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Consett's Independent Magazine

ISSUE 15/ October 2013

FAWCETT PARK
Genesis Way to get new park

CRIMEWATCH
The biggest game of the year is finally here!

SNOW WHITE
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Welcome

To issue 15 of the **Consett Magazine!**



Good news everyone! Consett Magazine is back again for another month of unparalleled features about everyone's favourite town.

It's the scariest time of the year again (am I really writing about Halloween already?) and we reflect that quite readily in this issue. You will get your fix of all things pumpkin, witch and spider web before you reach page 32.

Once again, the benchmark for contribution has been set higher with even more guest authors showing their skills and getting their keenly crafted paragraphs printed with us. I would like to extend my thanks to all those involved in helping to create this edition.

We are positively bursting with content again this month, with our lifestyle section overflowing in particular. As mentioned earlier, there is plenty of seasonal stuff to ingest; on top of which there is a good selection of news, history and business, with a sprinkling of science, entertainment and sport to fill the rest of your stomach.

We aim to keep you, the readers, busy reading throughout the month and hopefully that goal has been met!

Ivan J. Laidler,
Editor-in-chief

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

Get in touch using these details!

GOT SOMETHING TO PROMOTE?

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URBAN PARK COMING TO CONSETT

by Ivan Laidler



Consett has changed a great deal after the closure of the Steelworks way back in the 1980s. The industrial economic life blood was drained from our small town and it has taken some time to see the green shoots of recovery return to the area once again. This could be partly attributed to The Genesis Project and the funding they have generated for the regeneration of the Consett Area.

Paying tribute to The Genesis Project founders Jack and Caroline Fawcett, a new area of recreational green space is being created in Consett named Fawcett Park. There is no doubt that the £500 million of investment over the years has been highly beneficial but having another recreational area to enjoy can only be a positive thing for the people of Consett.

Alongside this development, The Genesis project is also responsible for the new developments down on Genesis Way. These include the new Tesco store, the new retail outlets alongside the drive-through Starbucks coffee shop. All of these business developments mean that there will be more jobs available in the area for the local Consett community.

Councillor Alex Watson has been involved with the Genesis Project since the beginning back in 1994. He now represents Consett as an independent councillor whilst being a member of The Genesis Project board. He said, "It is fitting that the new urban park, which will host part of the Coast to Coast cycle route, recognises the part played by the Fawcett's. The new development that people see taking place all around them today has been made possible by The Genesis Project."

With all of the recent developments in the town centre, there is a real sense of change and it will be amazing to see how things develop in Consett in the near future.

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HELP FOR HEROES FUND RAISER

by Ivan Laidler

On Saturday the 19th of October two Consett residents are trying to help armed forces charity Help for Heroes at the Blackhill Baptist Church. Colin Richardson and Diane Rutter are looking for a good turn out to help raise money for this important charity to help provide support for the numerous Iraq and Afghanistan veterans. So many soldiers who have put their own life on the line for their brothers in arms and these courageous people need support on arrival back in the UK.

Help for Heroes don't look at the causes of war and the circumstances of battle but prefer to focus on the people who tirelessly serve in this country's armed forces. With time we are learning that combat can have some significant effects on mental health and there isn't currently an efficient network of support for sufferers of post traumatic stress disorder and other problems caused due to going into war.

This fund raiser will be a great chance for the people of the local to get together and raise some well needed money for a noble cause. Be sure to go down to Blackhill Baptists Church to support this local fund raising effort which can help to bring a better life to combat veterans across the country.

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TURN THE PAGE

by Julie Tyers



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With GROUP pic that must be credited:
There was once a time when Castleside was most famous for was its lead mining – that's rapidly changing thanks to the efforts of the village's Calendar Girls.
Last month, we reported that a dozen local women had stripped bare for charities Cancer Research UK and Willow Burn Hospice as well as to raise funds to help cover the running costs of Castleside Village Hall.

Now it seems the girls have struck gold as interest and demand for the calendar has surpassed all expectations and a second print run looks likely.

Heather Thompson, whose idea it was to do the calendar, says the project would never have come about if it wasn't for the generosity of several local businesses.

"We're touched not only by the fact so many companies were happy to contribute financially to the calendar, but also the fact that they're all really excited about and supportive of what we've done," Heather says. "This has turned out to be a real community effort."

Well-known firms Elddis Transport, Gary Hall Windows, Crossgill Construction, The Smelters Arms and Gralands are among the calendar sponsors whose donations covered all production costs.

"We'd welcome any other sponsorship to cover the price of a second print run," Ms Thompson adds.

The Castleside Calendar will be on sale from early October. See their website www.castleside.net or email castlesidecalendar@gmail.com for more information on where to buy.

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by Chris Brown

A NORTHUMBERLAND NIRVANA?

Minsteracres Retreat Centre is an amazing place not too far away from Consett which for many will remain a complete mystery. I was one of these people until I attended an open day at the house to see what was really going on in this secluded area of Northumberland. Coming up the drive I was somewhat stunned by the beauty of the surroundings and the mighty Redwood trees which lined the road. This serene and calm haven seemed a world away from the norms of everyday life.

Minsteracres was originally connected to the Silvertop family in 1738 and their tenure of the land helped to bring the area into what we know it as today. Albert Silvertop was one of the first to start building the estate with the money he had made from the lucrative coal trade. Whilst there were financial restrictions in place for Roman Catholics in these days, the Silvertop family made a handsome fortune from the coal trade. It wasn't until the estate was handed over to Albert's son George that the house extensions had been made and the beautiful church was commissioned.

Whilst Minsteracres is known as a religious retreat centre, there are a number of secular programs which are offered alongside. One of these programs is the peace gardening program. As gardening is a relaxing and positive activity, it can be used as treatment for a number of conditions. Here Minsteracres takes referrals from the NHS to give people the chance to unwind whilst helping out in the house's expansive grounds. Minsteracres also has a substantial link to the town of Consett. In the 1960s the men of St Patrick's Church in Consett would get a bus after Sunday Mass to Minsteracres to help build the residential facilities for the centre. This building is still standing strong and is a constant reminder of the link between Consett and Minsteracres.

If you are religious or not, it is definitely worth going up to Northumberland to check out this amazing piece of local history.



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TROPHY PET FOODS

Those dreaded visits to the supermarket each week, to purchase Fluffy or Rover's favourite pet food, can now be resolved thanks to Nicola Rafferty and her new Trophy mobile pet food delivery service. No more breaking carrier bags as you are trying to load the car, or standing at the bus stop, and no more over flowing trolleys that always seem to have a mind of their own anyway.

Nicola has become the local pet owners dream. She will deliver the food to your door, free of charge and at competitive prices. She can even offer suggestions as to the sort of diet that your pet should be eating. All of which is now resulting in a great new personal service that until now had long since disappeared. Nicola decided to start her new business this summer and is now expanding the business throughout Durham and Northumberland.

The service provides for all kinds of pets, varying from the pet rabbit, right up to the Great Dane. Deliveries can be from a 3kg trial bag to a 15kg bag all at your convenience. In addition all the extra items needed such as flea control products, bowls, chews, treats pet beds etc. can also be delivered.

Nicola says, "All of my customers love the service that they are being provided with, it saves them carrying the food home from the supermarkets. They know that I can give advice on the pet food and answer any questions that they may have and are actually getting a personal service and great value for money. Half of the time it's the pets themselves who greet me, they get to know me and are keen to see what delights I am delivering for them that week."

So, if you and your pets would like to meet up with Nicola give her a call on 07958 979385 and watch out for the Trophy van closely followed by many cats, dogs, rabbits, birds etc.

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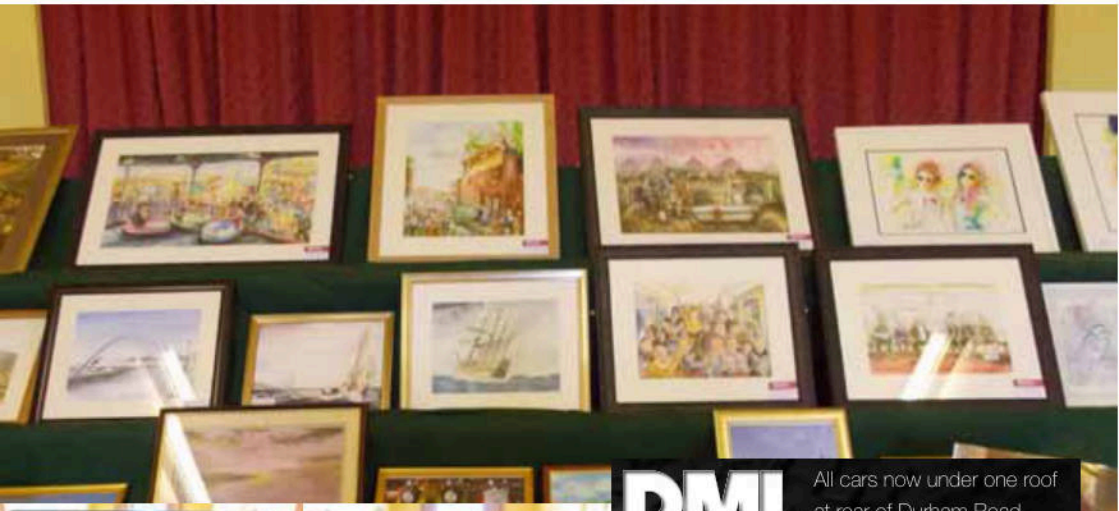
LOCAL ART SHOWS IT'S STRENGTH

by Chris Brown

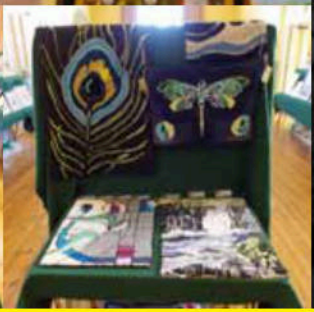
Over the weekend of the 8th and 9th of September, the St Cuthbert's Church art exhibition was a great even which really helped to show of the talent of the numerous local artists ranging from fully fledged professionals to enthusiastic amateurs. Originally started as a way the church congregation could share their art, the event has gone from strength to strength. This year, the church hall was packed with submissions from a huge range of local artists to the point where many pieces were being turned away.

The range of local art stemmed from pencil drawings to photography and highlighted the wide combination of artistic styles which are performed in our area. Some of the more elaborate artwork which was on show came from Ebchester resident Jean Watson and her ornate clippy mats. With delicate images of High Force stitched into the work, you wouldn't even think of putting these mats on the floor! The youngest contributor at the show was 18 year old Jack Parker who's photography pieces gave inventive and unique views of many beautiful locations in the local area.

It wasn't all about the art as a dedicated members of the Church were on hand to provide an amazing array of cakes, scones, tea, coffee and sandwiches for the art fans in attendance. A lot of work went on behind the scenes to make sure the event happened with Lew and the team working through Friday to ensure everything was ready and prepared for the weekend. There was a great atmosphere at the event as members of the church and members of the public took the opportunity to find out more about the local arts scene.







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NORTH OF ENGLAND WEDDING AWARDS

Last week saw the fantastic North of England Wedding Awards, held at The National Railway Museum in York. The Awards recognised those businesses which go the extra mile for their customers, providing outstanding customer service within the wedding industry. So it was with great pride that one of those companies to be recognised was Silver Birch Designs, run by Janette Noble.



Achieving success against stiff competition they came out on top for their category Wedding Stationery. This has topped off what has truly been a fantastic year for Janette, with the launch of her new studio based in the heart of Consett County Durham. Although it really is hard work and dedication that has achieved this amazing recognition, she would probably say differently "working with my couples is truly an honour and I absolutely love every minute of being part of their day, it is thanks to them and their ongoing support, that my job is simply the best in the world.", this gives an insight into why all her couples hold her in such high regard.

"I can honestly say that Silver Birch Designs has made many a friend along the way and I am looking forward to making many more, from the bottom of my heart, thank you to each and every one of you that has shown love and support, without you the award would not have been possible."

Free consultations are available at her studio, contact details are on the website www.silverbirch-designs.com

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HALLOWEEN FAIR

by Ivan Laidler

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If you are looking for some Halloween themed fun this October when not head along to the Consett Halloween Fair on the **26th of October at St Patrick's Church Hall**. This spooky sale of locally produced products and frightening fun is shaping up to be a don't miss event this October. Makers Market are looking to bring more than just a fair to Consett.

Rather than your normal market affair, this Halloween themed fair is set to be a great day with a lot more to offer than just local crafts for sale. Alongside the stalls there will be fun and games for everyone to enjoy. Why not go along for some Halloween hijinks right here in Consett.

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AUTUMN PUMPKIN SOUP

It's Halloween and pumpkins are everywhere! Rather than just carving lanterns why not get creative and make something satisfying and healthy out of your pumpkins. Here we have a great and easy recipe for a traditional pumpkin soup which will help to keep you warm during the autumn.

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700ml of Vegetable or Chicken Stock
140ml of Double Cream
Pumpkin Seeds
Salt and Pepper

1. In a large saucepan, heat up the 2 tablespoons of olive oil.
2. Add the onions to the pan and cook until soft.
3. Add the prepared pumpkin into the pan and cook for 8 to 10 minutes until it starts to soften and turn a golden colour. Add the chilli powder to the mix and stir in thoroughly.
4. Take the stock of your choice and add it to the pan. Bring it to the boil and let it cook for a further 10 minutes. The pumpkin will be extremely soft by this point.
5. Add the double cream and bring the soup back to the boil.
6. Take a hand blender and blitz the mixture to create a smooth velvety soup.
7. Toast your pumpkin seeds in a dry frying pan and sprinkle over the soup.
8. Season your soup with salt and pepper to taste.

All enquiries please call: 01207 438292

Stoptober

by Chris Brown

Once an accepted pass time and a social norm, smoking has now been shown to be a major cause of a number of conditions ranging from emphysema to lung cancer. Stoptober is an annual event which is running throughout October in an attempt to get more people to quit smoking and lead a healthier lifestyle.

Run by the NHS, Stoptober is a massive event with over 160,000 adults across the UK taking on and completing the challenge in 2012.

Studies have shown that if you can stop smoking for 28 days then there is an increased chance that you will not smoke again. This is a good idea as almost half of people who smoke die of a condition which is caused by smoking tobacco. It is the number one cause of premature death in the UK with 100,000 people a year succumbing to a smoking related illness.

In the North East of England, the number of people smoking has been dropping since 2005 and now just 20% of people in the region smoke. Stoptober is a great idea to give you the inspiration to drop the cigarettes and get healthy. It's not only you who'll benefit as the NHS currently spends up to £2.7 billion on treating smoking related illnesses. This substantial amount of money could be reinvested into other areas of the NHS if smoking was not such a problem.

Why not get healthy this October and join in with the nationwide effort to quit the tabs and live a better lifestyle while saving some money in the process?



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by Mike Bowden

LIGHTING THE FIRE

Coal fires in the mining villages of North West Durham

The warm cosy glow of a coal fire, you can't beat it can you? On a cold dark night, with the curtains closed and the fire blazing away, it's a picture of peace and tranquillity. Even now people talk about how wonderful it must have been to have an open fire, a living flame. Many of us remember coal fires, and it's nice to recall the golden memories, of sitting by a blazing fire, and toasting bread on the prongs of a homemade toasting fork. Of course the bread was nearly always homemade as well, baked on the range beside the grate. You can almost smell the coal and the yeast, as the fire warms your face along with the toast, bliss perfect bliss.

Now, back to reality, all of you who remember coal fires, also know that they didn't turn on by themselves, did they? A lot of work was needed to maintain a coal fire, and it started with the main ingredient which was coal, black and very dirty. If you were a mining family, then you had a coal allowance which was delivered every six weeks to your door. One ton of the stuff was dropped outside the coalhouse, not in bags mind you, just loose, straight off the back of the coal wagon. The first job to be carried out was to get the coal inside the coalhouse, and to do this it had to be thrown through a two foot square hatch, using a long handled shovel .A ton of coal takes a long time to move using a shovel, it was back breaking work but it had to be done.

To read more head to consettmagazine.com

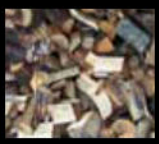
Mike Bowden's book 'A Breed Apart' is available on Amazon.co.uk in paperback and kindle format.

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OCTOBER WINDS

by Brian Harrison

Consett has always been famed for its inclement weather with its giant snow falls that had been known to devoured houses and cars, especially in the snow storm of 1941 in which 4 ft of snow fell over 3 days and saw drifts from 6 to 20ft. Last June brought us The Great Storm which I am sure will go down in our history and be remembered for years to come. Seeing Middle Street in flood gave very little hope to the surrounding lower villages of the area. Talk to anyone outside Consett and they have all heard of our legendary weather.

While doing some research we came across an intriguing news article from The Newcastle Guardian dated Saturday 6th October 1860. The title read "Hurricane at Consett".

At about 5 in the morning on Wednesday 3rd October 1860 the weather began to blow and build into a "tremendous tornado of winds" its ferocity was unmatched and it did not begin to dwindle until about 3 in the afternoon. The Commercial Inn, Consett (now the Braes) was hit badly as the chimney was blown down into the roof. As it smashed through it brought rafters and ceiling with it into the bedroom occupied by the Landlord's children and servant girl. The landlord at that time was a Mr Anderson and luckily for all concerned the debris fell a little to the side of their bed, so although rudely awakened, all escaped miraculously unharmed.

The wind continued to batter Consett leaving devastation in its path. Windows were blown in on many businesses and private houses. The storms ferocity was that great that barely a house of the area was left undamaged. The worst hit was the new houses at Blackhill which were so badly damaged that they had to be demolished. There was also major damage to the local crops and many trees were uprooted.

The storm bears a striking resemblance to the Hurricane which hit England on the 15th October 1987. Famously Michael Fish, probably the best known weather man at the time, said during a routine weather broadcast: "Earlier on today a woman rang the BBC to say she'd heard there was a hurricane on the way, Well, if you're watching, don't worry there isn't." A few hours later the storm hit causing damage to the country in excess of £2bn.





CDHI Exhibition week is on from the 16th to 19th October at St Patrick's Church Hall from 12pm till 4pm daily. With a great array of local historical photo's and a few artefacts thrown in it is going to be a great nostalgic event open to all. Entry is free.

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WATCHING THE CLOCK

by Leo Darroch

In issue 11 of the Consett Magazine we included a history piece in the magazine by Rod Hicken asking questions about Dobson Gradon the local watchmakers. Leo Darroch has got in touch with us to give us some more information about the local legends.

In the 1970s I inherited a Westminster clock from my father which had been in our family for many years. There is a label inside the clock but it is torn and parts are missing so that the information is incomplete, but it says that the clock was cleaned and repaired by Dobson Gradon. Your article filled in a few blanks and is now in the well of my clock for future reference. I have attached three photos for interest. One is of the clock itself. The second is of the inner working which are quite basic but the alarm would waken anyone in a coma. The third is a photo of the label inside the clock against the back board. The manufacture of the clock seems very basic but it has obviously lasted well and must be over 100 years old. Some years ago I took it to an Antiques Road Show in Durham and it was valued at about £100. The expert said he was surprised that the clock still had all three original cones at the top (I cannot remember the word he used for these wooden cones but you will see what I mean).



You will see from the label that he was a watchmaker, jeweller, and optician.

I remember Derwent Street in the 1940s and 50s much as it was in the photo. The shop nearest was Lough's, the newsagent, who was also local agent for (I think) Foyles library books. I used to deliver the papers from there. Towards the bottom, near the clock, was an ironmongers who also sold carbide for miners' lamps. At the very bottom of the street was John Low's the chemist – at least it was in the 1940s and 50s.

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NEW TESCO COMING TO CONSETT



by Chris Brown

Consett is currently a hub of new and exciting commercial development helping the local area get back on it's feet after the lengthy recession which has plagued most of Europe. Major developments on Genesis Way are looking to make things even better in our town in more ways than one. Along with the commissioning of Fawcett Park, a new Tesco super store will be opening on the 28th of this month.

This development is taking shape as we speak and is looking to provide Consett with a 24 hour supermarket which it currently does not have. Whilst many are wondering what was wrong with the old Tesco store on the way down to Delves Lane this new store is looking to provide much more than groceries to the town .

Working the local Job Centre, the new store will feature 250 new jobs which will be given to local people to help strengthen the economy. These jobs will be well received and will be a great help for the Consett area. Not only will the jobs which are being offered help the community, Tesco are also going out of the way to award 2 or 3 local charities with an award of £1000. You have the power to decide who gets the funding by heading into the current Tesco store and placing your nominations and votes.

There is much more in store for the new Tesco to get the community involved in a number of projects. These range from a Christmas Card Competition for the local schools and a possible Bonfire Night Safety event. It's great to see a large company moving into the town centre and showing a sense of social responsibility and giving a helping hand to the local community.

The new Tesco will be open for business on the 28th of October

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UNSOCIABLE SOCIAL MEDIA?





Could you lose your job because of Facebook postings or text messages? The simple answer is yes.

It is happening more and more as employees believe they can post or text whatever they like with impunity. Unfortunately for them employment tribunals often take a different view.

Recent decisions include:

- Upholding the dismissal of an employee who posted offensive comments about a work colleague on Facebook. The Tribunal rejected his argument that his comments were "private" under the Human Rights Act 1998.

- An employee who sent a racist email from his home computer to the home computer of a colleague was fairly dismissed when the email was forwarded to work based computers of colleagues.

- Derogatory comments about an employer posted on Facebook, even though the posts had been restricted to the employees "friends", warranted dismissal.

- An employee's posted comments about a customer were clearly in breach of the employer's social media policy. Dismissal upheld.

Some Employment Tribunals have taken the view that our basic right to privacy and freedom of expression does not override the rights of employers or work colleagues to freedom from harassment, unfair criticism, abusive comments or damage to their reputation.

Employers should have a social media policy .The policy should list the type of conduct that would be considered to be gross misconduct. They must also follow a fair disciplinary procedure.

Employees should ask themselves what they could possibly achieve by posting comments on Facebook or any other social media platform which are done in haste, in the heat of the moment or through spite.

If losing your job is the outcome then it will have been a very expensive post.

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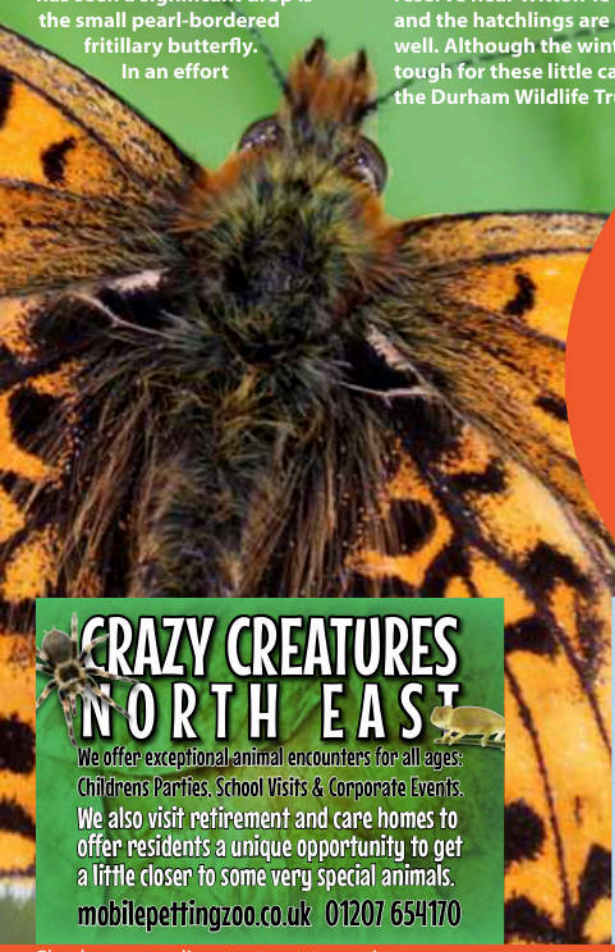
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by Ivan Laidler

BUTTERFLIES BOUNCING BACK

During the summer, insects are everywhere. Bees, Wasps, Beetles and Flies are always making an appearance and all may seem well and good in the animal kingdom. This couldn't be farther from the truth. A number of Britain's indigenous insects are currently finding it hard to survive and numbers have been steadily dropping over the past few years. One insect which has seen a significant drop is the small pearl-bordered fritillary butterfly. In an effort to save these beautiful minibeasts eggs have been hatched in County Durham in an attempt to reintroduce the species into the area.

The eggs which were transported from North Yorkshire to County Durham were a vital part in the attempt to help save one of our area's local beauties. Over 500 eggs have now been brought to the Low Barns nature reserve near Witton-le-Wear and the hatchlings are doing well. Although the winter will be tough for these little caterpillars, the Durham Wildlife Trust will be doing everything they can to make sure they make it though. These sorts of operations are nothing new. The release and introduction of the Red Kite to the area around the Derwent Walk has seen these beautiful birds flourish where they had once been almost extinct in the area. Now they are a common site all along the Derwent Walk and a delight to see. Let's hope these new residents to County Durham make it their permanent home.



> A NUMBER OF BRITAIN'S INDIGENOUS INSECTS ARE CURRENTLY FINDING IT HARD TO SURVIVE AND NUMBERS HAVE BEEN STEADILY DROPPING OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS

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Consett Phoenix Youth are performing "Sleepy Hollow a Musical Tale" at St Patrick's Church Hall, Consett on the 29th, 30th and 31st October starting at 7pm. It is a family friendly performance with great songs, a mildly spooky story and just good all round fun. There will also be a fancy dress competition each night for the kids so that everyone can get involved in the Halloween season. Tickets are £5 Adult £4 Concession.

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SNOW WHITE AT THE EMPIRE THEATRE

It's that time of the year again and as many people are wrapping up for winter, the final preparations of Consett's own pantomime performance. We met with the stars of this year's performance to see what the Empire Theatre would be in store for this winter. Last year's performance of Cinderella was extremely well received by the public and this year should be no different.

Leah Bell and her eclectic cast of superstars have decided to bring the classic tale of Snow White to the stage. As usual, this isn't a regular rendition of the tale but a re imagining for the modern day with a whole load of twists and currently relevant turns to excite the audience. Returning for another epic showing at the Empire are Leah Bell, Harriet Povey and Britain's Got Talent stars Bionik Funk who will be joined by Peter Gange as Prince Stefan and North East musician Lorraine Crosby for a show we'll never forget.

This year's pantomime extravaganza is looking to be just as good, if not better than last year. We asked Leah Bell what we can expect from Snow White this year and she replied "We've given the performance our special twist, especially with the dwarves."

Snow White The Pantomime will be coming to the Consett Empire Theatre between the 6th to the 31st of December with tickets costing £14 for adults and £12 for concessions. If you are planning to go as a family there are discounts available for group bookings. If you are looking for a great laugh and a fantastic show be sure not to miss out on this amazing show.



This year's star-studded cast for Consett's reputed yearly panto.

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CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

by Chris Brown

The most anticipated video game of 2013 has landed on the 17th of September after much hype and anticipation and Grand Theft Auto 5 has taken the gaming word by storm. The popular action series centred around an open world environment changed the way we play games back in 2001 when Grand Theft Auto 3 was released to critical acclaim from gamers and the media alike.

Aside from the controversy which has always followed the series, Rockstar Games have always managed to make a memorable and unforgettable experience which gamers around the world have truly embraced.

Apart from the return to Los Santos in the latest game, the Grand Theft Auto Online client is looking to be a truly refreshing change of pace for any long time GTA fan. An open world online experience with the core mechanics we have become so familiar with is a big departure from the norm but has been well accepted from many hardcore fans. Whilst we have had to wait until the 1st of this month to play the online side of the game, it has definitely been worth the wait.

Grand Theft Auto is constantly trying to push the boundaries of "no rules" sandbox gaming and this latest instalment is no different. The online part of the game only adds a new level of depth to an already massive game, getting together with your friends to perform increasingly difficult jobs and heists for lucrative awards. After you've finished the story mode, online will make sure this game has the longest shelf life of all of the GTA games.

GRAND THEFT AUTO IS CONSTANTLY TRYING TO PUSH THE BOUNDARIES OF "NO RULES" SANDBOX GAMING AND THIS LATEST INSTALMENT IS NO DIFFERENT

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RUSH



Rush is a sports related thriller starring Daniel Brühl and Chris Hemsworth which looks deep into the one of the biggest rivalries Formula One racing has ever seen. The story of the British James Hunt and the Austrian Niki Lauda shows the determination and will to succeed these young men had in the face of unfathomable danger. This film is a must see for all F1 fans but even the uninitiated will enjoy the storyline and amazing special effects. Rush is rated 15 and is in Cinemas now.

INSIDIOUS 2



After his first foray into mainstream cinema, director James Wan is bringing us a sequel to his second film in the Insidious series. The film sees the Lambert family seeking the mysterious childhood secret which has left them with a dangerous connection to the spirit world. With Halloween this month this is a Horror film you cant miss. The first film had some super scares so if that was anything to go by, this will be an absolute fright fest. Insidious 2 is out at Cinemas and is rated 15.

FAST & FURIOUS 6

The Fast and Furious series seems to have been running for as long as we can remember. Since the series debuted back in 2001 there have now been 6 instalments of the cult series and the most recent offering could be the best yet. By dropping the illegal street racing as a central concept and taking a crime caper angle, the series has managed to reinvent itself without losing what made it so unique. The Fast and Furious 6 is rater 12 and is now available on DVD.



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CONSETT GOLFING SUCCESS

by Lorraine Weightman

Above: Left to right Tony Jarvis, Gerard Murphy, Richard Burton, Jeff Farnsworth

The Rotary Club of Consett recently travelled to Leicester to compete in the Rotary National Golf Championships, which hosts District winners from all over the British Isles.

The local district covers Northumberland, Durham, Tyne & Wear, and Teesside, and having won the District knock-out the Consett team made the long trip to Leicester on September 9th 2013

The event was staged at the Leicestershire Golf Club and The Rotary Club of Consett was represented by Jeff Farnsworth, Richard Burton and Gerard Murphy.

The team gave a good account of themselves and finished runners-up to the eventual winner, the Rotary Club of Tamworth.

As a result of their efforts, the team were presented with a cheque for £1500 payable to The Rotary Foundation, which is used to eradicate Polio, Since making the pledge in 1985 Rotary International in partnership with health agencies has brought the number of cases of polio down by 99 percent.

Polio is the shortened name of poliomyelitis, the crippling disease caused by the polio virus. One in 200 cases results in paralysis, which leads to the limbs of the victim becoming limp and disfigured. The paralysis is almost always irreversible. Historically, polio has been the world's greatest cause of disability.

The world has progressed from having 125 polio endemic countries to having three; Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria. Regular immunisation activities in these countries, supported by Rotary members from Great Britain and Ireland and across the world, are having a positive impact, particularly in India where the last recorded new case was recorded in January 2011. If no further new cases are recorded, India could be declared officially polio free in January 2014.

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