

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 5 Volume 20

Lanchester, May 2019

For contact information, see page 2

THE SUCCESS OF 'PROJECT POPPIES'



Eric Hepplewhite, the inspiration behind Project Poppies, presenting a cheque for the substantial amount raised to June Gatenby, Poppy Appeal Co-ordinator for the area. See story on page 3.

EASTER MONDAY EGG BOULING ON PASTE EGG BANK



Families gather before the Bowling starts. More photos, page 5.

Winners of the Best Decorated Egg Competition.

FLOODS ON THE BYPASS



Flooding outside All Saints' Parish Church after a short deluge on 20th May. Sally Laverick and Eric Hepplewhite from the Emergency Action Group turned out to direct traffic.

EASTER JOY



Placing their daffodils on the Cross during the service on the village green. See article on page 4.

NEW POST OFFICE



Martin Naylor and Denise High happily installed at the new Post Office in SPAR.

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FARMING TRIBUTE

Ann Suddes died on 17th April aged 86. The funeral was held at All Saints' Parish Church on Friday 10th May, followed by a cremation at Mountsett Crematorium. The family arranged for a procession from Ann's house at Church View, of the funeral

cars and vintage coach, to go up Cadger Bank through the farms, then coming down Newbiggen Lane, with a procession of tractors following. These proceeded along the bypass to the church, where the tractors were parked.



A view of the tractors parked outside All Saints' Church.



Some of the tractors leaving the funeral passing through the village.

Community Draw

The winning number in the Community Draw for April was 15. The draw was made by a member of the Durham Deaf Group.

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PROJECT POPPIES RAISES HUGE SUM

The outstanding success of Project Poppies was confirmed when the organiser Eric Hepplewhite unveiled a cheque of £14,700 for the Royal British Legion. Audible gasps of delighted surprise came from the audience at Lanchester Methodist Church when Eric revealed the amount on the cheque. A glossy book - Lanchester Remembers -

is also on sale for £5. In its forward Eric, who is Officer in charge of the Lanchester Boys' Brigade, explained how the project to paint more than 4,000 poppies to commemorate the centenary of the end of World War I took hold. "We realised that our Boys' Brigade would not be able to complete the project ourselves so we asked the community of Lanchester.



Some of the Boys' Brigade members with the huge cheque.



Eric Hepplewhite introducing the new book 'Lanchester Remembers'.

The community and surrounding area were very enthusiastic and two years later we had completed 4,100 poppies." As well as the Boys' Brigade, poppies were painted by Brownies, Rainbows, Guides, Methodists Sunday School, Two Art Clubs, Thursday Club, Needlework Club, Women's Institute, Wives and Friends,

Northumbria Lacemakers, the Mothers' Union and the village schools. Eric said: "A special mention must be made to the Extra Care home, Maple Court at Delves Lane, who painted over 300 of our poppies with the oldest resident who helped being 100 years old. From children as young as three or four to a 100 year old lady the project has encompassed all age groups."

Remembers includes as much information as has been possible to find on each soldier whose name appears on the village war memorial who died in the First World War. The research was carried out by Ian Murray, Dorothy Anne Hall and Pauline Priano. Among those present at the ceremony in the Methodist Church on May 4th to hand over the cheque to the Royal British Legion were June Gatenby, Poppy Appeal Co-ordinator for the area, David Parkin the Vice Chairman of Consett District Royal British Legion and Graham Meek the Standard Bearer, as well as representatives from local organisations who helped with Project Poppies.

LONGOVICIUM JUST GOT BIGGER

The Friends of Longovicium (Lanchester's Roman Fort) have been presented with a report commissioned by Don Mason on the latest geomagnetic survey of the fort and vicus or civilian settlement. The survey has been completed by Duncan Hale through Archaeological Services Durham University, who have been responsible for all surveys on behalf of the Friends since 2008. Don had requested that the survey should include the fort itself, the field immediately to the east of the fort, and a field to the north over Cadger Bank. The results were amazing. The main buildings of the fort were very well defined, even so far as to show the buttresses

strengthening the granary walls. Individual rooms of some of the barrack blocks could be seen. Surprisingly, vicus buildings outside the east gate, including houses, shops and workshops, are like terraced buildings, rather than being separate. And there's lots of them! Across the B6296 Cadger Bank, a large field to the west of the Friends' first work in 2008 was also surveyed. This showed that a number of small enclosures dominated the field. This latest survey completes one of the Friends' main aims - to survey the fort and all surrounding fields to determine the size of Longovicium. The vicus now appears to be about

ten times the size of the fort itself, enclosing houses, shops, workshops, a possible industrial area and stock or other farming enclosures. It is apparent though that the archaeology extends beyond that which we've now done, covering a larger area than we ever thought when we started. And we haven't touched the cemeteries yet! We need to continue with geomagnetic surveying as and when, or even if, funds become available. As always, we look for further information, help, photographs, artefacts, anything from Longovicium. If you think you can help, or want to join us, please contact Rodney Hawkins on 0191 4103472 or email hawkins_15@sky.com.

The main poppy display at the Methodist Church between November 1st-18th last year attracted around 5,000 visitors from all over the region. Publicity including an item on BBC Look North helped spread the message far beyond Lanchester and its immediate environs. The book Lanchester

Neil McKay

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EASTER JOY

What have become the annual gatherings around the three crosses on the village green took place on Good Friday and Easter Sunday this year. The number attending these short acts of worship has grown over the years and each of our three village churches are always well represented. Reverend Stuart Earl led the act of worship on Good Friday and spoke about the significance of this day in the Christian Faith. Two hymns were sung, relating to this special day in the Christian calendar, and prayers were said before everyone vacated the green, solemnly and reflectively. Two days later there was joy amongst those who

attended the Easter Sunday service on the Green and there was a very good attendance. There was something which had not been there on Good Friday. It was a plain wooden cross with a number of daffodils laid at its base. Peter Jackson, Lay Reader from the Parish Church gave the welcome and introduction about the significance of Easter Sunday. After an Easter Hymn was sung, he invited everyone present to come and place a daffodil on the plain wooden cross. Very soon the cross was ablaze with colour, 'A Host of Golden Daffodils'.



In the region of 90 people attended a Good Friday service on the village green led by Rev Stuart Earl along with Rev Cornelius O'Connor.

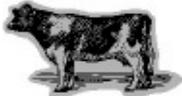
From despair to joy - the message was clear. Jesus had Risen from the Dead. He had conquered death, and in so doing could make the promise of

Eternal Life for all those who believe in Him. The beautiful yellow daffodils were a sign of new life and just as the cross was transformed

so Jesus can transform our lives. This time there was joy as people vacated our lovely village green. *Brenda Craddock*

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The Easter Day Service on the village green led by Peter Jackson from the Anglican Church.

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The last few daffodils being placed on the cross.

EASTER SATURDAY



David Hughes, outside the Methodist Church, giving hot cross buns to Louise Graves, little Lucy, with James in the pram.



John and Jade Hayley with Layla and Alfi, sitting in the sun, delighted to accept hot cross buns from Lynn Whitehead.



Some of the volunteer helpers serving teas, coffees and hot cross buns at the Churches Together Coffee Morning. Left to right: Phyllis Reed, Judith Wilkinson and Di Oram. It was a busy time for all the helpers involved in the now traditional coffee morning organised by Churches Together on the Saturday of Easter weekend.

DOUBLE GLAZING

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EASTER MONDAY EGG BOULING



The traditional Easter Monday Egg Bowling was held on a beautiful spring day and there was an excellent turnout. Organised by the Wildlife Group, children learned how to hunt for foliage and decorate their eggs. Here, Bert Hunter is demonstrating how to prepare the eggs before boiling. Everyone then went up Paste Egg Bank to see how far they could boul their eggs.



While the eggs were cooking, the crowd was entertained with traditional folk songs.
See also photos on front page.

LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from the Ordinary Meeting held on 14th May 2019

Correspondence

* **Letter of thanks for donation** - from All Saints Parish Centre, Willow Burn Hospice and Lanchester & Burnhope Parochial Church Council.

* **Newsletters received** - from Campaign to Protect Rural England - North East Spring Newsletter and Clerks & Councils Direct - May newsletter.

* **Velo North Cycle Event** - Members considered the information from Durham County Council regarding the event on 1st September.

* **VE Day 75** - Members received information on arrangements to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of VE Day.

* **Lanchester Cricket Club** - request to hold a Fun Fair - Members agreed to a request from Lanchester Cricket Club to hold a modest fun fair

at the end of June subject to the cricket club providing appropriate event insurance, risk assessments, stewarding and contact with Police.

* **NHS North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)** - consultation on services currently provided at Shotley Bridge Community Hospital -

Members considered the recent consultation and will consider the more detailed consultation to take place later in the year.

* **Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC)** - annual membership fee agreed.

* **County Durham Association of Local Councils** - annual membership fee agreed.

* **Neighbourhood Plan** Mike Wardle, Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group, provided an update for members.

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th April were approved and a further meeting of the Working Group had taken place on 1st May to progress the plan.

Mike Wardle presented the draft document which had been distributed to Councillors prior to the meeting. The document is mainly complete and is currently being type set with a proof due shortly. Minor amendments will still be possible over the next few weeks.

It is planned that the consultation period will take place for 6 weeks from 24th June. A set of documents will be placed in key community locations. A display will be prepared to include the policies to be displayed in a community venue, for a 3 week period. During this 3 week period a number of staffed

sessions will be held. A summary document is being prepared and will be distributed to dwellings and businesses. A feedback form will be available. Information will be available on the Parish Council website.

It was agreed that the working group be allowed to make final tweaks to the Neighbourhood Plan document and submit it to print and that the working group progress the summary document and the community consultation arrangements.

* **Street Ceilidh - Durham Brass Festival** - A financial contribution of £500 was agreed towards the street ceilidh which will take place in Lanchester in July as part of the Durham Brass Festival. The event which

had taken place last year had been a great success. **Maintenance Report** - received.

* **Hanging Baskets** - Members agreed the price received for the provision of hanging baskets and watering. Members were informed that the structural testing of the lampposts was still to be fully completed.

* **Insurance Premium 2019/20** - renewed as part of the 3 year agreement.

* **Internal Audit Report 2018/19** - approved.

* **Financial Year 2018/19 End of Year Accounts** - approved.

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

The next Ordinary meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 11th June 2019 at Lynwood House at 7.15 pm.

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LANCHESTER NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Almost 5 years ago the Parish Council set up a working group to create a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish of Lanchester.

A Neighbourhood Plan is a document which will guide development, regeneration and conservation within our Parish over future years. Representatives from the Parish Council, Lanchester Partnership and residents have met regularly to develop the plan.

The Neighbourhood Plan contains a number of planning policies developed from feedback from surveys completed by residents, businesses and interested parties.

During this time the working group has been involved in a revision of the Conservation Area and the production of a Lanchester Community Heritage Audit, both of which have been well received by residents and the County Council. These documents along with the Lanchester Design Statement and other evidence will be presented to support the Neighbourhood Plan

when it is considered by an external examiner. The next stage will be a presentation of the plan to the community. This consultation process will provide an opportunity for the community to consider the policies and give feedback. The working group will receive that feedback, consider it carefully, amending the Plan if necessary.

This consultation is planned to commence at the end of June for a 6 week period. During this period, a summary of the plan will be distributed to households and businesses. A full copy of the Neighbourhood Plan will be available in key community locations and will be available on line. Feedback will be welcomed. A display and staffed sessions will take place in July. Further details on the consultation period will be presented in the next edition of the Village Voice.

For further information on the Neighbourhood Plan please contact the Parish Clerk on 01207 520146.

NEW DIANA MEMORIAL



A fine new plaque next to the tree on the bypass walk, in remembrance of Princess Diana, has now been replaced by The Parish Council.

THE FUTURE OF SHOTLEY BRIDGE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Around 50 interested participants attended a meeting at Lanchester Community Centre on the future of Shotley Bridge Community Hospital.

The Public Engagement Event held on Tuesday, April 30th was one of a number in North West Durham organised by the North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

The buildings at Shotley Bridge Community Hospital are considered well past their sell-by date and plans are underway for the future where services could be based in a modern fit for purpose estate.

Rachel Rooney, from the CCG, said there was a

commitment to continue delivering the majority of services currently delivered at Shotley Bridge Community Hospital locally. Whether this would include a new 16 bed unit, which the local Labour party has called for, has yet to be decided.

What does seem likely is that any new healthcare facility - wherever it is located in North West Durham - will include outpatients and community clinics, chemotherapy, diagnostics and urgent care, services currently being provided at Shotley Bridge.

However, the urgent care facility may not be

available in future between midnight and 8 am. It is sparsely used at present and could be replaced by home visits during those times with an on-site facility 8 am - 12 midnight, 7 days a week. Theatre Services and Endoscopy would be provided elsewhere, at Durham, Bishop Auckland or Darlington hospitals.

The CCG was told in no uncertain terms by those present that adequate, free parking and an accessible location were vital if health chiefs were to choose a new location for the services currently provided at Shotley Bridge.

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‘CELEBRATE HIS LOVE’

The Methodist Church was the venue for a lovely concert on Good Friday evening, given by the North West Durham Circuit Choir. The choir sing under the baton of Harry Carr and so are in very good hands. The sincerity of the choir is very evident in their singing and all the voices blend beautifully. They have given a concert on this day for a number of years and it is always

well attended. The title of this year’s musical work was ‘Celebrate His Love’ and the music and words are by Carol and Jimmy Owens, who have written and composed a number of other religious works, which have also been performed by the choir. The choral singing was beautiful and there were soloists who sang extremely well and with perfect pitch and diction.



Harry with his choir.



The talented accompanists.

The congregation was invited to join in the singing of three Easter Hymns including ‘When I survey the Wondrous Cross’. There was a small skilled orchestra and

talented pianist, Janet Arbon, to accompany the singing and altogether it was a very lovely concert capturing exactly the poignancy and significance of Good Friday, but

looking forward to the joy of Easter Sunday. A cup of tea and a chat with friends ended a delightful evening. Thank you Harry and Circuit Choir!
Brenda Craddock

DEMENTIA FRIENDS VISIT AN OLD TIME MUSIC HALL

May’s Musical Memories was based on the theme ‘Old Time Music Hall’ and everyone looked very grand in a wonderful selection of hats. We enjoyed tea, biscuits and chat before singing our welcome song together, and then we

sang many of the old, well loved songs from the past. Some of the songs were split into ‘parts’ and the melodies blended together beautifully. There was a great choice of funny, romantic and clever songs, something for every voice and every taste. We enjoy seeing

so many familiar faces every month and glad to welcome new friends! Our next Musical Memories will take place on Wednesday June 12th (see What’s on) when our theme will be ‘Colours’. Looking forward to seeing everyone then!
Maisie Raine

DEMENTIA WEEK LUNCH

On Wednesday May 22nd the residents of Lynwood House, together with some friends, held their

monthly lunch. However on this occasion there was entertainment by ‘Dave’ and a raffle. The proceeds of the raffle together with the price of a meal for each person were donated in aid of

Dementia Week and £263 was raised. Thank you to Linda who organised everything and her helpers, also many thanks to all who donated raffle prizes.
Sylvia Bennett

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TERRY DEARY AND HIS HORRIBLE HISTORIES

Parents and children enjoyed a treat when Terry Deary brought his History Roadshow to Lanchester Community Centre for two evenings in May.

Terry was born in Sunderland and is the author of more than 200 books, including his 'Horrible Histories' series, packed with fascinating facts, interesting details and humorous pictures. Since 1994, he has been one of Britain's best selling and most popular writers, and voted the outstanding Children's Non Fiction Author of the 20th century by Books for Keeps magazine. Before entering

teaching, Terry became interested in acting and bringing theatre to children in the Welsh valleys and then became a teacher of Drama. Terry's time in education left him very critical about the system, which he believed embedded many Victorian beliefs and ideas, with little relevance to the 21st century.

Terry took us through an evening of songs, jokes and stories reflecting our history, from Lanchester as a Roman site, through to the two World Wars, to the great delight of the many young people in his audience as well as their

parents. Saxons and Vikings and the horrible 'Blood Eagle', the Middle Ages and the feared Black Death, Henry VIII and his six wives, the dreadful events of the beheading of Mary Queen of Scots were all presented to the appreciative audience. He brought his parade of history stories to the horrors of life in Victorian England, and ended up describing how very young adults lied about their age to join the army in the Great War and how songs from that period show a grim and macabre sense of humour. Our journey through the past ended with the Second World War, and his



Terry Deary signs one of his books for a young reader.

audience obviously appreciated the experience. Purists may argue that the acts of the past should not be popularised or 'dumbed down' but Terry Deary understands that in History, you must capture

the attention and the imagination of young people and light a spark, so that many youngsters will go on from there wanting to read and research the events of the past for themselves.

Maisie Raine

LANCHESTER MALE VOICE CHOIR

The Male Voice Choir continues practising and performing, in good style, at its recent concert - the Patrons' Concert, held in appreciation of the support of choir patrons. It has been a somewhat testing year thus far. The death some three months ago of founder member and former Chairman John Wills shook us all and he is sorely missed. We're sad too at the imminent departure of our Conductor of 19 years, Harry Carr, who has decided to 'call it a day'. Happily, we can announce that his

successor is to be Peter Bridgewater who, like Harry, has been a Lanchester resident for many years and who also knows 'a bit' about music. Our next concert will be our Annual Concert which will be held in the Methodist Church on Friday 5th July commencing at 7.30 pm. This year's guest artiste will be Rachel Orr, the well-known and popular leading soprano from the North East. Tickets - £8 (children £4). Come along and see her! See us and see Harry's grand finale!

LANCHESTER BIG SING

On 10th July 2019, it will be the 200th anniversary of Methodism in our village. On that day, a preacher stood on the village green and preached the good news of Jesus. Since then, countless thousands in the village have heard this good news in the village and have sung songs praising God. To celebrate this important anniversary, Lanchester Methodist Church will be hosting a 'Big Sing' event on Sunday 7th July at 10.30 am. We would like people in the village to vote for a hymn/song which has

particular meaning to them. The choices of songs, a mixture of modern and more traditional, are:
 * 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)
 * And Can It Be
 * How Great Thou Art
 * In Christ Alone
 * Love Divine
 * Lord of Hopefulness
 * My Lighthouse
 * Our God is a Great Big God

* The Servant King
 * Wholly Yours
 Simply email lanchesterbigsing@outlook.com with your vote, or complete a form just inside the church entrance. The closing date is the end of June and the top 3 hymns will be played at the 'Big Sing' event. All are welcome at our bicentennial celebration!

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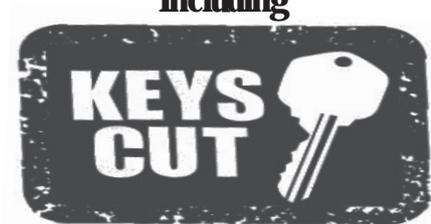
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COMMUNITY CENTRE LATEST

begin the toilet refurbishments.

We also recently received a brilliant donation of £1,000 from GENTOO whose Managing Director Anthony Lowther said "We're proud to support community groups and charities in the places where we build our homes. We are a responsible developer and believe it is important to support a cause that is at the heart of the local community".

This donation, which came from their Community Fund enabled us to update Meeting Room 3 by painting and adding wainscot cladding to improve the appearance of this very busy meeting room.

Thank you GENTOO for your generosity. Thanks also go to Blade Taekwondo who very kindly organised a Charity Bike Ride on 11th May to raise money for us towards the refurbishment of the



The completely refurbished meeting room 3.

We would like to say a big 'Thank You' to everyone who supported the two 'Horrible Histories' presentations, with special thanks to Terry Deary for generously giving us his time; these events raised a fabulous £2,000 meaning that we can

disabled toilets. Well on back page.) Watch done to all those who this space for further updates!

COMMUNITY CENTRE JOINS FORCES WITH GREEN GROUP

Fed up of seeing crisp packets blowing around in the street, trapped in hedgerows and generally being unable to get rid of them? Lanchester Community Centre is doing their bit for the Environment. We have a new initiative which is being well received by everyone. Lanchester Community Centre has joined forces with the local Green

Environment Group to save ALL CRISP PACKETS and at the same time raise funds for the centre. We all thought crisp packets couldn't be recycled and they go straight into landfill, well now they can. As seen on the BBC's One Show (December 18th), crisp packets can be turned into new items such as garden furniture

and shopping bags. Over the next few weeks we will be asking pubs, shops, schools and caterers to join in as well as local residents. The foyer of the Community Centre on Front Street now has a

Collection Point for you to bring along your items. Not only crisp packets but also milk bottle tops, ink cartridges and Oral Care products. Just drop them in when you are out and about. Further

information about recycling and other environmental news for Lanchester will be available making it a better place to live. We are so lucky that local people really do care.

BREATHE EASY

The Breathe Easy (British Lung Foundation) group for North Durham meets monthly in the Community Centre on the second Thursday of each month at 2.00 pm (next meeting 13th June). We are a friendly, informal group for anyone affected by lung disease - carers and relatives too.

saw how defibrillators work and practised with the pads. It was reassuring and informative. The Parish Council is installing a defibrillator close to the pharmacy and there will be another opportunity to learn how to use one then.

A recording have been made of members reading their own poems concerned with 'Breathlessness'. This meeting will actually be the national launch, after which the film, together with the exhibition, will go to the Royal College of Physicians in London and also to Bristol. It has been a new experience for us and we invite you to join us in the Community Centre from 2.00 until 4.00 pm to see the film. Refreshments will be provided by the university. It will be a free event, although donations are always welcome. Jill Gladstone, 01207528114

At our last meeting we arranged for a speaker, Michelle, from St John's Ambulance to show us how to use a defibrillator with confidence. We refreshed our First Aid techniques, resuscitation was practised and then we

Our next meeting on 13th June will be something very new to us. We have been involved in creative writing sessions run by Durham University which have been a spin off from the excellent exhibition 'Catch Your Breath' held at the university library on Palace Green in the winter. A short film and

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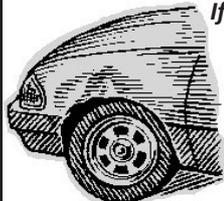
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BURNHOPE: THE VILLAGE THAT REFUSED TO DIE

A brand new project is coming to Burnhope and over the next 20 months we will be looking for volunteers to get involved in a series of exciting events, activities and training opportunities. Burnhope: The village that refused to die is an intergenerational social history project exploring life in the village from the 1840s to the present day. The project is supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Durham County Council and delivered by Age UK County Durham. Volunteers, or 'Time Detectives', will work together to investigate the dramatic ups and downs of Burnhope's history to better understand the village as it stands today. Working alongside Burnhope Primary School, community organisations and members of the public, the project aims to bring together younger and older members of the local community by sharing a journey of discovery, delving into local archives. Bursting with fascinating stories, participants will be able to investigate what life was like as a miner in the 1800s, why 40,000

people once paraded through the village as part of the famous Miners' Gala, what happened when a deadly virus came to Burnhope, and how the community responded to its 'Category D' notice. Everyone is invited to get involved, to share their stories and memorabilia, and to join our guided walks, craft activities, exhibitions and more. Volunteers who would like to commit more regular time and also support younger members will be provided with various training opportunities including archive training with Durham County Records Office, our Heritage Partners. Kirsty McCarrison, from Age UK County Durham will be out and about over the coming weeks and would be delighted to hear from anyone interested in participating. Look out for upcoming drop-in sessions at various venues including Burnhope Community Centre where you can pop in for a cup of tea and a chat. For more information please contact Kirsty McCarrison on 0191 374 6560 or kirsty.mccarrison@ageukcountydurham.org.uk



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THURSDAY CLUB UPDATE

At our last meeting we definitely heard a tale with a different twist. Anthea Lang came along and gave us a talk and slide show entitled 'From Here to Eternity'. When Jo Hadfield came to give the vote of thanks she began by saying that she had associated the title with the film of the same name, and had definitely been assuming a connection with Burt Lancaster and Deborah Kerr - the steamy duo in the film.

Nothing could have been further from the truth. Our speaker has been fascinated with graveyards all her life and the talk was a tour through some remarkable graveyards and fascinating headstones and the reasons why folks had such grand ones. Evidently, years ago, folks would live 'hand to mouth', saving what money they had so that they could have a good send off to another life

while also leaving a magnificent graveyard effigy behind. Lots of large and quite lovely headstones are for completely unknown personages. It was a really interesting talk which had us sitting on the edge of our seats. Then on to coffee, biscuit and a good natter time before we were on our way home after a most enjoyable afternoon among the gravestones.



Anthea Lang gave a really interesting talk which had us sitting on the edge of our seats.

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LANCHESTER FLOWER CLUB

'Flowers for the Home'

The meeting held on Wednesday 24th April in Lanchester Community Centre was a flower demonstration by Marion Hinchley. Her theme was 'Flowers for

the Home'. Marion did some very beautiful arrangements, showing us some very simple ways to make floral designs for us all to try at home. The

arrangements were then raffled to the delight of the winners. Our members then enjoyed a lovely afternoon chatting with a cuppa and biscuits.



Marion Hinchley with some of her very beautiful arrangements.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Salmon Fishcakes

This is a really simple recipe. Homemade fishcakes taste lots better than shop-bought ones and you know exactly what their ingredients are!

To make 8 fishcakes, you need:

Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

600 g potatoes

500 g salmon fillets, skin on, scaled and bones removed

Olive oil

A small bunch of fresh, flat-leaf parsley

1 tablespoon flour, plus extra for dusting

1 large egg, preferably free range

2 lemons

METHOD

1) Bring a large pan of salted water to the boil. Peel the potatoes and chop them into even-sized

chunks. Add the potatoes to the boiling water.

2) Rub the salmon fillets all over with olive oil and a little salt and pepper.

3) Put the fish into a colander, cover it with foil and place it over the pan of potatoes. Turn the heat down and cook for 10-12 minutes until the potatoes and fish are cooked, then remove the fish from the colander and set it aside.

4) Drain the potatoes in the colander and return them to the pan, letting them steam dry.

5) Finely chop the parsley leaves and discard the stalks.

6) Mash the potatoes and remove any skin from the fish. When the potato is cool, put it into a bowl and flake the fish into it with 1 tablespoon of flour.

7) Add the egg and chopped parsley with a good pinch of salt and pepper. Finely grate over the lemon zest then mix it all up well.

8) Dust the worktop with flour. Divide the fishcake mixture into 8. Lightly shape and pat into circles about 2 cm thick, dusting them with flour as you go. Get a plate or tray, dust it with flour and place the fishcakes on top.

9) Put them into the fridge for an hour before cooking, to allow them to firm up.

10) Put a large frying pan on a medium heat and add a little olive oil. When the oil is hot, add your fishcakes and cook 3-4 minutes on each side until crisp and golden. Serve straight away, with lemon halves for squeezing.

LANCHESTER WI'S MAY MEETING

We met on May 13th, a beautiful spring evening and we were welcomed by President Marie Murphy who drew our attention to several items in our County Newsletter. There are many interesting events planned, including craft sessions, a photography workshop, walks and a musical evening. Marie mentioned the important role the WI have played over the years in addressing various social and political issues and she urged us to read the article in the current 'WI Life' which describes some of the causes we should be aware of. We're being encouraged to urge our MP to support

'Action on Plastic' to tackle plastic waste and to commit to stronger action on climate change. Lanchester Flower Club is organising an event in July and the Chairman's Lunch will be held in October, at Ramside Hall. We plan another visit to Kynren in September, and thanks were given to all members who participated in our recent successful coffee morning. We heard a funny and thoughtful reading by Sue Smith, a 'Seventeenth Century Nun's Prayer' and raffle winners were Gwen Bramwell and Jan Vasey, with Jan also winning the competition of

decorating a peg doll in the fashion of the '70s. We then settled to hear Phil Curtis talk to us about 'Life in the 1970s'. We had heard him describe the fashions, politics and music of past decades and knew him as an amusing and knowledgeable speaker. This had been a period of enormous changes, when people had higher expectations and wanted 'a bit of swank', wine consumption increased, basket meals appeared in pubs and shops began selling frozen meals. Nightclubs appeared and films like Jaws and the Godfather attracted the crowds. The political scene was volatile, with the Winter of



Phil Curtis took us back to the 1970s with an entertaining reminder of the fashions, music, food and politics of that decade.

Discontent living long memories and smiles about in the minds of people. the fashions and musical Phil brought back many tastes of the period.

SATLEY WI MAY REPORT

Our latest meeting was well attended with only two absentees. Sadly one of our long serving members, Ann, had died a few weeks before and our thoughts are with her family at this time. We have received a thank you letter from Durham NHS acknowledging the funds we raised for the Chemotherapy appeal following last month's

raffle. Two dates were added to our diaries as we have been invited to join Edmundbyers WI for a musical evening, with a strawberry supper on July 2nd and a trip to the Gala Theatre to see the musical Chicago was arranged. Our guest for the evening was Les Howe and he proved to be an enthusiastic and

humorous speaker telling us tales of his craft as a silversmith. Les uses the inspiration of the cultural heritage of the North East to create his work and specialises in Celtic jewellery inspired by the Lindisfarne gospels. He also gets inspiration from other historic artifacts such as the St Cuthbert's Cross and the Rose Window from Durham

Cathedral. He brought many illustrations and examples of his work with him and shared the techniques he uses to create his pieces. He has been commissioned to make items for many famous people and was really proud to make and present one of his pieces to the Queen. We also had the opportunity to buy items ourselves and

some of us with birthdays in the near future were happy to oblige. The raffle was won by Ann and the evening ended with refreshments provided by Avril and Jean. The competition for an item made from silver was won by Ann, second place was awarded to Linda and third place to Kathleen.

LANCHESTER LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY The Horsekeeper's Daughter

Jane Gulliford Lowes enthralled the members with her story about what linked a 19th century County Durham mining village with the Australian rainforest in Queensland. The story started with Aunt Edie and her box of memories. The contents were of great interest to Jane as a child when visiting this elderly family friend and along with stories recounted by

her grandparents Jane developed an inquisitive mind. As a child Jane dreamed tales about the people in the photographs and the life of the people who wrote from Australia in those letters. The letters from a Bill or Topsy stopped in 1936. The box was eventually bequeathed to Jane when Edie died. Many years passed and the box lay unexplored

until when tracing her family tree Jane wondered about the people and their stories in the box. What was the connection between Miss Edith Threadkell and picture of a grave stone 'In Loving Memory Of Sarah Campbell Gone but not forgotten'? Edith was born in 1906 to Robert and Fanny née Marshall. Thomas Marshall was a miner and horsekeeper,

married to Margaret with another daughter Sarah, Edie's aunt born in West Rainton in 1868 and working as domestic help on the 1881 census in Seaton Village. Life in a mining community was challenging and work could be erratic which led to Sarah seeking a new and hopefully better life. On 1st November 1886 Sarah Marshall set off

on the SS Duke of Sutherland for Brisbane Australia leaving Seaham behind for a new life under the Single Migrant Recruitment programme and a whole new unknown life. To find out more about how the tale unfolds I would recommend reading the book 'The Horsekeeper's Daughter' written and published by Jane. *Marian Morrison*



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MARGERY FLATTS ALLOTMENTS

Plots Available for this Season

The allotments at Margery are set within the Flatts offer a great location to grow a wide range of crops. The allotments were created at the same time as the Community Orchard and are on the same site on the edge of the village. The 32 plots are each 10x 10m, a little less than half of the size of a 'standard' allotment, but provide plenty of space to grow all sorts of plants and produce. Half plots are also available. The plots

are set within the boundaries of the orchard and the location ensures that the crops get plenty of sun (and the odd bit of wind and snow!). Water stands are provided and the allotments association, run by the members, ensures that plenty of compost is available. The association meets bi-monthly at the Black Bull pub and all members are welcome to attend the meetings.

There are currently a small number of plots available for new members so if you are interested to have a go at producing some great veg or need to expand your garden plot to increase your productivity, please contact the association to find out more. You can email margeryflattsallotments@outlook.com or call Simon Johnson on 07811 826585 for more information.



The allotments at Margery Flatts.

STEWARDSHIP AT ST BEDE'S

St Bede's have recently received some trees from environmental consultancy 'Carbon Footprint', through its Sustainability and Community Care Projects.

Thank you to Miss White, Teacher of Science and

her STEM group (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) who have planted the trees around school. This has been a great way to teach our students about climate change, air quality and biodiversity.



St Bede's students ready to plant trees around school.

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A young tree planter at work at St Bede's.

NEW VENTURE FOR VILLAGE BUSINESSMAN

Paul (Alexander Sales & Lettings) and Ann have lived in Lanchester for the past 30 years. Ann has been a community matron and has just retired from working in Willow Burn Hospice. We bought the Hamsteels Inn in Quebec in a 'bit of a state' and have worked

hard over the last year. We still haven't finished the external work but we had to get the Tea Room open. On 22nd May our new venture opened. Please pop in and see us, 9 until 5 pm. We also have a drinks licence so we could do Prosecco afternoon teas!

Paul Morgan



The new tearoom at Quebec.

The Pip Stop

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TOP OF THE BOWLING LEAGUE

I don't very often get the opportunity to report this but one of our teams is currently top of the table. Strong wins in the first two games and only a narrow defeat to Dipton, the club that always wins the league, has put our Monday team on top. It may not last but we will give it our best shot. Our other teams have also got off to good starts. The Tuesday team has won two matches before suffering their first defeat. The Saturday team has

had mixed fortunes, a win, a draw and a defeat (against Dipton). The Wednesday evening team has won its first game 8-0 and the Wednesday afternoon team (a new venture for us) lost its first game but was in fine form to resoundingly win the second. We are now more confident we will be able to hold our own in this league that will see us travelling further from home (where is Fishburn?).

It is not too late to try bowls this season. We have sessions for new bowlers on Thursday and Sunday afternoons. We will also be holding an Open Day next month (see the What's on page).

We are planning to send two members to a Bowls Durham training day so we can be more 'professional' in the tuition we give new members. In addition we are holding workshops on match play for our members. It really feels like we are a club on the move.

WORLD CYCLE CHALLENGE

Steven White

I completed the first leg of my journey on the 3rd May on my arrival at Istanbul, Turkey, having left Lanchester on 1st April. My route included the journey down through England then into France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Austria, Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia, Montenegro, Macedonia, Albania, Greece and Turkey in the course of 33 days, completing 2,835 miles.

My experience to date has been a positive one, excluding a lot of punctures which is inevitable. I have been fortunate in that early in the journey I have been

able to stay with friends and family along the way. Beyond this I have relied upon the generosity of strangers through the Warmshowers.org network, HPB sites, campsites and hostels for my accommodation and as hoped, in doing so, I've experienced the kindness of like-minded people.

In Albania by chance I came across a Swiss cyclist (Romain) attending to ... yes, a puncture, and since we were both travelling the same route to Istanbul we teamed up for this section of my journey. Together we covered 737 miles in just 7 days! We've also

slept in some dodgy places, been chased by countless dogs, seen someone breaking into a car, raced on every descent and dodged or weaved through some of the most chaotic traffic.

Highlights along the way have been numerous, to name a couple: Montenegro - following the Bay of Kotor around to Perast was spectacular but Albania surprised me most, especially the generosity of the people and abundance of smiles and encouragement (they don't see many cyclists). As to the challenges of life on the road - the key element has to be the varied levels of tolerance/intolerance of other road users to cyclists.

Leg 2 of the journey: I now move my sights to crossing India. I'm very excited about this stage and Europe has provided the perfect warm up to an even more diverse experience to come.

To follow my journey, visit my website: chalkiesadventure.co.uk and if possible, contribute to my chosen charity 'Mind' online or via charity boxes dotted around retailers in Lanchester and Knitsley Mill Farm Shop. Steven White



Steven leaving home on May 1st for his World Cycle Challenge.



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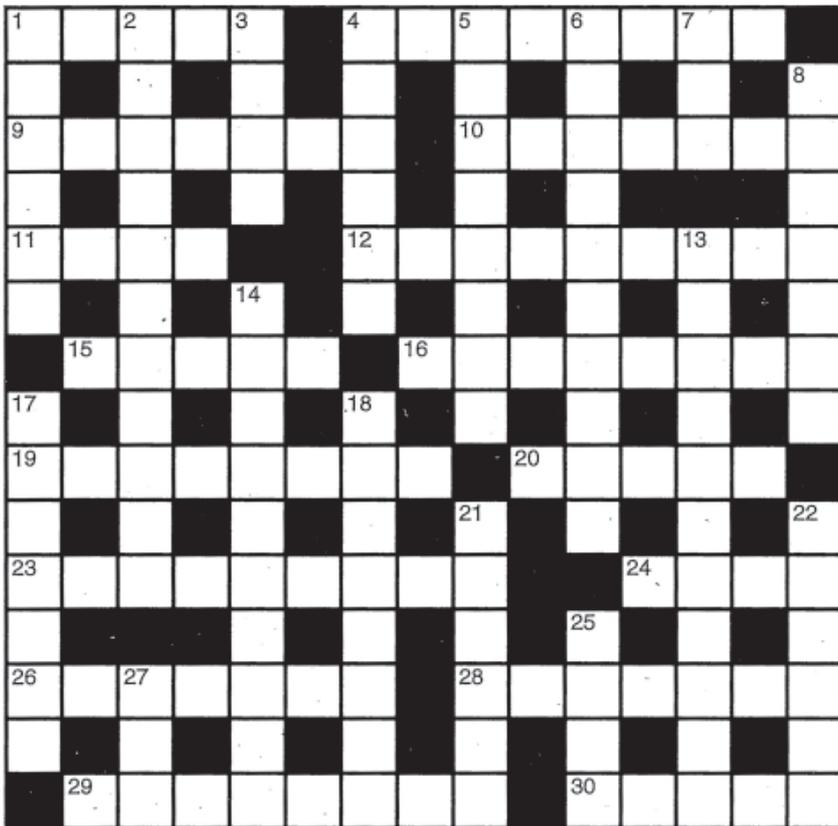
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CROSSWORD 157



ACROSS

1. Puny (5)
4. Disdain (8)
9. Sign of the Zodiac (7)
10. Debater refunded (7)
11. Long (4)
12. Savings (9)
15. Spoil (5)
16. Native fauna (8)
19. Initial (8)
20. Set up (5)
23. Plundered (9)
24. Goes with door, clap and mouse (4)
26. Cleared (7)
28. Briefly (2,1,4)
29. Capital of Canadian province of Manitoba (8)
30. Direct (5)

DOWN

1. Putrefy (6)
2. Iona in a tomb outrage (11)
3. Stride (4)
4. Necklace that throttles ! (6)
5. Drug (8)
6. Exaggerates (10)
7. Kitty (3)
8. Journey (7)
13. Novelist whose "The Sea, the Sea" won the Booker Prize (4,7)
14. Sign (10)
17. Routes (7)
18. Drunk (6,2)
21. Border (6)
22. Arachnid (6)
25. Capital of Azerbaijan (4)
27. Greek letter (3)

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 156

ACROSS

1. Antipodean
6. Serb
9. toreros
10. cyclone
12. no frills
13. meets
15. no seclusion
18. bear a grudge
21. Aesop
22. snuff out
24. incites
25. in a daze
26. elms
27. drug addict

DOWN

1. attend
2. thrift
3. Persian carpet
4. disclosure
5. arch
7. esoteric
8. blessing
11. computer fraud
14. ice dancing
16. abrasive
17. capsicum
19. Somali
20. attest
23. Isar

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.

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

CROSSWORD 156

There were 24 entries in last month's crossword competition. Congratulations to J Dixon 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.

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

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ANTIBIOTICS

Durham patients warned about the potentially deadly consequences of antibiotic resistance



Lanchester Medical Centre

Lanchester Patient Participation Group

Antibiotics are used to treat or prevent some types of bacterial infection. They work by killing bacteria or preventing them reproducing and spreading. They do not work for viral infections such as sore throats, coughs, colds or flu and many mild bacterial infections get better on their

own. Resistance to antibiotics has risen to dangerously high levels across the world; worryingly in the North East prescribing levels for antibiotics are higher than the national average.

History 1928 Alexander Fleming discovered the first antibiotic, Penicillin; it took a decade before it became a treatment for bacterial infections. The introduction of Penicillin marked the beginning of the so-called 'golden age' of antibiotics. Between 1940 and 1962 most of the antibiotics we use today were discovered and prescribed. Since then,

different classes of antibiotics typically contain several existing antibiotics or are modified versions of previous types of antibiotics.

Today there are very few antibiotics under development. At the same time antibiotic resistant bacteria that survive antibiotic treatment are becoming more and more prevalent, making available antibiotics ineffective. 38% of people expect an antibiotic when they visit their surgery with a cough, flu, a sore throat, ear, sinus or chest infection (2017). It is estimated that at least 20% of all antibiotic

prescriptions are inappropriate.

Future Public Health England estimates in around 30 years antibiotic resistance will kill more people worldwide than cancer and diabetes combined. More than three million surgical operations and cancer treatments a year could become life threatening.

Antibiotics are used:

* to treat bacterial infections that are unlikely to clear up without them
* when others could be infected unless treated
* if infections take too long to clear without treatment

* when an illness carries a more serious risk of complications.

Remember any medication may cause side-effects, varying from mild to a serious allergic reaction. Only take medication prescribed for you personally by a medical clinician.

See www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/antibiotic-resistance

A representative from Willow Burn Hospice will attend our June 5th Patient Participation Group meeting. You are welcome to come along and learn more about the work they do.

LONELINESS UPDATE Wellbeing and the Countryside

The Campaign to Protect Rural England's website features an interesting article about Wellbeing and the Countryside. Its introduction reads, "Considering the range of social and wellbeing benefits nature can provide, the sooner the importance of enabling access to the countryside is recognised, the better to lift our mood all the year round".

Research suggests a connection to nature is vital to the happiness and wellbeing of the nation and that using or

having a connection with nature is good for us in many different ways. It can focus and restore our attention, give us the space to ease our pain and allow us to heal. Nature can re-energise our concentration and strength, and could even make us more caring and generous.

The report 'Nature and Mental Health' (MIND 2018), details how 'spending time in green space or bringing nature into your everyday life can benefit both your mental and physical

wellbeing. For example, doing things like growing food or flowers, exercising outdoors or being around animals can have lots of positive effects. It can: improve your mood, reduce feelings of stress or anger, help you take time out and feel more relaxed, improve your physical health, improve your confidence and self-esteem, help you be more active, help you make new connections, and provide peer

support'. The study found that a walk in nature led to 71% of participants feeling more positive, with 88% experiencing an overall boost in their mood.

Some people comment about how lucky they feel living within this part of rural County Durham. Sometimes, however, we might be forgiven for taking things slightly for granted and overlooking them especially when they are quite literally on our

doorstep. Equally, we may fail to realise their true worth and value when they are free. Our countryside can indeed offer a wonderful experience of nature free to all, with stunning landscapes, tranquil spaces, and the opportunity to explore. Take some time out to discover everything around you, engage your five senses bringing nature into your everyday life and see for yourself.

LADIES WHO LUNCH

Last time out we went to the Black Bull at Corbridge. After all the warm weather we had been enjoying it was a particularly cold day. What a delight it was to enter the Black Bull and be welcomed, not just by friendly staff, but a blazing warm and comforting fire. The Black Bull has lots of 'olde worlde charm', a convivial atmosphere and is a most comfortable place. Along with their excellent service and comprehensive menu and a specials board - a really good place to be.

We chose for starters a Blue cheese, pear and walnut salad. Mains were two grilled sea bass fillets and pan fried scallops served on a creamy prawn and pea risotto topped with watercress, Steak pie with garden peas, Crispy breadcrumb coated chicken breast served with a garlic cream sauce, chips and peas and Slow cooked lamb shoulder served with champ mash, seasonal veg and gravy. Puds were Sticky toffee and spotted dick pud served with custard,

Luxury dairy ice cream and sorbet, Bakewell tart served warm with double cream and cherry compote (the best, our girl, had ever tasted, truly scrumptious!) and Gin, elderflower and berry dessert served with vegan vanilla ice cream and raspberry sauce. Some of us had the mini dessert and coffee option. All in all a most satisfying lunch was had by everyone and we all felt it was somewhere to be visited again and soon.

The Gourmet Girls



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WHAT'S ON?

Riverside Musical Theatre

Proudly Present 'The Sound of Music'. Anyone named Maria will receive free admission (please bring photo ID to the show). Evening performances are from Wednesday 5th to Friday 7th June at 7.15 pm, Saturday matinee performance on 8th June at 2.30pm. Venue: Park View Theatre, Chester le Street DH3 3PZ Look for our very special group offer to you. Tickets available via www.ticketsource.co.uk/riversidemusicaltheatre company for a small booking fee or alternatively please telephone 0191 3857500 or email rmtc2018@outlook.com.

Cuppa and Company

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

Musical Memories

Our next Musical Memories event will be held in Lynwood House on Wednesday June 12th, from 2pm-3.30pm. Our theme for that day will be 'Colours' so perhaps we can all dress in something colourful and cheerful! Everyone is invited and we welcome seeing new and old friends. If you are living with conditions that affect memory, or you are a friend or member of family, join us in this musical event- you don't have to be a wonderful singer, just enjoy the magic of music and sharing this with others. Hope to see you all there! The Village Voice Page 18

Library Book Club

On Monday June 17th at 2.30-3.30pm, the group will be discussing 'While my eyes were closed' by Linda Green, a psychological drama. Pick the book up and join us for this discussion.

Thursday Book Club

On Thursday June 20th from 5.30-6.30pm, the discussion will be on 'Fried Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Safe' by Fannie Flagg. If you would like to join this group, pop into the library and pick up this book and join the discussion.

Chatterbooks

Will be held on Monday June 10th from 3.45-4.30pm. 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 at the library or contact 03000269514.

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.

Read Regional 2019 Event

Robert Scragg, the author of What Falls Between The Cracks will be coming to Lanchester Library on Monday June 24th at 2.30 where you can hear about his writing and talk to him about his work. His book got rave reviews from the Library Book Club. Come along and support this library event.

Satley WI

Our next meeting will be on June 10th in Satley Parish Hall commencing at 7.15 pm. We are to be entertained by our own members so anything could happen. Please feel free to join us.

Lanchester Flower Club

The next meeting will be the first of two open evening meetings which will be held on Friday 28th June in Lanchester Community Centre at 7 pm. Tickets are £7. If anyone would like tickets or further information about the evening call Helen Tomlinson 01207 503667 Chairperson or Lestrine Kelly 01207 521494 Secretary.

History Society

Subject: The River Wear from Source to the Sea. Speaker: George Nairn. Date: Friday June 7th. Time: 7pm. Venue: Lanchester Community Centre. We welcome George Nairn back to our group for what will be an interesting talk. Everyone is welcome, visitors £3. Refreshments and raffle. For more information contact the History Society, marianmorrison@btinternet.com

Blackfyne Walking Football

Think your playing days are over? Think again! Interested in making a comeback or just making new friends. Come along and get back into football. Walking football is a great way to keep fit and socialise at any age, male or female, playing 5.30 Monday evenings at Consett Leisure Centre. First session free. To register interest contact Tim: 07866305686.

Lanchester Social Club

No live act on Saturday 1st June due to showing of the Champions League Final. Tottenham vs Liverpool. Kick off 8pm. Sat 8th Steve Taylor Sat 15th Andy James Sat 22nd Kelly McWaters Sat 29th Andrea

The Lanchester Partnership

The Partnership AGM will be held at the Catholic Church Parish Hall on Saturday 8th June at 2 pm. There will be an informal coffee afternoon after the meeting where people can see all the work of the Partnership and meet some of the people involved. We encourage people to come along and join us.

Lanchester Partnership Fun Run and Summer Fair

will be taking place again this year at Burnhopeside Hall on Sunday 23rd June.

After a great event last year we are hoping to build on the event to make it an annual village occasion. The event opens at 10 am and the Run starts at 11 am. The course will be open for 2 hours and you can run or walk the 2.5k route as many times as you like in that time. Adults are £5 entry and Children £2.50. (Under 12 years must be with an adult).

The course closes at 1 pm but the whole event is on until 2 pm. There will be summer fair type activities again and Willow Burn Hospice will be selling food on the day. As per last year there will be a shuttle bus from the village for transport.

Run entry forms will be available from the Red Cross shop from 1st May. Follow the Lanchester Partnership Facebook page or email the Lanchesterpartnership@gmail.com for more information.

Thursday Club

Our next meeting on June 20th at 1.30 pm in the Small Hall of the Community Centre will be a Flower Demonstration with Wendy Smith.

Junior/Family Wildlife Group

Our next meeting will be on Sunday 23rd June. Meet at Malton at 10.00 am.

Lanchester WI

Our next meeting will be held on Monday June 3rd when our guest speaker will be Kristi Lennon, and as she is a Burlesque performer, it should be an interesting and informative evening!

In the season of Wimbledon, our competition is to decorate a tennis ball. We will enjoy our usual evening of raffles, chat and fun and remind everyone that any lady who doesn't know us is invited to come along as a visitor and meet some new friends.

As this is the time of year that we plan outings, events and visits, it's a good idea to keep up to date with the news posted on the Information table at every meeting.

A VISIT TO KYNREN

On Saturday September 7th a group of Lanchester WI members are again visiting Kynren and we are happy to announce that we have a few places still available.

The cost is £47, covering transport and ticket. To receive more details contact lanchesterwi@talktalk.net.

Lanchester Bowling Club 'Open Day'

Sunday 23rd June 11.00 am to 4.00 pm

Would you like to find out if you can play lawn bowls, well this is your chance to give it a try. Why don't you pop along to the bowling club on Sunday 23rd June where you can have a cup of tea (and a biscuit), a chat and a roll up with bowls. All you need is a flat pair of shoes, everything else will be provided. Come along and have a go, it's a great hobby and excellent exercise for all ages.

Wildlife Group

The next meeting is on Tuesday 11th June and is a joint field trip with Durham Wildlife Trust Botany Group - Black Plantation, butterflies, botany and more.

Community Centre

Tea Dance

Every 4th Thursday of the month from 1 - 3 pm.

Whist Drive

Every Wednesday 2 pm-4 pm, Meeting Room 2.

Badapple Theatre Co

Present 'The Frozen Roman' on June 8th, a comedy about a village protesting about a housing development. Tickets from Centre or Post Office.

Whist - Wednesdays Meeting Room 2, 2-4 pm

Mahjong - Thursdays Meeting Room 1, 10am-12.

Charity Lunch

In Lanchester Methodist Church in aid of Mercy Ships and St John's Home, Bulgaria.

On Friday 21st June 12 - 1.30 pm, a Cold Buffet Lunch, Selection of Desserts, Tea and Coffee. Tickets from Mel 529153.

Summer Fair

Lanchester All Saints' RC will hold their Summer Fair on Saturday 15th June, from 11.30 am to 3.00 pm, to be held at the Parish Centre, Kitswell Road. The Fair will be formally opened by Lady Elsie Robson.

There will be a range of stalls - Bottle Stall, Tombola, Lucky Dip, Bric-a-Brac - and many more, as well as activities and amusements - Face Painting, 'Beat the Goalie', Hair Braiding, Craft Activities and more. A variety of refreshments - hot and cold, sweet and savoury - will be available to all. Come and have your lunch with us and "Enjoy the Day!"

CRICKET NEWS

The opening day of the season was highly emotional for the McPhail family as both Stuart and Charlie turned out for the second team against Benwell and Walbottle. Both had wondered if they would play cricket and here they were, with both making big contributions. Stu scored 57 runs and Charlie took 4 wickets in the comprehensive win, but more importantly, both of them were back. The first team disappointingly lost their opening game with

Stocksfield, but have since beaten Alnmouth, Morpeth and Consett to put themselves top of the league. Dan Nicotra has made a good start with four scores over 50 in both league and cup. Each of the bowlers have made telling contributions, Callum Barnes leading the way with ten wickets, but with support from Kieron Gohery, Kieron Taylor, Greg Halliday and Arran Halliday.

After the second team's opening day win, they were rained off midway

through against Tynemouth, an easy win over Consett followed by a defeat at Blue Flames. The thirds have lost both league games so far, with a team predominantly made up of under 15s.

The under 18s have lost two very close matches, to Shotley Bridge and Stocksfield, whilst the under 15s have progressed to the semi final of the Willis Elliott cup after wins over Leadgate and South Northumberland.

Charlie McPhail made 48 not out against Leadgate whilst 11 year old Toby Somersall took four wickets for just seven runs in the same game. They will play arch rivals Burnopfield in the semi final. The under 11s opened with a win in the cup against Shotley Bridge but lost to Leadgate in round 2.

Finally, All Stars starts on 31st May with 56 children taking part, so hoping for great weather so that they get the maximum of enjoyment.

ANDY ALLEN AND THE DEFIBRILLATOR

Well Andy completed the London marathon and the defibrillator has been purchased and installed. It was a painful experience for Andy but he completed the 26 miles and can cross it off his bucket list. It was a fantastic committed effort for which we can't praise Andy enough and he's a true hero to everyone who knows him. He raised over £4000 which means that the additional money will make a sizeable donation to the two children's cancer wards at the RVI Newcastle, who treated Charlie McPhail. We send a huge thank you to everyone who donated money and would like you to know that it has been

put to great use in support of great causes. We appreciate the concerns of some individuals, but a club risk assessment identifies that at least eight teams of players and their opponents put themselves through bodily stress every week over a six month period. Also a football team plays here during the other half of the year, with a competitive riding centre just along the road, which means that the cricket club is the ideal place to host the defibrillator. We hope that no one ever has to use the defibrillator but we are in a better position for having one available.



Andy displays his marathon medal beside the new defibrillator.

TENNIS CLUB 'FREE TENNIS' DAY AND TEAM NEWS

On Sunday 19th May, Lanchester Lawn Tennis Club held the newly sponsored Nature Valley Tennis Weekend Event. This is a national initiative by the Lawn Tennis Association to promote the sport to players of all ages. The weather was dry and 76 participants attended, enjoying activities such as the ball machine, cardio tennis, the tennis factory and the game of tennis

itself. Refreshments were also on offer along with equipment availability. Head coach Sam Stokoe, along with Dennis Laycock, ran the activities on court and club committee members and volunteers organised registration, refreshments and tombola. Coaching sessions are continuing on Monday evenings: 4.30-5.30 pm under 8s,

5.30-6.30 pm 8 to 11 years, 6.30-7.30 pm over 12s and adults. The under 8 junior team are competing in the summer league at David Lloyd, Teesside. Now named the 'Lanchester Moors', due to the club joining forces with Durham Moor tennis club, the players have started the campaign brilliantly with 2 wins and a draw. The photograph (on the back page) shows

Ellen, Molly, Joseph and Jonathon, resplendent in their match kit, sponsored by Durham Community Tennis Partnership. If you would like any information about the club, coaching or courses please contact Dennis on 01207 520278/ email den.lizjane@gmail.com or Sam on 07493 032229/ email sam@theracquetman.co.uk.

CHARITY BIKE RIDE - RAISING FUNDS FOR THE COMMUNITY CENTRE



"WE DID IT". Participants in the sponsored bike ride gather in the Community Centre Car Park.



Riders passing the former station buildings on their way back to the Community Centre.

NATURE VALLEY TENNIS WEEKEND



Players enjoying the activities during the event. See article on page 19.



Ellen, Molly, Joseph and Jonathon, resplendent in their match kit.

MARATHON MAN



Andy Allen who ran in the London Marathon. See report on page 19.

LANCHESTER WALKING GROUP



Lanchester Mid-Week Walking Group enjoying the fresh air and gentle exercise in our beautiful local area.

NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any **articles** for the next edition of the Village Voice by Tuesday 18th June.
The deadline for **adverts** is Friday 14th June.

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