

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 2 Volume 20

Lanchester, February 2019

For contact information, see page 2

LANCHESTER CELEBRATES CHINESE NEW YEAR



A now traditional taste of the Orient came to Lanchester on Saturday, February 9th, to celebrate Chinese New Year.

The Chinese New Year, also known as the Spring Festival, attracted a colourful procession outside the Golden Valley takeaway led by a lion, with noisy firecrackers let off to ward off evil spirits.

The actual date for the start of the celebrations of The Year of the Pig was February 5th this year, but the procession was held on Saturday, a day before a huge and noisy parade in Newcastle's Chinatown.

Winnie Wu, from the Golden Valley, said: "The Chinese New Year parade is getting very popular in Lanchester, people had travelled from as far afield as South Shields to watch it this year. The same people apparently came last year too."

Neil McKay

A large crowd gathers to celebrate the Chinese New Year of the Pig with the colourful Lion dance, outside the Golden Valley.



The Lion dances towards the lucky lettuce hanging from the entrance of the Golden Valley.



The Lion greets Winnie, Jason and Aiden at the counter of the Golden Valley.



All it takes is practice. Aiden, a Lion drummer of the future perhaps!



Family and friends with the very talented Lion dance team.



Dear Village....

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
The family of the late Doreen Maguire would like to thank all who attended the services at All Saints' Church and Mountsett Crematorium for their kind thoughts and condolences. A grand total of £230 was raised in her memory and donated to the British Heart Foundation. Thank you. We would also like to express our gratitude to the Co-op for their professional services and compassion throughout our sad loss, also to Lanchester Social Club whose staff made us feel most welcome and all who were there appreciated their efforts on the family's behalf.
Mrs Maureen Walton (Doreen Maguire's daughter)

Dear Village Voice
I would like to say thank you to family and friends who have sent cards of good wishes and flowers and kindly given me gifts for our new home. It is a month now since we moved to the village of Leadhills, South Lanarkshire. The girls are getting used to all the amazing walks on our doorstep, and I'm getting involved in village activities. I've joined a stained glass class, yoga class and attend the weekly coffee morning at the world's oldest library. Thank you again for all your support in our new adventure and if you happen to be passing on your way to Scotland, please stop off at Leadhills and look us up. I'll have the kettle on as I have eventually found it.
Ann Rowe, Tara & Skye Rowe (K9s)

Community Draw

The winning number in the Community Draw for January was 43. The draw was made by B McDermid (Gym member).

Healthwatch Co Durham

The NHS has recently published their 'Ten Year Plan'. For details, please visit [healthwatch countydurham.co.uk](http://healthwatch.countydurham.co.uk) and open the link.
Brian Jackson, Chair

View the Village Voice online at www.lanchester.villagevoice.co.uk

THE VILLAGE VOICE

IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

A Heartfelt Thank You from the Family of John Wills



John Wills

Our lives changed forever on 22nd January this year, when John was taken from us. He had been diagnosed with dementia but until last summer had coped very well and looked after his beloved wife Pat who also has the condition. They moved together into Greenways Court Care Home in November, where they received the highest quality care from an amazing team of staff. Sadly, his condition continued to deteriorate very quickly and he suffered a stroke shortly before he died.
John was a very well-known member of the Lanchester community, with longstanding connections with many organisations including Lanchester Male Voice Choir, Community Centre and Methodist Church, as well as having a lifelong involvement with the Scouting Movement. He was often to be seen cycling along 'the line' until just a few years ago,

and was always willing to offer help wherever he could. We would like to thank everyone who joined us at John's funeral to help us celebrate his life and share our memories. He would have been so pleased to know how many people care. In particular, we would like to thank Reverend Stuart Earl for helping us with such a lovely service, Lanchester Male Voice Choir for singing so beautifully, Stuart Eaton and Bryan Johnson for their readings in the service and members of Derwentside Scouts for providing such a respectful Guard of Honour at the church. Our thanks are also extended to the staff at Lanchester Community Centre who gave their time to make sure everyone got a cup of tea, the members of Lanchester Methodist Church who looked after things on our behalf and to David and his team at Go As You Please Funeral Directors who looked after John and who supported us with such respect and compassion. We would also like to thank everyone who generously donated to charity in memory of John. We have been able to give £300 to Alzheimer's Research and £300 to Lanchester Community Centre in John's memory. We have a Memory Book and would love anyone else who would like to record a special memory of John to get in touch via email at christine.dunn@btinternet.com or phone on 07940 918289.

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.

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CPRE PREPARED TO FIGHT ON

A Conservation group has pledged to support residents of Lanchester if they need to resume a fight against controversial plans to build on land off Newbiggen Lane. The Campaign to Protect Rural England says it will continue to keep a watchful eye for any proposals to develop on some of the greenest fields in County Durham. Story Homes had asked Durham County Council to include a provision in the new draft Local Plan for up to 100 homes on the site, despite having previous plans for an even bigger development on the land rejected. In the end, the Council decided

against including the developers' proposal, describing it as: "An unacceptable incursion into the open countryside on greenfield land". That was a decision which was welcomed by members of the Campaign to Protect Rural England, which fought Story's original application and plan to do so again if another comes before the council. Richard Cowen, Chair of the Campaign to Protect Rural England North East, said: "We noted Story Homes' continuing interest in land at Newbiggen Lane in Lanchester and are glad that their suggestion the land be deemed suitable for 100 homes has not been included in the

Local Plan. In 2016, Government Inspector rejected an application from Story Homes, which readers may remember was opposed by 1,800 residents as well as numerous organisations and public bodies in Lanchester. The Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment has made it clear the fields are 'unsuitable for development', while the Durham plan due to go before the Inspectorate in early 2019 states there should be no major developments in Lanchester. We have had a flurry of applications for housing sites across Durham - possibly because developers want to get their applications

in before Local Plans are made and their sites are not included. It's no surprise that Story Homes don't want to give up on what would be a very lucrative development from their point of view in Lanchester and a very inappropriate one from ours. We will continue to monitor the situation regarding Newbiggen Lane and will, like so many other groups and individuals, oppose any inappropriate development there." The Lanchester Neighbourhood Plan due to be ratified shortly also opposes building on the site. Story Homes declined to comment. *Neil McKay*

POST OFFICE MOVE

The long-awaited move of Lanchester Post Office across the road to the Spar store should finally take place in April. Last year villagers were advised by The Post Office that the change was likely to have been put in place by the end of last year (2018). A lack of disabled access caused the postponement of such a move back in 2016. The addition of a portable ramp is expected to see the transfer go ahead this April. The Post Office says it is updating its branches to provide a "modern and friendly environment often over longer hours including Sundays". The Post Office counter at Spar will be open for a longer time than at the newsagents, from 8 am to 9 pm seven days a week.

RUN FOR US!



Are you signing up to enter the Great North Run this year? Why not use your hard work and training for the good of your local community by raising money, through sponsorship, for your Community Centre to help to finance the ongoing refurbishments. If you would like to 'Run for Us' please let us know and we can advertise this through our Facebook page. If you know of, or are taking part in any other events where you could

raise money for us through sponsorship, please get in touch. For example, Blade Taekwondo are kindly arranging a charity bike ride in May. The money raised is going towards our main improvement programme this year, modernising the washrooms. The cost is substantial, around £10,000 in total, so any help will be greatly appreciated. On a sad note, John Wills and Arthur Dodds, who were both respected members of the village and both great supporters of the Community Centre, have died. Our thoughts are with their families at

this difficult time, but we hope that they can be comforted by the knowledge that John and Arthur's hard work and actions are very much appreciated and recognised as a huge contribution in making the Centre the success it is today. Why not come and have a look around and see the great facilities we have to offer, or contact one of our friendly team and have a chat about the classes and groups that you could join. You can contact us by phone; 01207 521275; email us at lanchestercommunity@outlook.com; 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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DEDICATION OF THE TRIPTYCH

On Sunday, January 27th, the Bishop of Durham came to All Saints' Parish Church for a special occasion, to dedicate 'The Lanchester Triptych', the work of Mrs Judith Hurst in collaboration with her husband John, both Lanchester residents and very creative. Judith took the commission of the triptych a year ago, as part of a bequest to the church by

Carol and Colin Morcam in memory of Carol's mother Ellen 'Jane' Thompson and her husband Kenneth 'Ken'. Jane and Ken were well known and respected residents of Lanchester who worshipped at All Saints' Parish Church. They will always be fondly remembered. A number of relatives, friends and former teaching colleagues, joined the congregation,

as the Bishop of Durham blessed and dedicated the triptych, which is a beautiful, sacred work of art. He placed it upon the altar of the Lady Chapel, the correct place for a work of its kind. The painting involves the history and wildlife of Lanchester Parish Church and its surroundings. Judith has described it as "a real joy to create". It has exquisite detail and



Bishop Paul, Judith and John Hurst in front of the triptych.

woven very cleverly into the design are details of significance in the lives of Carol's parents. They would certainly have loved this very special memorial to them.

Lanchester Parish Church is very proud to have ownership of this beautiful triptych. It will be treasured and enjoyed for many, many years to come. *Brenda Craddock*



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MUSICAL MEMORIES



Singing together, and in the round, learning a new song and enjoying a dance - thanks to everyone who came along and joined in our latest Musical Memories event at Lynwood House!

NORTHERN CONSORT TO BRING NEW LIGHT TO 'MESSIAH'

The Northern Consort will perform Handel's well-loved masterpiece, Messiah, on Saturday 23rd March at 7.30 pm in Lanchester Methodist Church, in aid of the Mercy Ships.

The Northern Consort is a recently-formed vocal group of ten singers, whose aim is to bring freshness and a real sense of communication to their performances. Members of the group are local professional singers, many from Durham Cathedral. They will be joined by a chamber orchestra of professional players. The performance will be directed by Simon Lee and Lanchester resident Andrew Fowler.

Simon explains, "The Northern Consort's vibrant and enthusiastic performances aim to connect with audiences and show them details of the music they might never have heard before."

Handel's Messiah is packed full with wonderful solos and choruses - who can forget the majesty of The Trumpet Shall Sound, the haunting tenderness of I Know that my Redeemer Liveth or the drama of the Hallelujah chorus? But the beauty of the music often struggles to emerge from the heavy approach of large choral societies. In The Northern Consort's performance, with only two or three

voices to each part, the brilliance of the music is obvious and every detail comes to life. Handel's Messiah comes through as fresh and vivid as the day it was first performed in 1742.

This concert builds on Andrew Fowler's previous performances of Messiah in Lanchester Methodist Church, six years ago, which were standing room only. The concert will provide funds for the vital medical and humanitarian work of the Mercy Ships. Tickets are £10, available from Mel (01207 529153 or 07950048714).

On Wednesday January 16th, our Dementia Friendly Initiative held another Musical Memories event, and this time, in the middle of a cold, wintry January, our theme was 'Sunshine and Songs'.

We met together over tea and biscuits, then

enjoyed a lovely afternoon of singing, dancing and games including a very funny 'Musical Hats'. Once again, many thanks to everyone who participated, and we look forward to our next event, which will be a special Valentine's Musical Memories.



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WORKING TOWARDS A DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

A Dementia Friendly Community is a place in which people with dementia and their carers are empowered, supported and included in society, they understand their rights and are helped to realise their full potential. Communities receive formal recognition for being dementia-friendly and Lanchester has been acknowledged as working towards this aim. Since October, a team of volunteers has been working on a number of issues, including an environmental audit of public buildings, hosting a series of 'Musical Memories' social events, forging links with other groups and applying for funding to help our work. Rebecca Haynes, the Dementia Friendly Communities Coordinator, is delighted at how things are progressing. "I'm so pleased to see how well the DFC Lanchester steering group are doing in making their community more accessible and supportive for people living with dementia. Community centres, GP surgeries, housing providers etc have now been audited within the village and Musical Memories sessions see an increasing attendance rate. Changes are starting to be made, there's still more to come and the



Dementia Friends

group are working hard to see changes being made." If you would like to be part of the steering group, please contact

Rebecca Haynes, 0191 3890400. There will be a DF Information Session held in Lanchester Medical Centre on

March 19th, 1.00 - 2.00 pm. To sign up, please search 'Dementia Friends Information Session'. *Maisie Raine*

NORTH EAST AMBULANCE SERVICE (NEAS)



Lanchester Medical Centre

Lanchester Patient Participation Group

999 campaign urges the public to only use ambulances for emergencies

Have you seen one of these messages on the side of ambulances?

- * You wouldn't call the fire service to blow out a candle
 - * You wouldn't call the coastguard if you fell in a puddle
 - * We risk our lives to save yours
 - * You can call 111 free phone 24 hours a day seven days week for less urgent incidents.
- NEAS provides care for people facing a medical emergency such as unconsciousness, chest pain, difficulty in

breathing or severe allergic reactions.

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- * **Alternative Response Teams** - support patients who have fallen
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- * **Unscheduled Care crews** - emergency paramedic crews
- * **Trauma paramedics** - deal with incidents such as traffic collisions
- * **Critical Care Ambulance Response Unit** - paramedics and

hospital consultants who volunteer to respond to critically ill patients

* **Hazardous Area Response Team** - specially trained paramedics who deal with dangerous conditions, such as fires and water rescues

* **Advanced Practitioners** - nurses and paramedics who provide additional treatment and medication

* **Great North Air Ambulance** - charity linked to the region's emergency call systems. Some callers can be dealt with over the phone, others require further support, but do not necessarily need an ambulance. Arriving at hospital in an ambulance does not mean you will be treated any quicker.

Our advisors answer more than one million 999 and 111 calls every year. Using the 999 service wisely helps ambulances reach patients with the greatest need.

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LONELINESS UPDATE

Change happens, change is inevitable

Everybody talks about change. So what does it really mean and how long has it been with us? Well, change has always been there. Change happens constantly. Night follows day, sunrise comes after sunset and the four seasons remind us of the changes taking place in nature. So it is with us, too. Change is very much linked to our life stages and events. For example, we learn to walk, we learn to ride a bike and we learn to drive a car. We all grow, develop and learn to adapt, each in our own individual and unique way. When change happens, it's time for us to consider adjusting some elements of our lifestyle and circumstances to handle

challenges that may present themselves to us. Our learning through life prepares us with knowledge and skills, experiences and valuable insights which we can then call on, as tools and strategies, to help us apply ourselves to the various situations encountered. Of course, some people will find this easier to do than others who might be more fearful and find it more daunting. Confidence also comes with our achievements. When you reflect on the past, it is all too easy to overlook past achievements and not necessarily to give yourself the full credit of what you've done and just how successful you've been.

There are lots of online resources and self help books available. The Loneliness Project recommends outstanding author, Dr Susan Jeffers, PhD (1938-2012). Writing about life experiences in a simple and practical way, her first book was published in 1987. 17 books followed, now published in 100 countries and in 38 languages. Another book, The Little Book of Confidence, is also an excellent companion. See for yourself - her work is sure to inspire, educate and motivate you.

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RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Zesty One-Pan Chicken

This is a warm and comforting winter meal, quickly prepared in one pan - and healthy too, as you use a low calorie cooking spray.

You need for 4 people:

4 skinless, boneless chicken breasts

Low calorie cooking spray

350 ml boiling chicken stock

400g can chopped tomatoes

1 garlic clove, crushed

Finely grated zest and juice of 1 lemon

1 tsp Italian herb seasoning (or use a mix of oregano, basil and marjoram)

2 tbsp capers, drained

2 x 300g cans new potatoes in water, drained

12 silverskin onions in vinegar, drained

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Vegetables of choice, to serve

Small handful of fresh basil leaves, to garnish

METHOD

1) Place the chicken breasts between 2 sheets of cling film and lightly flatten them with a rolling pin.

2) Spray a large, wide non-stick frying pan with low calorie cooking spray and place over a high heat.

Add the chicken in a single layer and fry for a few minutes to brown, turning once.

3) Add all the other ingredients, season well and cook over a medium heat for 10 minutes, or until the chicken is cooked through.

4) Remove from the heat, garnish with basil leaves and add vegetables to serve.

MATALAN HELPS WILLOW BURN



Paul Jackson

For many years now the generosity of the super store Matalan has allowed the local hospice to have a tree of remembrance located in the entrance. Willow Burn volunteers,

staff and supporters have manned the tree and assisted the hanging of personal messages onto the tree.

The annual event could not happen without the kind support of the volunteers and of course the donations from the residents, of mainly Derwentside people. Paul Jackson, the Chairman of Willow Burn Hospice, was just one of the many volunteers helping to make the event a great success.

Volunteers are always welcome at the hospice, just call in to the Willows Café any time during the week. *Paul Jackson*

CO-OP PLEDGES SUPPORT

This year, Willow Burn Hospice has been chosen to benefit from the Co-op Local Community Fund.

They are raising funds for 'Willow Burn Stars', a new service to support children and young people who have lost a loved one. The funding raised through Co-op members and shoppers will go directly into 1-2-1 counselling and group support for bereaved children, including music, art, play and other activities which aim to help them cope with their loss.

To help raise funds, the Co-op will be relying on its shoppers. Every time they buy Co-op own-brand products they get a 5% reward for themselves and a further 1% goes to local causes. Co-op members can decide which local group they would like to back by going online www.coop.co.uk/membership. It is hoped that people will visit the website and choose to support Willow Burn.

If you're not a member and would like to support, you can join at your local store or online at www.coop.co.uk.

POLICE REPORT

This month our priority has been door to door sellers in particular young men claiming to be working for Middlesbrough Probation Service.

These gentlemen have a legal requirement to be in possession of a current Pedlars Licence.

Without this these males may face receiving a fixed penalty notice. If you have any individuals coming door to door please give us a ring so we can stop those involved and deal with them accordingly.

Over the festive period we identified a trend of vehicles crimes whereby the rear window is smashed by a stone/rock. Since early December 2018 we have received four separate reports. If you have any information relating to these incidents please get in touch.

If you have problems, concerns or information please telephone PCSO 6780 Cullen-Jackson or PC 2058 Nelson on 101 or email lisa.cullen-jackson@durham.pnn.police.uk.

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CALENDAR SUPPORTS HOSPICE



pictures in the 2018 Calendar, and one for 2019, before his illness precluded further art work. The project was sponsored by 24 local businesses, whose support enabled the project to proceed. The Calendar was sold in Lanchester News, Lanchester Hardware and New Image, and with the support of Headteacher Mrs J Davis, it was also available at both the Lanchester EP Christmas Fair and at the school gate at 'home-time'. The calendar was a 'sell-out' well before Christmas.

For the third year in a row, Lanchester All Saints' RC Church has produced a successful fundraising calendar, raising £1,725.45 for Willow Burn Hospice. The 2019 Calendar again featured views of the village and its surroundings by local artists associated with All Saints' Church. They presented 13 pictures of 'Lanchester through the Seasons', using a range of styles and media. Watercolours, oils, acrylics and pencil works of art, in both realistic and interpretative styles, produced a very attractive

and popular calendar. The 2019 Calendar was made particularly significant for all involved by the death of Chris Kelly, a talented teacher, artist and musician, whose strong support for the project had presented two



Paul Jackson receiving the cheque from Father Cornelius O'Connor.

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Jul
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Jul
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 Saturday 20 July, 1.30pm

Oct
Dave Spikey: Juggling on a Motorbike
 Saturday 3 Oct, 7.30pm

Jun
Catherine Cookson's The Cinder Path
 Thurs 6 June - Fri 7 June
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LANCHESTER WI IN JANUARY

Our first meeting of 2019 was held on Monday January 7th. President Marie Murphy welcomed us, wishing us a Happy New Year and reminding us that the 6 proposed resolutions for 2019 had appeared in the November/December edition of WI Life and now members must vote for the choice they would like to see proceed. If anyone would like to become more involved in our local WI, there are several ways possible, from volunteering to give readings or votes of thanks to speakers at meetings, or becoming a committee member.

Scarves and handbags were available to buy in our 'mini market' and members were asked to talk to a committee member about anyone celebrating their 80th birthday or a 50th Wedding Anniversary so a card and flowers could be offered. We also would like to know if a member is in hospital or very ill, so we could cheer them up with a greeting. The competition 'Make something out of Recycled Stuff' was won by Glenda Horne, with second place Anne Grosvenor and third place Shirley Lamb. Raffles were won by Maisie Raine and Breda Branscombe.

Our speaker was Ruth Smith from DCC who gave us a most interesting and helpful account of what we can recycle and how recycled waste is dealt with. She described how an important part of her job is to educate people about recycling, eg duvets and pillows can be donated to animal charities, and clean paper, glass bottles and jars can all be recycled. Ann Carr thanked Ruth for her very useful advice.

The evening ended with a warming winter Pie and Pea supper, tea and social time with friends.



Members enjoying the Pie and Pea supper and having a chat with friends

SATLEY WI JANUARY

Our President Linda Horn opened our first meeting of the year by sending best wishes to all of our members who were unable to attend. Those who did attend received a copy of our programme for the year. It was confirmed that we will enter a team in the

county darts competition and tickets have been bought for the production of Evita in April. Our post Christmas meal has been arranged for later this month, weather permitting. Our speakers were Clive and Wendy Elsdon from Evanclyffe Leathercraft

who explained how they had started their business and demonstrated some of the techniques they use. We were invited to try stamping a design onto a piece of leather and watched Clive hand stitching two pieces of leather together which looked as good as machine stitching. Wendy passed around some examples of their work. After answering our questions they were thanked by Aldwyn.

Our competition for a Christmas card was divided into 3 sections - a religious card won by Joan, second Linda H and third Jean. The next was for a snow scene won by Sarah, second Carol and third Christine. The final section for Anything goes card, won by Sarah, second Joan and third Linda B. The raffle was won by Aldwyn.

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LANCHESTER WI IN FEBRUARY

We met on February 4th, trialling a new way of seating which was approved by all, as it encouraged social conversation. Marie opened the meeting and directed our attention to the Information Table. We look forward to our visit to the Sikh temple next month and our next Coffee Morning in April as well as several other planned activities. We were reminded that early booking was always desirable. We were informed that every member has a say about our national campaigns and resolutions are now due in to WI House. Ann Grosvenor read a funny piece by Pam

Ayres, entitled 'Oh No, I've got a Cold!' The competition was 'My Favourite Dog Photo', winners were Glenys Gibbon, Dorothy Beadling and Maureen Barker. The raffle prizes were donated by Janis Suddes and Maisie Raine.

The speaker was Sgt Dave Bell from Durham Police Dog Handling Team. His presentation was very interesting, informative and amusing. The main breeds used by the police are German Shepherds, Belgian Shepherds and gun dogs. We learned about some of the tasks the dogs were involved in, including tracking, searching for people, searching for property,



Marie makes friends with Millie the Police dog.

and dogs detecting explosives and forensic evidence. Dave had brought along his spaniel Millie, who made a lot of friends, and Ann Carr thanked them both for their visit. The evening ended with tea and biscuits.

SATLEY WI FEBRUARY

Linda welcomed 14 members and one guest to our latest meeting. Our darts team was finalised and practice sessions are to be arranged. We have started to plan our all day trip which will take place in May and friends will be invited to join us as usual. At the moment we are thinking of visiting Ripon and Castle Howard. Our speaker was Liz Palmer who is an Executive Manager of The Body Shop at Home network and she started her talk by telling us a little about how The

Body Shop was started by Dame Anita Roddick in 1976. The first shop was opened in Brighton close to an undertakers and he complained about her using the name The Body Shop so close to his premises. We sampled lots of the products she brought and we all had lovely soft and sweet smelling hands when we finished. Avril, with a little persuasion, volunteered to have a facial which was done using calming camomile based products. We then had

the opportunity to ask Liz questions and to buy our favourite products. Liz was thanked by Jean. She also donated a white musk spray as a raffle prize which was won by Carol. Our normal raffle prize was donated by Joan and won by Linda. We then had tea and cake which were provided by Sarah and Avril. Our competition for a pretty glass bottle was won by Carol, runner up was Kathleen and third place went to Sarah. A thoroughly enjoyable night was had by all.

LADIES WHO LUNCH

We like to stay close to home in the winter months and Chapters Restaurant up at Consett College nicely fits the bill. It's really hard to beat for the warmth of the welcome, excellence of service, quality of food and most especially of all - the most attentive maitre d' EVER. 2 courses for £6.95 or 3 courses for £8.50 - fantastic value for money.

The menus are always varied, inventive and difficult to choose from, but we eventually made our decisions and our choices were, for starters, Cream of chicken soup served with a chicken bon and Three cheese tart with dressed leaves. Mains were Sea bass with aubergine purée, roasted vegs and a black olive and tomato dressing, Northumberland beef and

mushroom filopie served with clapshot and Chicken breast stuffed with roasted red peppers, Brie and a tomato and basil sauce. Puds were Apple crumble and custard and Semolina with homemade ginger biscuits. All totally delicious. Super food, lovely company, a most pleasant lunch time treat - one to be repeated!

The Gourmet Girls

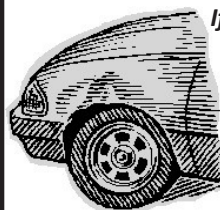
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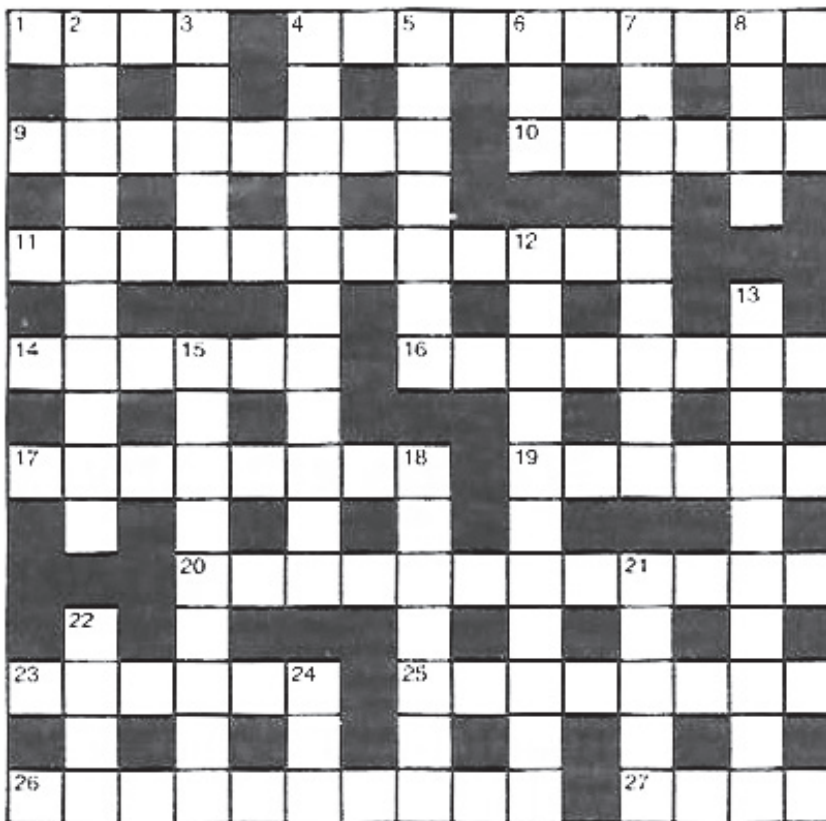
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CROSSWORD 154



- ACROSS**
- 1,4. County's Chief Executive(4,10)
 4. See 1
 9. Grass cutter (8)
 10. Prepared (6)
 11. Place of worship for Quakers (7,5)
 14. Principalleadore(6)
 16. Conceited (6,2)
 17. Inspiring (8)
 19. Being defeated (6)
 20. Pacifying (12)
 23. NEC got powerful (6)
 25. May Laker nonsense maker!(8)
 26. Saved by the bell! (4,6)
 27. Goes with jazz, elastic and it! (4)
- DOWN**
2. Likely to happen (2,3,5)
 3. Coast (5)
 4. No male Titan is grieving(11)
 5. What potato growers do! (5,2)
 - 6,24. Excellent(3-3)
 7. Silent(9)
 8. Turnip (4)
 12. Discontented (11)
 13. Vegetable (6,4)
 15. Well organised (9)
 18. Flicker(7)
 21. Pulsate (5)
 22. Soya bean curd (4)
 24. See 6

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 153

- ACROSS**
1. farce
 4. tax haven
 9. nutcase
 10. notably
 11. ennui
 12. apiarist
 14. prevention
 15. beam
 17. iota
 19. rowing boat
 22. Thailand
 23. optic
 25. nannied
 26. hobnail
 27. megabyte
 28. toddy
- DOWN**
1. finger painting
 2. retinue
 3. examines
 4. trek
 5. xenophobia
 6. actual
 7. ebb tide
 8. systematically
 13. St John's Day
 16. a good bet
 18. trainee
 20. outward
 21. Elvira
 24. shoe

Name _____

Address _____

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

LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU ANSWER

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

CROSSWORD 153

There were 19 entries in last month's crossword competition. Congratulations to Mrs Sue Lightfoot who was the winner in the draw and will receive the £10 prize.

SUDOKU

There is just one simple rule in Sudoku. Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9, and so must each 3 x 3 box. See next month for answers.

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

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THURSDAY CLUB

Despite the sudden fall of snow and freezing temperature, our first meeting, on Thursday 17th January, was very well attended. We started the afternoon with a faith lunch provided by our members. Any 'diet' resolutions we had were blown away when we saw four tables filled with tempting savouries and delicious sweets. Resistance was futile! We were all now feeling warm, satisfied and comfortable as we sat back and watched a DVD of 'Mamma Mia Here We Go Again'. A fun film that was colourful, humorous and with Abba songs we all enjoy. We enjoyed it so much that our meeting overran. We may have arrived in the bleak mid winter but we left feeling happy and uplifted. Nothing can beat spending an afternoon in the company of friends.



Thursday Club members relaxing after their faith lunch and ready to watch the film 'Mamma Mia, Here We Go Again'.

THE VALUE OF THE LANDSCAPE

Despite the snow on the ground, Fiona Green, a resident of Lanchester, presented an interesting talk about the landscape of Mulgrave Castle (near Whitby) to a good turnout of History Society members and visitors.

Fiona, part of a project team who worked on the Parkland Plan explained the developments of this landscape.

Mulgrave Castle and Hall is sited behind Sandsend on a hill with plantations and arable land and a good view to the North Sea. From 1309 the Castle included an orchard and Deer Park, with becks on either side. From 1731 tree planting was extended. A ha ha can still be seen at

the end of the garden, together with a quarter deck lawn. Other features include a tunnel, a viaduct known as the Dry Arch and an impressive viewpoint through a doorway, looking seawards.

The Lanchester connection linked Thomas White the Elder from Woodlands who submitted plans in 1785 to include serpentine tracks around the estate to accentuate the views. Sadly, little of the plan was carried out. Another notable landscaper Sir John Soane in 1786 made improvements to the Hall, extending it with a walled garden. Part of the estate used for mining alum

became an amphitheatre. The highlight of the history is the work and Red Book of Humphry Repton. He visualised that by enlarging the estate and changing the adjoining arable fields to open parkland, the views would be pleasant, fashionable and worthy of the estate. He included more plantations and a wooden tower at top of the hill. An interesting fact was the coach access to the estate, which was by the sands from Whitby and depended on the tides!

The presentation has made me look harder at our local landscapes.

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WHAT'S ON?

Cuppa and Company

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

Community Centre

Coffee Morning

The next monthly coffee morning will be on Thursday 14th March.

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.

New Monthly Men's Group

Meets in Lynwood House on the last Tuesday of each month at 1.30 pm until 3 pm. There is no charge and tea and biscuits are provided. Enjoy a laugh and a chat or a game of dominoes or draughts. Assistance with travel may be possible. If you would like to book a place please call 07808 243720
Connecting Communities
British Red Cross.

Musical Memories

A date for your diary will be Wednesday, March 13th, 2.00 to 3.30 pm when another of our popular Musical Memories will be held in Lynwood House. Please come along, express yourself and enjoy singing a wide variety of songs, make new friends and enjoy a chat, refreshments and some good fun. A warm welcome to everyone living with conditions that affect memory, and their carers. Come along!

Sunday Bridge

In the Community Centre on 10th March at 2.00 pm. The entrance fee is £3.00 and all profits to the Community Centre.

Cuppa & Chat

Every Tuesday during term time 1.30-3.10 in All Saints' RC Parish Centre. All are welcome to come for a cuppa and cake. No charge, donations always welcome. Toys and crafts for under 5s. Rather than sit in your car with the engine on, come and join us for a friendly chat and a cuppa. Email andrea.mike@btinternet.com, tel 01207520291.

Lanchester WI

Our meeting in March will take place on Monday 4th at 7.15 pm in the Community Centre. Our speaker Rosanna Whitton will talk about 'Living with Bipolar' and the competition will be to decorate a stone or a pebble - this can be based on any subject. Please keep yourself informed about the many branch activities and events planned so you can reserve your place, and if you wish to join one of the activities at WI House, early reservation is recommended. Our next Coffee Morning will be in the Community Centre on April 4th! More details later.

Charity Quiz

The Lanchester Partnership is hosting a charity quiz night at the Social Club on March 16th, 7pm. All funds will go towards the fun run and summer fair organisation and costs. £5 per ticket including a pie and pea supper. Tickets available from the Red Cross shop or by emailing thelanchesterpartnership@gmail.com.

Dementia Friendly Communities and the Adviser Service

A major aim for Dementia Friendly Communities is to forge close working relationships between the community and the Alzheimer's Society's Adviser Service. Anyone who is concerned about their memory, or who is caring for someone not receiving good quality support is invited to contact the Adviser Service: 0191 3890400.

Canny Café

Canny Café will be serving lunch, in All Saints' RC Parish Centre on Wednesday 20th March 12-2pm (and every third Wednesday monthly, except August and December). If you know of someone who would like to come and you could offer a lift that would be appreciated. Enquiries: Andrea Stoddart 520291 or email: andreamike@btinternet.com.

Lanchester Flower Club

Our February meeting will be on Wednesday 27th at 2 pm in the Community Centre for a talk by Anthony Atkinson whose subject will be 'Desert Queen'. Our March meeting will be on Wednesday 27th when Lucy Richardson presents 'Bloom where you are planted'. Information about the Lanchester Flower Club from Helen Tomlinson 01207503667 or Lestrine Kelly 01207521494.

Wildlife Group

The next meeting on Tuesday 12th March with Ray Sanderson and the subject is Wildlife Photography. Start at 7.30 pm in the Community Centre dining room.

Paradiso Club

The next Social will be held on Sunday March 10th at 7 pm in the Main Hall of the Community Centre. There will be the usual raffle, refreshments and a film show at 7.30 pm. The film we are screening is 'Three Billboards outside Ebbing, Missouri' said to be one of last year's best films. It is described as 'funny, brutal and breathtakingly beautiful, a darkly comic drama', winning an academy award for Frances McDormand. All are welcome.

Thursday Club

Entry - £2.50 members £3.50 occasional visitors £2.00 young persons (15 years or over)
Ticket covers, raffle, refreshments and the film show.
At our next meeting, on 21st March in the Community Centre at 1.30 pm, we will welcome Sam Simpkins who will be testing our clue solving and navigational skills with another Table Top Treasure Hunt. Great fun. If members have anything suitable for the raffle/tombola tables for our coffee morning, please bring to this meeting. Thank you.

Coffee Morning

We will be having a Coffee Morning in aid of the Great North Air Ambulance on Thursday 28th March, from 10.00am till 11.30am, in the small hall of the Community Centre. Tickets £1.00 are available from members or pay at the door. Raffle, tombola tables and more. We hope you can join us.

Mothers Union

Our meeting on 13th March will be a talk on 'Volunteering in Burundi' by the Rev Denise Dodd. Looking forward to seeing everyone.

Handel's Messiah

There will be a performance by the Northern Consort in aid of Mercy Ships at Lanchester Methodist Church on Saturday 23rd March at 7.30pm. Tickets at £10 are available from Mel 01207 529153 or 07950048714. See page 5 for details.

Library Book Club

On Monday March 25th at 2.30-3.30pm, the group will discuss 'The Paris Wife' by Paula McLain. 'A portrait of being in Paris in the 1920s. A fictionalised account of Ernest Hemingway's first marriage and their lives in Paris.'

Thursday Book Club

On Thursday March 21st from 5.30-6.30pm, the discussion will be 'Little Girl Gone' by Alexandra Burt. A fast paced and gripping psychological thriller.

Chatterbooks

Will be held on Monday March 11th from 3.45-4.30 pm. Children aged 8-11 years old have the opportunity to read and take part in activities relating to the book of the month. Places are limited so please contact Zena or another librarian or contact 03000269514.

Social Club

Free Live Entertainment Every Saturday Night from 9pm
Sat 2nd - Kev Christie
Sat 9th - Lee Paul
Sat 16th - Billy Davies - Live musician at our St Patrick's Day Party
Sat 23rd - Tony Martin
Sat 30th - Katherine Stone

Women's World Day of Prayer

The service this year will be on Friday March 1st in the Methodist Church, from 2.00 - 3.00 pm. All welcome. Bring a friend!

Local History Society

Subject: Country Houses of Tyneside
Speaker: Richard Pears
Date: Friday March 1st
Time: 7pm
Venue: Lanchester Community Centre.
We welcome back Richard for another interesting talk. Contact the History Society at marian.morrison@btinternet.com.

Junior/Family Wildlife Group

Our next meeting will be on Sunday 17th March to go to Thornley woods. Meet in Community Centre car park at 9.30am.

Lanchester Choral Society

Presents 'An Easter Offering' in Lanchester Methodist Church on Friday 8th March at 7.15 pm. Tickets £8 from choir members, at the door or call 01207 521458 or 01207290822.

The programme will include Olivetto Calvary (Maunder), Vivaldi's Gloria and Hallelujah (Handel).

It is conducted by David Hughes and features accompanist Paul Conroy. Soloists are Susan Jordan, Elizabeth Woods, Richard Woods and Ian Gray.

Churches Together

Lenten Lunches will take place in the Methodist Church on March 12th, 19th and 26th; April 2nd and 9th, starting at 11.45 am with a shared lunch followed by a discussion from 12.15 pm - 1.15 pm.

We will be following the 'York Course - Daring to see God now'.

We extend a warm welcome to everyone.

Open House

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

Satley WI

Our next meeting will be held on March 11th at 7.15 pm in Satley Parish Hall when our speaker will be Shona Duthie. Shona describes herself as a woodcarving musician who spent some time on an Indian reservation in South Dakota. Please feel free to come along and join us.

TENACIOUS TEAM

Everything comes to those that wait! Or so the saying goes. On Saturday 9th February **Lanchester Under 8 tennis team** proved this to be true as they were victorious in their winter league match against David Lloyd Blitzers at David Lloyd, Teesside. Following their encouraging performance in January with a battling draw against Tennis World in their previous match, the team's hard work and practice paid off with an impressive 11 sets to 5 win. Head coach, Sam Stokoe,

described the win as "awesome" considering the different sizes of the two clubs, and the team now look forward to their next match in March. See back page for photo of the team. Luke still tops the league rankings but the others are close behind. Junior coaching for the under 8s 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@dctp.org.uk or 07493032229).

CRICKET NEWS

Firstly, the good news was that we didn't have anyone taken seriously ill in the past month and Charlie and Stu are making good progress. The under 14s finished competing in the indoor tournament without Charlie. They topped their group to make it to the semi-finals, winning three games and tying the other. In the semi final they came up against a very good Chester le Street side and fell just short of their target, a great effort though. Nets started at Fyndoune on

February 10th for the juniors, with under 11s 2-3 and the 13s and 15s 3-4. The nets will run for eight Sundays and if anyone interested in starting to play cricket wants to come along they can do so. It costs £3 per session. Senior nets started on 13th February and are on between 7 and 8 every Wednesday for 8 weeks, with all players welcome. As we look forward to the new season, which will start over the Easter weekend, the thirds starting the following Sunday, we will

be welcoming back Dan Nicotra who featured at the club in 2016. The first team will have a new leader in Kieron Taylor, the seconds will again be led by Chris Ramshaw and the thirds by Andy Allen. As for the All Stars programme, you can start registering your child through the Club Spark website. If you want to purchase some club kit, we have also set up an account with Moette, who are based at Langley Park. You can get everything you need at a very reasonable price.

BEER, CIDER AND WINE FESTIVAL

Preparations are well under way for the sixth Beer, Cider and Wine Festival at Lanchester CC. It will be held between Friday 24th and Sunday 26th May. The Friday will be sponsors' night with a selection of Gins available and only a limited number of tickets available to the public. Over the Saturday and Sunday we will once again have 30 beers and 20 real ciders along with a selection of wines supplied by Pip Stop. We are looking to create something with a selection of foreign

bottled beers, but that idea is still in development. At present we are working on getting our music line up in place and if anyone is interested in putting themselves forward then please do get in touch on 07952 546694. Similarly, we are in contact with some organisations to create our charity line up. There will be food available throughout the event. If anyone is interested in sponsoring a beer or cider then we would be delighted to hear from you. It is £150 to sponsor a beer or cider

but effectively you get £80 back in tickets and beer tokens, so if you use those, then it only costs you £70 which is a bargain when coupled with the publicity. We will be displaying sponsors' logos on laminated posters on our entry walls and garage, as well as hanging them round the marquee and in our programme. Finally, Rebrand, who do the programmes, will be creating a new website to display all the relevant info in a much more professional way than my efforts. I can't wait!

18,000 MILE SOLO CYCLE CHALLENGE

On 1st April, 2019 Steven White will set off on his biggest adventure to date, to embark upon an 18,000(+) mile solo and unsupported cycle challenge around the world. Steven, who you may know as a resident of Lanchester or your local paper boy from years past, attended the local schools and studied his degree in 'Outdoor Leadership & Management' at Worcester University. As part of his degree Steven studied in Norway and since has worked largely abroad which has given him the desire to travel. Steven has named his challenge 'Chalkie's Adventure' (after an old family nickname) and will be raising money for the charity 'Mind', promoting the benefits of cycling as a means of bridging the gap between a healthy mind and body. Steven has always cycled to explore new places and believes the bike offers a unique style of travel and

access into people's lives, unlike no other. Ever since he was sixteen he's had this dream to travel the world and eventually one day thought: "What's stopping me? Go for it!" His work has included setting up and leading cycle tours in the Dordogne in France which has enhanced his confidence to take on the challenge.

He has a year to complete the challenge, planning to average 100 miles per cycling day. His main aim is to see the world by bike but also plans to welcome fresh opportunities to explore as they arise. You can follow his progress at chalkiesadventure.co.uk where you will find regular blogs/updates on his progress. Finally, he hopes you will lend your support via his charity page www.justgiving.com/fundraising/chalkiesadventure.

See back page for photo.
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MALTON'S WINTER WONDERLAND



These stunning pictures sent to us by Anne Kelly show the ice and snow encroaching on the River Browney on the stretch between Malton Bridge and Waters Meeting during the recent cold spell in early February.

CYCLE CHALLENGE



Stephen White getting ready for his 18000+mile cycle challenge. Story on page 15.

TENACIOUS TENNIS TEAM



Luke Burton, Liam Morrisroe, Molly Reeks and Jonathon Laing enjoying a celebratory ice cream with coach Dennis Laycock. Article on page 15.

NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any **articles** for the next edition of the Village Voice by Tuesday 19th March.
The deadline for **adverts** is Friday 15th March.

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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.

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