

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 8 Volume 9

Lanchester, August 2008

For contact information, see page 2

FLY A KITE

The Kite Man came to Lanchester on the 7th of August, but only for the select group of children and their parents who had bought their tickets in Lanchester library prior to the craft event taking place. The Kite Man and teacher is

Malcolm Goodman, who was there in the library to teach the little ones how to make and then how to fly a kite. The only materials that were used were some plastic, two sticks, sellotape and a good length of string.



Malcolm Goodman and the children take a break from their kite making in the library to pose for a photograph



The more enjoyable part of the day - flying the kites

Well, Malcolm really taught the parents how to make a kite while the children socialised, but at least the children drew the designs. Then the party moved to the nice piece of grass beside the railway path where the children did the important part, which

is racing across the grass as the kite rises into the air.

As is traditional, the Kite Man comes when the weather is fine with only a tiny breath of wind, and even the expert couldn't get his kite to go really high. Never mind, the kids enjoyed it.

NEW ERA FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT?

What is an Area Action Partnership? A meeting in the Community Centre, one of many throughout the County, was part of the consultation process which aims to decide how local people will be able to influence the new Unitary Council which Durham County Council will become in April next.

The District Councils will vanish, but the AAP's will take on the task of 'identifying priorities for local areas and shape the decisions that address these', as the County puts it. The new AAP's will have a budget and a 'local coordinator' to manage the process. The AAP's will not be District Councils rewritten. Again as the

County puts it, 'the exact powers, functions and geography of the AAP's are still to be decided but will be informed by the consultation that is currently taking place', but it is stated that communities, County Councillors, Town and Parish Councillors, the voluntary sector, business and other service providers like police and health service will be involved.

This is certainly something new and it is important that local people have their say as to how the relationship between County and AAP's will develop.

The meeting was addressed by Councillor

Simon Henig, Leader of Durham County Council, who emphasised the thoroughness of the consultation process and the importance of local views. How, for example, should environment, cleaning and planning be organised, and to what extent should these be devolved?

He said that twelve to fourteen areas could be created. Current proposals include Stanhope, Barnard Castle, Crook, Bishop Auckland, Stanley, Consett, Chester le Street, Durham, Spennymoor, Newton Aycliffe, Seaham and Peterlee. Lanchester was not mentioned, but more areas are possible.

Background was provided by Gerald Tomkins, Head of Social Inclusion Service, Durham County Council, then discussion began at each table throughout the room, each led by an informal chairman who enabled everyone to have their say. All points made were written down. Among the questions discussed were the best pattern of areas for our part of the County, how many Councillors should there be, what should the area partnerships be for, how could areas shape countywide policy, what sort of activities should happen at neighbourhood level

and how this should be supported.

The questions being very open, there was ample opportunity to cover a wide area, though time constraints kept speakers to the point.

This event was held on Wednesday 13th August, and in due course a summary of the discussions will be sent to all those taking part. Not surprisingly, many of the participants were Councillors at various levels, but anyone can be involved in the consultation process. If anyone would like to attend a similar event they should contact Janie Pollard on 01207 218271.



Dear Village....

THE VILLAGE VOICE

IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

The views expressed in letters to the editor are not necessarily those of the newspaper, the editor or persons working for the newspaper. The editor retains the right to cut or otherwise amend any letter published. Letters must contain your name, address and telephone number., all of which may be withheld at your request.

Dear Editor,
Re: Bob Walker

I would like to thank everyone for all their kindness and support over the last few months. For their cards, condolences, etc. shown to myself and family at the recent death of my husband Bob. Special thanks to Dr Ian Davison and all the staff at Park House Surgery for their invaluable help and advice. My three Sons and Grandchildren for all their support. Also my Daughter in Law Kathleen for all her help over the last 2 years. She has not only been my friend and my right hand man but also my rock. Also Wendy who has been a great help. With kind donations I sent £140 to cancer research. Thank you, Olga Walker

STABBING INCIDENT - CLOSED

Judge Peter Bowers at Teesside Crown Court has told David Constantine, of Manor Grange, that he has 6 months to sell his house or go to prison. He admitted putting a person in fear of violence by a course of conduct between March 2006 and January this year. In the meantime, Constantine has to live in a bail hostel and must not visit his house unless he is under strict supervision. It would seem that the two year terror campaign against his neighbours, Mr and Mrs Ward, has at last come to an end. A restraining order was imposed to stop him communicating with the Wards or making complaints about them.

BOYS BRIGADE RETIREMENTS

At the end of July two long serving members of Lanchester Boys Brigade retired. Mr Geoff Martin retired as Company Captain after 25 years and Mr Amos Morris retired as Junior Section leader also after 25 years of service. A presentation evening was held where a presentation of engraved clocks was made to each of the retiring officers. The boys and leaders wish Amos and Geoff all the best for the future. The company now needs help in order to continue. Please contact Vicky Davison on 521853, if you feel you could give up a

couple of hours a week to help run the section looking after boys aged between 8 and 18 years. We also have some spaces available if any boys would like to join.



Ronnie Dixon presents Amos Morris and Geoff Martin with their retirement gifts of engraved clocks

FOUND
A pair of glasses with black and silver stems has been found on the wall of the car park in Newbiggen Lane. They may be collected from Shirley Lamb, 25 Woodham Court.

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We have changed our opening hours at the pharmacy. We are now open at 8.30 am Monday - Friday, closing at 6.00 pm, except Mondays, when we stay open until 7.30 pm. Saturday opening times are from 9 am - 1 pm.

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DOUBLE DEGREE CELEBRATION

Brother and sister, Thomas and Alice Hebdon celebrated their respective graduations on the same day from the internationally renowned Central St Martins, University of the Arts, London. The ceremony was held at the Methodist Central Hall Westminster, across the road from Westminster Abbey and the Houses of Parliament. An impressive venue for two former pupils of Lanchester EP School and

Framwellgate School Durham. Both brother and sister have consistently excelled in the subject of art and design throughout their education and are now aiming for successful careers within their chosen fields. Thomas completed his Post Graduate Diploma Character Animation is currently working on a collaborative animated film with four other

graduates of the course. Alice graduated from the BA Hons Theatre Design for Performance and is currently undertaking work placements with a musical to be performed

at the Edinburgh Festival and helping with the production of costumes for a forthcoming feature film based on Northern Soul music and dance culture.



Thomas and Alice in their academic gowns after the award ceremony in London

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DAVID AND MARJORIE HUGHES CELEBRATE THEIR RUBY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

David and Marjorie were married at Sacriston Methodist Church on July 27th 1968. They spent their honeymoon in South West Ireland.

They began married life in their first home in Durham, moving to Briardene, Lanchester, in 1972, finally settling at Howden Bank in 1981, where they still live.

Marjorie taught in various primary schools in Durham including Burnside, Stanley, and St Pius RC School, in Consett. David taught at Greencroft Comprehensive School, becoming Head of History, before taking promotion as Deputy, then as Head Teacher at Moorside Comprehensive for his

remaining 19 years in school.

After retiring from Moorside School, David continued working for the County as Lifelong Learning Co-ordinator/Consultant.

Both David and Marjorie are active in Lanchester Methodist Church and village life. Marjorie is President of the Methodist Wives Group. David is involved in Churches Together and was co-founder and is Conductor of Lanchester Choral and Operatic Society, and has been since 1973.

They have two children. Wendy is a teacher with Durham County Council Music Service and Richard is a Physiotherapist,

married to Pauline, daughter of Canon Peter and Sheila Waterhouse. David and Marjorie and the Waterhouses are proud grandparents of Olivia and Joseph.

The Ruby Wedding was celebrated with an evening party with the Choral Society and lunch at Beamish Hall for family and friends. It was a glorious day, a wonderful time, in a beautiful setting.

Many things were said on this celebratory occasion but, 'Lanchester is a wonderful place to live, and we can't imagine being anywhere else', was a fitting tribute to the village, the place where David and Marjorie have spent the majority of their lives.



David and Marjorie Hughes pictured on their Ruby Wedding Day

WEDDING ANNE CRINSON - GORDON HOWIE

On August 2nd 2008 Anne Crinson of Lanchester married Gordon Howie formerly of Wallsend at Lanchester Methodist Church.

The bride wore a Maggie Sottero gown in cream satin with lace overlay with pearl beading and sequin detail. The five bridesmaids, Inga Andrew, Helen Walters, Hayley Walters, Bethany Walters and Alice Ayers, wore raspberry pink dresses by Hilary Morgan. The bride's bouquet was a shower bouquet with calla lilies, Sharon roses and Singapore orchids, the bridesmaids had hand tied bouquets with gerberas in champagne and raspberry pink, these were supplied by Country Style Florist in Langley Park.

The groom, best man, Paul Rosemond and Ushers, James Howie and Adam Rosemond and both dads

wore Prince Edward jackets in black with striped trousers, raspberry pink cravats and hankies and buttonholes made with Sharon roses. The men were ably supported by 6 young ushers who all wore champagne waistcoats and buttonholes.

The service was taken by Rev Gavin Hume with the worship group leading the singing, and singing during the signing of the register. Lillian Dixon and Mark Lloyd played the trumpet voluntary as the bride

made her way in to church. The service was followed by a reception at Ushaw College which was also the venue for the evening reception and ceilidh.

The Howies are honeymooning in South Africa spending some time in Cape Town, Knysna and then volunteering for a week at the hospice in Port Elizabeth which the couple support through their work with the charity they are trustees for, Willinghands. For more information on the charity's work contact Anne on 0762308593.



Anne and Gordon after the ceremony

COMMUNITY DRAW

The winning number in July is 54. The draw was the Community Draw for made by Mrs Betty Reed.

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WILLOW BURN FAIR

Chief Executive of the hospice, Helen Mills, opened the fair in glorious sunshine with a short welcome speech, but within five minutes the heavens had opened with torrential rain and high winds. Stalls which had been very busy, were either deserted or used for shelters, and brollies were up in no time at all.

It was a shame as so much work had gone into the preparation. There were lots of excellent stalls including at least three different kinds of Tombolas, Cash in the Attic, Strawberries and Cream, Sweets, Cakes, Plants, Books, and Pies. Inside the building it was very busy with people queuing for Strawberries, Scones, Teas, Coffees and many other delights.

Despite the unfortunate weather all the fundraisers remained cheerful even though they were soaked to the skin. Master of Ceremonies, Terry Lewins carried on playing some lively music which helped to lighten the mood. Willow Burn Fair is an annual event that the public does support well, and in spite of the unfortunate weather a massive profit of £2065 was still raised on this gloomy rain sodden afternoon.



Helen Mills, Chief Executive, opens the Fair with MC Terry Lewins in the background



Cash in the Attic doing well



Busy bottle stall



Everyone sheltering from the storm, the wind and the rain

COMMUNITY CENTRE MEETING ITS TARGETS

It was reported at the July Management Meeting of the Community Centre that the budgets set for 2008 are expected to be met. The Chairman, Arthur Maughan, pointed out that the credit crunch and the volatility of the energy market could throw up some unexpected results but for now the Community Centre is on course to meet the difficult targets set for 2008.

In particular, the first six months of operation of the new Exercise Centre have been better than anticipated, with income and attendances 100% up on last year and the extra staff presence in the building has led to a greater than expected increase in the core business of renting space. This is all part of the

overall plan to introduce more activities that require a staff presence and has already helped to increase income overall.

The Stairlift Appeal is continuing but only £3,500 has been raised out of the £7,000 needed to purchase a new Stairlift. It was decided to purchase a refurbished model if another £1,500 could be raised before some of the donors withdrew their grants in October 2008. Fundraising is continuing in the summer months and an Auction has been arranged for 20th September 2008. Trustees were asked to collect items from colleagues and friends for this event and to raise funds in any way they could.

YELLOW LINES OUTSIDE THE COMMUNITY CENTRE



The Council decided to repaint the double yellow lines outside the Community Centre, Front Street in the village on July 25th. Unfortunately, the parked car - not illegally parked at the time, prevented them from completing the job. What a lucky driver - still not illegally parked!

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CRAFTS AT THE LIBRARY

Children attending the craft sessions in Lanchester library during their summer holidays have created such attractive art-work that they are now to contribute to the library decor.

Customers entering the library will be able to see a frieze on both of the library counters using the designs of four children who attended the summer craft sessions.

The pictures show the children working on their design and the the four children are shown at the bottom of the page posing with their frieze displayed on the front of the counter.



Janice Conroy from the Library and Clare Haddon help the children make sporting figures from tennis, bowling and baseball etc, to go on a frieze for display in the Library. Children in the photograph are Daniel Haddon, Sophie Haddon, Lily and Joe Purdom.

Children enjoying a craft session with Auntie Janice in Lanchester library on 24th July



Daniel, Sophie, Lily and Joe proudly pose for a photograph with the finished frieze installed in its final position on the front of the counter in the Library for all the customers to see

BOOK MAGIC AT THE LIBRARY



Enthralled, mesmerised, and other times enthusiastically contributing, children at the Book Magic show in the library



Magic Marvin, a natural entertainer with young children doing some fine ventriloquism with Syd which the youngsters loved



Seven year old Lauren, helping Marvin accomplish his tricks

FLOODS AGAIN FOR LANCHESTER?



After torrential rain on 19th August, the village was fine despite Newbiggen Lane being like a river. If this is the summer, roll on the winter.

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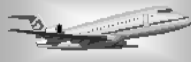
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KAREN STEWART DANCE AND PERFORMING ARTS

Yet again, the Academy has swept the board at the Annual Championships held at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

The Under 12 Team won their event along with Pairs, Solos, Rock & Roll, Slowdance and Hip Hop. It was a tremendous achievement by all.

Not resting on their laurels, the Academy went on to receive over 60 Distinctions in their UKA Medal Test with the remaining 10 receiving

Honours and Highly Commended, making up the examinations taken.

The morale of the school was on a high, thus proving that the dedication of both dancers and teachers has paid dividends. Everyone is excited about the final competition which takes place in Leeds soon.

Did we do well? We certainly did!

Winners and finalists in both Under 12 years and Under 16 years has made it a very proud and

happy first half of 2008. This summer, KSDA are holding open classes at the Social Club on Tuesdays 6.00 pm - 8.00pm. This is not part of the usual 'Class Plan' but it's a 'fun for the summer' session. The purpose is for anyone who wishes to do 'High School Musical' dance routines - Hip Hop, Funky Freestyle, and Bollywood. Just pop along and have a great time.

Karen Stewart



Some of the younger pupils at Blackpool



Some of the Under 16 dancers at Blackpool

STAN(EGATE) TO STAN (LAUREL) WALK

Buoyed up by his Longovicium to Stanegate walk, 65 year old Lancastrian, Ian Andrew kept on walking in June from Carlisle (Stanegate) to Ulverston (Stan Laurel's birthplace). The early part of the walk was mainly beside the River Caldew in fair weather. He visited Sebergham Church where tea and coffee were left in the vestry for the refreshment of visitors, including Ian. The B&B in Caldbeck was excellent; happily providing Ian with breakfast at 7.30 am, so that by 8.30 am he was out on the Caldbeck Fells with high winds and occasional splats of heavy rain. It was a fascinating area geologically speaking and there were lots of notices warning of removing rock samples, but in spite of his obvious professional interest, there was no chance of that happening. Ian was doing the walk unsupported and any extra weight in the

rucksack was most unwelcome! The route threaded its way over High Pike, back in the Caldew Valley, up to Skiddaw House Youth Hostel, round Lonscale Fell, and down to Keswick. It was hard work. By comparison, the walk round the head of Derwentwater and into Borrowdale was gentle.

On the third day, Coniston was Ian's destination twenty-odd miles away, but it wasn't long before the rains came. By the time here reached Langdale, even the main road was flooded and he still had 13 miles to go in heavy rain. The final day was difficult as the route was poorly signed and caused some problems until Ian realized that it was assumed most walkers would walk from south to north.

Thereafter he just kept on looking back to check he was still on the Way. In one farmyard he was bitten by a dog; result dog 0 Ian 1, but as

he was wearing walking boots, thick socks and heavy duty gaiters, the dog went away whimpering with very sore teeth! The last straw was a farm 1½ miles from Ulverston where he was stopped from continuing as a huge dairy herd plus a bull was using the Way. He was advised to divert via the main road instead, but thankfully still made it to the railway station with 20 minutes to spare.

Unlike his previous walk along Hadrian's Wall, he would not recommend the Cumbria Way to anyone. He said, "If you are going to the Lakes, then you should choose where you want to go; you'll get much more enjoyment that way." He received £456 in donations from folk in Lanchester. This was split equally between The Edith Jackson Trust, a charity which promotes school building and education in poorer areas of Sudan and The Village Bus.



One of Ian's sketches completed before his walk. The rain was torrential when he actually crossed the bridge!

PATHFINDERS NEED MORE FOOTPATH PEOPLE

Lanchester Pathfinders are desperately seeking new members. Sadly due to the death of one of our most active founder members Ted Sproat, we are now down to only 3 members. Ted will be sadly missed, his cheerful commitment to Public Rights of way was well known. One of our members finds it difficult to attend regularly due to other commitments and so there are only 2 of us able to attend regularly and we

don't feel that is enough to carry on. If you enjoy walking the Public Rights of Way around the Parish of Lanchester and would like to help keep them in a good state, then please come along to our October meeting, it is on Wednesday the 1st of October at 7:30 pm in the lounge of The Black Bull public house. We only meet once a month and it's absolutely free, you don't even have to

commit to every month but we do need more people to come fairly regularly. Please come along and help us build on our past successes - we've created new stiles, vegetation cuts and played a big part in the production of the Village Map board outside Peters. You will be very welcome. Looking forward to seeing you in October, Ann Cook, Ronnie Barker and Eric Gaskill.

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EP SCHOOL FAIR

Heavy rain didn't influence this excellent fair until near the end when people were drifting away anyway. This was a lively interesting event with plenty to hold the attention. There were the usual many sales stalls and ever popular Face Painting. Well used commercial shows were the Roundabout, Giant Slide, Trampoline and Bouncy Castle. Inside there were some tasty refreshments, Hot Dogs and Ice cream, which all seemed to be busy areas. Most popular sideshow was 'Soak the teacher' and several, including

the Head Teacher Jane Davis, took their turn in the stocks for severe soakings, much to enjoyment of children and parents alike. New this year were the Young Fire Fighters aged 13 yrs to 17 yrs, with Firemen and Fire Engine from Conssett Fire Station. The Youngsters gave a fine performance of Fire Drill and proceeded to soak the grass with huge volumes of water in their demonstration. The swimming pool was opened for the Fair and many took advantage of a swim without having to leave the village. There were football

matches between Girls and Mums, won by the Mums, and Dads versus the School Boys Team played with great competitive enthusiasm, which the Dads won by a goal to nil.

This was a very well supported Fair with a good fun atmosphere, organised extremely well by 'Friends of the School'. A total of £1300 was raised on the day which will be used to purchase a three ball shooter and rebound walls for the main school yard as well as more equipment for the children in the Foundation Stage.



Teacher Mark Stephenson gets a soaking



Great save by the Dad's keeper in Dads v Lads

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Always a favourite - enjoying the Bouncy Castle



Fun on the roundabout

ST BEDE'S GCSE RESULTS



Pupils from St Bede Catholic School and Sixth Form College excited at receiving their GCSE results. All seemed happy with their results. Left to Right: Naomi, Lauren, Jess, Rebecca, Fay, Emily and Dyllan.

LADIES WHO LUNCH

An extra special lunch-treat, a much loved, much missed former Gourmet girl was back in the village for a few days and joined us for lunch - we were in high spirits before we set off - and we were setting off for pastures new, an Italian restaurant - not as far away as Italy, only Washington, to La Fiume, situated by the river in Fatfield.

A very busy restaurant, the outside terrace was fully booked and there was one party of 24 inside. However, tables were found and put together for us and we settled ourselves in. As can be imagined it was a little noisy although once the party was over and people started dispersing it did quieten and we were able to enjoy what we would imagine to be the

usual ambiance of the place.

We sampled to start with garlic bread followed by risotto de mare, risotto with asparagus and tagliatelle pasta pollo, all very enjoyable. The delectable puds were tiramisu, chocolate mousse and cheesecake. An enjoyable lunch but not anywhere that we feel we would rush back to.

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LANCHESTER COINCIDENCE

Going on a cruise to the Faroe Islands, Iceland and Norway, you would not expect to meet anyone from our village, but Norma and Eric Burns, Shirley and Arthur Rice and Marion and Ray Fenwick did just that. None of us were aware of the others being on the Thomson Celebration 12 day cruise. Another coincidence was that Norma who was a Medical Receptionist for Dr Astley at Leadgate Surgery worked alongside Pharmacist Margaret Hodgson who was also on board with another Pharmacist enjoying the cruise. Two of the entertainers on board were Pee Wee Price as Muddles and Emma who are appearing at Consett Empire for the Christmas Pantomime Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.



The village people, left to right, Marion and Ray Fenwick, Arthur and Shirley Rice and Norma and Eric Burns in the Royal Box on the Cruise Ship

LANCHESTER EP LEAVERS SERVICE

On the penultimate day at school for the summer term, the now traditional Graduation Service took place at All Saints Parish Church for those going on to secondary education. This child-led service had both its sad and laughter-filled moments. Several appropriate hymns were sung, a violin trio played and numerous readings were read by children along with prayers and short significant memories of their time at primary school. The highlight of the occasion was Head Teacher, Mrs Davis at the lectern, reading prepared notes about every child from Mrs Murphy and Mrs Grayson, the year six teachers. All three certainly knew their pupils extremely well, including many idiosyncrasies, and there were some very amusing anecdotes about most of the children. There were three residential school trips during the academic year - to France, Middleton and PGL in Scotland. It was obvious that everyone including staff and helpers and children, had a wonderful time with some hilarious moments to recount. Two members of Consett Rotary attended the service, Ian Forster along with President Geoffrey Farnsworth, who made an informative speech about the Rotary organisation and presented a cheque which was received by members of the School Council. The Lanchester Lions Club 40th Anniversary Trophy for Citizenship, Year 2, was awarded to Archie O'Dair. He was presented with his award by last year's winner, Luke Suddes. The Lions Citizenship Prize for Year 6 pupils, was achieved by Sophie Taylor, and was presented by Ellie Allport, last year's winner, who now attends Greencroft School. It was a very emotional day for parents, children, staff and pupils who had one more day to say their goodbyes.



*Citizenship Award, Year 2, presented by Luke Suddes to Archie O'Dair
Citizenship Award, Year 6, presented by Ellie Allport to Sophie Taylor*



Achievement Award (cheque), presented by Rotary President, Geoffrey Farnsworth with colleague, Ian Forster. Accepting the award on behalf of the school are School Council Members: Left to right: Adam Taylorson; Chloe Coates; Millie O'Dair; Ben Spraggon.

EP SCHOOL SPORTS DAYS

Foundation Sports Day

At last the sun shone for a village event. Foundation Stage children at Lanchester EP School enjoyed glorious sunshine for their sports afternoon in the school field on Monday 14th July.

At this age the sports were just fun - completely non

competitive, which seemed to suit the children. Races included a Dressing up obstacle event, Walking on Stilt Buckets, running with Rubber Rings on Heads, running to fill large buckets from small containers of water and a Sack Race. Each group of

children took part in all the activities and had a wonderful time.

Right, the great 'Egg and Spoon Race' - always a favourite



The difficult 'Stilt Bucket Race' has a casualty



The fallen hero in the 'Sack Race' - still able to laugh

Junior Sports Day

Once again the EP school was lucky with lots of sun for the Junior Sports afternoon. This year was different in that in addition to the fun element of the day there were competitive races for sprinting and skipping, for which the heats had taken place earlier.

The fun part included; Football Skills; Trim Trail; Netball; Javelin; Obstacle Course; Sack Race; Skipping Races; Egg and Spoon; Parachute (with bouncing ball); Walking on Benches Carrying Water to fill buckets;

and Throwing Skills. The competitive element happened half way through and there were some very close and exciting races among the boys and girls from various year groups, in skipping and straight-forward 100 metre sprints. Much to everyone's delight there was a Parents/Grandparent race, won by Gary Taylorson, and a Staff 3 Legged race, won by Mr Taylor/Miss Hornon. Mr Stephenson was said to be gutted about this! All the elite athletes were



The staff 3-legged race

presented with Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals, for first, second and third places, including the

Parents' and Three Legged Races. It was a great day full of activity and enjoyment

with plenty of parents attending. The Normans House succeeded in carrying off the trophy.



Parachute contest to bounce the ball the most times



The Normans take the Trophy and do the lap of honour

LANCHESTER EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Nocturnes for a Princess

The first concert in the 2008 Early Music Festival began on Saturday 19th July in All Saints Church on a rather damp and dismal summer evening. The concert was devoted to Harpsichord and Organ Sonatas by the enigmatic Domenico Scarlatti (1685-1757) to be performed by Dr Brunt the festival director.

The title of the concert alluded to Scarlatti's patron Maria-Barbara de Braganza.

A small, but attentive audience listened to Dr Brunt's opening readings placing the music in the context of its time. The programme was arranged presenting Scarlatti's earlier works first and finishing with some of the later works as paired Sonatas.

Dr Brunt began with a Sonata K1 in D minor and immediately the Spanish influences became evident. This was lively

vivacious music immediately conjuring up street music, guitar strumming and clear cloudless sunny skies.

The programme continued in this vein with more Sonatas characterised with chromatic figurations, abrupt shifts in harmony, declamatory flamenco flourishes and dance rhythms.

Two Organ Sonatas K287, K288 followed, the latter Sonata ending with a cheeky trill implying that Scarlatti retained his sense of fun even when writing for the organ.

More Harpsichord and Organ Sonatas followed with K255 for organ where Scarlatti remarkably mimics the song of the Turtle dove and Quail.

A series of later paired Sonatas rounded off the concert showing that even towards the end of his life Scarlatti had not lost any of his invention.

All the music played was varied and of a high artistic standard but standing out were;

The Sonata in D Minor K213 which started in sparse two part counterpoint leading the piece into remote keys giving the Sonata an elegiac feel showing that Scarlatti was capable of profound musical statements as well as colour and vigour.

The Sonata K115 showed virtuosity in the performance but also dissonant harmonies and wild dance rhythms and syncopation clearly borrowed from Spain conjuring up images of Jotas and Seguidillas.

The final piece Sonata in B Minor K27 started in the manner of a Bach two part invention and then veered into a virtuosic display with rapid ostinato figuration and hand crossing. The music clearly looked to the future

and shades of Beethoven and even Chopin could be heard.

Dr Brunt's playing throughout the recital was informed and vibrant.

The setting was perfect with the sound of the Harpsichord filling the building and the intricacies and inflections being clearly articulated throughout the Church.

The Harpsichord used for the performance was a copy of a contemporary instrument.

As Scarlatti wrote at the end of his preface for the Essercizi "Vivi Felice", that is Be Happy, this was clearly the motto for a damp evening that was filled with Mediterranean sunshine and flare, courtesy of Scarlatti, and of course Dr Brunt.



Dr Brunt at his harpsichord

Bohemian Rhapsody



Dr Brunt and David Malkin

The second concert of the Lanchester Early Music Festival on Saturday 2nd August focussed on Lute, Harpsichord and Organ music from 18th Century. The concert started with some lively organ music from the Court in Vienna

played by Dr Brunt. This was followed by a Partita for solo lute by Jan Antonin Losy Von Losymthal played on a classical guitar by the talented 16 year old David Malkin.

The music by Von Losymthal was intimate

and elegant containing an undercurrent of melancholy. This was eloquently captured by David's sympathetic playing as he gave the music breathing space, conveying the subtle harmonic and dynamic nuances that characterised the music. The concert alternated between Harpsichord Music by the rarely heard J K Fischer and the lute music of Von Losymthal. The first half ended with a dazzling Ciaccona with 38 variations by G. Muffat on Harpsichord.

The second half started with a lively suite of organ music clearly influenced by Czech folk music by Franz Schnizer. Then followed a Sonata for Lute by S.L Weiss which was more extrovert in style than the Von

Losymthal showing a different facet to David's technique.

Dr Brunt then performed a further Toccata and Passacaglia by J K F Fischer.

The Toccata acted as a prelude to the expansive Passacaglia which was full motion and momentum the music ever driving forward until finally coming to rest.

Finally David Malkin played Le Tombeau on the death of Von Losymthal. This was a great showcase for David's playing as the music was full of solo lamenting passages with little harmonic support exposing a single line of fluent melody. The music was underpinned by melancholy but occasionally perhaps a fond memory of the master

came to mind and the music changed direction. However the night was not to end on this sombre note as David announced that he would break all the festival rules and play an encore from the 21st Century, in the form of a Tango filled with bright harmonics and rapid tempo and dynamic changes. This ended the night on an upbeat stroke to a large appreciative audience.

This is David's third season at the Lanchester Early Music festival and the Concert showcased his talent with Dr Brunt acting as a foil to the lute music. David clearly shows gifted artistry and interpretive skills beyond his years and hopefully he will return to delight audiences again next year.

WI NEWS

Ushaw College was established in 1808 and lies within 30 acres of countryside. Since opening its prime purpose has been the formation of Roman Catholic priests for the North of England. It has been holding events to celebrate its bi-centenary this year, but it was to an annual DCFWI evening that members from all over Durham County gathered at the College Bar on 24th July.

After eating a tasty 3-course meal, served in the Refectory, members moved in to the beautiful lecture theatre which was once the main Chapel. After-dinner speaker, Steve Smith MBE, a criminal lawyer, described as the 'Rumpole of Rotherham', regaled 'true-life' stories and jokes to an appreciative audience. He also described his participation in a 'Rough Justice' programme, and in solving a miscarriage of justice. Afterwards some members bought signed copies of his two books, 'Boozes, Ballcocks

and Bail' and 'Junkies, Judges and Jail'. At the August meeting Jesse Goodall read an amusing poem entitled 'My Passport Photo'. It described having a passport photo taken in a booth but having seen "four hideous shots of an old lady who had gone round the bend," she decided to stay at home. However, "the photos I had were not wasted, they came to good use I must say. I stuck one on my garden gate, and it scared all the cats away!"

Mrs Barbara Beveridge, the guest speaker, described how she and her husband had begun farming in Teesdale but after 28 years of running a dairy herd they gave it up when the milk was being sold as little as 9p/litre. Two years ago she decided to turn a hobby into a business making and selling Leazes Farm Preserves which the members were very happy to sample with accompanying foods: apple chutney with cheese, mango chutney with cracker, caramelized

onion chutney with sausage, lemon curd with bread, peach and ginger jam with scone, marmalade with bread, wild bramble with teacake. The large number of jars she sold after the tasting session was testimony to the quality of the preserves. Barbara kindly donated 2 jars of chutney, and judged Jennifer Macdonald and Maureen Barker to be winners of the Chutney Recipe Competition. Members also bought chocolate cake slices and fruit scones baked by the afore-mentioned in aid of DCFWI funds. Ann Carr sent not only her apologies for being unable to attend but also a home-grown cucumber which was snapped up too!



Barbara Beveridge selling her preserves to WI members

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Park House Surgery runs a Patient Forum throughout the year. We are very keen to develop the forum further by trying to encourage a wider cross section of the community to attend. We are particularly interested in younger members of the community. If you are interested and feel you have something you could add to the Forum or would just like to hear what has been said, please contact Terry Blair at Park House Surgery on 01207 520877.

Lanchester Community Centre

WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER

ANIMATED SNAIL RACING NIGHT

Saturday 13th September 7pm - 11.30pm

Have a flutter on a race, enjoy a drink at the licensed bar, hot food for sale. All welcome including children. A great nights of fun for all the family. Tickets £2.50 each and available from John Hames on 07814924843 or John Wilson at the Community Centre

GRAND AUCTION

Saturday 20th September 10am (viewing from 9.30am)

If you have any items you don't need and would like to donate them to the auction, please take them to the Community Centre.

*For more details contact John Wilson
(Community Association Manager)*

Phone: 01207 521275

Become a Friend of Lanchester Community Association

NEW MANAGERS FOR THE QUEENS

Sue and Graham Robertson took over the Queens Head as Managers on July 19th. They met 4 years ago, got married on July 1st, and moved into the Queens the day after returning from honeymoon in Egypt. They have been in the trade just over 3 years, and have worked for Mr Schweiseni

for 8 months, previously managing another one of his pubs, The Kings Head in Crook. Their first public house was The Crown, Crook where they won Trust Inns National Award for Best Community Local, which was judged on the events that were held in the pub and the amount of fundraising done, (£3500

was raised for charity in one year). They were also finalists for The Friendliest Welcome Award. They have now spent nearly a month in the village and have settled in very quickly. They would like to thank everyone they have met so far for making them feel very welcome.



Sue and Graham Robertson

HAYDN'S 'THE SEASONS'

This year's performance by the Choral and Operatic Society was just wonderful. This oratorio, 'Creation', has some lovely music. The strong choir sang quite beautifully, and the soloists must be amongst the best in the north of England. The tenor, Paul Smith, and the bass,

Michael Gardner, were a joy to listen to, whilst Soprano Jessica Holmes was sublime. Bill Gray played the organ superbly, and David Hughes, yet again, brought the best out of everyone. If you were not there you would probably think I was exaggerating. If you were there you will know that it was, well, wonderful.

PEST CONTROL GERMAN STYLE?

Joyce Thomas, Jill Ramsay of Lanchester and their friends Joan Etherington and Ruby Goldsborough recently visited Hamelin. Of course, there were rats everywhere: made of bread, marshmallow, felt and so on. We had flown from Newcastle to Hanover, then continued by train to Hamelin, a picturesque town of narrow, winding, cobbled streets and half-timbered houses with gold coloured mottoes painted on the beams and pretty flower boxes. We watched an enactment of the legend of the Pied Piper which stems from 1284. The first version for actors was produced in 1930.

Afterwards we enjoyed the coffee and cake on the top deck of a steamer on the river, the Weser. Bad Pymont, a watering place an hour away by bus, provided a good contrast to Hamelin with its huge

hotels and tree-lined avenues leading to the beautiful, elegant park full of exotic plants.

We also visited Hanover, the capital of Lower Saxony. Near the station are well-stocked department stores and George Street, named, according to a plaque, after the Elector who became King George the First of England. So we went down there and discovered older buildings and churches and attractive, quieter squares. Before returning to the station we walked along the river and learnt that the name Hanover supposedly comes from words meaning "high riverbank".

Hamelin and the surrounding area certainly had something for everyone: modern shops, history and delicious cakes and ice creams and we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves!

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The Pied Piper leading the rats

FLOWERS AND CREAM

A sunny afternoon in July found the Thursday Club ladies hard at work in the Community Centre putting on a flower show and cream tea in aid of the Great North Air Ambulance. The flower arrangements were made up of lovely fresh greenery with artificial flowers donated by June Wallis and arranged by myself, Joan Pinkney, Barbara Sproat and Maureen Clarkson and special thanks must go to Barbara and Maureen for completing theirs at such

a difficult time. All the arrangements were subsequently part of a huge raffle, which took place at the end of the afternoon. The event had been sponsored by Asda, Lanchester Dairies, Spar, Sainsburys, Emmertons, Tesco, Crinnions, Home House Prison Officers and Morrisons - and we thank them all for their support. Elaine's needlework girls put on a super display of their work, Moving Taylor had supplied all the real flower table decorations and that virtuoso on

piano Neville Hartley had entertained with his music all afternoon. Scones, of course, were baked by the ladies.

We had a really happy, fun filled time, although the real joy of the afternoon was the lovely mix of community from all over the village joined together in raising £820 for that great life-saving charity, the Great North Air Ambulance.

We would like to thank everyone who came along and supported our event. Olive Simpkins



A very busy Community Centre for the Cream Tea



Neville Hartley at the piano

THURSDAY CLUB ENJOY CREAM TEA

A few months ago the Thursday Club had a meeting and talk entitled 'Ready Steady Cook', our speaker being a Mrs Heard, who had been cook at Gibside - one home of the legendary National Trust scone. She now

runs the restaurant at Tyneside Golf Club, Ryton and it emerged that she also did cream teas for ladies groups - would we like to go? - would we. Thursday, August 7th saw 45 of us on our way for a most enjoyable

afternoon out. The golf club restaurant room was delightful and the tea - just lovely. We then called in at Lintzford Garden Centre on our way home for a bit of retail therapy, which nicely rounded off a really good afternoon out.

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OPEN DAY AT LITTLE FEET

A really successful morning was held at Little Feet Nursery, Maiden Law, on Saturday, 9th August. Despite the heavy rain the Bouncy Castle was still used and the children seemed to enjoy getting a bit wet!

About 30 Mums and Dads with their families attended the event. Indoor activities included a Raffle, Tombola and Face Painting which the little ones absolutely loved. The place was a hive of activity with lots of fun

with all the colourful equipment in the nursery being used. There were, of course, refreshments available and a tempting cake. Money was raised for improvements to be made in the garden area for the children.



Jackie (staff member) trying to pinch the raffle prizes, ha ha!

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THE BAG PACKERS

Following their successful sponsored Bike Ride at the end of July, Lanchester Rugby Club continued their money raising efforts with a bag packing session at Tesco's, Annfield Plain, on Saturday 16th August,

from 10.00 am until 4.00 pm. Once again there was a good turn out of players and despite it being a fairly quiet day in the store, they still raised £439.20 due to the generosity of the customers.



I'm quite good at packing bags - Ryan to Damien

RUN FOR J JOHN

Evangelical Anglican Minister J John has been holding services in Gateshead for the past 10 weeks. During that time many buses have been arranged from the village to hear him speak about the 10 commandments. He has written a book called 'Living the Ten Commandments', (published by Kingsway), to remind you of why it is important to know God. To mark week 10 of his visit to the North East, several members of the Methodist Chapel

decided to run 10 miles, passing en route seven Methodist Churches. The run began early on Saturday, 5th July, at Catchgate. They proceeded on to Harelaw, White-le-Head, Tanfield Lea, East Stanley, South Moor, finishing at Lanchester, where all looked a bit out of breath to say the least, but still able to manage a smile. Money raised which has amounted to somewhere in the region of £600.00 will go to help the J John costs.



Runners for J John: (left to right) Mark Grimes, Gary Cook, Derek Ramage. Front: Jacob Lloyd and Cameron Hume

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CHAMPIONSHIP CHALLENGE FALTERS

The Monday Triples bowlers kept up their challenge for the league title with excellent strong victories over Annfield Plain, Consett Park and South Moor but were pegged back to a five all draw by title challengers Dipton.

However disappointment came with a loss at Sherburn Park which puts the challenge for the top place in doubt. The last game of the season is played at home on 1st September where a big win over Burnopfield will be needed if we have any

hope of taking the title. Sadly the club did not do well in knock-out competitions this year, losing to Consett Park in the League Knock-out and Annfield Plain in the Tom Burleigh Triples. However overall it has been an encouraging year with new and improving members bolstering the ranks of bowlers.

The bowling green is open until the end of September so there is still time to give the game a try.

The latest results are shown in the next column.

Derwentside Veterans League Monday Triples
 Away v Annfield Plain 10-0
 Home v Dipton 5-5
 Away v South Moor 8-2
 Home v Consett Park 10-0
 Away v Sherburn Park 2-8
Derwentside Veterans League Tuesday Rinks
 Away v Dipton 2-8
 Home v View Lane 6-4
 Away v Consett Park 2-8
North West Durham League Saturday
 Away v Burnopfield 5-5 (rain)
 Home v View Lane 9-1
 Home v Pelton Fell 4-6
 Away v Annfield Plain 5-5 (rain)
 Home v Consett Park 7-3

CRICKET CLUB SUPPORTS MARIE CURIE

On Sunday 10th August Lanchester Cricket Club held their yearly cricket match in aid of Marie Curie. It was a fantastic day once again with only a few showers to deal with. This year we had 6 teams play with a total of 7 games; they were Lanchester Cricket Club bar team, Lanchester Dairies, Lanchester Rugby Club, Ryton Football Club and 2 teams from HMCS Durham.

The cricket started at 11 am with a game between LCC and HMCS 1. There was a BBQ run by Robbie Selby and the best home cooked cricket teas which were donated entirely by members of the public and cost nothing at all. Many thanks to everybody who donated either food or raffle prizes. A very big thank you to John Cooper, Steve Murray, and Berghuas for the fantastic auction prizes, also Paul Collingwood

who had a hat signed for us by all the England cricket team and to BLUE MOOD for the fantastic entertainment which was provided for free. The day ended with HMCS winning the trophy and a grand total of £937.40 was raised which was a great total for this very worthwhile cause.

If you add the sum raised to the previous £1000 raised for Saint Oswald's Hospice in the last month, the Cricket Club has raised nearly £2000 for great causes.

We have 3 other charity evenings coming up with the first a football talk in aid of Emma

Bell on 5th September. On 27th September in aid of Meningitis Trust Andy Allan is running the Great North Run for Fiona Selby and also David Rafferty is holding a race night on 31st October which will be fancy dress and all proceeds going to Kidney Research. If you would like any information on any of these functions please call the cricket club after 8 pm on 01207 520198.

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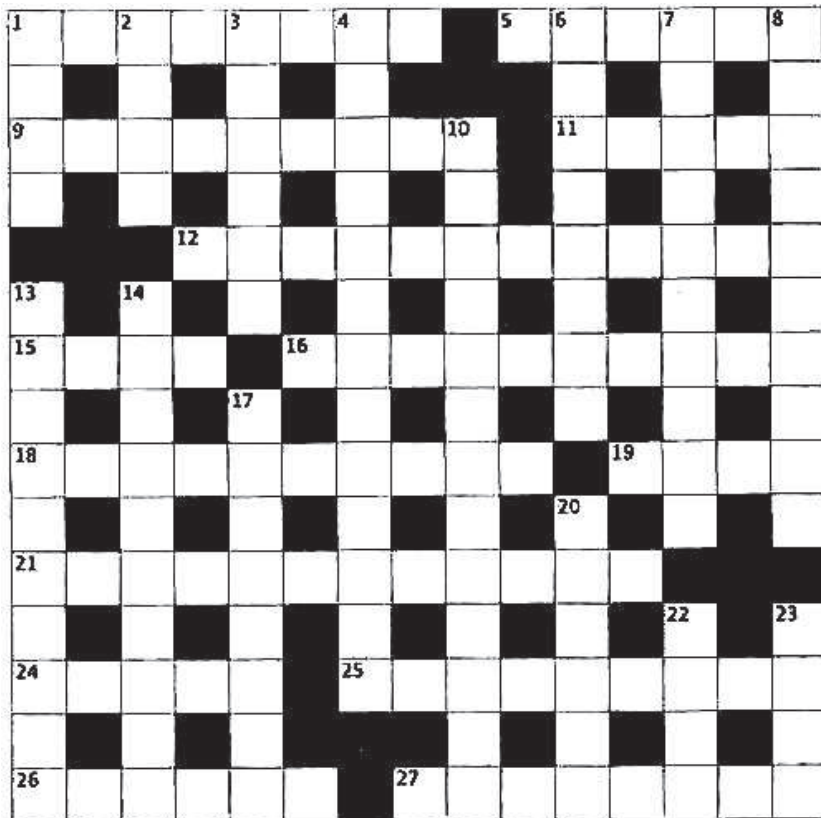
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CROSSWORD 28



ACROSS

1. Sort fish for firelighter (8)
5. Maltreated sailor walked allover (6)
9. Strength after testament to self-control (9)
11. See 1 down
12. Most powerful B movie actor in the world! (6,6)
15. Very curious (4)
- 16, 17. Stall pater's request for make up (6,4,8)
18. Speed of production (3-3,4)
19. Fiddling emperor (4)
- 21, 22. What a hen-pecked man does with those rider's teeth (7,2,3,4) see 25
- 25, 24. Sane holy curate is supernatural (2,7,5)
26. Split (6)
27. Meant (8)

DOWN

- 1, 11. Chinese gooseberry (4,5)
2. Void (4)
3. Canine, originally used to attract fleas (6)
4. Site of the last British public execution (7,6)
6. Knocked about (8)
7. Scornful reaction from eating unripe fruit ? (4,6)
8. Explosion (10)
- 10, 20. Her acted rough tone is insubordinate (4,2,5,2,6)
13. Relays (5,5)
14. Anything above 50°C (3,2,5)
17. see 16
20. see 10
22. See 21
23. Coloured (4)

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 27

ACROSS

1. Sassenach
6. clang
9. transistor radio
10. rapt
11. mainstay
14. smothered
15. torso
16. sepia
18. Tay Bridge
20. artistic
21. Asbo
25. Neo-Nazi movement
26. dunce
27. enigmatic

DOWN

1. sitar
2. shampoo
3. easy
4. also
5. hook and eye
6. curt nature
7. auditor
8. glory hole
12. cheapskate
13. fratricide
14. sustained
17. put-down
19. dissent
22. optic
23. yogi
24. beam

Name _____

Address _____

Please send your entries to The Village Voice, c/o Lanchester Community Centre, Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester, DH7 0JQ.

CROSSWORD 27

There were 21 entries in our competition last month.

The winner in the draw was Audrey Tait of Briardene who will receive the £10 prize.

Have a go at John Wilson's latest challenge.

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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.sudoku

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

MORE WHAT'S ON

Continued from pages 22 and 23

Friends of Longovicium

The next meeting of the group, which exists to study and popularise our Roman Fort, will be on Thursday September 25th, starting at 7.30pm in the Community Centre meeting room. Under discussion will be plans for geophysical work, tracing a Roman road from Lanchester to Chester le Street and recording Roman finds. New members welcome.

Sunday Bridge Returns

The Community Centre's Sunday Bridge will start up again at the beginning of October and will be held once per month until the spring of 2009. Everybody is welcome, so if you are a Bridge player and would like to spend a Sunday afternoon in the company of other players, come along at 2.00 pm. on Sunday 5th October, entry £3.00. All proceeds will go towards the upkeep of the Community Centre. For further information please contact Brenda on 01207 520204 or Liz on 01207521682.

Help at Malton Picnic Area

Now the summer holidays are nearly over a working party is being arranged for Sunday 28th September. Coralie Dickinson, Countryside Ranger of Durham County Council, has asked us to help her with further work near the Malton picnic area on the Lanchester Valley Walk, to help improve the access and also the information provided to increase people's understanding of the area. The task is to put in some further seats and an information board as well as make improvements to the steps.

Lanchester Flower Club

The next meeting is on Wednesday September 24th at 2 pm in the Community Centre, when a demonstration 'Colours of Autumn' will be given by Val Guest of Darlington.

Recorded Music

The Consett Recorded Music Society was established in 1948, therefore we are in our 61st season. The aim of the Society is purely for members to listen to recorded music that is largely Classical, but we do listen to other types such as jazz and musicals. Like many groups we are finding our numbers dwindling and are always on the lookout for new members. The group meets fortnightly on a Friday evening starting at 7.30 pm and finishing at 9.30pm. The meetings are held in the Community Centre of Blackfyne School in Blackhill and our first meeting of the new season is on September 26th. New members would be made most welcome. Jim Evans, Secretary

Halloween Ball

A Masquerade Ball is being planned at Beamish Hall on 1st November in aid of Macmillan Cancer Relief and Willow Burn Hospice.

Tickets, cost £40, include a reception drink, three course meal, coffee and a live band (Jump The Q). Frocks and tuxes are de rigueur and masks are fine. It's a long way ahead but Michelle Atkinson is keen to get those tickets sold. Cheques payable to 'Having a ball' with full names of ticket holders, dietary requirements and full address as well as a contact number should be sent to Michelle at 10 Alderside Crescent, Lanchester DH7 0PY. Query to 07743642075 or email michelle.atkinson@hotmail.co.uk.

Satley Village Show

On Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th September, with Home Produce, Flowers, Vegetables, Children's Class. Viewing times are Saturday 6.00 - 9.00 pm, Sunday 12.00 - 2.00 and 6.00 - 7.30 pm. Sale of all produce for Show funds will be on 7th September at 7.30 pm. There is a very good raffle and viewing is FREE. For further details contact K Goldsmith on 01388 730153.

Wild West Theme Night

On Saturday 13th September at Camperdown Farm, Shotley Bridge, 7pm - 12, there will be a Wild West Theme Night and Country Auction, with a Rodeo Bull, Band and Disco, Buffet and Bar. All proceeds will go to Cancer Research UK and Legacy Of Life. Tickets £12.50 (limited number) are now available; contact Kerry on 01207 505199.

Coming Shortly

Famous Irish singer Frank McCaffrey will be appearing at Satley Village Hall on Thursday 9th October. Tickets £8.00 includes supper. Bring your own bottle. For tickets contact Betty Walton on 01388 730188.

A Ceilidh is to be held at Lanchester Social Club on Saturday 18th October at 7.30 pm. Tickets £6 to include a pie and pea supper. All welcome. Contact Lesley Anderson on 521567 for tickets.

Lanchester Art Group are holding their annual Exhibition on Saturday October 18th - Sunday 19th in the Community Centre from 10 am - 5 pm both days. Come and see the wide range of work on

display and meet the artists! Many of the paintings will be for sale. There will also be refreshments available and a 50p admission charge to the exhibition.

Lanchester Male Voice Choir and guests will present a concert on Monday 20th October at 7.30 pm in the Methodist Church. Proceeds will go to Lanchester Community Association.

Nobby Dimon's North Country Theatre presents 'The Prisoner of Zenda' in the Community Centre on 1st November.

Please try to avoid listed dates. Planning ahead? Let me know when and where. Ring 520559.

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ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU

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

WHAT'S ON?

WI

On 1st September at 7 pm in the Small Hall Mr L Holburn will give a talk on 'Gold'. He will take items for repair and valuations, and will also be selling jewellery. Visitors £1 by invitation from members only. On 5th September there will be a mini-trip for members to Jennifer's for coffee and Broom House Farm for shopping and lunch. Tel: 520012 for details.

Lanchester Social Club

Entertainment for September:
Saturday 6th September, Jake Roberts, Super Vocalist
Saturday 13th September, Alec Blackwood, Dynamic Vocalist
Saturday 20th September, Karaoke
Saturday 27th September, Elizabeth, Brilliant Vocalist

Scottish Country Dancing

The class for beginners and those with a little experience will resume on Friday 5th September at 7pm in the Small Hall of the Community Centre. We have a qualified teacher, Doris Jackson. All very welcome! No need for a kilt!

Lanchester Writers

After a Summer break the group reassembles, reinvigorated and raring to write, on Tuesday September 2nd in Lanchester library from 2 till 4. If you would like to write and don't know where to start, this could be the place to go. This is an informal group which has a mid-scribble break for coffee and biscuits. New members will be made very welcome. Just bring a pen and some paper.

Some of our work will be on view in the library during the month of September, and you can take a look at our web-site www.communicate.co.uk/ne/lanchesterwriters

Open House

Lanchester C of E Parish Church holds an open day every month when there is an opportunity to spend a quiet time in the church and to have lunch in the Chapter House, and next month's Open Day is Thursday 4th September. Doors open 11.30 am - 1 pm.

Summer Songs of Praise

On Sunday September 7th Songs of Praise will be held on the village green, or if wet in the Methodist Church, at 6 pm.

Lanchester History Society

The Soldier Marquess of Londonderry, Charles William Vane Stewart - A study in Diplomacy and Industry in mid-19th century Durham.

The talk which was scheduled to begin the Spring of 2008, and subsequently cancelled due to inclement weather, will now begin the Autumn programme. Fortunately we will have the same speaker, namely Mr Gordon Morris, a resident of Sedgefield. Mr Morris worked as a history teacher for many years, before taking up a post as a tutor to Teacher Training courses at New College Durham, from where he retired.

His talk will begin with the role of the Marquess in War and Peace in the Napoleonic Wars, moving on to his dynastic marriage to Lady Anne Vane-Tempest which provided the means for the opening up of the deep collieries of East Durham, the development of Seaham Harbour, and his final legacy - the rebuilding of Wynyard. The talk is rich in the history of our region, and will be held in the Community Centre on Friday 5th September at the usual time of 7.30 pm.

Showdog Training

A new course on Diploma Showdog Training begins on Friday 5th September in the Community Centre, starting at 7 pm. All aspects of preparing dogs for exhibition, entry to shows and ringcraft will be covered.

Country Market

Pies, pastries, cakes, eggs, vegetables, jams and crafts are available in the Community Centre on Saturday 6th September, starting 10 am. You could have a cup of tea and a scone as well.

Mothers' Union

The September meeting is on Wednesday 10th, 7.30 pm in the Chapter House, when the speaker will be Chloe Hodgson talking about her visits to Lesotho.

Story and Rhyming Time

A new session for pre-school children will be held on Thursday mornings in Lanchester library. The first meeting will be on 18th September, starting at 10.30 am.

Lanchester Partnership

The next meeting is as usual on the second Monday of the month, which is September 8th, starting at 7.30 pm in the Community Centre small hall. Anyone is welcome to come to the meeting and participate in discussion about the group's many projects.

MP Surgery

Our Member of Parliament, Hilary Armstrong, will be available to talk to her constituents on Saturday September 13th at 11 am at Citizens' House, Consett.

Open Flower and Vegetable Show

Lanchester Social Club hosts the annual show during the second weekend in September. On Saturday 13th flowers and vegetables can be brought in for display (benching), and entry is free. Viewing is on Saturday 7-10 pm and on Sunday 14th from 12 till 2 and 7 till 9, when the results will be announced and cups and cash prizes awarded. The show is open to all.

Three Horse Shoes

The musician's group are still meeting up at Maiden Law on a Sunday evening. It is surprising how time passes, and I was thinking that we must have been at this venue about two years now. The acoustics are ideal, unless the rain is beating time on the roof!

We always have a good night, it finishes off the week nicely, or starts it, depending on your point of view. You are most welcome to join us, if you have a song, a poem, or a joke, so much the better, but it's not obligatory! We kick off at 8.30 each week.

See you soon! Ian Tute

Short Walks

Acorn Amblers meet at the Derwentcote Steel Furnace car park (map reference 132563) on Sunday 21st September at 1.30 pm for a 5.5 mile walk along the river taking in Derwentcote Steel Furnace and Vindamora Roman Fort.

The Short Circuits RA group are walking 5 miles in the grounds of Slaley Hall, starting at the Hotel at 10.30 am on Saturday September 27th.

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Wildlife Group

Members and guests who turned up at Hedleyhope Fell for the August meeting of the Wildlife Group had a second disappointment when the truly appalling weather put paid to their visit with Wildlife Trust officer Craig Best.

In 2007 the weather was, if anything, even worse and the event was cancelled before the group left Lanchester. This year at the August visit conditions underfoot made walking dangerous, so in a spirit of optimism and defiance of the elements the group will try again in September.

Members will meet in the Community Centre car park at 6.15 pm or at Hedleyhope Fell car park on the B6301 at 6.30pm on Tuesday 9th September, which will be a lovely sunny day, by the law of averages anyway.

Lanchester Early Music Festival

The final concert in this year's festival will be at 7.30 pm on Saturday 13th September in All Saints Parish Church, presenting 'Flowers from Flander's Fields', music from the Flemish, French and Italian Renaissance, featuring the work of Josquin des Prez and his contemporaries. Performers will be The Clerks of Durham and The Boismortier Consort, with Andrew Fowler (Director) and Dr Ian Brunt (harpichord and organ). Tickets £8 with concessions £5 and those unwaged, under 18 years or full-time students free. Admission at the door or reservations in advance by enclosing an SAE to Dr Ian Brunt, The Lodge, Lanchester, County Durham, DH7 0LF, with cheques made payable to "All Saints Lanchester PCC".

NSPCC Street Collection

Our small band of members of Lanchester NSPCC committee will be out and about in the centre of the village for our annual street collection on Saturday 13th September. We will be collecting from 9.30am, and will be strategically positioned and recognisable in our green and white NSPCC sashes. We would be grateful if villagers and visitors alike could spare some change from their Saturday morning's shopping, to help this very worthy charity. All proceeds raised in this area are used in the north east.

We continue to look for new members, supporters and friends of the NSPCC. Please speak to any of our members if you feel you can help in any way, or telephone 01207 520175.

Lanchester Reading Group

We meet at 2.30 pm - 4 pm on Tuesdays in the upstairs lounge of the Community Centre for 10 weeks commencing 23rd September, cost £30.

Our leader is Pru Kitching and our first book this session is 'The Moonstone' by Wilkie Collins.

We would welcome new members to our group. For further information contact Suzanne Eckford (01207) 529155.

Charity Bridge Night

There is to be a fund raising bridge session on Tuesday 16th September starting at approximately 6.45 pm in the Community Centre. This is in aid of the Great North Air Ambulance. Visitors will be made very welcome. There is to be a raffle as well as small prizes for the bridge, and refreshments are served at half time.

Snail Racing

In a bid to provide a stairlift, the Community Centre has arranged an 'animated snail racing' evening on Saturday 13th September between 7 and 11.30 pm. No real snails were harmed or even mildly annoyed for this event, as the 8 animated snail races are shown on screen. Tickets are £2.50 and you can buy an (imaginary) snail for £4 or bet on the race results. Alcohol and soft drinks will be provided at the licensed bar. Ring the Centre on 521275 or John Hameson 07814924843 for further info and/or tickets.

Auction

Lanchester Community Association is holding an auction at 10 am on Saturday September 20th. Viewing is from 9.30 am in the Community Centre.

You can help the Association in two ways: by leaving anything suitable for the auction at the Community Centre, and by coming along to the auction and bidding vigorously.

Sprechen Sie Deutsch?

A nine week course exploring how the German language works will begin on Friday 3 October at 2 pm in Room 3 of the Community Centre. No previous knowledge is necessary. This will be followed after Christmas by "German for holidays", a course designed to help you get the most out of staying in a German-speaking country.

Hospice Barbecue

A 'black-tie barbecue' will be held at Knitsley Mill in aid of Willow Burn Hospice on 20th September. The band 'Fandango' will provide the music while guests enjoy the bbq and buffet. Ring Julia on 523294 for info and tickets, price £30.

Lanchester Film Club - your local Cinema

A new season of excellent films will be shown monthly, starting on Sunday, September 21st. These will include much acclaimed films such as: Kite Runner, Happy Go Lucky, Atonement, La Vie en Rose.

Venue - The Community Centre. Time - 7.30 pm. Ticket price - £3.50 or discount if you become a member.

Posters in the village will advertise the film each month. Please come along and bring your friends, all are welcome! The future of the Film Club depends on numbers attending. It is there to be enjoyed.

Kite Runner

The film Kite Runner will be shown on Sunday September 21st 7.30 pm at the Community Centre.

Based on the international bestselling novel, this fascinating historical epic is set in 1970's Afghanistan. Amir and Hassan, two young boys, are firm friends until a shocking incident tears their relationship apart. This story of exile, ambition, betrayal and final resolution is a moving emotional drama, 'an enthralling piece of cinema'.

Local Author at Library

As part of the National Year of the Reader 2008, author Graham Whalan of Shotley Bridge will appear at Lanchester library on Thursday 18th September at 7.30 pm.

He will be reading extracts from his book 'Mr Tambourine Man', which is set in the 60's; the story takes place in England and France. Tickets in advance are free from the library.

Stardust Performing Arts Academy

A new innovative stage school is opening on 13th September in the Community Centre from 2.30-5.30pm. Children of all ages and abilities will be able to learn not only singing, dancing and acting, but also how to make TV drama programmes, write songs and scripts, compose music, design lighting, stage management and choreography.

For more details, contact SPAA on 01207 521013 or email stardust.academy@yahoo.com.

First Aid for the Public

Lanchester Centre of the British Red Cross have been requested to organise a Public One Day Basic First Aid course, in the room above the Red Cross shop.

Date: Saturday 11th October, 9am - 5pm with a lunch break.

Cost: £37 to include the book, a certificate, but not a work place First Aid certificate.

We have 3 people interested and can take up to 10, but need at least 6 to enable the course to run.

If this date is not convenient, please leave your contact details and we will get back to you. Please contact the Secretary on 01207 520123 or Elaine on 01207 520063 by Friday 26th September.

Coffee Morning

On 27th September in the Community Centre from 10am - 12 noon, organised by Lucy Dunn, Robyn Grange and Julia Willmot in aid of their World Challenge Expedition to Peru. Refreshments, stalls and tombola. Please give us your support.

**MORE
WHAT'S ON
Page 21**

RUGBY CLUB BIKE RIDE



The majority of riders who went on the Sponsored Bike Ride (some missed the photo call)

Lanchester Rugby Club, which is in dire need of funds, recently organised a Sponsored 20 Miles Bike Ride. The route began in the

village at Newbiggen Lane car park and thereafter along the cycle path to Brandon and back, via Langley Park, Bearpark, Ushaw

Moor, and Broompark. On the return journey they enjoyed a fun game of cricket and a picnic lunch at Bearpark. Gordon Cole provided

support for the ride by travelling in his car to various suitable locations on route. There was a very good turnout of players for the

ride and the money raised was in excess of £800, which was a tremendous effort by all concerned. *See page 18 for further fund raising activity.*

CATHERINE RUNS FOR KATHRYN

Catherine Ayers, née Cole, who now lives near Bradford on Avon with husband Dave and family, is planning to run in this year's Great North Run on October 5th. She will run with her South African friend, Tracey Bingham, who now lives near her.

The run will be in memory of Kathryn Crinson from the village, who would have been 40 on 30th September, but sadly died from leukaemia, in June 2003. It also seemed a good way to celebrate her birthday and raise money at the same time.

Catherine Ayers, who is 40 this year, took up running about six years ago and has completed several half marathons with her friend, Tracey. Both are eager to raise money for the 'Forget me not fund' for Kathryn, which will go directly to Leukaemia Research.

There are many people who would have known Kathryn and still know her family who live in the village. It would be lovely if donations could be made either by internet on www.justgiving.com/catherineanddaveayers, or by giving donations to Ron and Val Cole, who live at 26 Alderside Crescent. So far, through the efforts of many people almost £1000 has already been raised for this very worthwhile cause.



Catherine Ayers and Tracey Bingham, after one of their half marathons

RACE FOR LIFE



Liz and Rachel Allison ran the Race for Life on Sunday 6th July at Maiden Castle, Durham and raised over £200 for Cancer Research UK

MORE SPORTS NEWS PAGE 19

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The views expressed in this periodical are not necessarily those of the publishers. Whilst all efforts are made to check the authenticity and accuracy of all articles submitted for publication, occasionally something is bound to be printed incorrectly. Please let us know and we will endeavour to correct the mistake.

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NEXT DEADLINE
 Please send any articles for the next edition of the Village Voice by Tuesday 16th September. The deadline for adverts is 14th September.