

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 2 Volume 17

Lanchester, February 2016

For contact information, see page 2

PUBLIC CONSULTATION - THE PADDOCK

Beavertail Ltd arranged distribution of leaflets to houses in Lanchester in relation to the development next to the Paddock of 14 self build residential properties. The event was held at the Community Centre on Monday 8th February.

It was fairly busy at the beginning of the drop-in consultation, staffed by Alex Rogerson and Michael Hepburn, Senior Director of Nathaniel Lichfield & Partners Ltd.

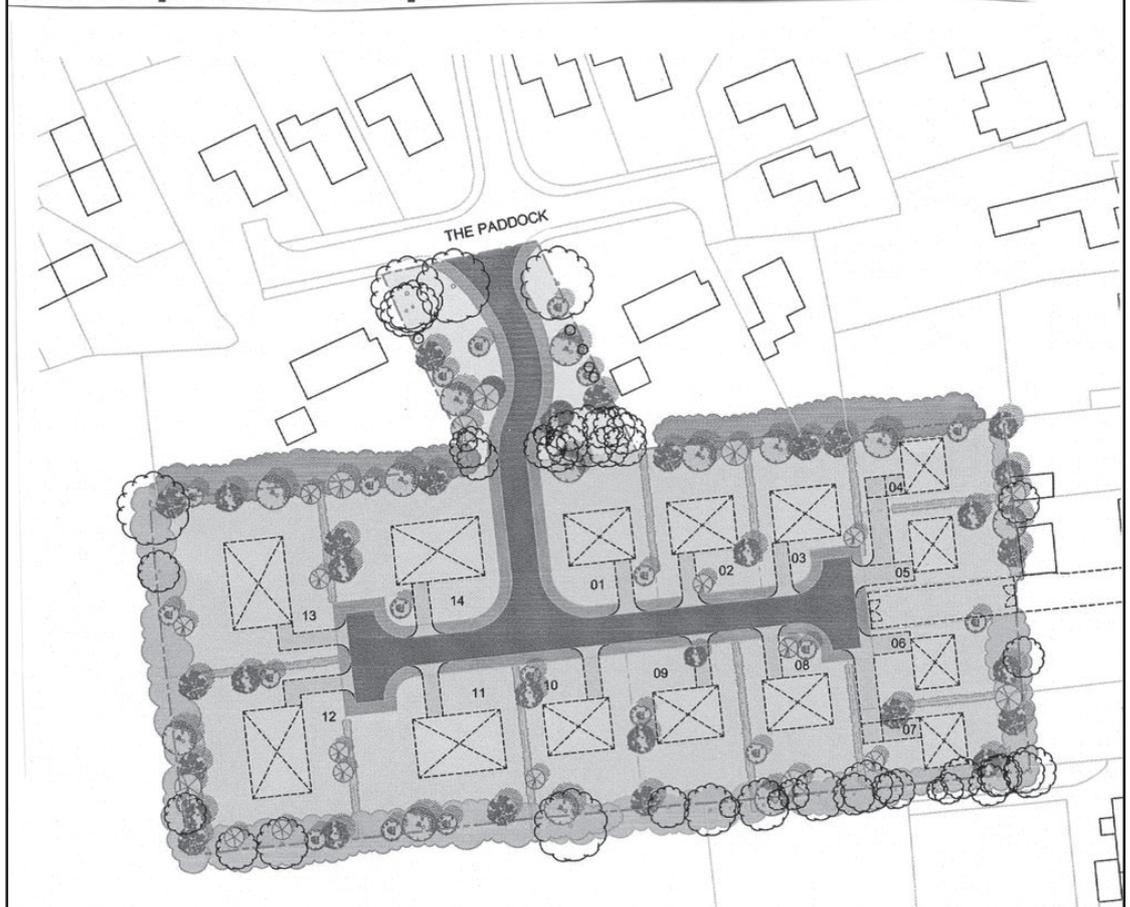
The proposed development is for 14 self-build houses/bungalows on the field adjacent to the back of The Paddock. A Design Code would be established to ensure the properties would conform to an appropriate style, massing and form. Number 7 The Paddock has been purchased by the developer. At the time of this event no permission has been given for this bungalow to be demolished to make way for a road into the proposed site. If permission is granted the road will be tree lined and the new site will be surrounded by a green Leylandii hedge. There would be no further room in this field for future developments.

A planning application will be made to Durham County Council in the spring/summer of 2016 and if passed, construction could begin during 2017/18.

The Site

The site is on the southern edge of Lanchester and comprises approximately 3 acres of grassland. The site is well screened by trees and hedges.

The Proposed Development



So far three enquiries to self build have been received by Nathaniel Lichfield, but the majority of people spoken to in the room were against the development for all the reasons they disagreed with other proposed new estates in Lanchester.

The time span for building would probably be 6 years but this could be extended to 10 years, providing some initial work has been started.

The consultation finished at 7.00 pm.



Michael Hepburn, Senior Director of Nathaniel Lichfield, explains various points to Lanchester residents, Colin and Carol Morcom.

DELIVERER WANTED

An opportunity has arisen for the right person to join the Village Voice team and take over the premier position of deliverer to the West Drive area - a round of some 65 papers. Only people of a good disposition and physically fit (able to walk more than 3 yards unaided) will be considered. This is expected to generate a great deal of interest so get in quick to avoid disappointment and apply by phone to Mike Stoddart 520291. Good Luck

How to contact the Village Voice

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Contact John Hurran, Advertising Manager
Telephone: (01207) 520288

Email: villagevoice.adverts@talktalk.net

General and news enquiries:

(01207) 520559

By email:

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

By post:

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

View the Village Voice online (including past issues) at www.lanchester-villagevoice.co.uk

THE END OF AN ERA

From the end of February, sadly the familiar sight of Fred and his Bus will be missing from the streets of Lanchester. After 11 years of being our friend and helper, he has now, although with a heavy heart, for personal reasons retired.

A 'leaving-do' to say cheerio and thank you to Fred has been arranged for Thursday 3rd March at the Black Bull Inn, from 1-3pm in the Function Room. Refreshments will be available (Finger food, tea, coffee) and the bar is open. Hopefully many passengers of the Village Bus and friends of Fred will come to celebrate the years he was part of Lanchester. If you need more information, please ring Karin on 520784.

Lanchester Partnership is currently making arrangements for a replacement bus service for Lanchester.



Fred Prophet in his bus

COMMUNITY DRAW

The winning number in the Community Draw for January is 21.

The draw was made by Neville Hartley of Computers for All

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A VERY HAPPY DAY

James Quigley and Sara Rogers were married at All Saints' Catholic Church on 22nd August 2015. Despite the terrible weather forecast for heavy rain all day, it remained dry as the bridal party set off on foot from Victoria Terrace! (The downpour saved itself for the arrival of the evening guests.)

With our lovely church heady with the perfume of lavender and roses (flowers by our very own Margaret Woods), the family and friends bedecked for a sunny summer wedding and with Michael Quigley on the organ, all was set for a lovely family service. And it really was. Special thanks to Canon Spence as Celebrant and the readers, Madeleine Brown and Ellie Luscombe.

The Best Men, Stephen Powell and Dominic Quigley calmed the nerves of the groom, as the gorgeous bridesmaids, Arias Quigley, Hannah Quigley and Sarah Hewitson and flower girl Martha Quigley arrived to brighten the porch. Then Sara, her Mother Lynne Rogers and Maid of Honour Gemma Inns composed themselves for the entry procession.

After the ceremony there was a very hasty photo

session, and then it was all aboard the vintage double decker ('The Old Girl' 1958 Leyland) for the champagne journey to Durham Town Hall! To the amusement of drivers and tourists alike, the happy throng alighted on the slip road and made their way through the Market Place crowds to smiles and gentle applause from well-wishing strangers. I'm pretty sure the scene was captured by tourists on various phones. It may even have gone viral on social media!

The grandeur of the wood panelled main hall was magnificent. Portraits of the Lord Mayors of Durham City oversaw the serving of a lovely meal by Michael Berveridge and his 'Greenhouse' team. The party finished in relaxed style with a family friendly ceilidh and Lanchester's very own David Rafferty, aka 'DJ Gratis' performing the alternative wedding play list and a juicy hog-roast supper.

Thanks finally to New Image (Mary, Michelle and Lindsey) for hair and makeup; to Lanchester Bridal (Lynn and Hazel) for gowns and alterations, to Printmeit for stationery and to Cameo Fine Art (Claire) for bouquets.

The Honeymoon was celebrated with a taste of



A bevy of beauties; Sara with her gorgeous bridesmaids pose in the church.

the Orient, literally, a banquet lunch at the Pavilion Restaurant, Ivoston. The rest of us had happy memories with hog-roast left-over sandwiches and Avril Quigley's wedding cake. Now that's what I call a Vintage DIY wedding, organised in less than three months.

Best wishes Sara and James for a happy life and

congratulations on the safe arrival of a beautiful baby boy, Edward James, just in time for Santa Claus. It wasn't a shotgun wedding, honest!

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CONSULTATION LANCHESTER CONSERVATION AREA

A consultation of Lanchester Conservation Area was held at Lynwood House on Wednesday 3rd February. Representing Durham County Council were Senior Conservation Officers, Judith Miller and Val Robson. There was a large exhibition stand featuring maps and other relevant information plus a table full of photographs of conservation listed

buildings and those which would need special care. These were very interesting to view for their historical nature. Many leaflets were available for the general public to take away. These gave information on general advice re conservation, householder's guide and planning in conservation areas. The boundary of the conservation area has

been re-drawn very slightly after four members of the conservation department walked around the whole area. A few buildings of special interest have now been included in the new area. This will be ratified sometime in April 2016. Despite fairly short notice the attendance at the consultation numbered over 50 residents.



Left to right: Val Robson and Judith Miller; Senior Conservation Officers at Durham County Council; with Christine Dunn and Elaine Hogg, both Lanchester residents.

PARKING IN LANCHESTER

Parking in the village has been reported as a problem to the Parish Council on numerous occasions. Indeed the early engagement questionnaire for the Neighbourhood Plan in 2015 identified parking as a problem for many people. In September 2015 a working group of the Parish Council was set up to look at possible solutions to address the parking issues. The working group comprises members of the Parish Council, Lanchester Partnership, local schools, community organisations and local businesses.

An exercise has been completed which has identified 159 parking spaces in Lanchester. There are several car parks around the village including Park House car park, Newbiggen Lane car park, the car park behind Front Street etc. However there is limited parking in the very centre of the village which becomes congested. A parking scheme needs to meet the needs of the community whilst taking into account the requirements of residents, businesses and visitors. The working group has met with the County Council to discuss the possibility of introducing

time limited parking along Front Street. The proposals include time restricted parking of 2 hours between 8am - 6pm from Monday to Friday. The scheme would include the marking of parking bays and improved signage to existing car parks. The County Council will soon be consulting the community on these proposals and letters will be sent to all properties in the designated area seeking feedback. The working group would welcome feedback from the community. For further information please contact Sally Laverick on 01207 520146.

LANCHESTER EP SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM 1958



Do you recognise any of these? Back row: George Tilley, John Summerbell, Richard Watson, not known, Alan Humble, Keith Laycock. Front row: David Ballantine, Arnold Harrison, Kenny Stewart, Alan Walker, Frank Whitton, Derek Raine. The team played on a pitch at the top of Kitswell Road with the beck running down one side. To retrieve the ball from the beck (there was only one ball), there was a pole with a hoop on the end.

The two staff are (left) teacher Mr Smith and (right) Mr Hodgson, the headmaster. Photo courtesy of John Summerbell

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LANCHESTER NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - HAVE YOUR SAY

- Housing
- Design of New Development
- Business and Employment
- Historic Environment
- Green Spaces and the Rural Environment
- Transport and Travel
- Community Assets

Throughout February the Parish Council has been conducting a survey to seek the views of the community. A questionnaire was delivered to households in the village at the beginning of February and posted out to rural

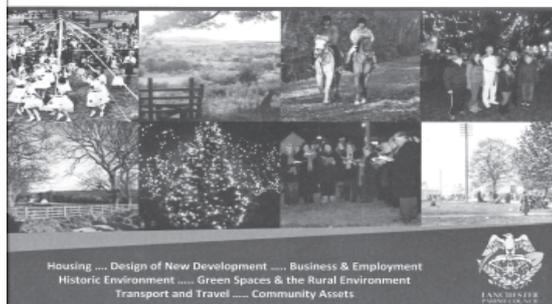
properties. Responses are sought from as many individuals as possible. There is still time to complete and return your questionnaire. Completed booklets will still be accepted at the beginning of March.

Paper copies can be returned to the Parish Council, Lynwood House, Durham Road, Lanchester, DH7 0LS. The questionnaire can also be completed online at www.lanchesterparish.info/neighbourhood-

plan. Further details about this and the process generally are available on the Parish Council's website at www.lanchesterparish.info. We look forward to receiving your completed questionnaires.



Lanchester Neighbourhood Plan
Have your say



An Open Event was held on Saturday 20th February in the Methodist Church with a small exhibition to remind visitors to the Coffee Morning to complete and return their questionnaires. The exhibition was hosted by Mike Wardle (left) and Chris Phillips (back right), pictured in conversation with Angela Breeze and Jim Russell, Lanchester residents.

Tasting Evening

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A MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE ...

The clock has started ticking on the EU referendum with June 23rd increasingly looking the most likely date. Given that the EU has moved right up the political list of priorities, it puts me, in my new job as Shadow Europe Minister, front and centre on the debate. There was a time when my life was dictated by my diary but that is no longer the case. A newspaper headline about the EU, a speech about the EU (for or against membership) by a senior politician and suddenly that is what my day becomes about. In one week I have responded for the Opposition in five debates, two senior debates in the main Chamber and three less senior debates in Westminster Hall and in committee. In the midst of this I had a trip to Brussels, first train out of

St Pancras in the morning and last train back with meetings in between without even time to grab a sandwich. I got to address MEPs and their staff, I met with Britain's chief negotiator in Brussels and the Head of the Socialist group in EU. I also met the former Bulgarian PM who leads the Pan-European Socialist organisation that includes EC countries and those outside the EU but with trade arrangements eg Norway, Switzerland and Turkey. It was a tiring but amazingly useful day. Apart from one flying visit to Brussels I have spent most of my time in debates in Parliament on the EU, many of them raised by the European Scrutiny Committee, which is chaired by a leading Euro-sceptic and whose members are almost all

recognised Euro-sceptics. I receive notification of debates and papers for the debate with virtually no advance notice and have on at least one occasion had to plough my way through 301 pages in order to make an informed contribution. Picking apart these documents, understanding their context with regard to the UK's relationship with the EU can be complex, but it gives me the perfect opportunity to build my knowledge and debate with the government. I have debated such diverse subjects as the EU Human Rights action plan, the Common Foreign and Security Policy, EU referendum date and migration. I am told that there are at least another twelve similar debates to come over the next month. Pat Glass MP

POLICE REPORT

With a New Year comes reflection on our previous year. Overall crime and disorder has reduced across the village on the previous year. All crime has been reduced by 15%, antisocial behaviour by 14%, burglary by 7% and criminal damage by 72%. Both PC Iain Nelson and PCSO Lisa Jackson are committed to reducing these figures further over the next 12 months with assistance from the community, therefore if you need help, advice or experience on any issues please do not hesitate to contact us via 101.

Good news stories over the last month include a male on Deneside being issued with a Community Protection Warning Notice following reports to Police that he was frequently playing loud music at his address until the early hours and allowing numerous people to come to and from the address causing a disturbance to neighbours. Since the warning was issued no further issues have been reported, however we will continue to monitor the situation as the warning remains in place for 6 months.

Reports of antisocial behaviour over recent months have been few and far between with our usual offenders no longer congregating on our streets. We are however continuing to patrol the village during key times to deter issues escalating again. If anyone has any problems or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us by telephone on 101 or email lisa.jackson@durham.pnn.police.uk PCSO 6780 Lisa Jackson

DISGRACEFUL PRANK

In the early hours of Sunday, 7th February, some jokers decided to lay a wall of sandbags three high across Front Street stretching from Talking Heads to Ray Emmerton's Fruit and Vegetable shop.

Whilst this may have seemed funny at the time, it could have caused a serious accident or prevented an emergency ambulance getting through. Community minded Postmaster/

Newsagent, Tony Morland, together with like minded customer, Ken Castle, proceeded to remove the 'wall' into Tony's van. This took a considerable time and effort.

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proactive Board, who have successfully delivered a number of projects throughout the Mid Durham AAP area since our formation in June 2009. Please feel free to contact the office for an informal discussion about the requirements of the position.

The role itself is not onerous, in terms of time commitments; there is a requirement to attend a Board meeting every two months and preferably to have input to at least one of our Task and Finish Groups if possible, but really it's about sharing your

valuable local knowledge and being passionate about your community - helping to make a difference and influence decisions that affect our area.

If you're interested in applying, please contact the office for a full application pack: Email us: middurham.aap@durham.gov.uk or telephone: 07818 510370.

The closing date for applications is 5.00 pm on Friday 4th March, with interviews planned for the week commencing 14th March.

LANCHESTER FLOWER CLUB

The first meeting of the year on Wednesday 20th January was a little different. We decided to have our meeting at Chapters Restaurant, Derwentside College, where we all enjoyed a lovely meal served most professionally by the young students of the College.

The Club has a full programme of demonstrations and events arranged for a great 2016, so we look forward to seeing all our members and of course anyone wishing to join us would be very welcome.

FALLEN TREE AT MALTON



A fallen tree across the River Browney at Malton, presumably the result of the heavy rain eroding the bank. Thanks to Brian Naylor for this photo.

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HAVING A BALL - HENRY'S 18th BIRTHDAY PARTY!

April 23rd, 2016 sees Henry Dancer Days' 5th Annual Ball at Beamish Hotel Wintergardens. It's a lovely opportunity to dress up and have some fun, wearing posh frocks and DJs (or lounge suits for those who prefer to look less like penguins!).

This year, as many people are aware, would have been Henry's 18th Birthday, so the Ball is his official party. All of his closest mates will have turned 18 by the 23rd April and will attend in their best bib and tucker. It's been bittersweet watching the young

men reaching this milestone and wondering what Henry would have been like. He'll always be 12 years old in our minds. He'd be very proud of what we've achieved with his charity and the ways in which we're helping other kids with such a cruel disease.

The Wintergardens is a stunning venue and Team Henry go the extra mile in decorating the room. The three course meal is amazing (which is why we stay at the same venue each year) and we have the fantastic Shakedown Band who always get everyone up on the dance floor for the first song.

The night concludes with a disco - we dance 'til we drop. Tickets are £40 per person from henrydancerdays@aol.com. Come and help us say Happy 18th to Henry and raise funds for children with cancer in one fell swoop. Jane Natrass (Henry's Mum)



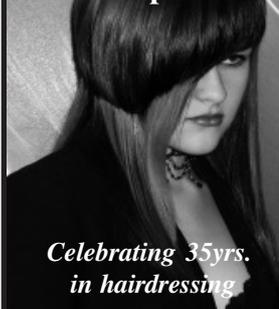
Beamish Hall, the venue for Henry's Party



Henry in 2009

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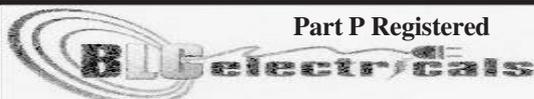
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OLD IMAGES OF LANCHESTER

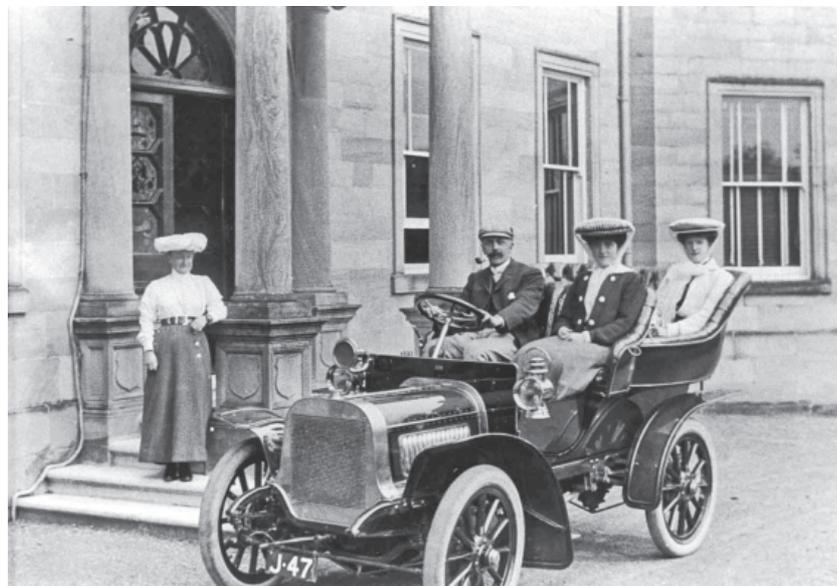
This is an occasional series of old photographs of the Lanchester area which we will use whenever space allows. In this set we feature views of Colepike Hall and some of its residents.



A view of Colepike Hall which was built in 1859 on the site of the old Hall.



Mr and Mrs Piercey-Smith about to leave Colepike Hall for a ride in the countryside.



The Piercey-Smiths were one of the first families in the area to own a motor car and are shown here about to leave the Hall.

THE LAUNCH OF ERASMUS WEEK AT THE EP SCHOOL

Head Teacher Mrs Jane Davis marked the start of the school's work with the Erasmus organisation by a special assembly in which teachers from several European countries

were introduced to the school. Year 5 students presented a confident and informative 'Tour of Europe' in which a welcome was given to the visitors in their own languages, while views

of their home countries and facts about their culture were offered by the children. Then it was time for the visitors to find out about our area, with a film showing views of Lanchester and

scenes of the school at work and play. The whole school then celebrated the rich tradition of folk singing in our region, performing some well known songs. The visitors introduced

themselves to the school and said how much they looked forward to working with the young people. This marked the start of an exciting time for the EP school!



A Whistle Stop tour of Europe ... where do our visitors come from?

THE ERASMUS PROGRAMME

On the afternoon of Wednesday January 27th there was a special concert and presentation at the EP School for the European delegates from Portugal, Italy, Romania, Poland, Czech Republic, Lithuania and Sweden. Flags from each country, including the UK, were stretched across the hall and a large world map was also on display. The school has played a part in this international programme for a number of years now and Mrs Davis herself has travelled in the past to one or more of these countries as part of the Erasmus Programme. It was her school which was now hosting the visit of these delegates to our country. To this end the school had prepared a very nice welcoming programme.

A 24 piece band opened the presentation and several songs were sung, one of those being the well known Geordie song 'Blaydon Races'. There were well spoken readings by the pupils, giving information about our country and other local adults from various facets of education gave short speeches of welcome and spoke about the way in which the Erasmus Programme gets involved in so many different aspects of global issues eg Environmental Awareness, Wind Projects, Saving Energy, National Boundaries, Tolerance of Different Nationalities, and the list goes on. Mr Hurst, who is the headmaster of the Academy at Stanley, spoke about the

importance of good relations with other countries and individual tolerance, so that we each work together to make our world a much better place. Mr Ossie Johnson added his welcome to the delegates and had a special word for the pupils, who had behaved impeccably throughout the afternoon. Mr Brian Stobie, International Officer at Durham County Council, also spoke. He has immense experience in national student and school exchanges, being a superb linguist. It was a most interesting afternoon and ended with tea or coffee and delicious cakes for the delegates, several governors of the school, parents and other visitors. Brenda W Craddock



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CHRISTIAN AID CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2015/16

A huge thank you to EVERYONE involved in any way in fundraising for the Christmas appeal, which this year focused on the Fighting Malaria campaign.

A massive total of £2241 was raised in the following ways:

- £825 was donated by the Parish Church from their Christmas Tree Festival and Carol Concert (a similar

amount was given to Willow Burn Hospice).

- A coffee morning at the Methodist Church raised £242.

- The collection at the Male Voice Choir/Operatic Society Concert was £443.

- More recently, on February 3rd, a 'Souper soup' lunch was held at the Methodist Church which raised £731.

The good news is that this full amount, because it was raised between November

and early February, has been match-funded by the Government, making

your donations go twice as far.

Many thanks again. Judith Brown



Featured are some of those who enjoyed the 'Souper Soup Day' at the Methodist Church to raise money for Christian Aid on Wednesday 3rd February.

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LANCHESTER LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The February meeting saw another good turnout on a dark wet windy winter night and following refreshments and the opportunity to catch up with friends the meeting started at 7 pm. The Chair updated the group as to the progress on the speaker programme for the rest of the year then shared the news from the Lanchester

Heritage Audit which is being undertaken by The Parish Council. Several members have become volunteers following the sessions at the end of January and are about to embark on a challenging amount of work to populate the paperwork. Arthur Dodds then introduced the evening speaker; David Butler has lived in the North-East for more than thirty years and has grown to love the area. He has led guided walks and walking holidays around the city, the county, and the wider North-East for more than twenty-five years; including his, now traditional, Christmas and Halloween walks in Durham City. He is also an archivist and local historian who has written and lectured extensively on aspects of the nineteenth century history of Durham City.

The talk on Cholera in Durham and specifically the 1849-50 outbreak was interesting on two levels. Primarily from the historical perspective on the way it was managed by all the involved public and private bodies. The interaction between the Town Council, The Board of Guardians, The Paving Committee and The Local Health Board, each one wanting to know if work was to be done who was responsible for funding that work. However with their many interventions they frequently appeared to get things right by default. This leads to the second level of interest, one which made many of the members raise a smile, it seems such history repeats itself in many meeting of such erstwhile bodies these days. We hope to see you all on March 4th at our next meeting. See What's On for details.

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WILLOW BURN ART PROJECT

A presentation for the culmination of the first Art Project for patients at Willow Burn Hospice, Sir Tom Cowie Day Centre took place on Friday 29th January. The project began a year ago under guidance of local artist, Allison Harris, now living at Prudhoe. Allison has made approximately one visit each month to teach and encourage the patients with art therapy and the result has been absolutely wonderful. Patients really enjoyed contributing to a picture of the Provence now installed in the Day Centre, along with two fabulous canvas hangings made from various attractive, brightly coloured materials. Lady Robson made a short introductory

speech, followed by Chief Executive, Helen Mills, who congratulated and thanked everyone involved in the project. She explained the value of art therapy, the result of which was a much warmer, more cosy room, with the artworks now in place, also visible from the offices above. This made it a pleasant outlook for the office staff as well as the day patients. Helen continued by indicating that artwork therapy is now an ongoing project and there will be future exhibitions held at the Day Centre. Lady Robson presented a lovely bouquet to Allison Harris. There followed an afternoon tea with cakes and scones for patients and staff.



Local artist, Allison Harris, with bouquet presented by Lady Robson and Chief Executive, Helen Mills, with picture of the Provence above.

VOLUNTEER SMASHES FUNDRAISING TARGET

Beryl Burnhope was so overwhelmed by the support she received from Willow Burn Hospice and the care and attention the staff in the In-patient Unit gave her dearly beloved husband Bob during June 2015 that she decided she wanted to give something back. Together with her good friend Julia and supported by a number of their friends and family, Beryl set a target to raise £1000 for Willow Burn Hospice by the end of 2015. By using their creative talents, they all got together and

made a variety of amazing gifts to sell throughout the year and at Willow Burn Christmas Fair. The items ranged from unique scented personalised candles, themed candles, handmade cards, table centres and a number of other arts and craft items. All the articles have been so popular that this fantastic group of people have now gone on to plan more great ideas, including beautiful

handmade nativity sets which they have already received a number of orders for. The total raised so far is over £1500 and Beryl and Julia came into Willow Burn Hospice on Thursday 21st January to present us with their latest cheque. Huge thanks go to Beryl, Julia and all their families and friends for all their support from everyone at Willow Burn Hospice.



Beryl and Julia presenting the cheque to Willow Burn

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THURSDAY CLUB



Members in Victorian costume entertain, with Neville Hartley on the piano.

We started off 2016 with our New Year party. An excellent and plentiful savoury buffet was supplied by Fiona (Crinnions) and true to form she didn't let us down. Looked good and tasted even better. The tempting selection of

desserts were from 'Mr Marks/Mr Spencer and Mr Asda' - yummy. Then to wash everything down wine, Bucks Fizz and Elderflower. The choice was ours. While we were enjoying the food our 'little grey cells' were put to the test

with two quizzes set by Lynn Hodgson - great fun. After feasting ourselves we were highly entertained, by seven of our members, to a play reading of "Who Calls?" by David Compton and directed

by our own Kate Lawrie. The girls were in full Victorian costumes with suitable props on stage. What a treat. Well done girls!! A sing-a-long, with piano accompaniment from the very talented

Neville Hartley, concluded the festivities. We would like to thank Fiona for the superb buffet, Neville for tinkling the ivories and Durham Dramatic Society for the use of their costumes and props.

SATLEY WI REPORT FEBRUARY

We had our meeting on February 8th which was well attended. Linda Horn welcomed us, along with our guest speaker, Dr Alan Pearson. Our business discussion followed. A darts team has been entered for the County heats.

A vote was then taken to decide our Summer outing and Skipton was preferred, therefore arrangements will go ahead to plan for May. We were reminded of our visit to the County Hall Archives on March 4th.

Dr Pearson (a botanist) then gave a most enlightening talk on the 'Mountains of Northern Spain' with the aid of PowerPoint. The area is beautiful with exotic orchids growing wild alongside other species. He showed some of the

lovely flowers that grow in apertures in the slate and rocks in the mountains. The scenery, amid unspoilt villages, was beautiful, well away from the tourist areas. It was a most enjoyable and informative evening which ended with our

refreshments. The raffle was drawn and won by Aldwyn Anderson. The competition, a funny photograph, was won by Linda Horn. She also came second, with Christine Wilson third. Visitors are always welcome to our meetings.

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TREASURES FROM THE WEAR FOR LANCHESTER WI

Our February meeting was opened by President Marie Murphy, who welcomed three new members and a guest. Marie reminded everyone about the suggestion box in which members can propose ideas about trips and outings. We were also requested to give close attention to the lists which are placed on tables at the back of the hall - details are posted about how we can all become involved in serving as hostesses, giving readings, signing up for various outings - there's a lot going on, so be aware! Members agreed, as a branch, to join the new 200 Club County monthly draw and heard plans from the Community Association about upgrading their lighting. Notice was given about our County Annual meeting in April and there were items regarding visits, meals out, etc. Our competition was A 'Found' treasure, with winners Christine Gibson and Jessie Goodall. Raffles were won

by Betty Taylor and Gwen Bramwell. Our guest speaker was Gary Bankhead, an underwater archaeologist and he gave a fascinating insight into the history of our area. Gary was a fire officer, enjoying diving as a hobby until a casual comment came from his wife ... why didn't he explore the River Wear? This began a quest which was to change his life. Gary discovered a deep interest in the history of the Wear and the cathedral, a place of pilgrimage for centuries. He and his brother discovered several valuable treasures given to the former Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael Ramsey, from various religious leaders. Why they had been assigned to the river still remains a mystery.

The brothers became more and more involved in excavating the Wear, finding treasures such as Victorian coins, Great War medals, 18th century coins minted by the Dutch East India Company and thousands of small finds from Medieval times. Many mementoes of pilgrims have come to light, as well as items of jewellery which tell a great deal about the status of their owners. Gary has become a passionate historian of Durham's past and hopes to become a full time scholar, revealing much more about the people of ancient times.



Speaker, Gary Bankhead

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Pork Chops in Cider

Apples and pork go so well together and in this traditional dish - the apples, rosemary and sweet cider give a lovely tang to the pork.

Serves 4

4 large pork chops
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
1 tbs vegetable oil
25g/1 oz butter
1 medium sized onion, finely chopped
1 clove garlic, crushed
300 ml/10 fl oz sweet cider
2 sprigs rosemary
2 dessert apples, cored but not peeled
1 tbs flour

1) Heat the oven to 180C/350F/gas 4. Trim most of the fat from the chops and season them with salt and pepper.
2) Heat the oil and half the butter in a flameproof casserole and fry the chops over a medium heat for 3-4 minutes, turning them so that they can brown on both sides.
3) Stir the onion and garlic into the casserole and cook until the onion is lightly coloured. Pour over the cider, add one sprig of rosemary and bring the sauce to the boil.
4) Slice the apple into rings, add to the casserole

and stir to coat them with sauce. Cook for another 10 minutes. Discard the rosemary.
5) In a small bowl, beat together the remaining butter and the flour. Using a slotted spoon, transfer the chops and apples to a heated serving dish and keep warm. Stir the butter and flour mixture into the sauce in the casserole and whisk over a high heat, until the sauce thickens and becomes glossy.
6) Pour the sauce over the chops and garnish with the reserved sprig of rosemary. Serve with your selected accompaniments.



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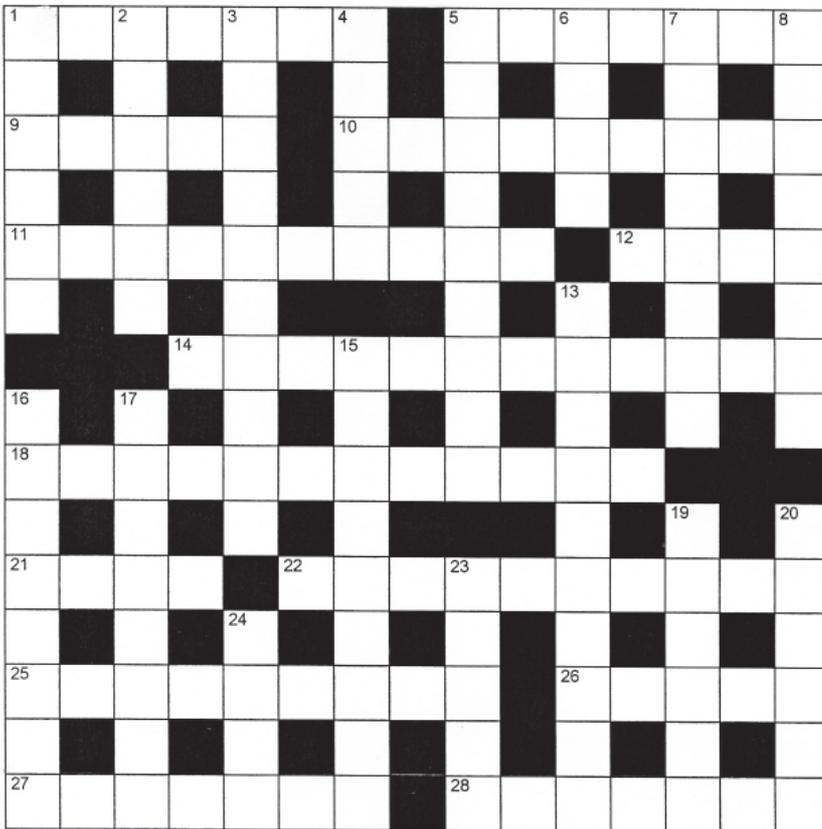


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CROSSWORD 118



Name _____

Address _____

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

LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU ANSWER

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

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CROSSWORD 117

There were 17 entries in last month's crossword competition. Congratulations to Mary Hole of Lee Hill Court who was the winner in the draw and will receive the £10 prize.

- ACROSS**
- Uproar as 150 start love affair (7)
 - Lower backache (7)
 - Wine from SW France (5)
 - Wicked (9)
 - High spirits (10)
 - Graven image (4)
 - Time when one is legally allowed to marry (3,2,7)
 - Remembrance Sunday (9,3)
 - Goes with big, small and show (4)
 - Perfidious (10)
 - Preside (9)
 - Sombre habitat provides recuperation (5)
 - Female head of family (7)
 - News (7)
- DOWN**
- Force (6)
 - Passion (6)
 - Specialist in the treatment of tumours (10)
 - Scope (5)
 - Generational series of changes in plant or animal (4,5)
 - Goes with tide, time, up or down (4)
 - Togo bead is worth gambling on (1,4,3)
 - Outdated (8)
 - Rude parent becomes spellbound (10)
 - Get one's bearings (9)
 - Quick meal! (4,4)
 - Unimportant people or things (5,3)
 - From Jalalabad perhaps (6)
 - Excuses (6)
 - Skilful (5)
 - Examination (4)

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 117

- ACROSS**
- rotter
 - swindler
 - scoundrel
 - saint
 - artless
 - gesture
 - corgi
 - two-faced
 - Miserere
 - brute
 - retinue
 - hothead
 - tiger
 - testament
 - horsemen
 - geisha
- DOWN**
- research
 - trotter
 - Ernie Wise
 - wild goose chase
 - noses
 - leisure
 - ratted
 - grasp the nettle
 - arbitrate
 - vendetta
 - integer
 - useless
 - wretch
 - nerve

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

CRICKET CLUB NEWS

Nets started on Sunday 7th February and run through until 27th March at Fyndoune College with seniors 1-2 and under 15s 2-3. In the opening week there was a good turn out with increased numbers of under 15s. Just a quick plea to parents, please get there on time to make the sessions run smoothly. Elsewhere on the playing side, last season's

overseas player, Teja, won't be back. He is making great strides back in his native New Zealand and will be playing at a higher level this year. We have recruited Daniel Nicotra an Aussie batsman/leg spin bowler in his stead. Daniel is also an accredited coach and will help with the juniors throughout the season. Graham Brinton has been retained for the new

season and opening bowler Gareth Wade has been recruited to lead the line. Durham County Junior, Arran Halliday has rejoined the club following a season at Annfield Plain and will be in the first team if his duties elsewhere don't restrict him.

We would still welcome new players, either seniors or juniors and they can make

themselves known by popping along to one of our net sessions.

In the club, we should be able to refurbish the kitchen before the season starts and thanks to the improvements made last year on the back of Beer Festival money and grants, we have been able to get regular bookings for events such as christenings and parties. During the close season,

we have been running quizzes on a Thursday night and if you are interested in coming along, check out our Facebook link or the notice board in front of the club.

Finally, wife of former club stalwart Ray Clish, Tess passed away during January and our thoughts and condolences are with the family.

BEER FESTIVAL 2016

Our planning continues for May 27th-29th and you can keep track through the website: www.lanchesterbeerfestival.co.uk

Sustain Landscapes is our first big sponsor of the third festival as they have agreed to sponsor the glasses. The company based in the Consett area were keen to have a bigger impact after enjoying last year's event and we

welcome their support. Many of our local supporters, Talking Heads, Alexander Lettings and Alby Driving have agreed to sponsor for a third year, with New Image being a new addition. Hanley and Swinbank will be on hand during the Saturday and Sunday to provide their fabulous pies and sandwiches, including their sought after pulled pork.

We will be supporting two charities this year, with the Bubble Appeal on the Friday and Saturday and Henry Dancer Days on the Sunday. Last year the Bubble Appeal made over £2000 over the first two days and will be hoping for attendees to be just as generous again.

Steve Daggett, ex-Lindisfarne, will provide the entertainment on sponsors' night and the

Smokin Spitfires will rock the tent on Saturday night following the cricket. On Sunday there will be three bands, local boys The Castells, Heavy Mod and finishing off with The Pretty Weeds.

Pip Stop will once again kindly supply a selection of their wines if beer and cider doesn't float your boat.

If anyone is interested in sponsoring a beer, then

please contact us through the Beer Festival website, it is only £125 but it gives you access to all three days, with drinks tokens, programmes and advertising thrown in.

We are in contact with local police to try and ensure there is a presence in the village for the evenings to try and prevent any disruption beyond the club perimeter.

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WHAT'S ON?

Open House

Join us in the Chapter House of the Parish Church on Thursday 3rd March 11.30 am to 1.00 pm.

Vintage Tractor Club

Meet on Wednesday 2nd March at 7.30 pm in Lanchester Social Club.

Country Market

The next market will take place on Saturday 5th March from 10 am until 12 noon in the Methodist Church.

Local History Society

Subject: The Durham Museum and Heritage Centre

Speaker: Denis Jones

Date: 4th March

Time: 7pm

Venue: Lanchester Community Centre.

Denis Jones the Chairman of the Bow Trust which runs the Durham Museum and Heritage Centre will be talking about the fascinating history of Durham and the Museum's collections. Visitors are always very welcome. (£2).

For more information about the History Society contact: marianmorrison@btinternet.com.

Wildlife Group

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 8th March at 7.30 pm in the Community Centre Dining Room. The subject will be 'Getting Closer to Nature' with Dr Phil Gates.

Thursday Club

The next meeting of the Thursday Club will be on 17th March at 7.15 pm in the Small Hall of the Community Centre when there will be a social evening with a Faith Supper and Beetle Drive.

The Village Voice Page 18

Paradiso Club

The next Paradiso Social will be held on Sunday March 13th at 7 pm in the Main Hall of the Community Centre. There will be the usual raffle, refreshments and a film.

The film screening will be 'SAMBA'. This is an upbeat French Comedy drama starring Omar Cy (who starred in Untouchable), and Charlotte Gainsbourg. The story centres on the plight of a Senegalese immigrant who has lived in France for 10 years and has been ordered to leave. He is reduced to finding work in an unforgiving cash in hand market place in which neither his rights nor his life are valued. His caseworker gets caught up emotionally in his struggle. This is serious subject matter, a story of our time, but the painful complexities of the issues and the chilliness of the scenario are balanced by warmth, engagement and humour.

All are welcome.

Entry £2.50 members

£3.50 occasional visitors
£2 young persons

The entry ticket covers the refreshments, film and raffle.

Library Book Club

Our next get-together is on Monday March 21st at 2.30 to discuss 'The Man who forgot his Wife' by John O'Farrell.

Why are some books page turners? Why do some authors grab our attention and why are other books hard work and we decide to not continue past page 10? Please come along to discuss this book, pick it up from the library and we will see you there.

Lanchester Litterpick 2016

The annual litter pick will take place on the morning of Saturday 19th March. Please come and pick for an hour or so between 10.00 and 12.30.

You can register and collect equipment at the usual tent on the Village Green. If you can't get to the Green please litter pick your local area. All rubbish bags will be collected. The event is led by the Lanchester Partnership and supported by the Parish and County Councils. Any help you can give will be much appreciated as we get Lanchester cleaner and ready for Spring.

Badminton at Croft View

The new floor has been completed at Croft View Halls and the Badminton Group would like more players to come along and join us. We play every Monday 10 am - 12 noon. For more details please telephone Rosemary Naylor 520087.

Art Exhibition and Sale of Paintings

Castleside Art Club's 44th Annual Exhibition will be held in Castleside Village Hall on Easter Sunday and Monday.

18 local artists will be showing around 150 new works. The Exhibition is open each day between 10 am and 5 pm with home-made refreshments always available. Admission 20p.

Flower Club

The next meeting will be on Wednesday March 23rd at 2pm in Lanchester Community Centre in the main hall. The Demonstrator will be Pam Greenhill with a demonstration entitled 'Just for You'.

Contrasts

... from the Choral Society
Unfortunately we are not talking about chocolates! - but nevertheless we can offer you a 'box of delights'. What we have in our Spring Concert (in the Catholic Church on Friday 11th March) is a selection of contrasts from the choral repertoire. You will hear some well-known favourites as well as some beautiful and exciting new pieces. We will journey from 1700 to 2010 and contrast composers such as Purcell, Handel and Mozart with Puccini, Karl Jenkins and John Rutter. To join us on this journey, we are pleased to welcome back as soloist our great friend Susan Jordan. Tickets are available from any choir member or from 520172 or 521458. We look forward to surrounding you with these lovely musical contrasts.

Macmillan Event

A huge Macmillan event will be held at Townhead Farm Equestrian Centre, Iveston, on 11th June, from 12.00 midday until 5.00 pm. There will be a picnic area in the paddock, entertainment, a raffle, auction, a band and other attractions. All proceeds will go to Macmillan. For further information and tickets at £25 entrance fee including a Hog Roast please call Claire Young on 07525442153.

Thursday Club Coffee Morning

In aid of the Great North Air Ambulance Thursday March 3rd from 10.00 am - 11.30 am in the Community Centre Dining Room. Tickets £1.00 or pay at the door. Hope you can join us once again.

Lanchester WI

will next meet in the large hall of the Community Centre on Monday, March 7th. Hilary Taylor will be speaking to us on 'The Antarctic' and our competition will be 'A Cold Scene'... a very open title, but one needing a lot of thought! We will hold our usual monthly raffle and enjoy our social time to complete our evening. Details of our future outings can be found on the tables at the back of the hall and members are also invited to suggest venues for future visits and meals. There's also an opportunity to become more involved in your WI, volunteering as hostesses during future meetings, by contributing raffle prizes, or giving a reading or vote of thanks at a later date. Please check the information regularly so you don't miss out! A reminder that payment is due now for our visit to Tennant's Auction Rooms, thanks for this! Can we please remind everyone that entry into the hall cannot now be made before 7.15 pm, many thanks for your understanding and co-operation.

North Country Theatre

Once again the very talented North Country Theatre is to visit Lanchester with a performance of their play, a Jorvik episode from the 10th Century called 'Egil Skallagrimmson Keeps His Head' at the Community Centre on Saturday March 12th starting at 7.30 pm.

Lanchester Library

The library offers Songs and Stories on Thursday afternoons from 2-3 pm. All children under 5 years are welcome.

Short Circuit Walks

Venue: **Ebchester and Medomsley**

Date: March 5th
OSRef: NZ132563
NE177RS

Miles: 5.5

Leader: Derek Coleman
Phone: 01912670890

Car park for Derwentcote Furnace on S side of A694, 500m W of junction with B6310.

Venue: **Swalwell**

Country Park

Date: March 19th
OSRef: NZ197620
NE163BP

Miles: 4.5

Leader: Pauline Sewell
Phone: 01914207604
South of B6317, Blydon to Whickham road, turn S near Rugby Club.

Lanchester Social Club

Saturday 5th March
EMMA HARLEY,
Vocalist

Sunday 6th March
Sunday Night Buskers

Saturday 12th March
ANGIE, Great Vocalist

Sunday 13th March
Sunday Night Buskers

Saturday 19th March
MICHAEL CARR, Young Vocalist

Sunday 20th March
Sunday Night Buskers

Saturday 26th March
JONNY BLACK,
Fabulous Vocalist

Sunday 27th March
Sunday Night Buskers

Short Mat Bowls

We meet at Croft View Hallevery Friday from 1.30 - 3.30 pm. We would welcome new members to join us for a relaxed, fun filled afternoon. You do not need to have played bowls before. For further information ring Jeff Hockaday on 520014 or turn up on a Friday afternoon.

Beetle Drive

Lanchester Partnership will be holding a BEETLE DRIVE in the Community Centre on Wednesday 30th March at 2pm.

All ages welcome. Come and have fun!

Tickets available from the Community Centre, 01207 521275

Jill Gladstone 01207 528114

Mavis Datta 01207 528814.

Mothers Union

The speaker at the meeting on Wednesday March 9th in the Chapter House, is the Reverend Peter Sinclair.

Computers 4 All

Your Village drop-in facility for help with PCs, Laptops and Tablets. Open between 9.30 and 11.30am on Mondays and Thursdays in the Community Centre, our small friendly service is here to help, entirely free of charge.

Willow Burn Fundraising

ST PATRICK'S NIGHT - Friday 18th March at The Three Horse Shoes, Maiden Law.

This promises to be a fun-filled night celebrating St Patrick's Day. The evening will feature Consett's very own 'Dust Town Dogs' who are renowned for playing an energetic and electric live mix of Folk, Punk and Flamenco music. Tickets are £5 each to listen to the music, or £15 each to include a 2 course meal. For more information and to buy tickets phone: fundraising on 01207 523900, or Will Gardner on 07703 807383. Tickets can also be bought from the venue, The Three Horse Shoes public house, or Graeme Richardson from Dust Town Dogs.

An Evening at Willow Burn

Come along and enjoy an evening of easy listening with BEACON BAND from South Tyneside; a little country, pop, rock with some traditional and regional songs. The evening includes a glass of wine accompanied by nibbles, while you listen to some great music from this well known band. Tickets are selling fast!

Sunday Bridge

Are you a Bridge player? If so, why not come along to the Community Centre on 28th February at 2.00 pm for an enjoyable afternoon of Bridge. The entrance fee is £3.00 and all profits go to the Community Centre.

Women's World Day of Prayer

This Annual Service will be held in the Catholic Church this year, from 2.00 to 3.00 pm on Friday 4th March. The service has been written by the Ladies of Cuba and the speaker will be Mrs Tracey Hume, the wife of Reverend Gavin Hume. We hope that lots and lots of Lanchester Ladies will attend. A warm welcome awaits you.

Satley WI

The next meeting will be on March 14th in the form of a workshop by Glynis from 'Cakeberry Corner'. It will have an Easter theme, making cupcakes etc in Satley Village Hall at 7.15 pm. Visitors will be most welcome.

Easter Monday Egg Bowling

The usual egg dyeing in the traditional way. Come and take part at Pace Egg Bank organised by the Lanchester Wildlife Group. Meet at 10 am behind the Green School and bring a raw egg.

Community Centre

The Community Centre will be holding a coffee morning on 10th March from 9.30 - 11 am.

Willow Burn Hospice

LANCHESTER BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Willow Burn Hospice Family Support Team is coming to you.

On Monday 7th March, at 1.30 pm at All Saints Church Hall,

Lanchester, Willow Burn Hospice family support team is holding a 6 week Bereavement Support Group.

Coping with grief can sometimes feel

overwhelming and frightening. We hope

that by providing this chance to meet with

other people going through a similar

experience, group members may feel able

to talk about how difficult the grieving

process can be, and be able to gain support and

understanding. If you feel that you

may benefit then please do not hesitate

to contact either Janet or Karen at Willow

Burn Hospice on: 01207 523902.

Refreshments will be provided.



Advertising in the Village Voice

Advertising your business in the Village Voice could not be easier, just give us a ring and we will do the rest. We offer a free design service to prepare a unique advert promoting your business in 2700 homes in and around Lanchester. The cost starts at £15 per month for a credit card size advert.

You can advertise for one month or every month, it's up to you.

Just contact John Hurran and he will do the rest.

Contact details:- Phone 01207 520288 or Mobile 07952836475

Email villagevoiceadverts@talktalk.net

NEW SPORTS FLOOR IN CROFT VIEW

Croft View Halls will be holding an open day on Saturday 12th March from 2-4 pm when we invite everyone to come and see our superb new wooden sports floor. We will have table tennis tables set up for your use and tea, coffee and biscuits will be available all free of charge. The floor has been fitted in the top hall at a cost of almost £10,000 and our grateful thanks to the County Durham Community Foundation and Awards 4 All Big Lottery Funding, for their grants towards this project. The hall is currently used by the Badminton, Youth Club, Boys' Brigade, Tennis Club and Guides Groups and further details of all the groups that use both halls will be available on the day. We are also hoping to have a leaflet and photographs explaining the history of the halls, for people to



Badminton players enjoying the luxury of the new sports floor at Croft View.

look at whilst enjoying for a one off event or a on 07969 808958 or by a superb asset for our refreshments. Anyone regular booking should email on erichepplewhite village and we hope interested in hiring the halls contact Eric Hepplewhite @btinternet.com. This is people will use it.

BASKETBALL AT LANCHESTER EP SCHOOL



Lanchester EP School is now offering basketball as another sport for the pupils to enjoy. Todd Kitchens, (centre back row in left hand group picture) from Seattle, Washington, currently at Durham University Sports Science Department, is seen here coaching the children at Basketball. This is year 5 from which a basketball team will be selected. The team will play league matches against other schools on the Basketball Court at St Bede's School.

NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any **articles** for the next edition of the Village Voice by Tuesday 15th March. The deadline for **adverts** is 13th March.

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