vintage Tractor Club for their support. For anyone wishing to get involved in making the Show bigger and better, please contact us via facebook or email. Helen Fletcher

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PLAYGROUP RHYME TIME



Our photo shows children enjoying their Rhyme Time session. The Playgroup meets every weekday morning except Tuesday from 9.20-11.15 am, cost £3.75, for children aged 18 months to school age.

CHRISTIAN AID

A big thank you to EVERYONE involved in fundraising for the Christmas appeal, which this year supported Maternal and Child health services in Kenya. Events included a Carol concert at the Parish Church organised by Janet Jackson which raised a magnificent £687 (shared between

NSPCC and Christian Aid). The Parish Church donated £298 from their Christmas card appeal and £217 from the Nativity service collection. Soupersoup lunch at the Methodist church raised £580 plus £137 from a Saturday Coffee morning. That makes a fantastic total of £1575 raised between

November and early February, which will all be match-funded by the Government, making our donations go twice as far. In addition, Open House together with the PCC at the Parish Church donated £1,000 to the Christian Aid ebola appeal. Judith Brown

BUTSFIELD & DISTRICT YOUNG FARMERS CLUB

Happy New Year to everyone from Butsfield YFC. We finished 2014 off with a trip to the Gala Theatre in Durham to see Aladdin; it was an excellent evening for all ages. At the beginning of the New Year we hosted an open evening for everyone to invite a friend. There were some new faces to be welcomed and we hope that they stay and join in with us as the year unfolds. Our annual Race Night was the next thing on the

agenda with an excellent night had by over 200 people at the Brown Horse. Thank you to all who attended and funds raised will help with our venture for 2015. As I am sure a few of you are aware, Elsdon Lodge is in need of serious repair or rebuild. We are starting to form a plan as to what we can achieve and throughout the next few months we will be raising funds to help us move forward. As part of the fundraising we are

looking for local farmers to donate a lamb to our efforts and so far we have 15, so thank you for that. Coming up meetings include Beef Judging, Junior Take Over and Rock Climbing. Members are also taking part in the Durham County Quiz event. If anyone is interested in joining YFC and is between the ages of 10 and 26, or would like any information about the club, please ring Ashley on 07468 592995 or Richardson on 07792039065.

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FROZEN DAY



Children from Lanchester enjoying a 'Frozen Day' with Pauline Cook at the Dance Centre in Consett. Activities included dancing, singing and games. Around 60 children from the area joined in the fantastic day which ended with a show for parents. Pauline runs a ballet class in Lanchester Community Centre on Tuesday evenings. For more information check out her website at paulinecookschooldancing.co.uk or give her a ring on 505675.

FAMILY FUN EVENING AT LANCHESTER METHODIST CHURCH



The snowball fight - without snow. Great fun.

Since September, we have been trying to raise £3000 which we will divide between the three

charities our church has chosen to support this year, which are the People's Kitchen in

Newcastle, Mercy Ships and The Alzheimers Society. A further £3000 has already been

donated to these charities from our church funds. We have already raised well over

a third of our target, having had a number of events including a family games night and a sing-a-long Sound of Music evening.

On Saturday 24th January we had a winter themed family games night. Over 60 people of all ages enjoyed a lively and fun evening. Games included a snowman making competition without snow, a riotous snow-free snowball fight, musical freezes and Outburst. A delicious buffet was provided. The evening raised £217 and seemed to be enjoyed by all.

Thank you to everyone who supported this event.

More exciting fundraising events are planned, so watch this space ...

HENRY DANCER DAYS UPDATE



This local family charity in Henry's memory goes from strength to strength. They are now supporting over 115 families and organising projects for children with cancer in both the Great North Children's Hospital (RVI) and the NE Centre for Cancer Research (Freeman). They are extremely grateful to the people of Lanchester and the surrounding area for support, whether by donating raffle prizes, collecting or organising fundraising events.

In order to continue to help the children and families they support, they have several events planned this Spring:

4th Annual Ball
Saturday April 11th, 7 pm, Beamish Hall Wintergardens and Shafto Hall.

3-course meal, entertainment, Live band (Shakedown) and Disco.

Tickets £37 from Jane (Henry's Mum) at henrydancerdays@aol.com.

Folk and Country Concert

Saturday April 25th, 7.30 pm (doors open 7 pm), Lanchester Community Centre. Bring your own drinks - nibbles provided.

Tickets £4 (£5 on the door) from Lanchester News or Lanchester Community Centre, with thanks to Ian Tute. This concert is also in aid of Lanchester Community Association.

Charity Golf Day (Sponsored by Harlands) 23rd May - Lunchtime, Longhirst Hall PGA Course.

Lunch, 18 holes, hog roast, evening entertainment.

Prizes: £300 - 1st, £200 - 2nd, £100 3rd (and others).

£240 per team of 4 from Jane at henrydancerdays@aol.com.

STOP PRESS!! Lanchester Players' exclusive sense of fun and performance will be in evidence in the summer. Watch this space!

Please follow and like the charity on Facebook at Henry Dancer Days.

The 2nd Big Folk & Country Concert

with a variety of Local Artists
At Lanchester Community Centre



Saturday 25th April 2015
at 7.30 pm
Ticket price £4.00
Raffle

(Please bring own drinks and glass, nibbles provided)

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BEER FESTIVAL 2015

Preparations for 2015 continue apace and several main sponsors have been confirmed. We are delighted to announce that, once again, Durham Gate will be the main sponsor and Crinnions will sponsor the glasses. We are hiring a great new marquee this time and Durham Workplace Business Centre will sponsor that as well as a couple of beers.

We've got a great music line up, with a headline act for each night. Well known North East band, Smokin Spitfires will feature on Saturday, with State Express 5 on sponsors' Friday night and last year's hit 'The

Pretty Weeds' will close the festival on the Sunday. Sanderson and Weatherall, DWF and GVA are sponsoring the bands.

We are still looking for a programme sponsor and for individual beer and cider sponsors but things are moving along nicely. Tickets and details are available online at the Lanchester Beer Festival website.

We hope to confirm by next edition that we will be working with the Bubble Foundation to raise funds for that charity over the three days. It's an exciting event to look forward to, so keep reading!



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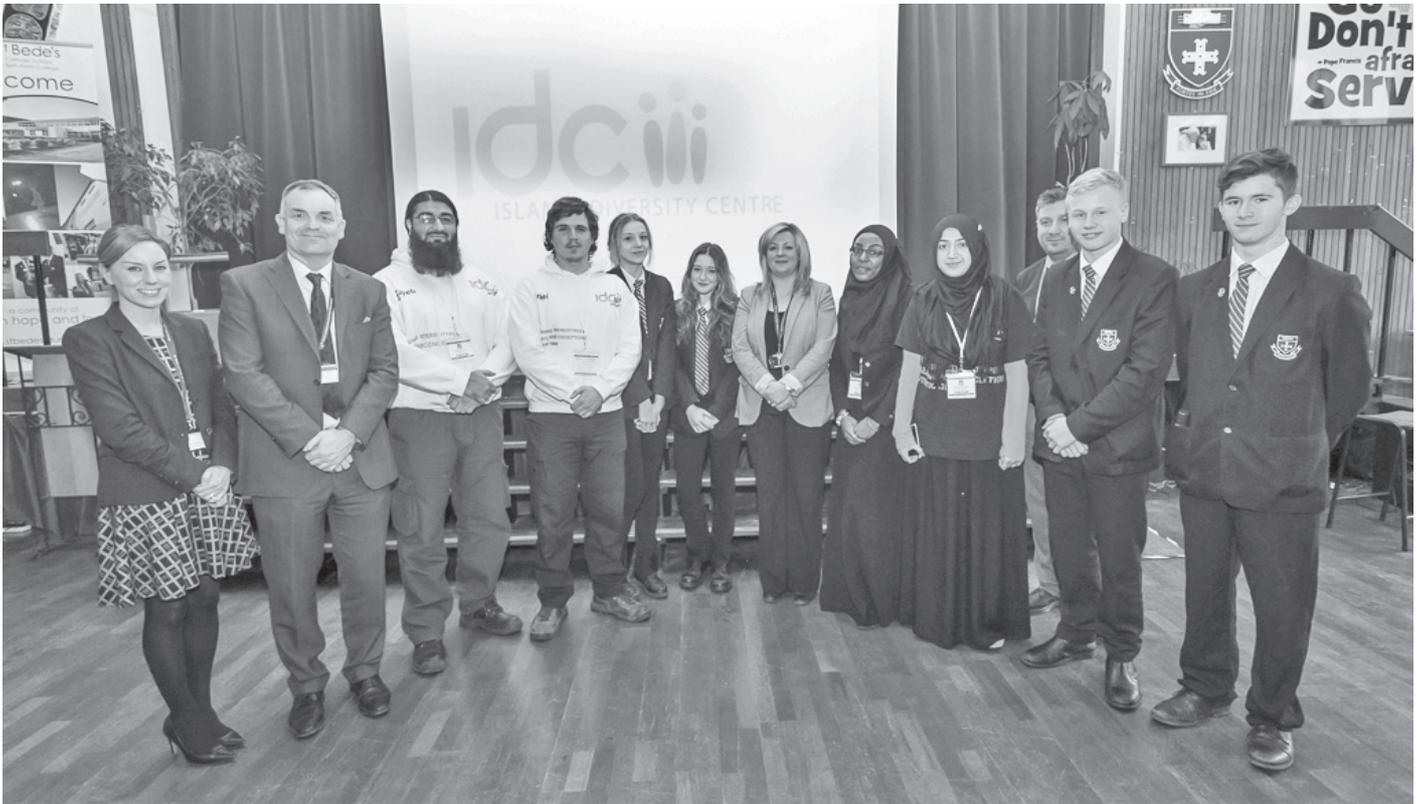
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ST BEDE'S STUDENTS DEEPEN THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF ISLAM IN INSPIRATIONAL WORKSHOP



St Bede's students and staff with their visitors from the Islamic Diversity Centre.

This week, students at St Bede's Catholic School and Sixth Form College have been learning valuable life lessons in understanding and respecting different faiths and cultures. Year 11 students were delighted to welcome representatives from the Islamic Diversity Centre, who gave them an insight into the

values and beliefs of the Muslim community as well as deepening the students' understanding of Islam.

IDC North East is a regional organisation, which is dedicated in presenting the pure teachings of Islam in response to many of the myths and misconceptions that are commonly held and it was a privilege to welcome Aisha Kalimba, Mariam Khan, Daniel Johnson and Abu Tayeb to St Bede's. The morning gave the students the opportunity to ask questions and to engage in powerful debate regarding

Muslim views on some of the ethical issues they are studying in Religious Education at GCSE, such as: environment, infertility treatments, organ donations, war and peace, crime and punishment. The students responded to the workshops with great enthusiasm and commented on how the debate had challenged them to think in different ways. Their comments included: "It helped me to understand the religion in more detail and to apply this to my RE work in more depth." "It made me think differently. It taught us not to judge the Muslim community by the representation of ISIS in the media. True Muslims hold very different beliefs and values." "I really enjoyed it. I think it was really inspiring to hear about their faith."

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WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Women's World Day of Prayer is a worldwide movement led by Christian women of many traditions who call the faithful together to observe a common day of prayer each year. More than 170 countries participate in an annual day of celebration which brings together people of various races, cultures and traditions sharing together in God's word and worship.

The origins of Women's World Day of Prayer dates back to the 19th century, when Christian women of the United States and Canada initiated a variety of activities, in support of women's involvement in mission at home and to other parts of the world. In 1926 the women of North America distributed the worship service to many countries and partners

in mission. The response worldwide was enthusiastic and so the call was issued for a World Day of Prayer. This special day came to these islands through the missionary activity of a Scots woman called Grace Foreman who heard of the movement at an International missionary gathering in Jerusalem in 1928. The first service was held in Scotland in 1930, then in England in 1932, Wales in 1933 and in Ireland in 1933. The movement went from strength to strength and every year on the first Friday in March a service is held in most towns and cities worldwide.

The service has been held in Lanchester for many years. Mrs Dagleish, the then Lanchester Methodist Minister's wife, and Mrs Doris Horswill were the

first ladies to arrange it in Lanchester in March 1973 and I became involved in it from coming to live in the village in October 1972. The service is held in each of the three churches on a rota. This year it will be held in All Saints' Parish Church, on Friday March 6th. It begins at 2.00 pm and lasts an hour, after which there will be refreshments.

It is a lovely service of music and readings, and this year it is the women of The Bahamas who have written the service. People from each of the churches read the readings, which have a theme and are mainly biblical but informative too. A lovely feeling of fellowship pervades the service and we will be delighted to welcome all ladies of the village, so do please try to come. Brenda Craddock

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SATLEY WI

President Mrs Pat Gibson welcomed 17 members to our February meeting along with the speaker. A very interesting talk was given by Helen Elstrop on 'Inspiring Women', discussing her experiences as a Motor Cross Driver,

going to Palestine to inspire girls there and teaching a group to drive in quite different circumstances from the UK. Helen has travelled through many Far Eastern countries with many stories to relate on her experiences,

supported with images. Very inspiring to women. The competition of three cup cakes decorated in a Valentine theme was won by: 1st Linda Butterfield, 2nd Karen Moralee and 3rd Christine Wilson. The raffle was won by Oldwyn Anderson.

LANCHESTER WI NEWS



Historian Norman Kirtlan introduced us to our Victorian ancestors

Our meeting on February 2nd started with President Jennifer Macdonald welcoming everyone attending on a very cold winter evening. Information was given about future events, our Open Evening, the County AGM, our summer

outing, and the meetings of various groups. Maisie presented the reading and the competition was 'Made in Durham County' with winners Maisie and Ann Carr. Raffle winners were Lynn Hodgson and Muriel Gibbons.

This month, our speaker was Norman Kirtlan, a retired Police Inspector from Sunderland, and a local historian and writer. He treated us to some 'Customs of Victorian Durham', a very informative, amusing and sometimes macabre collection of stories accompanied by slides. He described many of the customs relating to death in the

times of Queen Victoria, the tasks which must be carried out immediately after a death occurred - mirrors were covered, clocks stopped, curtains drawn and door knockers covered with black crepe. Strict rules laid down conduct of funerals, the length of the mourning period, mourning dress and jewellery. People at that time seemed to be extremely interested in all things connected with death - and if death came about through a gruesome murder, that held an even greater interest!

Norman went on to describe the popular Christmas traditions of the time, customs relating to the birth and christening of a child, street games, Halloween beliefs, protection against witches and wedding customs. It was said that a bride must place a silver sixpence in her shoe, and whether the bride or groom fell asleep first, was a sure sign of who would be the first to die. People believed that the position of moles on someone's body foretold their future - the unfortunate person with a mole on their neck was going to be hanged!

This was a fascinating insight into the customs and folklore of our ancestors.

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LANCHESTER FLOWER CLUB

'Snooping at Photographs'



Julian Harrop from Beamish Museum who allowed the Flower Club to 'snoop at photographs'.

The first meeting of local photos in the 1960 (Derwentside College) and 1970 era, along where we all enjoyed a lovely meal with very efficient service from the young students. Definitely worth a visit. Our next meeting will be in Lanchester Community Centre on 25th March at 2 pm, everyone welcome - members and visitors. The Demonstrator will be Rebecca Hough and her theme will be interesting talk on old R e s t a u r a n t 'VibrantLife'.

2015 was held in Lanchester Community Centre on 28th January. We had a very good attendance despite the adverse weather conditions; thankfully it snowed just as we were all ready to go home. We had a speaker from Beamish Museum, Julian Harrop, who gave a very enjoyable and interesting talk on old

local photos in the 1960 and 1970 era, along with a video of the workings and miners at the Craghead Mine. Many of us enjoyed the event being local people and many of our family members being miners. We then enjoyed tea/coffee and biscuits.

This month the eleven Committee Members visited Chapters Rest a u r a n t



Committee members: left: Anne Hutchinson, Freda Hunter, Norma Jenssen, Sylvia Hocking, Mary Brittain and Lestrine Kelly; right: Audrey Wright, Ruth Hall, Maureen Clarkson, Helen Tomlinson, Pat Spencer and Rosemary Wilson.

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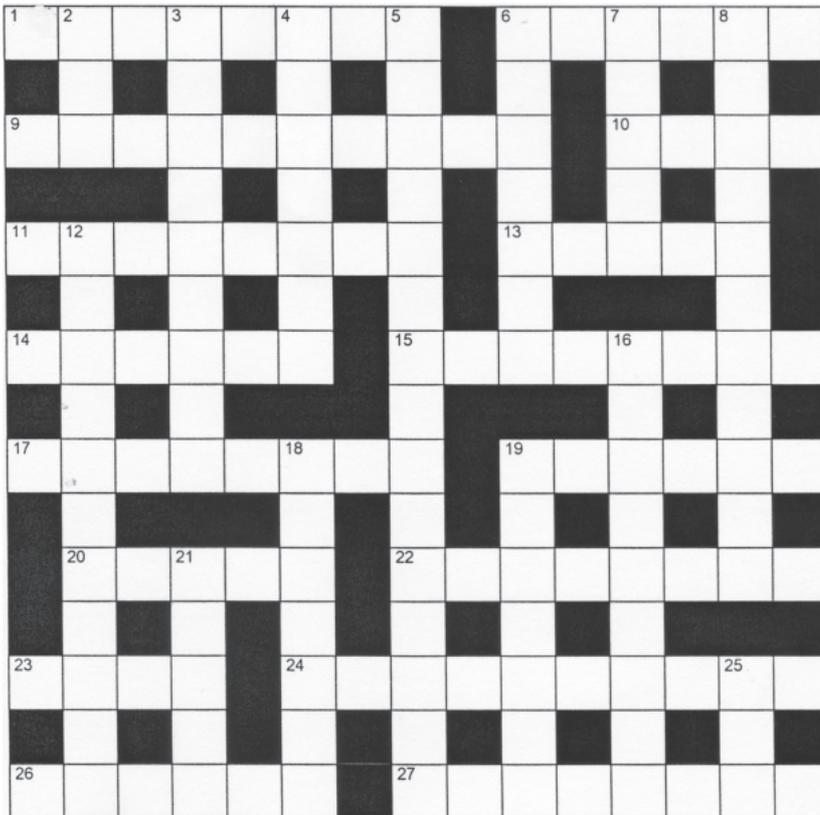
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CROSSWORD 106



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

LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU ANSWER

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

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CROSSWORD 105

There was an excellent response to last month's crossword competition. Congratulations to Norman Lammin of Mount Pleasant who was the winner in the draw and will receive the £10 prize.

ACROSS

1. Remote (3-5)
6. Restricts (6)
9. Ranters not a dead-loss (3-7)
10. Catch (4)
11. Fear wary walker (8)
13. Die (5)
14. Put on (6)
15. Loss of nerve (4,4)
17. Minute invertebrates (8)
19. Cooler (3,3)
20. Frighten (5)
22. Cheats (8)
23. Antipodean (4)
24. Flood (10)
26. Point to harmless mixed up being (6)
27. Inflexibility (2,6)

DOWN

2. In the past (3)
3. Punch-up (4,5)
4. Not ventilated (7)
5. End up destitute (2,2,4,3,4)
6. Songlike (7)
7. I'm in (2,3)
8. Previous performance (5,6)
12. Different (11)
16. Australian port (9)
18. Resident of Lusaka perhaps (7)
19. Atheist (7)
21. Man has a libido that provides excuse (5)
25. Egg cells (3)

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 105

ACROSS

1. king of the castle
9. spot-on
10. despotic
11. graphite
14. unfurl
17. enlightenment
20. printing press
23. rattle
25. dyestuff
28. go in pain
29. apathy
30. stick to ones guns

DOWN

2. impure
3. get up
4. fungi

5. hedge

6. costume
7. scoff
8. escalator
12. Holst
13. tigon
15. users
16. asparagus
17. edict
18. tipsy
19. needs
21. inexact
22. Afghan
24. tonic
25. dingo
26. erase
27. twang

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.

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

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now we're asking once again for help to raise our £100,000 target with this new campaign.

We've made donating as quick as possible by asking for a simple text message; WBNR26 with your donation eg £10 to 70070.

It takes less than a minute but your donation will help others for years to come. If you would prefer a more traditional way of donating please post a cheque to Willow Burn Hospice or drop in as we love to meet our supporters and thank

them face to face. For those of you who are more tech savvy, please visit our fundraising page on our website (www.willow-burn.co.uk) and click the sponsor a nurse button to donate with one click!

Shirley Crammond, a Willow Burn in-patient nurse for the past 5 years, expresses why your donation is so important; "I love my job. As nurses we deliver the very best nursing care in a caring, loving and compassionate environment."

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WHAT'S ON?

Sunday Bridge Local History Society

Come and enjoy a relaxed afternoon playing Bridge in the Community Centre on 1st March at 2.00 pm. Only £3.

Lanchester WI

The next meeting will take place in the small hall of the Community Centre on Monday March 2nd starting at 7.15 pm. Our guest speaker will be Mrs A Quigley, talking about the 'Tall Ships Adventure', and the competition is an original short sea poem, which will appeal to our budding poets! Please remember to check the details of all our forthcoming events and outings so that you don't miss anything you may be interested in.

A final reminder of our OPEN EVENING on Friday March 27th, in Croft View Hall, starting at 7pm. We will meet Julia Soares-McCormick, accompanied by her husband, 'King Henry VIII'. There will also be musical entertainment and light refreshments. Entry is by ticket only, costing £5 and available at the Red Cross Shop. We look forward to welcoming you!

PACT meeting

The next PACT meeting will be on Tuesday 3rd March at 6.30 pm at Burnhope Primary School. All welcome.

Open House

Everyone is welcome in the Chapter House of the Parish Church on Thursday 5th March 11.30 am to 1.00 pm for a light lunch.

Country Market

The next market will take place on Saturday 7th March from 10 am to 12 noon in the Methodist Church.

The Village Voice Page 18

Local History Society

The next meeting of the Society will be on Friday 6th March at 7.00 pm in the Community Centre. The speaker will be Mrs Margaret Hedley, MA and she will talk about the Durham Coal Owners - a subject that reminds us of the appalling conditions imposed on the miners of County Durham. Visitors are most welcome.

Paradiso Social Club

The next Social will be held on Sunday March 8th in the Main Hall of the Community Centre at 7pm. There will be the usual Raffle, Refreshments and a Film. The film we are screening is 'THE LUNCHBOX'. This is a much acclaimed Indian film described as "an exquisite comedy-drama; subtle, heart warming and delightful, a feel-good movie that touches the heart". All are welcome. Entry tickets for the Social cover the raffle, refreshments and film: Members £2.50 Occasional visitors £3.50 Young persons £2.00

Choral & Operatic Society

Are presenting Haydn's Creation on Friday 6th March in the Lanchester Methodist Church, at 7.15 pm. Soloists, Elizabeth Woods - Soprano, Richard Woods - Tenor, Ian Grey - Bass. Tickets £8 including refreshments. Contact Lynn 01207 521458 or Maureen 01207 520172.

Vintage Tractor Club

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 4th March at 7.30 pm in Crinnions.

Adult Wildlife Group

The meeting on 10th March at 7.30pm is in the Community Centre Dining Room and features 'Recording Wildlife' with Katherine Piddock.

Short Circuit Walks

Venue: South Shields to Tynemouth Linear Walk
Date: March 14th
OSRef: NZ363673 NE33 1HW
Miles: 4.5
Leader: Helen Turnbull
Phone: 01914696661
Assemble at S Shields Metro then progress past the Roman Fort (bring passes). When safely ashore we wend our way along the quayside to the mediaeval castle and the more modern Metro.

Venue: Bolam Lake
Date: March 28th
OSRef: NZ082820 NE200HE
Miles: 5
Leader: Ruth Clough
Phone: 01670735095
A new route through meadows and woods around this beautiful lake. Mostly flat walking but likely to be muddy. Parking at the Visitors' Centre, pay at meter.

Junior/Family Wildlife Group

March 22nd. Meet in the Community Centre car park, 9.30 am, to go to Gainford Spa.

Flower Club

At our next meeting on Wednesday 25th March at 2.00 pm in the Community Centre there will be a demonstration by Rebecca Hough entitled 'Vibrant Life'.

Community Centre Coffee Morning

The Community Centre will be holding a coffee morning on Thursday 12th March from 9.30 - 11 am.

Lanchester Social Club

Saturday 7th March, Daniel Lintern, Star Vocalist
Sunday 8th March, Sunday Night Buskers
Sunday 14th March, Jolene, Great Girl Singer
Sunday 15th March, Sunday Night Buskers
Saturday 21st March, Dixon J Scott, Great Guitar Vocalist
Sunday 22nd March, Sunday Night Buskers
Saturday 28th March, Emma B, First Class Vocalist
Sunday 29th March, Sunday Night Buskers

Derwentside Scouts

Jude Shilcock and Dominic Biasi will be hosting another craft fair and coffee morning at Lanchester Community Centre on Saturday 21st March from 10.00am-2.00pm. Our last craft fair proved very popular. Why not come along and see what beautiful and interesting items are available. There will also be a tombola, raffle and cake stall, and bacon sandwiches too!

Tradecraft

A Big Brew Coffee Mornig will be held at the Chapter House on Wednesday 4th March, from 9.30 am - 11.30 am. Raffle, cakes and Fairtrade products on sale. Tickets are available or pay £1.00 at the door. All are very welcome.

Mothers' Union

At the meeting on Wednesday 11th March, 7.30 pm in the Chapter House, the Cathedral Librarian, Canon Rosalind Brown will be speaking on 'Hymns with a Durham Connection'.

Satley WI

Our next meeting is on March 9th with Madeleine Pontwood on 'Men are from Mars and Women are from Venus'. All are welcome.

Ramblers

A reminder to all walkers or potential walkers that your local walking club - Annfield Plain Naturists - has an exciting programme of 'A' walks (around 10 miles) and 'B' walks (around 5 miles) from March to October on alternate Saturdays with a pick up in Lanchester. The contact for enquires or bookings is Margaret Palmer on 01207 234370. You are sure to have a great day out with a coffee stop en route and an evening stop on return. Further details can be found on our website - www.apdnc.co.uk, Peter Gilliland (01207 529840).

Lanchester Spring Clean

The annual village litter pick (organised by the Lanchester Partnership) will be on Saturday March 21st. Please try to spare some time for it between 10.00am and 1.00pm. Come along to the usual tent on the village green. Bags, litter-pickers, gloves and refreshments will be provided and if you know of a particularly bad area please ring Mike Gladstone on 528 114. Every year at least 100 people join in and pick up an amazing amount of litter - and each year there is noticeably less litter than the year before, so, together with the Parish and County Councils, we are winning!

Red Cross

Please note that this year's coffee mornings will be held on a Friday, the first one is Friday 27th February in the Methodist Church Hall 9.45 to 11.30. There will also be a cake stall selling pies, scones and cake etc. A tombola will be held in the shop. Please come along and help us raise much needed funds for the Red Cross.

TAEKWONDO



A new teacher, Neil Hockworth, has taken over the Taekwondo class. He has bought new mats for the floor and is trying to revive the club, which runs on a Monday evening from 6-7. All ages are welcome.

SWIMATHON CHALLENGE



Two Marie Curie volunteers promoting Swimathon at Consett swimming baths

Goto Belle Vue Swimming Centre for Swimathon 2015 and raise money for Marie Curie. Belle Vue Swimming Centre is encouraging swimmers to take on the Swimathon distance challenges as a team or as an individual to raise funds for Marie Curie. Held over the weekend of 17th-19th April, Swimathon 2015 is expecting thousands of swimmers to take on the challenge and go that extra length to help support Marie Curie provide care for people with terminal illnesses across the UK, with hours of health care, and professionals to

support them and their families through those tough times. After a year away, Marie Curie is returning as charity partner for Swimathon 2015 with the aim to reach even higher fundraising numbers than in the past. The involvement of Marie Curie with Swimathon goes back to 2007, reaching the incredible sum of over nine million pounds raised from then until 2013. Katie Searles, Community Fundraiser for Marie Curie in Newcastle said: "We would firstly like to say a huge thank you to Belle Vue Swimming Centre for getting involved with Swimathon.

We would love to see those swimmers who have taken part before getting involved again and always welcome new swimmers taking on the challenge! The money raised through fundraising events like Swimathon makes such a difference to patients and families. It is a brilliant way to bring our community together." Registration is now open. Visit Swimathon.org to enter, or call 08453670036 for more information. You can also contact Katie in the Newcastle office on 0191 219 1205 to find out about this event and other challenges you can get involved with to raise money for Marie Curie.

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GYMNASTICS SUCCESS



Arisa Quigley showing her gymnastic skill

Well done to Isaac Stewart, Arisa Quigley, Rosalia Biasi, Anna Slane, Jessica McBean and Hana Madeley who came second overall in the Key Step gymnastics competition at Deerness Gymnastics Academy on 5th February. They showed great team spirit as well as gymnastic skills. Congratulations especially to Arisa who had the best overall score and has been given the opportunity to represent Derwentside at the next level 'open' event.

TENNIS YOUNGSTERS TAKE TITLE

The Under 8s tennis team from Lanchester Lawn Tennis Club has won the Aegon Winter League title for 2014/15. Matches were played at Sunderland Tennis Centre throughout the winter against other strong teams from the district.

The Lanchester squad contained 4 boys and one girl and the competition was based on a round robin singles format. The children were unbeaten with 4 wins and a draw to secure the title. All players played well but Daniel Smailes went the entire season undefeated winning all of his 20 matches. A terrific achievement! Well done to players Daniel Smailes, Zoe Brown, Patrick Hogg, Henry Sherwood and Finley Wilkins. Not surprisingly, Daniel topped the league rankings, with Patrick 3rd and Henry 10th. Congratulations to coach Michael Hume for training the youngsters to a high, winning standard. Junior and



The Under 8 squad with their trophies

senior teams have again been entered into their respective leagues for 2015. Lanchester has 6 junior teams and one senior team involved in matches this year. Another summer season is fast approaching and

work is already being done to prepare for another year. Maintenance on the courts and surrounding areas will continue throughout the early months with emphasis on

improvements to health and safety and court surrounds. Social events such as BBQ and Strawberry tea will be held during the season, with the Great British Tennis Weekend taking

place on the weekend of 16th/17th May giving everyone a chance to play for free and experience the sport. Full details will be announced later in the year. All we need is some good tennis weather!

NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any **articles** for the next edition of the Village Voice by Tuesday 17th March. The deadline for **adverts** is 15th March.

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