

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 6 Volume 17

Lanchester, June 2016

For contact information, see page 2

VILLAGE CELEBRATES THE QUEEN'S 90th BIRTHDAY



A general ringing of the church bells in All Saints' Parish Church was performed to honour HM The Queen on her 90th birthday. This took place on Sunday June 12th, between 12.00 midday and 1.00 pm. The Palace requested that a special ringing should take place to coincide with the Patrons Lunch, particularly as it is an unusual time for bells to be rung in many towers. Those campanologists who carried out this duty were from left to right: Robbie Kalus, Olga Walker (Bell Captain), Melanie Atkinson, Isabel Appleton, Craig Davies, Rob Matthews and Richard Downs.

ASHDOWN GROVE STREET PARTY



The street party well under way with balloons and bunting.



The adults flying paper aeroplanes.



Ellen Filmer and Evie Garside show off their face painting.



Evie Garside shows her skill in the paper aeroplane race.



Dear Village....

THE VILLAGE VOICE

IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

The views expressed in letters to the editor are not necessarily those of the newspaper, the editor or persons working for the newspaper. The editor retains the right to cut or amend any letter published. Letters must contain your name, address and telephone no, all of which may be withheld at your request.

Dear Village Voice

Can any of your readers help?

On Friday 10th June around lunchtime opposite Deano's restaurant, a silver Ford Focus with a reg number similar to YB03 FHJ reversed across the road hitting my car causing £400 worth of damage.

The lady driving just drove off and was witnessed by a local tradesman.

The police are hoping CCTV footage will help trace the driver but any information will help.

Jackie from Aura Health & Beauty

Dear Village Voice

Rather than berate local residents for not supporting events in the Community Centre (Why does the village not support its Community Centre?), perhaps the author should first investigate the nature of any market research conducted by the Community Centre... it's obviously lacking somewhere.

Quite simply since people will not attend an event if it is not to their taste the first job of the organisers is to find out what people do want.

The author's apparent view that we should attend any events that the centre chooses to put on is frankly ridiculous, no wonder he/she chose to remain anonymous.

Bob Russell

Editor's note

The author of the article was not identified because the views expressed represented the opinion of the editorial team. The Community Centre is

trying to survive for the benefit of people in the village. If the village does not give its support it will inevitably close. To say the Community Centre should conduct market research is to misunderstand the way the centre functions. There is not a vast number of organisations vying to put on events in the village and the centre has an option to pick and choose. An organisation will approach the centre with a proposal and the event is put on in the hope a profit can be made. The two events had every prospect of success. Villagers regularly attend plays in Gateshead, Newcastle and Durham and the folk duo had previously performed successfully in the library. The Village Voice thinks it is perfectly valid to ask residents if they want their Community Centre to continue.

Community Draw

The winning number in the Community Draw for May is 82. The draw was made by Lesley Anderson.

ASHDOWN GROVE STREET PARTY

With some fantastic painting, bunting, balloon organisation from Sonia Filmer, Ashdown Grove came out to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday. With odd numbers bringing savoury food and even numbers bringing the sweet food, the neighbours came out to enjoy the day and share each other's company. There was music, face painting, bunting, balloon modelling and party games for the children. A paper aeroplane competition took place with Paul taking the prize for the adults and Amy winning the children's competition. An enjoyable day with neighbours with plenty of national pride and community spirit. (Pictures on front page)

Easy Access Village Bus



Our famous 100 year old resident, Edith Pierce, boards the Village Link Bus under the supervision of driver, Luke. Photo Mavis Datta.

How to contact the Village Voice

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GOODBYE LISA AND THANK YOU

This month sees the departure of Lisa Nichol, Practice Nurse at Lanchester Medical Centre. Lisa has been in the nursing service since 1998 and joined the Park House team in May, 2008. Lisa began her career in local government and has had wide ranging experience since entering her nursing profession. She has been involved in oncology, critical care and care of the elderly and has always believed in keeping up to date with medical advances and techniques, while updating her own knowledge and qualifications. She has enjoyed and valued working as part of the

medical team and has always attempted to work closely with her patients, encouraging and empowering them in the self management of their own condition. She has achieved Prescriber Status, which enables her to be responsible for prescribing certain medicines and she values her own personal autonomy while working within her team.

Lisa has many interests lined up to be enjoyed in her retirement. She loves Art and may enrol in a college course. She would like to be able to spend more time in dressmaking, in music and working in the gym. She has a love of



Lisa at her desk; she'll be fondly remembered by so many people.

France, she'd like to study the language and explore the country with her husband, travelling in their caravan. Mainly

she's looking forward to having more time to spend with her daughter and husband, but she admits she has enjoyed her time

in Lanchester and takes many warm memories with her. Good Luck to Lisa - we wish her a happy and long retirement.

TRIBUTE TO ELSIE CUTHBERT



Elsie Cuthbert

On Tuesday May 10th, Lanchester Methodist Church was full to capacity for the funeral of a well-known and well respected Lanchester resident, Elsie Cuthbert, aged 77 years, who died on April 25th. The service was conducted by the minister, Rev Stuart Earl. Elsie's brother Douglas read the lesson, her sister Lillian played the organ and Elsie's oldest daughter Janet Clemitson gave the obituary. The large congregation showed the high regard in which Elsie was held.

Elsie, born at Langley Park on 4th November, was one of a family of eight. From the age of 3 Elsie was taken to Trinity Methodist Church, to Sunday School, then to morning service with older members of the family, joining the choir aged 7. Elsie attended school at Langley Park until she was 15 then helped at home with the house, shop and in the farm dairy. She enjoyed spending time with her siblings Nora and Lillian, sharing their love of music. In 1954 the Graham family moved to Holmside Hall and Elsie began attending

Lanchester Methodist Church. She joined the choir and Youth Fellowship where she met Brian who she married in 1960. Their first home was a cottage at Colepike Farm, where Janet was born. In 1964 they moved to Prospect Terrace where Karin and Alison were born.

Elsie devoted many years to teaching in the Sunday School. Known to many children as Auntie Elsie she organised Anniversaries and Nativity Plays, helping to set up the Girls Club. She enjoyed making costumes and being stage manager for annual Pantomimes.

Elsie took over as caretaker at the chapel in 1977, a job which she did with pride and passion for 30 years, officiating at numerous baptisms, weddings and funerals as well as keeping the church warm, clean and tidy. She was Cradle Secretary for many years, was a loyal member of Wives and Friends and a dependable worker for the catering group.

Elsie, ever practical, baked and sewed, working many personalised cross-stitch pieces which she gave as presents. She loved flower arranging, demonstrating great artistry and skill for church, weddings, flower festivals etc.

As well as finding time for all of this, Elsie always found time to care for and encourage the family. She was always there for her 3 daughters, was very supportive and interested in all the activities of her

grand-daughters Caroline, Joanne, Kate and Chloe and also Dryden, and was very proud of her 2 great grandsons Oliver and Benjamin.

Elsie and Brian had 54 years of marriage and Elsie cared for Brian in his last illness, often when not in the best of health herself. Brian died 2 years ago and Elsie missed him dearly. Elsie will be greatly missed by many people in this village and beyond. She will be forever in our thoughts and our hearts.

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LANCHESTER PARTNERSHIP AGM

Presentation to Christine Lever



Dorothy Maskery (right), one of the longest serving supporters of Lanchester Partnership presenting Christine Lever with a bouquet of flowers at the AGM. Christine is leaving the area shortly and has been very active in the Friends of Longovicium over many years.

Progress Report by Lanchester Orchard Group



Stephen Bailey presented a progress report about the work of the Orchard Group to members of Lanchester Partnership at their recent AGM.

BURST WATER MAIN



Ironically, on one of the warmest days of the year, residents at Ridgeway were confronted with a water main bursting. It was so bad that members of the Lanchester Community Emergency plan were called out and the necessary sandbags were taken to houses. Our photo shows the huge area which has been dug up to resolve the situation. Due to a quick response from the Water Board there was no serious damage to any properties.

STORY OF A PATH



The path in our photograph runs between Newbiggen Lane and Alderdene. It is rarely used except for children playing in the area. It was in poor condition and overgrown by grass on each side. A new fine looking tarmac path was installed which improved the overall area. Within a few weeks this was removed for some unknown reason, possibly the grass was coming through in places was one opinion. Then within a few days it was dug up and path number two was laid. In these days of austerity at local councils the whole situation seems bizarre.

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FAREWELL TO JOHN AND ANNE HURRAN - Off to Australia

John and Anne arrived in the village about 40 years ago when they moved from Burnley, so that John could take up a new position at Philips branch in Durham. Whilst John was staying at the King's Head he met a few of the Lions Club members at the Black Bull, visited a Carnival and became determined to live in Lanchester. He served over 30 years in Lions and became President. Whilst residing in Lanchester, they have had two temporary moves abroad with Philips, spending two years in Holland, and two years in the Czech Republic.

A sociable and active person, John played

badminton in his younger years and as a member of Consett Golf Club became Captain of the Seniors in 2013. He is a keen bowler and Committee member of Lanchester Bowling Club and also an active member of the Wednesday Bridge Club. He served at the Community Centre for several years as a successful fundraiser mainly obtaining grants at the time the gym was the major project.

Anne, too, is a very industrious person. She is a regular badminton player and would still be playing tennis if it were not for chronic sciatica. Like John, she is a keen bowler and bridge player, being Treasurer of the Bowling

Club and active member of the Tuesday and Wednesday Bridge Clubs. Ann also served as a Governor of All Saints' Primary School.

In 2004 John was asked to join The Village Voice as Advertising/Marketing Manager. At that time the paper was struggling for funds. The turnover was very low. Today the paper is thriving - the income is three times what it was, the paper is much larger with colour pages featuring regularly on front and back pages. Much of this is due to John's excellent, dedicated, very organised contributions, for which the Management Council gives its sincere thanks.



John Hurran, Advertising Manager of The Village Voice, who is emigrating to Australia.

Why Australia? The couple have two daughters living there. Sarah and Glen live at Toowoomba, Queensland, with children, Harry 6, Cooper 4 and Isla 3. Nicky, the elder daughter, has forged out a brilliant career in Adelaide

for a major recruitment company. They leave towards the end of August and will settle in Toowoomba. John and Anne have made a substantial contribution to village life which will be missed.

NEW VILLAGE VOICE ADVERTISING MANAGER BARRY PEACOCK



Barry Peacock, new Advertising Manager for The Village Voice.

As reported above, long standing Advertising Manager, John Hurran, begins his new life in Australia very soon. Recently retired former General Manager of Lanchester Dairies, Barry Peacock has

volunteered to take his place. Barry joins The Village Voice with a vast amount of business experience. Barry is looking forward to his new challenge and

hopes he can promote business successfully for the paper. He will be available for telephone enquiries on 01207 529130 and by email at voiceadverts@gmail.com

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LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from the meeting held on Tuesday 14th June 2016

Minutes

Annual Council Meeting on 10th May - approved.
 Ordinary Meeting on 10th May 2016 - approved.
 Finance Meeting on 25th May 2016 - approved.
Police Report - received.
Correspondence

1. County Durham Association of Local Councils

Agreed that Councillor David Bell is nominated for Vice President for the County Association Executive Committee.

2. County Durham & Cleveland County Training Partnership - training

Agreed that a place is booked for the Clerk and Councillor Jackson to attend the 'Your Council,

Your Finances, Your Responsibility' training event.

3. Campaign to Protect Rural England - North East Newsletter-received.

4. Clerk & Councils Direct - May newsletter-received.

5. The Clerk Magazine- May edition - received. Area Action Partnership (AAP) and Parish Councils Committee (PCC)

Dates and times for the next PCC and AAP meetings were provided. Minutes of the recent meeting - approved.

Mike Wardle provided an update.

Work continues on the Heritage Audit which

should be completed by the middle of July. A meeting to discuss and agree the significance of the assets has taken place and volunteers have agreed to write introductory sections for the document. A draft document should be available at the beginning of July.

The Conservation Area Appraisal has now been approved by the County Council.

Work continues on the analysis of the text answers received from the topic based questionnaire.

A grant of £5000 has been approved from 'Locality'. A consultant has been appointed to

assist with the next stage of the plan. The next stage will include producing a 'Topic Paper' for each objective/area of the plan. This will include pulling together all the evidence and information available to produce options to achieve the plan objectives. This work will commence with a workshop for the working group early in July.

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

It was agreed that a licence agreement be entered into with the County Council for 2016 to allow the Parish Council to cut the grass in this area.

Lighting on footbridge from Brook View to car park - Lanchester Valley Walk

Members were informed that the County Council have agreed to replace the lighting.

Structural Testing of Lighting Columns

Members were informed that information had been received from the County Council informing us that the lighting columns needed to be structurally tested

to accommodate the hanging baskets. The testing which cost £850 has taken place and the test lasts for 30 months.

Schedule of Meetings 2016/17 - received.

List of Committees and Members - received.

2016 - 2018 National Salary Award

Members were informed that the National Salary Award has now been agreed for 2016 - 2018. It was agreed that the National Salary Award is applied to staff posts.

Financial report - discussed and approved.

Accounts for Payment - approved.

Questions from Members - The following issues were raised:

1. Footpath at Hollinside which requires maintenance. It was agreed that a letter is sent to the County Council asking that appropriate maintenance is carried out.

2. Condition of the area in front of the Cemetery. It was agreed that a letter is sent to the County Council.

The next Ordinary meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 12th July 2016 at 7.15 pm at Lynwood House.

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LANCHESTER AT WORK

Apart from those working in the service industries, most modern Lanchester residents have to commute to their place of work, but this was not the case in the past. As these historic photographs show, Lanchester was once a hive of industry. While the agricultural industry remains, nowadays it employs far fewer workers than shown in the old photographs. The cosmetics factory is long gone as has the village saw mill. These photographs show



A worker at the Siris cosmetics factory that sold their products internationally and employed a large predominantly female work force.

some of the industry Thanks to Kevin Leary of the past in Lanchester. for the photographs.



Buckham's Sawmills, a Lanchester family business. This photograph shows that facial hair is not just a modern trend. Perhaps the flat cap will also make a comeback soon.



At harvest time all the family were called in to help, including children. This photograph shows a threshing team at the time when steam traction engines were in use.

Dave Harris

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A MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE ...

Everything in Parliament is a lottery. Those who get chosen to ask a question at Prime Minister's Questions (PMQs), Minister Questions, non-governmental debates held in Westminster Hall and in the Main Chamber are decided by a lottery draw.

I have put into PMQs every week for the six years I have been an MP and have come out of the draw twice, on consecutive weeks, where some of my colleagues seem to get

drawn every other week. Once a year there is a lottery draw for a Private Members Bill (PMB) and every one of us puts in hoping to be drawn. Realistically only the top 5 MPs drawn in the ballot have any chance of their Bill getting anywhere and ultimately the only PMBs that make it onto the statute book are the ones that pass two tests. One, they must have cross-party support and two, they have Government support as without the Government giving a PMB a fair passage by

allocating time for it to go through Committee, the bill is effectively killed off.

This year I came out fourth in the draw. As soon as the list was announced I received many emails from worthy causes complete with drafts of completed bills ready for submission. Things got so busy that at one point my email inbox jammed and I had to hand it over to the Parliamentary IT service desk for a repair.

Personally I favour a PMB on homelessness

as this is an increasing issue with more and more people sleeping rough, particularly in our big cities. My research suggests that many of those sleeping rough come from an ex-service and/or local authority care backgrounds and many suffer from physical and/or mental illnesses. I am told by organisations like Crisis that many people are only three mortgage or rent payments from homelessness and this is something that can and does happen.

Unfortunately a PMB on homelessness is not likely to meet the two tests and given that I was the only Labour MP to come out of the draw in the top 10, the decision on my PMB is one that I will need to make collectively with the Party. I don't have to make a decision just yet and the legislative timetable does not begin until the Autumn, but this is something new and exciting and something that very few MPs get the opportunity to do.

Pat Glass MP

OUT AND ABOUT IN BLANCHLAND

It's the season for being out and about and often it's more interesting if you know something interesting about places! Blanchland's name derives from the French word meaning 'white', referring to the white

monks of the Premonstratensian order. Their priory was founded there in 1165, with the Abbot's lodge, kitchens and dining room located in what was to become the Lord Crewe Arms. A legend tells how, in the

Middle Ages, a band of Scottish raiders intent on robbing the rich settlement were lost in the mists. Just as they decided to return home, empty handed, the monks rang their bells, rejoicing that the Scots had missed

them. Of course, the raiders immediately returned and ransacked the priory! Dorothy Forster was the niece of Nathaniel, Lord Crewe and sister to Thomas, a Jacobite general in the rising of 1715. When he was captured and imprisoned in Newgate, Dorothy bravely rode to London, had duplicate keys made

and freed Thomas, taking him home and hiding him in Blanchland. She then announced his death, organised a funeral and filled a coffin with sawdust. Thomas fled to safety in France and Dorothy's ghost is said to haunt the Lord Crewe Arms, still waiting for the return of her beloved brother.

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CHURCHES TOGETHER SPEAKER



The annual speaker was Rev Professor Walter Moberley, of Cranmer Hall, Durham University. The event was held at the Methodist Church on Thursday June 9th. The professor gave an interesting, entertaining talk on 'How Not to Read the Bible'. This provoked questions which were dealt with in a considered, thoughtful way, which seemed to satisfy the questioners. Our photo shows left: Rev Rupert Kalus, Professor Moberley and Curate Ali Miller, enjoying a cup of tea after the talk.

LADIES WHO LUNCH

In glorious sunshine we had a lovely run out to 'The Rat', at Anick, a tiny hamlet just outside Hexham. Reviews of the place always seem excellent so we decided to go and see for ourselves. It was busy but a table was found. The windows look out onto the garden or over wonderful countryside, welcoming fires were burning even though it was a sunny day, the staff were very pleasant and we were soon settled and perusing the interesting blackboard menu. Eventually, our minds made up, we sampled

for starters Garden lovage and apple soup, crème fraiche and toasted walnuts (I have to say, worth going for its own), Roasted beets with bulgar wheat salad, green beans, cucumber, orange and minted yoghurt, Charcuterie with olives and toast. Mains were Rainbow chard, ricotta and potato pasty with rocket salad, Goulash of beef cheek, buttered mash, carrots and broccoli and Fillet, shoulder and belly of pork, Anna potatoes, rainbow chard, beetroot and sweet and sour rhubarb.

For puds it was Chocolate orange terrine, passion fruit, blood orange and crème fraiche, Ice cream selection, Rhubarb and ginger trifle and Goats cheese and vanilla cheesecake with pears and pecans. They had a nice wine list with a good choice of wines by the glass. Coffee and mints finished off a delightful meal - we all agreed, it was food to 'die for'. 'Don't mention the rats' - next time we go we'll see if we can catch them - we'll keep you posted 'cos we're definitely going again!

The Gourmet Girls

CRICKET NEWS

The firsts remain unbeaten and in second place behind Ashington, as we went to post. It started with a win by over a hundred runs over Percy Main, Dan Nicotra making a hundred and Gareth Wade taking five wickets. Consett were beaten by 8 wickets, Nicotra taking five wickets then racing to 96 in the win. Benwell and Walbottle were skittled for 136 with Wade taking four wickets. Once again Nicotra led the run chase with 63. The side are in the League Cup Quarter Final having beaten Swalwell again and face Lintz. Graham Brinton and Kieron Taylor were selected to play in the

league side and Gareth Wade has made his debut for Northumberland County.

The seconds have had a better month with league wins over Lintz and Alnmouth. Lintz were bowled out for 106 and we lost five wickets in reaching the low total. After a long haul to Alnmouth, we posted our best score of the season making 208, with Chris Tully making an unbeaten 50. Jonathan Hames took 4 wickets and Chris Halliday 3 to secure a close win.

The thirds have had a close defeat at leaders Cowgate and a good win at Shotley Bridge. In a

reduced over match due to the rain, we made 128 and Cowgate had only one wicket remaining when they passed our total. At Shotley we bowled well and got them out for 133 with Andy McConnell taking 4-20. Chris Tully then scored an unbeaten fifty to guide us past their total.

The under 18s have beaten Blaydon and Lintz twice, once in the cup and were beaten at Stocksfield in the cup. The 15s beat Lintz and Leadgate and lost the other two. The 13s have lost the games that were played. The under 11s won all three games.

BOWLS REPORT

Sadly the Monday team could not keep up their good start to the season. Heavy defeats to Dipton and View Lane (Stanley) have set the team back, but an away win at South Moor has lifted spirits. This was played in the rain, but the team looked good and stayed dry in their new waterproofs. The surprising team this season is the Tuesday team which contains a lot of players in their first or second year of bowling. After four games, the team has scored more points than the whole of last season. They are near the top of their league but have some tough matches

ahead. The Saturday team has had an up and down season winning three but also losing the same number, including a narrow defeat to Consett Park who fielded a number of their nationally successful women in their team. However Lanchester did get a good win over the same club in the first round of the Durham North West League Cup, a competition we have not done well in for a very long time. What's more, the club membership is well up on previous years with a few more new members to welcome since our last report.

HIMALAYAN BALSAM PULLING DATES



Join with Lanchester Wildlife Group and Community.

We need your help! This invasive plant is spreading along our river courses and along the railway track in vast swathes.

Balsam can be easily pulled up by hand and put in a pile to degrade and prevent it seeding. Lanchester Wildlife

Group want to start clearing this plant from specific areas.

Our first target is Dora's Wood (Woodland Trust nature reserve). Come and pull Balsam with us!

Meet where the railway path dips at the point 'Woodlands' housing estate road accesses the railway path near Dora's Wood, Grid reference NZ168471.

DATES IN JULY
Sunday 10th, meet at 11 am

Tuesday 19th, meet at 7 pm

Tuesday 26th, meet at 7 pm

Saturday 30th, meet at 11 am

Sunday 31st, meet at 11 am

Bring a pair of gardening gloves (if you have them), waterproofs and suitable footwear. Long sleeves/trousers useful to avoid nettle stings. We are not going near the river!

Contact us: lanchesterwildlifegroup@outlook.com for more information.



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The dispensary is closed between 13.00-14.00 therefore collection of prescriptions are unavailable at this time.

THE PARTY CONTINUES AT LYNWOOD HOUSE

When entertainers Terry Lewins and Ray Buck offered to sing at Lynwood House, the residents jumped at the chance. Linda Bell, who is herself a star turn at organising, arranged for Hanley & Swinbank to supply an afternoon tea and a raffle was put on for The Stroke Association with prizes donated by Hanley & Swinbank, New Image, Ray the greengrocer and residents. As the tea coincided with the Queen's official birthday, the communal area was decked out once again in Union Jacks. I'm not sure Terry and Ray's choice of birthday tribute to the Queen 'Happy Birthday Sweet Sixteen' was totally appropriate but I don't suppose anyone has written a happy birthday song for a ninety year old.



Linda Bell who organised the continuation of the Queen's Birthday celebrations at Lynwood House with Terry and Ray who provided some wonderful entertainment.

Terry and Ray only planned a one hour show but they were clearly enjoying themselves and in fine voice, so they just went on and on. For over two hours they entertained

residents, relatives and friends with a mix of songs that ranged from country hits, through pop songs, sing-along favourites and contemporary and Geordie folk. I personally

particularly enjoyed their rendition of old Everly Brothers numbers, their voices blending together were reminiscent of Don and Phil at their best. To say a good time was had

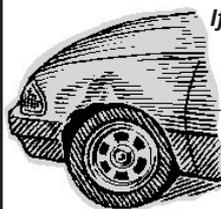
by all would be an understatement. Lawrence McDermott summed up everyone's feelings with an impromptu thank you to Terry and Ray and to Linda and her superb team.

RED CROSS WINDOW



A superbly dressed window at the Red Cross Shop to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday.

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LANCHESTER WI

President Marie Murphy opened the meeting with several news items. The sustainable gardening competition entries need to be decided for next meeting and also entries for the Autumn Council Meeting. Various courses and events are taking place within the County Federation and details are always available in the monthly news sheet. Lists for branch visits and outings are displayed on the information table at the back of the hall and members are urged to keep up to date about all the social happenings planned for the near future. You'll also find out how you can get involved in our meetings, from serving as a tea hostess to offering interesting or amusing

readings. Everyone's help is always greatly appreciated! Our competition entitled 'Who would YOU guard?' was won by Ann Carr and Ann Grosvenor, who both nominated their husbands as being worthy of close protection. Raffle winners were Pat Cotrell and Ann Smith. We then enjoyed a very informative and interesting presentation by Anne Atkinson and her husband, Ian. They had spent time in Zimbabwe and had become involved in conservation and charity work at Hwange National Park. Zimbabwe, formerly known as Rhodesia, lies in the south of Africa and is a popular tourist destination. Hwange is home for over 100 mammals and 400

species of birds. It was once funded by the government, but has suffered from severe cuts to its budget and now has to rely on donations to carry on with its conservation projects. Anne Atkinson explained how Hwange aimed to help wildlife, as well as aiding the workers in the park, along with their families. Artificial waterholes have been dug, education has been



President Marie Murphy (right) with guest speaker Anne Atkinson.

sponsored for some of the children in the area, instruction has been given to local people about raising chickens and planting vegetables. Much has been accomplished in

working against poachers and protecting animals. Fascinating slides of some of the strange, beautiful and sometimes weird wildlife enhanced the very enjoyable talk.

SATLEY WI

Our guest speaker was Mr Simon Raine who gave us an interesting and humorous, talk on how he came to set up his business 'Weardale Cheese'. Members were given the chance to sample, and buy, his five types of cheese. Mrs Carol Dobinson gave our vote of thanks. Our monthly competition for three cheese scones was won by Mrs Jean Portwood, 2nd Mrs Joan

Smith, 3rd Mrs Carol Dobinson. The raffle was won by Mrs Carolyn Marston. Our President thanked Mrs Avril Carpenter for arranging our recent outing to Skipton where members and guests had time to shop and dine before enjoying a boat trip on the canal. We had earlier stopped at Ripley Hall for coffee and scones. Upcoming events include

a trip to a matinee performance of 'Jekyll & Hyde The Musical' at The Gala Theatre, a trip to South Shields, an afternoon tea and a Pie & Pea supper. Our next meeting is on the 11th July at 7.15pm in the Parish Hall when our guest speaker, Mrs Ingrid Kilner, will talk about 'A year behind the veil'. Please feel free to come and join us for what I know will be an enjoyable night as always.

HISTORY SOCIETY 'MEMORIES'

We Need Your Photographs and Memories. The History Society is planning to produce a record of the Lanchester Community Centre and initial school. We also need your help to record your memories of the school and the development of the Community Centre. We

can record your memories by recorded conversations and we hope you can send us any photographs either by email or we can record them and return them to you. To help us, contact marianmorrison@btinternet.com or phone Jane on 01207 529982.

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LANCHESTER MALE VOICE CHOIR CHARITY CONCERT



The Male Voice Choir in great voice under the direction of conductor Harry Carr.

Our very own Male Voice Choir always attracts a good audience and on Saturday May 21st this was certainly true. The concert was held in the Methodist Church and as in previous years, at this time of year, this particular concert was in aid of charity. The proceeds were to be divided between the 'National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children' and 'Henry Dancer Days'. The songs for the evening were all from the 60s era and were all rhythmical and very toe tapping. The song 'When I'm 64' opened the programme, followed by 'Softly As I Leave You' and 'Bridge Over Troubled Water'. It was then time for the

guest artist to perform, who this year was the lovely Jane Westwater. Jane always accompanies herself on the piano and her husband John contributed to her accompaniment with his guitar. Jane sang two well known Beatles songs, which included 'Love Love Me Do' and it was all a delight to hear. The choir then sang three more songs before a short interval.

The second half of the programme was as enjoyable as the first. '(Ghost) Riders in the Sky', 'Can't Help Falling in Love with You' and 'Walk Away'. These songs were followed by more lovely singing from Jane and the concert ended with an excellent

medley of songs simply called 'Back to the 60s'. The medley included 'The House of the Rising Sun', 'Sealed with a Kiss', 'Silence is Golden', 'How do you do what you do to me'. These evoked many memories for many people and made for good conversation over a cup of tea or coffee, at the end of the concert. It was a lovely 'feel good' evening.

The choir obviously love singing under the baton of Harry Carr and we love listening to them. Thank you to Harry and the choir and indeed anyone involved in organising this very enjoyable evening, which raised the excellent amount of £710 for the two charities.

Brenda Craddock



Singer Jane Westwater and her husband, John.



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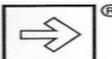
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HENRY LOVES PUDSEY

Henry Dancer Days

Supporting Children with Cancer



Henry Dancer Days has just heard that they are to receive a Children in Need grant of £9,800! This is to support the charity's Storytelling Project in the Great North Children's Hospital in Newcastle where children from throughout the region go to receive cancer treatment. The project, which has been featured on Tyne Tees News, employs professional storyteller, Shelley O'Brien to distract the kids from their anxiety and fear and forget where they are for a while. When they like a particular story, Henry Dancer Days gives them their own copy to keep. Sue Carey, Henry's CLIC Sargent worker

commented, "The children in the Day Unit and on the Inpatient Ward look forward to the Storyteller coming in to sit with them and tell a story of their choice. We have seen children be distracted from the anxiety of going to Theatre for Lumbar Punctures or Bone Marrow extractions to great effect, reducing their anxieties and providing a safe space for them to be. The Storyteller works closely with the ward staff identifying children who may have the greatest need on the day, providing an extra service to the Oncology patients and this is highly valued by staff and families. It's also

fun! The children respond positively and are engaged for a period of time in a fantasy world out of hospital. This innovative service is becoming increasingly valued."

Jane (Henry's Mum) has plans to roll out the project to other hospitals. As she said, "I'm pleased that something so special to Henry is proving to be such a success - it's achieving everything I'd hoped. I have additional plans for projects to help children with cancer and will continue to fundraise to ensure that they come to fruition. The Children in Need money will keep the Storytelling project going for a year in Newcastle. It's wonderful news!"

This local charity continues to grow and help children and families through experiences most of us don't want to imagine. Please continue to support. Thank you.

HELP US RAISE FUNDS FOR CHILDREN IN INDIA

In February 2016 my husband Peter and I self-funded a working trip to CanKids, a children's hospice in New Delhi. We were so inspired by the CanKids charity and witnessed the huge demands on their resources.

I volunteered in Specialist Palliative care nursing and my husband in Health & Safety.

We are planning to return again in September 2016, again self-funding a further working trip.

In order to help further we are having a fundraising event at our home Linden Lodge, Cadger Bank on Saturday July 9th (start 3 pm and ends 9 pm). We will have a variety of stalls, a raffle and at 7 pm there will be some



live musical entertainment, hot and cold buffet and people are welcome to bring their own drinks.

Hope some of you can support this worthwhile cause. The monies raised will be spent directly in New Delhi for items the children with cancer need.

Donations for stalls, items to take to India or any other help would be greatly appreciated. Please email julie.richardson1211@yahoo.co.uk if you would like to come, so we can cater appropriately.

Many thanks, Julie and Peter Richardson

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RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Chicken Mafiosa

This chicken dish is easy, quick and delicious. You need a fair sized chicken breast for each person. A lovely light, summery sauce!

Olive oil for frying
The required number of chicken breasts

2-3 shallots, finely chopped
250g mixed mushrooms, chestnut, oyster etc, sliced or whole, depending on size
Chopped fresh tarragon to taste

2 capfuls brandy
150 ml double cream
1) Heat the olive oil over a medium to high heat in

a pan big enough for all the chicken breasts, without overlapping. Sear the breasts on both

sides. Reduce the heat to medium, add the shallots and mushrooms, cover and allow the chicken to cook gently. Stir from time to time, for about 25 minutes until properly cooked.

2) Add the fresh tarragon to taste, then turn up the heat to high and pour in the brandy. Allow to bubble briefly to burn off the alcohol. Pour in the cream, season to taste and allow to gently heat through until hot. Serve the chicken with the creamy sauce spooned over.

Sugarsnap peas go nicely with this and add your own choice of vegetables.

THURSDAY CLUB OUTING

On May 19th, instead of our usual meeting we set off early in the morning to spend a day enjoying the delights of the Alnwick Gardens. The sun wasn't exactly splitting the skies but the day remained dry and pleasant throughout. Two of our members who were concerned about walking about for so long had opted for the motorised wheelchairs on offer and they were there at the bus terminal all ready for action - Pam and Sylvia had a great day. The Grand Water Cascade + the various

other water features dotted around are a delight for both young and old. I think we all acquired tickets to be taken on the tour of the gated (the gate featured in the recent Robson Green programme on Northumberland) Poison Garden and came out feeling there wasn't much safe to touch anywhere! Just by the Poison Garden gate is a quaint thatched dwelling, which they have down as a witch's home. To me, it looked just like Hagrid's house from the Harry Potter

films. There are lots of other parts to explore including a huge walled area, a rose garden and of course, the various eateries. There is somewhere to eat to suit everybody, even down to taking a picnic, but the jewel in the crown has to be the impressive Treehouse structure with its wobbling walkways, Potting Shed cafe and a most individual restaurant. We all arrived home with all our senses satisfied, sight, sound, smell, taste and replete with good company. A good day!



A few Thursday Club members outside Hagrid's hut.



A view of the wonderful Treehouse.

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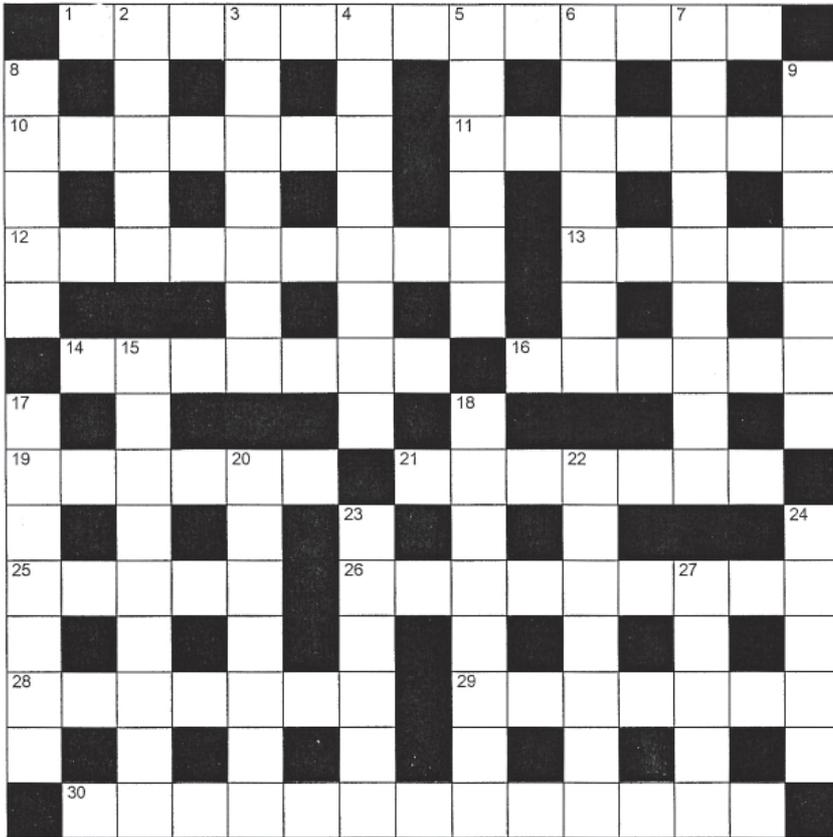
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CROSSWORD 122



ACROSS

1. Very little (4,2,7)
10. Key (7)
11. Meet requirements (7)
12. Neither win nor lose (5,4)
13. Bungling (5)
14. Warning (7)
16. Region makes cut (6)
19. Musical by Lionel Bart (6)
21. Moliere's hypocrite (7)
25. Inveigle (5)
26. 3,579 for example (3,6)
28. Passionate (7)
29. Comeuppance (7)
30. Scene had Freud enjoying others misfortune (13)

DOWN

2. Ooze (5)
3. Dense undergrowth (7)
4. Unconsciousness (8)
5. Being at peak ability (2,4)
6. In a fit of pique (7)
7. Sounds from the wings during a play (6,3)
8. Blacklegs (5)
9. More irritable (7)
15. Maxi-coat I use as a given (9)
17. I cannot include (7)
18. Dead scales on ones collar? (8)
20. Baltic state (7)
22. Move slowly along (7)
23. Spinach eating cartoon character (6)
24. Lees (5)
27. Goes with window, alley and date (5)

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.

CROSSWORD 121

There were 17 entries in last month's crossword competition.

Congratulations to Martin Joyce of Oakwood who was the winner in the draw and will receive the £10 prize.

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 121

ACROSS

1. well groomed
10. haven
11. deceptive
12. pyrethrum
13. sheen
14. nudist
16. brassica
18. Canadian
20. astral
23. act on
24. fricassee
26. globetrot
27. id est
28. in a nutshell

DOWN

2. elver
3. linctus
4. riders
5. on camera
6. exposes
7. chop and change
8. timelier
9. Jean Paul Getty
15. donation
17. Warfarin
19. dungeon
21. Spanish
22. diktat
25. spell

LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU ANSWER

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

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.

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

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TRACTOR TALES



Lining up, ready for the start of the Run.

The start of the Spring Tractor Run

On Spring Holiday Monday, May 30th, a small army of tractors gathered at the farm of Peter Suddes. Friends greeted each other and looked forward to a round trip of over 30

miles before returning to Lanchester. The venture had been organised by Lanchester Vintage Tractor Club, with each driver contributing £10 to join the Run. Proceeds were to be given to Butsfield Young Farmers organisation, to help in

the repair and refurbishment of their meeting place.

Everyone agreed that while the weather could have been better, they all looked forward to their day out and approximately 40 tractors set off into the mist.

And after the Run

The Tractor Run was a great success, with all vehicles and their drivers returning home safely and everyone met in Lanchester Social Club on June 1st, to hear that the sum of £492.26 had been raised to

enhance the meeting place of the Young Farmers. Some representatives from Butsfield Young Farmers were present to accept the cheque from Ernest Hopps of the Lanchester Vintage Tractor Club. The money will be used to add features such as a new septic tank and an accessibility ramp, and the young people were extremely grateful for the contribution.

It's part of the mindset of farmers to look towards the next farming generation and this was the theme of the evening - to safeguard and protect the young farmers of the future.



Representatives from Butsfield Young Farmers receive a cheque from Ernest Hopps, from Lanchester Vintage Tractor Club.



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WHAT'S ON?

Open House

Join us in the Chapter House of the Parish Church on Thursday 7th July 11.30 am to 1.00 pm.

Vintage Tractor Club

Meet on Wednesday 6th July at 7.30 pm in Lanchester Social Club.

Country Market

Please note that the next market will be on Friday 1st July from 10 am until 12 noon in the Methodist Church.

Community Centre

The Community Centre will be holding a coffee morning on Thursday 14th July from 9.30 - 11.00 am.

Lanchester Writers

Lanchester Writers meet in Lanchester Library every Tuesday 2 - 4 pm. during school term time. New members are welcome.

Thursday Club

The next meeting of the Thursday Club will be on July 21st at 7.30 pm in the main hall of the Community Centre. Our speaker will be Christine Ruskintalking about 'The Disappearing Farms of Weardale'.

Junior/Family Wildlife Group

Our next meeting will be on Sunday 10th July. Meet 10.00 am in Malton car park.

Wildlife Group

Our next meeting will be a Field Trip on 12th July - Black Plantation (Woodland Trust reserve between Lanchester and Satley) with David Shimwell.

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Phone: 01914161677

Cassop is SE of Durham on the B6291, which is off the A181. Park on the main or side streets and meet at the Post Office.

Venue: **Wylam 'Three Bridges Walk'**

Date: July 23rd

OSRef: NZ118646

NE41 8HP

Miles: 5

Leader: Owen and Pat Oliver

Phone: 07932671311

From the A69 turn south for Wylam and follow the road (Holden Hall Road) for 2 miles. Turn left in the village for public car park near Wylam Bridge.

An Evening with Andrew Lloyd Webber

Lanchester Choral and Operatic Society present a concert of popular music by well known composer Andrew Lloyd Webber with songs from the shows including Phantom of the Opera, Evita, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat, Jesus Christ Superstar etc. We welcome back soprano guest soloist Elizabeth Woods.

Performances on Thursday 14th and Friday 15th July 7.15pm Lanchester Methodist Church. Tickets £8 including refreshments available from Lynn 01207 521458 and Maureen at 520172.

Lanchester Male Voice Choir

Presents the 48th Annual Concert to be held in the Lanchester Methodist Church on Friday July 1st at 7.30 pm.

Guest Artist - Aurora Strings. Tickets: £7; Patrons & Concessions £6; Children £2, available from Choir Members.

Lanchester WI

Our next meeting is on July 4th, when we celebrate summer with our traditional Strawberry Supper. We will be serenaded by members of Consett CBS Theatre Group presenting songs from the musicals. Our competition will be to produce homemade strawberry jam ... a delicious challenge!

The summer outing will leave on July 6th, at 9am from the layby on the green. We head off to the Boar's Head at Ripley for coffee then on to Skipton, where there are many things to enjoy ... a visit to the castle, exploring the market, a boat trip on the river or finding a nice place to treat yourself to a leisurely lunch. Fingers crossed for good weather!

Library Book Club

After a 10 out of 10 given by the group for The Last Runaway by Tracey Chevalier, what score will the group give to the July book club read for English passengers by Matthew Kneale, a Whitbread Book of the Year. The Book Club will review this book on July 25th at 2.30 pm. Come along if you are interested in joining the discussion.

Local History Society

Subject: All Saints' Parish Church, Lanchester

Speaker: Peter Smith

Date: July 3rd

Time: 7pm

Venue: Meet at the Church

Peter Smith will talk and show us around this Norman and Early English Church discussing the building and its architecture.

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

Willow Burn Summer Fair

Come along and enjoy a fun-filled day at our Summer Fair on July 2nd. Hot and Cold Refreshments, Tombola and Raffle, Craft stalls, Home-made Cakes and much, much more ... a great day for all the family! If you are interested in holding a stall at this fair please contact us for more information asap to secure your place - space is limited!

For more information or to buy raffle tickets contact: 01207 523900 or email: fundraising@willowburnhospice.org.uk.

Lanchester Flower Club

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 27th July at 2.00 pm in Lanchester Community Centre, everybody is welcome.

There will be a demonstration by Wendy Smith on the subject of 'Something Old, Something New'.

Mothers' Union

Wednesday July 13th is the AGM, 7.30 pm in the Chapter House. After the reports etc, strawberries, cream and bubbly will be served.

Lanchester Social Club

Saturday 2nd July, MAGGIE MAY,

Clubland Award Singer

Sunday 3rd July,

Sunday Night Buskers

Saturday 9th July,

C A S S A N D R A ,

Gorgeous Young Singer

Sunday 10th July,

Sunday Night Buskers

Saturday 16th July,

KENNY, Superb Vocal

Entertainer

Sunday 17th July,

Sunday Night Buskers

Saturday 23rd July,

LANCE NEWMAN,

Outstanding Male

Singer

Sunday 24th July,

Sunday Night Buskers

Saturday 30th July,

JAMIE PROFITT,

Cracking Young Singer

Sunday 31st July,

Sunday Night Buskers

Satley WI

Our next meeting is on 11th July at 7.15 pm in the Parish Hall when our guest speaker, Mrs Ingrid Kilner will talk about 'A year behind the veil'.

Please feel free to come and join us for what I know will be an enjoyable night as always.

Lanchester Library

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

Computers 4 All

Your village drop-in facility for help with PCs, laptops and tablets. Open between 9.30 and 11.30 am on Monday and Thursday mornings in the Community Centre, our small friendly service is here to help, entirely free of charge.

CHEERS! SPONSOR'S NIGHT AT THE BEER FESTIVAL

Lanchester's annual Beer Festival was hosted by the Cricket Club from 27th May until May 29th and began with the Sponsors' evening. Local charities benefit from this popular event, and this year, the Bubble Foundation and Henry Dancer Days will receive contributions.

2016 is the 24th anniversary of the Bubble Foundation, based in the RVI, Newcastle and it raises funds for medical equipment, toys, educational aids and welfare of the babies, children and their families. Originally the Bubble Unit was aimed at treating children born with defective immune systems, but the Unit has also begun helping youngsters suffering from leukaemia and severe forms of arthritis. Henry Dancer Days supports children and

young people suffering Primary Bone Cancer, with grants given to families whose child is receiving treatment. The charity was set up in memory of 12 year old Henry Dancer who died as a result of Osteosarcoma and its

work has rapidly become well known throughout the area.

The Sponsors' Evening promised to be a busy event, with people arriving early to taste the wide range of beers available. Gill Johnston, representing the Bubble

Foundation, was full of praise for the Cricket Club, who have supported the organisation since its very earliest days. Last year, £1,000 was raised from the Festival and Gill thanked everyone for their efforts. Neil Graham, Chair of the Club,

expressed his appreciation of the support of everyone involved in the planning and all the work connected with the festival and hoped that the two worthy local charities benefit from the weekend.



Neil Graham with Gill Johnston from the Bubble Foundation behind the pumps.

BEER FESTIVAL 2016

The Beer Festival is all over for another year and year three was the best yet. Numbers were up over the two days as the sun shone brightly and the beer, cider and wine were drunk swiftly. It was fantastic to see large family groups present throughout, able to enjoy themselves together in an event that spans the generations.

The entertainment was top notch, starting with Steve Daggett's gravelly tones on Sponsors' Night. The Smokin' Spitfires were on top form on Saturday night following the cricket match and they gave their fee to the Bubble Appeal as a charity. Sunday was entertainment all the way as local upcomers The Castells pleased the younger contingency in

the audience whilst the Four Forty Ones got the others dancing. Once again The Pretty Weeds wrapped things up and once again they did a great job in filling the marquee with dancing folk. The two charities, The Bubble Appeal and Henry Dancer Days both made good amounts of money thanks to the generosity of those present and want to pass on their thanks to everyone who contributed. Our local butcher/delicatessen, Hanley & Swinbank were on hand to sell their lovely pies and sandwiches to help people keep going. It's always hard to judge how much beer to have available and we had more than ever this year but it wasn't enough as we ran dry on Sunday night, having to resort to raiding

local off licences for cans to keep the crowd going. The Police played their part in keeping the party goes quiet as they left and hopefully any disturbance was minimised. A big thank you to those who contributed so much hard work over five days to make this event such a success.



Dancing to the Pretty Weeds.



Visitors making good use of the refreshment tent.

IT'S 8 TO 80 AT LANCHESTER TABLE TENNIS CLUB



8-80s! The last Village Voice showed Lanchester Table Tennis Club's junior players and our older players decided that they were just as photogenic! So we thought we'd take this opportunity to show off our gorgeous group and remind everyone that our club is open for players of all ages and abilities as a place to learn from scratch or hone those skills around the table. There are 2 junior sessions, Thursdays 5 till 6 pm and Fridays 6 till 7 pm and adults are welcome Fridays 7 till 9 pm, so come along to improve your fitness, learn competitive skills or just enjoy some plain old fun.

LANCHESTER BRASS BAND OUT AND ABOUT



Lanchester Brass Band have been out and about this 'summer'. Bank Holiday Monday at Beamish Bandstand.

BEER FESTIVAL AT CRICKET GROUND



Visitors to the Beer Festival enjoying the atmosphere and lovely weather at Lanchester's picturesque cricket ground. See page 19.

NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any **articles** for the next edition of the Village Voice by Tuesday 19th July.
The deadline for **adverts** is 17th July.

Published by Lanchester Publications Ltd, 2 Fenhall Park, Lanchester, DH7 0JT and printed by Durham County Council, Design and Print, Comeleon House, Tanfield Lea Industrial Estate North, Stanley, County Durham, DH9 9NX. Tel: 03000 261414. The views expressed in this periodical are not necessarily those of the publishers. Whilst all efforts are made to check the authenticity and accuracy of all articles submitted for publication, occasionally something is bound to be printed incorrectly. Please let us know and we will endeavour to correct the mistake.