

# THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 11 Volume 19

Lanchester, November 2018

For contact information, see page 2

## ‘LEST WE FORGET’



*The floodlit Methodist Church with Poppies streaming down from the roof to the grass in front. Photo: Simon Osborne*



*The wonderful Poppy Cross in front of the Methodist Church. Photo: Brian Oram*



*The War Memorial at All Saints' RC Church with Wreaths and Poppies. Photo: Brian Atkinson*



*All Saints' Parish Church gates, beautifully decorated with Poppies. Photo: Village Voice*



*A close up of a Poppy with a dog tag attached. Photo: Ronnie Allaker*



*The re-dedicated War Memorial on the Village Green, after the Remembrance Service, showing all the Wreaths and Poppies placed there. Note: All Poppies shown in the pictures on this page are those made by the public at Eric Hepplewhite's 'Project Poppies' workshops. More pictures on back page.*



# 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  
I would like to say a very huge thank you to family and friends who gathered at my home on 28th September, for the Macmillan World's Biggest coffee morning. The amount raised this year was £515. This is the most we have ever made in the last 10 years I have had this gathering in my home. Again this year we were blessed with lovely warm sunny weather, some friends moved around the garden following the sun. There was quiche, corned beef pie, cheese and fruit scones, scrumptious chocolate cake and tasty lemon drizzle cake and not to forget coffee and walnut cake were all very kindly

donated by friends for the afternoon tea. Homemade cakes, crab apple jelly were sold, raffle tickets also were sold. This all added together made the amazing £515 total. This is my last Macmillan event in Lanchester, as I'm heading across the border to Scotland. This has been a difficult letter to write and I would like to take the opportunity to thank people for supporting me and my family in good and bad times. A big thank you. Ann Rowe

Dear Village Voice  
In 1973, I worked as a Physician at Maiden Law Hospital and met a friend named Judith Hetherington. She went to college and I migrated to USA and we lost touch with each other. All I remember is that her father was a hospital administrator. I wonder if any of your readers know her or how to contact her. I will appreciate any help. Thank you, Sant Hayreh

### Healthwatch County Durham

NHS England has created a new website for people who need help with day-to-day living. There is also information and advice for carers. Please visit healthwatch countydurham.co.uk to view the link. Brian Jackson, Chair

### Young Persons' Group

Lanchester Medical Centre has a new Young Persons' Group and we will be looking to achieve 'Investors in Children' status. The young persons' group has developed a survey which will feed into the services the practice develops. To access the survey, go to Lanchester Medical Centre's website, www.lanchestermedicalcentre.co.uk, and follow the link. Gillian Webster Practice Manager

## SUCCESSFUL SURGERY FOR GRACE

Lanchester teenager Grace Carson seems to have had successful pioneering surgery in Germany following a mammoth fundraising effort aided by the kindness of countless local residents, as well as many well wishers much further afield. Grace, 14, a pupil at St Bede's School, visited Germany this month for the surgery to correct a curve in her spine. The Village Voice reported earlier this year how friends and family of Grace were raising £35,000 to enable her to have an operation in Germany - not available in the UK - which would hopefully mean she could live a normal life. Following the magnificent effort Grace travelled for surgery. Her mother Tanya reported

on November 12th: "The X-ray that Grace has been waiting for! Grace's curve has successfully been reduced from 50 degrees to 0.5 degrees! Dr Per Trobisch has changed my brave and beautiful little girl's life forever. Not only has Dr Trobisch straightened Grace's spine, he has also made it possible for Grace to have full flexibility and full movement in her spine. She can now go on and lead an unrestricted and full life. This VBT surgery is pioneering for the treatment of Scoliosis. Thank you to everyone for their messages, love, prayers and support throughout these past five months and for making this surgery possible." Tanya & Grace x Neil McKay

## How to contact the Village Voice

To advertise, email: voiceadverts@gmail.com or telephone Lynda on 07851 775297. Please do not use this number for matters relating to content. General and news enquiries, 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.

### Community Draw

The winning number in the Community Draw for October was 70. The draw was made by R Mosey, Exercise member.

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

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# REMEMBRANCE 2018 IN LANCHESTER

No-one could have failed to notice the presence of the colour Red in our village during the week leading up to Remembrance Sunday. We have been 'seeing red' you could say, but in the nicest way, without a hint of anger and the very opposite of what those words generally indicate. We can be very proud to say that over 4000 poppies have been made in our village over the last two years. They have been made with love and kindness by people of Lanchester, assisted by many people outside our community. Young and old have taken part in this project with great enthusiasm and must be thrilled to see the fruits of their labours, displayed on the war memorials in the village.

'Project Poppies' was the vision of one man in our village, Eric Hepplewhite. He wanted us to commemorate the hundredth year of the end of the First World War in a special way. Eric is the leader of the Boys Brigade and his initial thought was to help young people to appreciate the terrific debt we owe to the soldiers who fought in that war. It is difficult for young people to understand war and its dreadful consequences. He obtained the special clay used to make ceramic poppies, showed the boys how to do this and 'Project Poppies' was born. Eric held numerous workshops in Croft View

and as the weeks progressed more and more people wanted to be involved. It was good fun, but a very meaningful experience for all the people who took part in the project. They met new people, they learnt new skills, and they discovered the joy of working together as a team. Eric was always there to encourage and guide and there was great fellowship. A sense of pride developed in producing a tangible link with war and engaging in such a worthwhile exercise.

Eric gathered many helpers, not least his wife

Sylvia, but with his hard work, enthusiasm, unfailing patience and graciousness, his vision was perfected in the week leading up to Remembrance Sunday. What an achievement! Eric we salute you for all the many, many hours that you have given 'Project Poppies' over the last two years. You have been an inspirational leader and all your work is greatly appreciated by the people in Lanchester.

At both the services of Remembrance in the Methodist Church on 8th and 9th November, Eric thanked all the



Eric Hepplewhite

people who had made poppies or had been involved in any way with 'Project Poppies' but really the biggest thanks should go to Eric for his unstinting dedication to

make sure that our village gave a magnificent witness to the 100th anniversary of the end of World War One. **THANK YOU ERIC.**  
Brenda Craddock



  
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# LANCHESTER WAR MEMORIAL REDEDICATION

On Friday 19th October at 2 pm there was a service on the green to rededicate the War Memorial. Lanchester Parish Council with help from members of the community had

worked for some time to have the names of fallen soldiers added to the War Memorial. 130 names were identified and engraved on the new marble panels, the work being completed

by Art of Stone Memorials. The service was led by the three churches in the village and was very well attended. The Lord Lieutenant of County

Durham, Mrs Sue Snowdon, was invited to the service. The names of the fallen soldiers were read out by students of St Bede's School, a very moving tribute.

Then, representatives from each of the schools and the village organisations were invited to come forward and lay a poppy on the Memorial.



Boys Brigade representatives at the War Memorial.



Mrs Sue Snowdon, Lord Lieutenant of Durham, lays a poppy at the War Memorial.

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## TWO SPECIAL REMEMBRANCE SERVICES

Those of us who attended the Festival of Remembrance Services in the Methodist Church on either the 8th or 9th of November will never forget the wonderful act of worship in which we participated.

The church was filled to capacity. It was a ticket event and tickets were sold out well in advance of the service. Reverend Stuart Earl introduced the service and welcomed the large audience which, on the first night, included The Lord Lieutenant of Durham, who was Guest of Honour.

There was an overhead projector which at appropriate times in the programme showed film of soldiers in the trenches and on the battlefield.

There was a variety of readings, which were read sensitively and extremely well by all 15 readers. Peter Jackson interjected the programme 8 times asking the question 'Why do we remember?'

and each time he gave an explanatory answer on that theme. Other readers read letters from soldiers to their families at home, and especially to their wives and mothers and indeed to all the women who kept the 'Home Fires Burning' whilst longing for their loved ones to return home. All the letters and readings were very thought provoking and in some cases had an air of nostalgia about them. They certainly brought home to us the futility of war and how fortunate we are to be living in a time of peace.

The Lanchester Choral Society, Male Voice Choir, and Lanchester Brass Band had all been invited to take part in the service. The choirs sang appropriate songs beautifully and sensitively while the band, conducted by its new Director of Music, Mr John Weirs, played a number of musical items



*Some of the 15 readers.*

appropriate for the occasion, in addition to accompanying the congregational hymns, 'I vow to thee my country' and 'The day Thou gavest Lord is ended'.

The final touch was provided by the Boys' Brigade, who paraded the Union Jack flags to the front of the church, after which Father Cornelius gave the Blessing. The band played The National Anthem bringing the service to a close.

At this point Reverend Stuart Earl thanked Eric for his tremendous effort over two years. He commented on how it had

brought our community together in a wonderful way and was a great witness for the Christian Faith. Eric then thanked all the people who had made Project Poppies so successful and he thanked

'Churches Together' who with David Hughes' guidance had planned and organised this special service of Remembrance. It really was a beautiful, dignified service!

*Brenda Craddock*



*Boys' Brigade Tom, Matthew, Daniel and Sam.*

## THE REMEMBRANCE EXHIBITION



The above poster was one of the exhibits in the Methodist Church, which was open to everyone in the week leading up to Remembrance Sunday and in the week following. 'Churches Together' organised the

refreshments and a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits were available throughout the exhibition.

There have been many, many visitors. They have enjoyed reading the stories about soldiers from Lanchester and surrounding district, whose

photographs were also shown. In addition there were photographs of old Lanchester and their connection with the war and an authentic Nurse's Uniform, along with other relevant artefacts. The exhibition evoked many

memories. One particularly poignant story was told of a mother whose 6 sons enlisted for the army. Five of them were killed and their mother wrote to the Home Office asking if her sixth son could be sent home

before he too was killed. Compassion was shown and so her sixth son came home.

Walking up the path of the chapel to the exhibition was enchanting in itself because in place of the green grass was a

carpet of beautiful red poppies on one side and a cross of poppies on the other. They were cascading, like a waterfall, from the church entrance onto the garden. It looked awesome!

*Brenda Craddock*



*Some of the WWI artefacts and stories of soldiers at the Exhibition.*

# REMEMBRANCE ON THE VILLAGE GREEN

This year because Remembrance Sunday fell on 11th November, it was decided that the annual service of Remembrance on the green would be held at 10.45 am, in order to have the two minute silence at exactly 11.00 am, being the time 100 years ago when the armistice was signed and the guns fell silent on the western front.

People gathered on the green after attending morning worship in their own churches. This proved to be a good time as many more people attended the service. Lanchester Brass Band were present as always to play quiet, reverent music before and after the service and to accompany the two hymns, 'Praise my soul the King of Heaven' and 'O God our help in ages past, our Hope for years to come'. A member of the band, Mr Mark Draper played 'The Last Post' after representatives of the



*The well-attended service on the green on Remembrance Sunday.*

organisations in our village walked up to the War Memorial to lay their wreaths there. Prayers were said by the clergy or representatives of our three village churches, before the singing of the National Anthem. As always it was a dignified occasion, befitting all those people who gave 'their tomorrows for our todays'. Our village will certainly never forget them. *Brenda Craddock*



*Part of the large crowd who gathered for the service.*

## SATLEY PARISH REMEMBERED

On Sunday 11th November, Satley village and the surrounding area came together to commemorate the end of World War I, all those who were 'lost', those who returned and those who took part in all conflicts since 1918. We also remembered

the animals sacrificed in all wars. A short service in St Cuthbert's Church, led by Catherine Lawes, was followed outside by horses, ponies and dogs with their riders and owners joining everyone on the village green. After the Last Post and 2 minute

silence 'to remember', County Councillor Mike McGaun and local resident Alistair Gibson laid wreaths. This was a very poignant

gathering of 26 horses and their riders, too many dogs to count, and an incredible representation of both young and old from our

local community 'lest we forget'. A big "Thank you" to all who took part.

**Photos by Tony Ingram (Satley resident)**



*Some of the horses, dogs and their owners at the Remembrance service.*



*Satley villagers and their animals gathered for their Remembrance.*

# BATTLE'S OVER - A NATION'S TRIBUTE

## WWI Beacons of Light

On Sunday 11th November at 7.00 pm Lanchester Parish Council and Burnhope Parish Council lit a beacon as part of the WWI Beacons of Light Event.

In commemoration and remembrance of the end of the war and the many millions who were killed or came home dreadfully wounded, Beacons of Light were lit throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and UK Overseas Territories - a century after the guns

fell silent. The event also commemorated the huge army of men and women on the home front who, often in dangerous and exhausting conditions, underpinned the war effort - keeping the wheels of industry turning, bringing the harvest home and ensuring the nation did not starve.

The event which took place at Burnhope Picnic Area attracted a large crowd.

John Atkinson-Millmoor played 'Battles O'er' on the Pipes,

Parish Councillor Ossie Johnson read out the 'Tribute to the Millions'

and Mark Draper played 'The Last Post' on the cornet. The beacon was

lit at 7 pm and burned brightly under a clear sky. *Sally Laverick*



Left to right: Mark Draper who played *The Last Post*, Councillor Ossie Johnson who read the tribute and piper John Atkinson-Millmoor. See also photo on back page.

## BUSY DAY FOR BELL RINGERS

Remembrance Sunday November 11th was a special day for the nation, being the Centenary of the end of the First World War and also for Lanchester for the wonderful displays of poppies round our churches. It was also a busy day for the bell ringers of All Saints' Parish Church who traditionally rang the bells half muffled as a matter of respect for the war dead, before the Armistice Service on the village green.

At 12.10 they climbed the tower again to ring a full peal of 8 bells unmuffled this time to celebrate the Centenary of the end of

the First World War, as many towers throughout the country were also ringing.

In the evening shortly after the Burnhope Beacon was lit, the 8 bells rang out again, this time as part of 'The Battles Over' a special national initiative and part of the international commemoration of the Centenary. A certificate as a sincere thank you was received by the ringers for their contribution to the project. Thank you to all the ringers who took part and for the many comments and compliments received in support of the ringing.



The bell ringers pose for a selfie after working so hard on Remembrance Sunday.

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# LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL

## Notes from the Ordinary Meeting held on 13th November 2018

**Minutes** - Ordinary meeting 9th October - approved.

**Police report** - on opposite page.

**Correspondence**

1. **Durham County Council - Proposed part time 20mph speed limit near St Bede's School** - received.

2. **Durham County Council - Proposed public bridleway at Red House Farm near Oxen Law** -

The proposed bridleway will avoid going through the centre of the farm. The Parish Council welcomes public access to the countryside.

3. **Campaign to Protect Rural England - Autumn newsletter, Clerk & Councils Direct - November magazine, War Memorials Trust - November bulletin** - received.

**Neighbourhood Plan** - Feedback on the second draft of the plan is due following which a further draft of the document will be prepared.

**The Lanchester Partnership - Single Use Plastics**

Councillors passed a resolution to support the campaign to address single use plastics.

**Morrison Busy Recycling Centre - Recycling Shop**

Durham County Council operate the recycling centre at the Morrison Busy. It was suggested that a recycling shop on site where electrical and other household items could be resold would be a good idea. It was agreed to explore this matter.

**Sign on gate on the Lanchester Valley Walk**

Members discussed a sign restricting public access on a gate on the Lanchester Valley Walk. This sign restricts public access into what is considered to be public land owned by the County Council. It was agreed that a letter is sent to the County Council requesting that this sign is removed.

**Manor Grange Play Area**

It was agreed that a site meeting is arranged with the County Council to consider the potential for the project including drainage issues, accessibility and design/costs of scheme. Depending on the outcome of the site meeting a lease/licence arrangement can be

progressed with the County Council.

**Lanchester Loneliness Project**

Members were provided with an update on the project which started a year ago to address loneliness in the community. The project initiated by the Patient Participation Group at The Medical Centre has involvement and support from the Area Action Partnership, County Councillors, Lanchester Partnership, Medical Centre, Parish Council and residents. The main aim of the project is to produce a document called the Lanchester Welcome Guide which will be circulated in spring 2019.

The Parish Council supports the work of the group.

**All Saints' Catholic Church - Grant for War Memorial Improvements** - donation of £165.00 agreed.

**Newsletter - November 2018** - agreed for distribution

**Christmas Light Switch On** - members were provided with an update on the event.

**Financial report** - discussed and approved. **Accounts for Payment** - approved.

The next Ordinary meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 11th December 2018 at Lynwood House at 7.15 pm.



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## WORKS CONTINUE



*A new hole in the road next to Lee Hill Court causes the usual traffic chaos. However, this is a continuation of the 'Flood Relief' programme for the benefit of the village.*



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## POLICE REPORT

This month the Police priority in the village has been antisocial behaviour. This follows a spate of issues whereby youths have been throwing eggs at addresses in Broadoak Drive, The Garths and Newbiggen Lane. Additional patrols have been carried out in these areas and a total of 17 teenage males have been spoken to and advised against such behaviour. None of the teenagers were found in possession of eggs or positively identified, however since these stops, no further issues have been reported. Graffiti appears to be on the increase in the village and sadly it is not the first time we have had to deal

with such matters this year. You may recall approximately six large oak trees were permanently damaged in Dora's Wood when two local teenage males took it upon themselves to spray paint these trees aged well over 100 years old. Needless to say with help from the local community these two males were identified and dealt with accordingly. Sadly though in the last 4-6 weeks we have seen graffiti return to the village in the form of right wing graffiti being found in local bus shelters and on park benches along the A691. This graffiti has now been removed however we are keen for anyone with information

of who may be responsible to get in touch so that local officers can address these issues positively and prevent further issues arising. Following on from the graffiti we have also seen vandalism when unknown person/s have damaged the wooden fox located near the A691. It appears on closer inspection that someone has used force to snap the wooden dowels keeping the fox in place. If you have any information in relation to these matters please give either PC2058 Iain Nelson or PCSO6780 Lisa Cullen-Jackson a ring on 101 or by emailing [lisa.cullen-jackson@durham.pnn.police.uk](mailto:lisa.cullen-jackson@durham.pnn.police.uk).

## PLASTIC FREE CHRISTMAS?

All I want for Christmas is for our oceans to be free from plastic. Rather a big ask - even from Santa!

OK, so we can't make that an instant reality but we could make a start. How about a Christmas that's as free as possible from throw away plastic? 'Oh haven't I got enough to think about', I hear you ask! Yes you probably have but a few small actions could help save us from drowning in plastic in the long run. Brown paper wrapping tied with colourful twine seems to be quite on trend right now. Try looking on 'plastic free' websites for

## PLASTIC FREE LANCHESTER SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE

gifts - there are some lovely things to be had - solid shampoo bars, bamboo cutlery and toothbrushes, long lasting drinks bottles and your own straw are but a few. Try exploring and see what you can find! Whatever each of us can do to continue to reject throw away plastic will help save future generations from a more polluted world. Plastic is causing problems for marine life already, anyone who watched

Blue Planet II will know this. Polluted oceans would eventually have an impact on human kind too! Don't be downhearted though - each of us can make some positive changes for the good of our future environment. There is a growing worldwide awareness about 'throw away' plastic - so you are not alone!! Happy (plastic free) Christmas  
*Plastic Free Lanchester Group*

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## £2500 RAISED BY ST BEDE'S FOR CHARITY

As always, the Catholic Life of St Bede's Catholic School & Sixth Form College has been a hive of activity. Guest speakers from charities including from a local foodbank, the Society of St Vincent De Paul, CAFOD, the Great North Air Ambulance and WaterAid shared stories with members of our school Chaplaincy Ambassadors who have on their behalf coordinated an amazing fundraising effort right across our school community. During the season of Lent, the Chaplaincy

Ambassadors gave each school tutor group a gift of £10 and students used their talents to invest the £10 in an enterprise activity to raise funds for chosen charities. Enterprises included an Easter egg tombola, 'Guess the name of the Easter Bunny' and Easter chocolate hampers. The collective fundraising efforts of the whole school community led to a wonderful lunch with the Chaplaincy Ambassadors and representatives from our five School Charities - the



*The School Chaplaincy Ambassadors presenting a £2500 cheque to the representatives of the 5 School Charities.*

Society of St Vincent De Paul, the Great North Air Ambulance, St Cuthbert's Care, CAFOD and Macmillan. On behalf of the whole school community, the Ambassadors were able to donate £500 to each charity. Over lunch, the representatives from the charities told our

Ambassadors how and where the money would be invested - for example on 500 information/support leaflets from Macmillan for families where a family member has been diagnosed with cancer. Other contrasting examples of how the money will be used were that some will go to

replenish stocks on board the Great North Ambulance as well as cash to support homeless and vulnerable people to access Blackfriars Vinnie Café run by the SVP. All of these were fantastic and worthwhile causes supported by all in our school community!

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## **ST BEDE'S HEAD BOY/GIRL - HELP?**

St Bede's are trying to trace ex-students who had the honour of being Head Boy or Girl. At the moment we have an accurate list of names from 1995-96, but prior to this date we are unclear of names and dates. If anyone knows of someone who was

Head Boy or Girl and the date, please contact Julia Underwood at [junderwood@stbedes.durham.sch.uk](mailto:junderwood@stbedes.durham.sch.uk) Neville Harrison, Headteacher, wants to display the names of all previous Head Boy/Girl on an honours board.

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# PUDSEY COMES TO LANCHESTER



A lot of happy students enjoyed taking part in the Dance on the Spot challenge on Friday 16th November.



Kate made sure Pudsey danced all afternoon!

On Friday November 16th, All Saints' Catholic School prepared for a very important day, for this was the date of this year's Children in Need appeal. The School Council had requested that this should be a 'Spotty Day' and students were invited to come to school wearing spots and 'Pudsey attire' instead of their usual school uniform. Pupils

accepted the invitation to join in a Dance on the Spot challenge, when the whole school made sure that Pudsey was kept dancing all afternoon. The youngsters obviously had a great day, dressed in their bright clothing with all donations and sponsorship money going to the Children in Need appeal. *Maisie Raine*

## LANCHESTER CALENDAR 2019 HITS THE STREET



Mike Stoddart (Distribution Manager) and Jan Taylor (Project Co-ordinator) bundle the copies of the calendar, ready for distribution.

The November launch of the Lanchester Calendar, 2019 - anticipated in the October 'Voice' - has been a success. Organised through Lanchester All Saints' Catholic Church, the calendar presents views

of Lanchester by local artists, using a range of styles and media. Copies are now available, price £5.00, from Lanchester Hardware, Lanchester News, New Image and the three churches in the village.

Copies will also be available, weather permitting, in a number of outdoor locations in the village. All the proceeds from this year's calendar will go to Willow Burn Hospice.



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## BE PART OF THE SHOW!

It's the time of year when most of us are planning for Christmas ... but for a group of individuals across County Durham other plans are in the making. This year Lanchester Agricultural Show was a huge success and the feedback the committee received from the public and other show organisers reflected this. To ensure we listen to the public, and continue to improve upon and deliver the best show we can, takes dedication and time. 2019 is already set to break all expectations, so why not be a part of it?

**LANCHESTER PEOPLE THIS IS YOUR SHOW** and so before the individual classes are set for the Industrial Tent there will be an opportunity to make any suggestions. So if you are a keen crafter (any crafts

- needle, knitting, felting, woodwork etc) bakers, come on Great British Bake Off enthusiasts, photographer or florist please send in your suggestions to the email below. If you belong to a group that may be interested in being involved please make contact - it's a great way of showcasing something you enjoy with a little healthy competition. There were some amazing entries last year.

This tradition will only continue with your support, so let's make next year the best yet with you as part of it. It is anticipated the schedule will be set by January 31st.

To make suggestions or for any further information please contact Justine on jus.1970@icloud.com.

## CHRISTIAN AID COFFEE MORNING



*Villagers attending the Christian Aid coffee morning, enjoying a convivial time.*

A coffee morning for Christian Aid was held on Saturday, October 20th at the Methodist Church. Together with the sale of bric a brac, books and cakes we raised £296.

Many thanks to all who contributed in any way.



*John and Bernadette Lowes peruse the 'Books and Puzzle' table at the Christian Aid coffee morning.*

## LANCHESTER AIMS FOR DEMENTIA FRIENDLY STATUS

Following an introductory meeting to examine what exactly is meant by a Dementia Friendly Community, a steering group of volunteers was formed and is working to ensure Lanchester fulfils the criteria to achieve that recognition. The Alzheimer's Society's programme encourages everyone in a city, town or village to share

responsibility in ensuring people with dementia feel understood, valued, and able to contribute to their community.

A recognition process enables communities to be officially acknowledged for their work in raising awareness of dementia and that work has begun in Lanchester. The programme supports people to live well with dementia, while

remaining a part of their community. Often, people affected by dementia feel that society doesn't understand their condition and how to interact with them, and sometimes, they feel they need to withdraw themselves from the community. Their carers should also be offered help and support too. Certain buildings used by the public will

undertake audits, improving accessibility and ensuring safety for everyone, checking that signs are very clear, especially for toilets and exits, and glass doors are clearly marked. A group will be set up for people with dementia and their carers, with the first event having a Christmas theme. Links will be set up with various organisations

such as Willow Burn, for support with their knowledge and experience, and community groups will be approached and their help requested. It's an old saying that 'It Takes a Village to Educate a Child' and Lanchester village has started on an exciting chapter of care and inclusion in our community.

*Maisie Raine*

## LONELINESS UPDATE 2018 Government Strategy

October 2018 saw the government (Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport) launch its Loneliness Strategy, 'A Connected Society. A Strategy for Tackling Loneliness - Laying the Foundations for Change'. Its content is similar to many of the messages highlighted in previous Village Voice articles.

'Loneliness doesn't discriminate'. That's why it's so important that we all take time to keep our social relationships strong, so we are better protected at vulnerable points in our lives when we can be at a particular risk of experiencing loneliness. 'Everyone can play a role in connecting and collaborating to tackle

loneliness'. Friends, families and communities are critically important, supported by government, the voluntary and community sector, local authorities and public/health services, and finally employers. Nine essential elements were identified: person centred with peer support; accessible and affordable

transport; localised focus and approach; destigmatise the issue; increased knowledge of resources; availability and range of resources; partnership working; mobilise the community, and co-production of services. The beneficial role of 'social prescribing' was also linked, put simply,

'enabling organisations to refer people to a range of services that offer support for social, emotional or practical needs'. Just as all of us can be affected by loneliness, so all of us can take action to help defeat it. Thinking about those 9 elements and connecting and collaborating ... what more can you do?

# HALLOWEEN AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE



*The children came looking wonderful in their spooky fancy dress costumes during the Halloween Movie Night at the Community Centre.*

On Sunday 28th October the Community Centre held a Halloween Movie Night for children. The children came looking wonderful in their spooky fancy dress costumes, ready for a competition and brought their amazingly carved pumpkins for an extra competition. The children enjoyed watching Fungus the Bogeyman while enjoying popcorn, cakes, hot dogs and juice. The Community Centre thanks everyone for getting involved and hopes to see you next year.

## HALLOWEEN CELEBRATED AROUND THE VILLAGE



*The Gray family arrive in a scary mood at Halloween.*



*The Bell and Kelly families do the rounds trick or treating.*



*Lacie and a fearsome looking Kailym came knocking on doors at Halloween.*



*Thank you to all who attended our Halloween Monsters Bash on Saturday 27th October at Lanchester Social Club!*



**‘The History of Wallington Hall’**

The Flower Club meeting held on Wednesday 24th October in Lanchester Community Centre was an extremely interesting slide show and talk by Jeff Hughes, on the history of Wallington Hall, which is now owned by the National Trust thanks to the benevolence of the Trevelyan family. Jeff is an excellent speaker who made the whole

afternoon interesting and very humorous in parts. The club had the usual raffle, tea and biscuits. A most relaxing and enjoyable afternoon. Visitors and new members are always welcome.

At our last meeting in October we were highly entertained by Norman Kirtland who managed to bring some humour into the very nasty world of capturing criminals by way of forensic science using his very talented artskill. He had us riveted to our seats for the full session. Coffee/tea and biscuits completed our afternoon as we continued to discuss the talk amongst ourselves.

On the 15th of this month we held a Coffee and Cake afternoon to raise funds for the Great North Air Ambulance (whose services were used at an accident outside St Bede’s a short while ago). A most enjoyable time was had by all and made approximately £313 for a good cause. A big thank you to everyone who helped, contributed or came to support.



*Norman Kirtland who explained ways of capturing criminals by way of forensic science to a fascinated audience.*

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*A good size crowd enjoyed some very tempting cakes while raising funds for the Great North Air Ambulance.*

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## YOUR COMMUNITY CENTRE NEEDS YOU!

raising.co.uk' site, enter Lanchester Community Centre in the 'search a cause' box, then simply shop as normal. Every time you buy something online, it raises funds for the Centre.

Join the Community Draw. It costs £1 a month for a number which is entered into the monthly prize draw. The money raised each month is halved between the winner of the draw and the Community Centre.

We have a supply of Loose Change Boxes in the display cases, simply take one home and fill it with all of the annoying small change that you take out of your purse or wallet before it bursts. Take it into the office when it's full, so easy. Enjoy a good book? We have a big selection of books for 50p each, every

little helps! Come in and browse.

Do you have a few hours a week/month to spare? Could you volunteer to help out? There is always something to do.

There have been lots of improvements carried out at the Centre lately, such as newly decorated areas, new look 'Information Point', updated audio/visual equipment and new signage.

Come and have a look around or contact one of our friendly team and see the great facilities we have to offer. Phone us; 01207 521275; email us at lanchestercommunitycentre@yahoo.co.uk; follow us on Facebook 'Lanchester Community Centre' or check out the website - lanchestercommunity.wix.com/lanchester. We are always happy to hear from you.

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## CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

An important element of the Christmas season is the festive fair, and Lanchester Community Centre held theirs on Saturday November 10th. Local traders and crafters set up their stalls early and there was a fine variety of goods on show for those shopping for Christmas gifts. Beautiful hand made cards, attractive toiletries, unusual jewellery, chutneys and jams ... a whole range of good things were for sale. Breads, cakes and savoury pies sold well, lovely Christmas tree ornaments and beautiful quilted crafts were admired. The visitors came early and obviously thoroughly enjoyed their festive shopping. Refreshments were served to those needing a seat and rest, and the



*Beating the crowds ... early shoppers browsed the stalls but the fair rapidly became busy!*



*A display of beautiful quilted craft items and attractive cushions - ideal gifts!*

bacon sandwiches were some festive retail therapy. Christmas is lovely morning and definitely on its way!

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# LANCHESTER WI ENJOY THEIR BIRTHDAY OUTING

Lanchester WI mark their birthday in the first week of November, always celebrating with a day of sightseeing, laughter and good company. This year's destination was Walwick Hall, set in the beautiful Northumberland countryside, and situated right on Hadrian's Wall. The estate was lovely at this time of the year and the house was welcoming with its comfortable lounges and warming

open fires. We were greeted with coffee and had time to relax before enjoying a fascinating Truffle Demonstration presented by Head Chef Steven Murray assisted by his pastry chef. We were presented with three recipes and given many insights and hints about producing the sweets. Then we moved into a beautiful dining room and enjoyed lunch, delicious and well presented.

After our leisurely meal, we moved back into the

comfortable lounge for more coffee and to sample the truffles we had watched being made. We left for home, nicely relaxed, just as darkness was falling. Another excellent day spent with friends!



Walwick's Head Chef Steven Murray and his Pastry Chef gave a fascinating insight into the making of delicious chocolate truffles, which we sampled afterwards!

## SATLEY WI REPORT

It was lovely to welcome two guests and our WI Advisor, Tina, to our AGM in November. Linda, our President, began by wishing our absent members a speedy recovery from their various health issues and we hope to see you all soon. The minutes and newsletter were discussed and we confirmed that a darts team will be entered into next year's competition. We reminisced about our birthday celebrations last month by looking at the photos that were taken and reading the thank you messages we had received from our guests. Members decided that we

will have our end of year meal in January, instead of December, and the venue will be decided at our next meeting. The committee members have arranged to visit The Jolly Drivers for their end of year celebration. Linda had produced a list of prospective speakers for next year and members were asked to indicate which they would like to hear. Kate Snowden was presented with the Competition Cup for 2018 beating our runner up, Avril Carpenter, by one point. They and our third placed member, Linda Horn, were presented with their prizes, all of which could be kept for many

years as mementos of the effort they made each month. The raffle was won by Freda and Grace. We then moved on to the AGM and listened to our Treasurer and Committee reports. Our President thanked our committee for all of their hard work during the year and hoped that 2019 would be a healthier year for our members. Tina then supervised the election of our President for 2019 and, surprise surprise, Linda was re-elected. Tina was thanked and presented with a gift on behalf of the members by Linda. We then enjoyed a shared supper and had a good natter.

**A Classic Christmas**

Enjoy a selection of festive favourites in the company of vocalists Amy Fudali and Colin Bailey with 'Tales from the Tree' told by Mark Cronfield as Saint Nicholas.

**LANCHESTER COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
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**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2018, 7.30pm**  
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# RACE NIGHT FOR WILLOW BURN

Around 50 people raised a whopping £800 for Willow Burn Hospice with a race night with a difference. The evening at the Community Centre in Lanchester on Saturday, October 27th, invited participants to bet on 'horses' pulled by string by hapless - in most cases - jockeys.

Instead of watching races on film, the committee in Lanchester which raises funds for Willow Burn had managed to borrow the string of horses



*Some of the people who attended the Race Night at the Community Centre and raised a magnificent £800 for Willow Burn Hospice.*

from a nearby Young Farmers club. Much merriment was caused but the real winner was Willow Burn. Catering was provided by Centurion. Neil McKay

## WILLOW BURN RECEIVES COUNTY DURHAM VOLUNTEERING AWARD

Willow Burn Hospice has recently received the County Durham Volunteering Kite Mark demonstrating that it meets standards to overcome barriers to volunteering, and recognises the value of recruiting and retaining volunteers.

The Kite Mark shows an organisation manages a volunteering programme where volunteers receive a high quality, positive volunteering experience. It will help volunteers to make informed choices when they apply to volunteer, and they can be reassured that Willow Burn has the correct policies and processes in place to offer a rewarding experience.

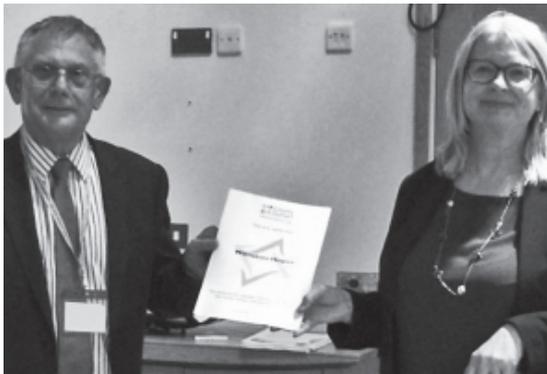
Willow Burn's volunteers are on the front line helping patients in the In Patient Unit and Health and Wellbeing Centre as well as working with families through the counselling and support services on offer.

Vicky Dale, Willow Burn's chief executive said: "We are delighted to achieve the County Durham Volunteer Kitemark as this recognises Willow Burn's commitment to supporting and valuing our volunteers, providing them with training, support and expenses to help them to continue to undertake this vital work. As Willow Burn expands over the next few months, the

opportunities for volunteers to get involved in every aspect of our work - whether it be working directly with patients and families, in our café or behind the scenes to provide admin support. We have

volunteer roles to suit everyone!" If you are interested in volunteering with Willow Burn please visit their website to see the range of opportunities available ([www.willowburn.co.uk/volunteering](http://www.willowburn.co.uk/volunteering))

or contact: Norah Loftus: telephone 0770 380 7382, email [nloftus@willowburnhospice.org.uk](mailto:nloftus@willowburnhospice.org.uk) Judy Birkenfield: telephone 0770 383 8974, email [jbirkenfield@willowburnhospice.org.uk](mailto:jbirkenfield@willowburnhospice.org.uk)



*Presentation of the award by Abby Thompson, Volunteering Development Manager, Durham Community Action to Paul Jackson, Chair of the Board of Trustees of Willow Burn.*

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# THOMAS BEWICK

## The Banksy of the 18th Century

The History Society enjoyed a humorous talk from Anthony Atkinson about the life of the well known local wood engraver and watercolourist, Thomas Bewick. Anthony opened the talk by sharing that in a local poll about famous people of the North East, Bewick had come 69th, unfortunately behind Cheryl Cole. This possibly forgotten northerner was internationally well known in his lifetime. He came from a relatively well off family, the eldest of 9 and educated at Mickley School. He wasn't happy at school, frequently playing truant, so his father asked the Rev Gregson, Vicar of Ovingham to educate him. His love of nature and skill for drawing led to him chalking on any surface available, walls, wood even headstones in the churchyard; hence linking him with the famous graffiti artist Banksy. He was apprenticed to Ralph Beilby, his indenture being for seven years and costing his father 20 guineas. This was in Newcastle near Amen Corner but Thomas wasn't a fan of town life. At 22 he won a national competition receiving a medal and £7 which he gave to his mother. He was driven by his love of nature and even walked 300 miles around the north and Scotland to see his heritage. He had his first drink in Scotland and developed a liking for the strong bitter, Porter. On his return he was asked to join his master and the Beilby and Bewick company was established. 1785 saw tragedy strike the family when his mother, father and sister died and he became the head of the family. He passed the family farm at Cherryburn to his brother who had been farming with his father. Thomas married Isabella and they had 3 daughters and one son but sadly none of his children married so there are no direct descendants of this prolific artist. More history is available at the Bewick Society website: [www.bewick-society.org](http://www.bewick-society.org)

# THE LOSS OF HISTORY

On 23rd October, an irreplaceable building within Lanchester was demolished - the former store building located in Lanchester Cemetery, Kitswell Road.

This was a simple, unobtrusive building and the loss of this type of inter-war civic building is disappointing given that there are so few good examples left within the county. The building formed part of the original cemetery layout, creating a focal point at the entrance to the site. In my opinion, this building was worthy of a formal listing as an example of Local Authority Architecture which is now sadly disappearing. However, as it fell outside the

Lanchester Conservation Area, it was not automatically protected from demolition and no formal permission was required for its destruction.

Although unused for a number of years, the building was still in a reasonable state of repair and the decision to demolish the building was short-sighted. As Durham County Council clearly had no further use for the building; it could have been placed upon the open market, being ideally positioned to create a small office or even a dwelling. This would not only have generated additional revenue for Durham County Council but would have saved the

building for future generations.

I should make it clear that I am not opposed to development - but development should always be tempered with a respect for the past, a hope for the future and a joy of the present. Progression should reflect an appreciation of the buildings that hold a place within our hearts and those that have gone before us. They are never just bricks and mortar, rather they are the scenery and backdrop of our lives. The loss of such a seemingly unimportant building is a loss to the historic form of the village, the subtle web of construction created through the centuries.

*Peter J Elder, Architect*



Image of the former building (taken from Google Maps)



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Tuesday 4th December	Africa, Middle East
Friday 7th December	Cyprus, Malta, Asia, Far East, Eastern Europe (except Poland, Czech Republic and Slovakia)
Saturday 8th December	Caribbean, Central and South America
Monday 10th December	Greece, Turkey, Australia, New Zealand
Friday 14th December	Canada, Czech Republic, Italy, Poland and USA
Saturday 15th December	Finland, Sweden
Monday 17th December	Austria, Denmark, Germany, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland
Tuesday 18th December	Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg

# BE A MINDFUL DRINKER THIS CHRISTMAS



## Lanchester Medical Centre

Lanchester Patient Participation Group

To be mindful about drinking is to think about alcohol, plan what you are going to drink, thereby enjoying the taste far more than drinking without thinking. How often have you been relaxing in front of the television and, before you realise it the bottle or bottles are empty. Special events such as Christmas are associated with the consumption of extra food and booze, our shopping list possibly includes extra for us and a bit more just in case someone calls.

**Fun spoiler** - It is easy to think, especially in the younger age group, these limits are there just to spoil your fun. But really, do you want to wake up the next day feeling rubbish with anxious thoughts, "What did I say?" "Who did I offend?" "How did I get home?" This is the fun spoiler of Christmas!

The guidelines were revised because new evidence had emerged as to the harm that alcohol causes your body.

**Regular drinking** - most of us know that men and women should drink no more than 14 units per

week spread over 3 days. This is equivalent to 6 average-strength beers or 10 small glasses of wine. Drink less than 14 units a week and you are considered 'low risk' rather than 'safe' - there is no safe limit.

**How long to sober up?** Based on averages, alcohol in urine can be detected up to 24 hours after your last drink; the liver processes 1 unit of alcohol per hour. This means if you drink 12 units it will take 12 hours to sober up and you are not safe to drive until then.

**Frightening facts** - illnesses that can develop from regularly drinking more than 14 units a week include cancer, heart disease, a stroke, brain damage, nerve damage and liver disease. The risks depend on how much you drink and over how many years you drink. Drinking during pregnancy can cause long-term harm to your baby.

**Be mindful** - think and plan what and when you are going to drink. If you are going to drink in the evening then don't drink during the day. Find a drink, including a non-alcoholic drink that you really like, drink it slowly and enjoy its taste and you will be drinking less and enjoying it more.

**A merry and safe Christmas from us all at Lanchester Medical Centre.**



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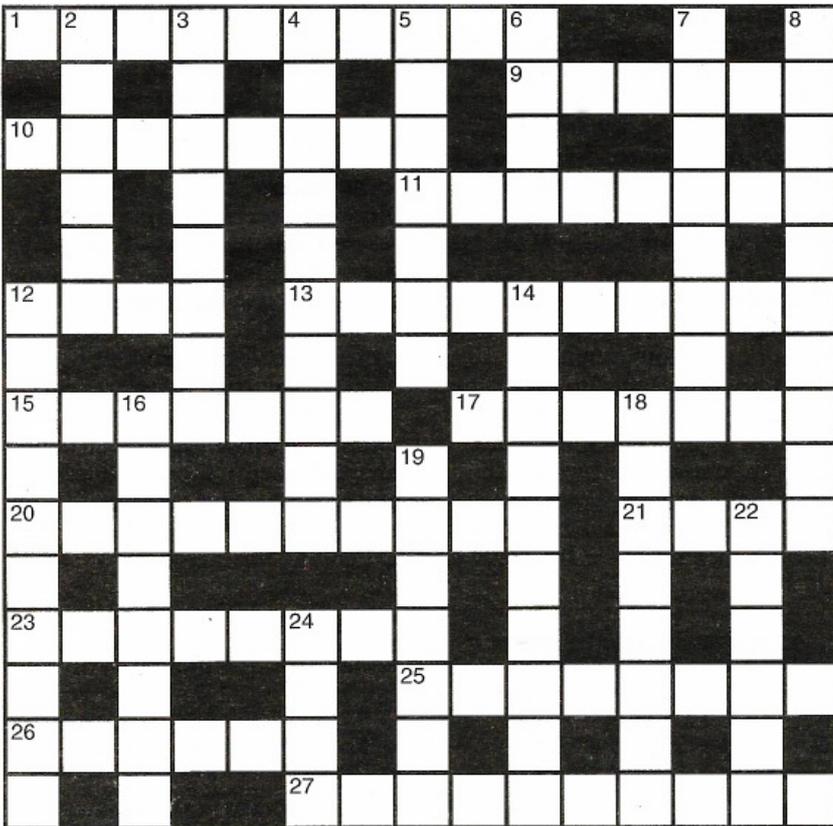
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# CROSSWORD 151



## ACROSS

1. Exasperated (10)
9. South American mammal (6)
10. Run-down (8)
11. First class (3-5)
12. Northern Irish lough (4)
13. Self-absorption (10)
15. Obvious (7)
17. Saying (7)
20. Upsets (10)
21. Feeble (4)
23. Hearing (8)
25. Tester (8)
26. Uneasy (2,4)
27. Falling (10)

## DOWN

2. Joint (6)
3. Neuralgia (4,4)
4. Aversion (10)
5. Shreds (7)
6. Moist (4)
7. Not fully employed (4-4)
8. A moth fable is clear (10)
12. Change made in note (10)
14. Where the ferry from Pembroke to South East Ireland arrives (2,8)
16. Enthused (8)
18. Maligned (8)
19. Ineffectual (7)
22. Contemporary (6)
24. Require (4)

## ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 150

### ACROSS

1. oppose
5. as well
10. confront
11. abated
12. archetypal
14. gist
15. as the crow flies
18. meteorological
20. stop
22. immunology
24. bearer
25. travesty
27. pedant
28. legend

### DOWN

2. procreate
- 3,19. off limits
4. E-boat
6. scallywag
7. evangelical
8. Leeds
9. stupor
13. hot tempered
16. earlier on
17. enlighten
19. See 3
21. twerp
23. Niall
26. erg

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 150

There were 22 entries in last month's crossword competition. Congratulations to B Whittingham of Greenwell Park who was the winner in the draw and will receive the £10 prize.

## LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU ANSWER

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

## 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.

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

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# WALKS WITH BROCK



One walk which I enjoy very much is called Cuddys Corse. It is apparently the route the monks took when they carried the body of St Cuthbert from Chester-le-Street to Durham.

And so we set off from the car park at Riverside, Chester-le-Street, walking across a footpath over a bridge, after which we turned left, and left again to go under said bridge beneath the shadow of Lumley Castle.

The walk took us firstly along a narrow footpath next to the River Wear. I always find river banks are full of interesting smells so I am afraid I held my Human up a wee bit while I went off to explore. From there we walked to the left and across a stile then up a field to another stile. We turned right at that stile and walked along a ploughed field with panoramic views to the right of the Riverside cricket ground. The Human seemed quite excited by the view, and also said he could see the

Angel of the North behind him.

I was more interested in exploring the hedgerows, but after turning left and walking adjacent to another hedge we came to the village of Great Lumley.

From there we turned right, past a housing estate where I could read (not a lot of dogs have mastered that skill) the streets were named after cathedral cities such as Canterbury and Winchester.

From there we turned right before a football field, along a footpath across another field until we reached a road. We turned right at the road and walked for around 300 yards to a junction with another road, where we turned left.

After a short while we turned right and walked down steep steps through a wood, where again there were lots of interesting scents. At the bottom of the steps we walked a short way along a river bank to a footbridge, then across the footbridge spanning the River Wear to a place called Finchale Abbey.

There at a small café the Human stopped for a cup of tea, leaving me tied to railings looking at a sign

saying Dogs Must be Kept on Leads.

After he finished his tea the Human led me along a long uphill road which was not particularly interesting, and ended up at a rather forbidding building which I learnt was Frankland Prison.

We continued along the side of the prison until I heard the sound of barking dogs from nearby boarding kennels. After pausing for a loud bark in the kennels' direction, we continued along a footpath which was very pleasant, passed a farm with a rather fierce looking bull in a field.

From there it was along another farm track which joined a road and I discovered we were passing Crook Hall and Gardens.

From there we walked alongside the River Wear and across the Pennyferry footbridge to a car park. We should have, by rights, continued to the Cathedral which I had seen on the walk, but the Human had arranged for another of his kind to pick us up at the car park opposite the new swimming baths and drive us back to Chester-le-Street.

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### Beef and Bean Hotpot Bake

Beef and baked beans are a great combination, add a sliced potato topping and this is great comfort food for cold winter days!

Cooking time under 2 hours.

#### You need, to serve 4 ...

750g lean stewing beef, all visible fat removed, cubed  
2 large onions, peeled and roughly chopped  
450g carrots, peeled and roughly chopped  
1 level tbsp plain flour  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

200 ml boiling hot beef stock

2 tsp Worcestershire sauce

400 g baked beans

2 bay leaves

600 g potatoes, peeled and very thinly sliced

#### METHOD

1) Preheat the oven to 180C/Fan 160C/Gas 4.

2) Place the beef, onions, carrots and flour in a baking dish, season and toss to mix well.

3) Pour in the boiling hot stock then add the

Worcestershire sauce, baked beans and bay leaves. Stir to mix well and arrange the sliced potatoes on top of the meat mixture.

4) Cover with foil then place in the oven for about 1½ hours or until the potatoes are cooked and tender.

5) Remove the foil, then turn the oven up high to brown the potatoes, or finish under the grill for 5-8 minutes until brown.

*Talking Heads* Est 18 years

*Merry Christmas*

and a Happy New Year to all our clients from Jenni and Shannon

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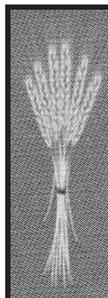
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# WHAT'S ON?

## Gala Concert

There is to be a Gala Christmas Concert in the Community Centre on Saturday December 8th, at 7.00 pm with the Brass Band and music from our village schools.

The Brass Band is 40 years old this year so this is an Anniversary Concert as well as a Christmas Concert.

The two Primary Schools in the village are each providing a Choir and this will be built in to the programme.

Lanchester Brass Band will take a prominent part in the concert with their own items and will accompany the carols which the audience will be asked to join in with.

Refreshments: Tea/Coffee at the interval. Tickets £5. Proceeds for charity.

## Riverside Musical Theatre

Present our Christmas Pantomime - Camelot.

Written by Ben Crocker, Camelot will entertain adults and children alike. Evening performances from: Wednesday 12th to Friday 14th December at 7.15pm.

Saturday matinee performance on 15th December at 2.30pm.

Venue: Park View Theatre, Chester le Street DH3 3PZ

Our very special group offer to you:

Buy 10 tickets, get 1 free 11 - 20 tickets £8 each.

All tickets are usually £10. Family tickets for 4 are available for £35.

Contact us now to avoid disappointment.

To reserve/book tickets please telephone 0191 3857500 or email [rmtc2018@outlook.com](mailto:rmtc2018@outlook.com).

Why not check out our Facebook page Riverside Musical Theatre Company Facebook.

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## Community Centre

### Coffee Morning

The next monthly coffee morning will be on Thursday 13th December 10.30 - 11am.

### Theatre

Join us on Sunday 16th December at 7.30 pm for 'A Classic Christmas', a theatre production from the actors originally involved with North Country Theatre.

Tickets £12 available from the Community Centre and Lanchester News.

### Lacemaking

In the upstairs room, on Mondays from 10.00 am - 12.00 noon and Fridays 7.00 - 9.00pm.

### Needlecraft

On Wednesdays 1.00 - 3.00 pm.

## Musical Memories

### Dementia Friendly Sing Song

Lanchester's Dementia Friendly Communities initiative is hosting a Christmas get together with singing and refreshments on Thursday 20th December 2-4 pm in Lynwood House, Lanchester.

If you enjoy singing but your memory is not what it used to be, or you support someone with memory loss or a form of dementia, please join us for fun and information. We are hoping to make this a regular event. There is no charge but donations will be accepted.

**Places are limited.**

**To book, or for further information, call Rebecca on 0191 3893179.**

## Sunday Bridge

In the Community Centre on 9th December at 2.00 pm. The entrance fee is £3.00 and all profits to the Community Centre.

## Lanchester Partnership

### The Buzzing Lunch

is on Wednesday December 5th at Lynwood House from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm. Tickets £4.00 are available from the Red Cross Shop, Karen Bravington, on the bus, or at the door.

This is a buffet lunch in aid of the Lanchester Link Bus which runs every weekday morning. It is a Lanchester Partnership project that has been running since April 2001 and now costs £1000 a month to run.

So come along for good food, good chat and lively company, knowing that you are helping to keep the bus running.

### A capella

'The Happy Mondays', Lanchester's A capella group meets every Monday morning at 10.30 till 12 in the Chapter House of All Saints. Everyone welcome.

## Junior/Family Wildlife Group

Our next meeting will be on Sunday 9th December at Saltholme. Meet in the Community Centre car park at 9.30am.

## Open House

Join us in the Chapter House of the Parish Church on Thursday 6th December 11.30 am until 1.00 pm.

## Celebration of Christmas

The Chairman and members of Lanchester Male Voice Choir invite you to join them and Lanchester Choral Society for an evening of Carols in the Methodist Church on Monday 17th December - 7.15 pm (for 7.30). There will be a collection in aid of local charities.

## Paradiso Club Christmas Social

This will be held on Sunday December 9th in the Main Hall of the Community Centre at 7 pm. There will be a raffle, refreshments and the screening of the film, 'PADDINGTON 2'. Before the show, which begins at 7.30 pm, there will also be a DVD sale of some of the films we have shown over the past year. These can make good Christmas presents or stocking fillers!

PADDINGTON 2 is feel-good family entertainment, described as an antidote for anyone who finds our present modern world a bit wearing. It is full of charm and humour. All are welcome.

Entry tickets:

£2.50 for members

£3.50 occasional visitors

£2.00 young persons.

The entry ticket covers the raffle, refreshments and film show.

## Lanchester Social Club

Entertainment for December

Sat 1st Kat Murray

Sat 8th Kelvin James

Sat 15th Ray Ryan

Sat 22nd Linzi Hunter

Sat 29th Lance Newman.

Saturday 15th December - Christmas Jumper Competition

New Year's Day Tickets available from the bar during opening hours.

Live music from The Lianne Rivers Band and special guest soloist Stephz. Tickets £6.

## Satley WI

Our next meeting will be held in Satley Parish Hall on December 10th at 7.15. We will be making Christmas table decorations and enjoying homemade soup. Please feel free to come and join us.

## Library Book Club

On Monday December 17th 2.30-3.30 pm the group will be discussing 'Water for Elephants' by Sara Gruen. "An imaginative modern fairy story, teeming with eccentric characters." (The Times). If you have read this novel do come along and join in with the discussion.

### Thursday Book Club

On Thursday December 13th from 5.30-6.30 pm, the group will be discussing 'The Behaviour of Moths' by Poppy Adams, a story about the reunion of two batty sisters in their huge crumbling house sounds interesting! If you would like to join this new group, pop into the library and pick up this book and join in the discussion.

### Chatterbooks

Monday 10th December from 3.45-4.30pm.

If your child likes books this session is suitable for 5-11 year olds. A theme around a book is chosen and there are craft activities that complement the book, which is shared with the group.

### Toddler Time Sessions

for Under Fives, every Thursday between 2 and 3pm. Come along to this social time for you and your child to enjoy music, songs and rhymes.

## Cuppa and Company

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 11th December 12 noon to 2 pm, in Lynwood House. If anyone new would like to join can they call 07808 243720.

Barbara Webb

## Wildlife Group

The next meeting on Tuesday 11th December will be our AGM followed by a Wildlife Quiz.

Meet at 7.30 pm in the Community Centre dining room.

## Lanchester WI Thursday Club

Our next meeting will be held on Monday December 3rd, in our usual hall in the Community Centre. This is one of the most popular events in our diary, when we enjoy our Members Christmas Party, a festive evening of music, fun and food. We share a lovely Faith Supper, and we would like to remind everyone to remember their contribution! Members of Lanchester WI would like to wish each other, and all our friends, a very Happy Christmas and a really good 2019. Looking forward to another year full of events, visits, learning and friendship.

## Local History Society

Christmas Quiz and Social Evening

Date: Friday

Time: 7pm

Venue: Lanchester Community Centre.

Come along and join us for Cheese, Wine and nibbles with a quiz and other activities. For more information contact the History Society at [marianmorrison@btinternet.com](mailto:marianmorrison@btinternet.com).

Coming up in December we have our Christmas outing to Ramside Hall on WEDNESDAY, December 5th. We shall be leaving the village at 11.15am, catching the bus from near Cooplands bakery.

On the 13th our December meeting will take place in the Small Hall of the Community Centre at 1.30 pm. It will be a Christmas meeting of readings, carols and a quiz with sherry and mince pies to get us in the mood for Christmas. It would be appreciated if 2019 subs of £13 could be paid to Liz at either of these events.

## Mothers Union

On Friday 7th December there will be a Christmas Lunch at the Kings Head 12.00 for 12.30pm.

There will be an Advent Service on Wednesday 12th December at 7.30pm in the Parish Church. Refreshments afterwards in the Chapter House.

## Christmas Concert

On Thursday December 6th at 7.30pm in All Saints' Parish Church Music Group will present a Christmas Concert.

## CRICKET NEWS

The Club was rocked by the sudden serious illness that affected first team captain Stuart McPhail but thankfully Stu has battled hard and is on the mend. Stu, Hannah and the families of both, would like to thank everyone for their messages and support during a difficult time.

The annual general meeting of the club will be held on Sunday 25th November and during it the committee will announce a partnership with Centurion Lanchester. Helen and Vicky will base their events company within the club and deliver some events from there whilst looking to cover outside catering, private parties and other functions.

As in previous years, the club will hold a

Christmas Prize draw with a great selection of prizes available. Tickets available from committee members or from behind the bar and prizes drawn on Friday 21st December. On the cricket side of things, the club has been awarded the Chance to Shine scheme by the Durham Cricket Board which will bring a cricket focus to local primary schools in 2019. More details to be published in a future edition.

We will also definitely have Cricket All Stars in 2019, with everything in place for this fun programme for 5-9 year olds. Again details will be published in 2019.

It just remains to wish you all a Merry Christmas from the Committee of the Cricket Club.

## Gin Festival

Following on from the success of last year's gin festivals, the Cricket Club in partnership with Pip Stop and Centurion are holding the event again this year on Friday 14th December. Tickets cost only £6 but must be bought in advance either at the Club or online through Eventbrite. Centurion will also provide a tapas option for £6. Again this must be bought in advance for obvious reasons. The Club is limited in the numbers it can hold, so tickets should be bought early to guarantee a place. Pip Stop will supply a variety of gins and tonics to go with them, as well as sending along David whose knowledge of the right pairings is invaluable to the connoisseur or just a lover of gin.

## TOP RANKINGS FOR TENNIS JUNIORS



Lanchester Tennis Club's junior squad with Coaches Sam Stokoe and Dennis Laycock

Two of Lanchester Lawn Tennis Club's juniors are currently in the top five players in the under 8 league rankings at David Lloyd, Teesside. Luke Burton is, in fact, the number 1 ranked player, with Liam Morrisroe at number 4, a fantastic achievement considering they are playing against opponents from large tennis centres like David Lloyd and Tennis World. Although the team has

yet to win a match, the scores are close, and overall they are getting closer to beating the best. Well done to the squad of Luke, Liam, Molly Reeks, Henry White and Ellen Filmer.

## Other news

The club has held its annual general meeting on 17th November and Jane Laycock stood down from chairperson with Ursula Heale taking over. The fees remain the same

for 2019. Thanks were expressed to all that contributed to keeping the club at the forefront of sporting activities in the area.

Junior coaching is continuing indoors at Langley Park Primary school on Monday evenings from 5 pm. Full details can be obtained from head coach Sam Stokoe, ([Sam@dcto.org.uk](mailto:Sam@dcto.org.uk) or 07493032229).

## LADIES WHO LUNCH

We've just had a lovely lunch - we've been back to Walwick Hall. The journey to get there is a delight and then, it was just a matter of luxuriating in the welcoming ambience of exquisite Walwick Hall.

Menus arrived and we chose for starters, Chicken liver paté with homemade chutney and brioche. Mains were Maple cured pork chop with mash, creamed leeks, mushrooms and black pudding crumbs, Traditional beer battered cod and chips with mushy peas and tartare sauce, Ox cheek bourguignon,

shallot purée, pearl onion, chestnut mushrooms, pancetta and creamed potatoes and Walwick super food salad with prawns. Puds were Apple and cinnamon crumble, Tiramisu, Sticky toffee and Dark choc brownie with choc sauce and raspberry ripple ice cream. The food matches the surroundings and all that can be heard around the table are appreciative noises of everyone enjoying their meal.

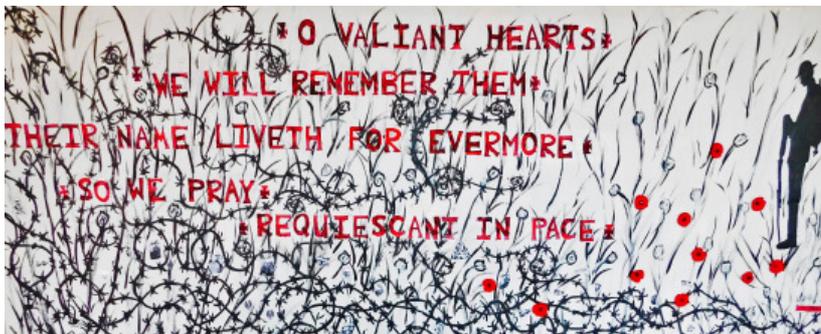
Walwick Hall definitely has a touch of class and total indulgence and boy, do we love to be indulged!

**The Gourmet Girls**

# 'LEST WE FORGET'



At the Beacon event which took place at the Burnhope picnic area on Remembrance Sunday evening, the piper was John Atkinson-Millmoor and The Last Post was played by Mark Draper. The tribute to the millions was read by Councillor Ossie Johnson. **Photo: Paul Winship**



Silent Soldier - O Valiant Hearts, a mural painted on a wall in the Parish Centre of All Saints' RC Church by Michael Quigley. **Photo: Brian Atkinson**



Another stunning picture of Poppies cascading from the roof of the Methodist Church. **Photo: Brian Oram**



For the Fallen - Remembered Forever, an arrangement of Poppies in All Saints' RC Church by Margaret Woods and Sharon Murray. **Photo: Brian Atkinson**

## EARLY DEADLINE

Please send any **articles** for the next edition of the Village Voice by Tuesday 11th December. The deadline for **adverts** is Friday 7th December.

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