CONSETT MAGAZINE

NOVEMBER2014

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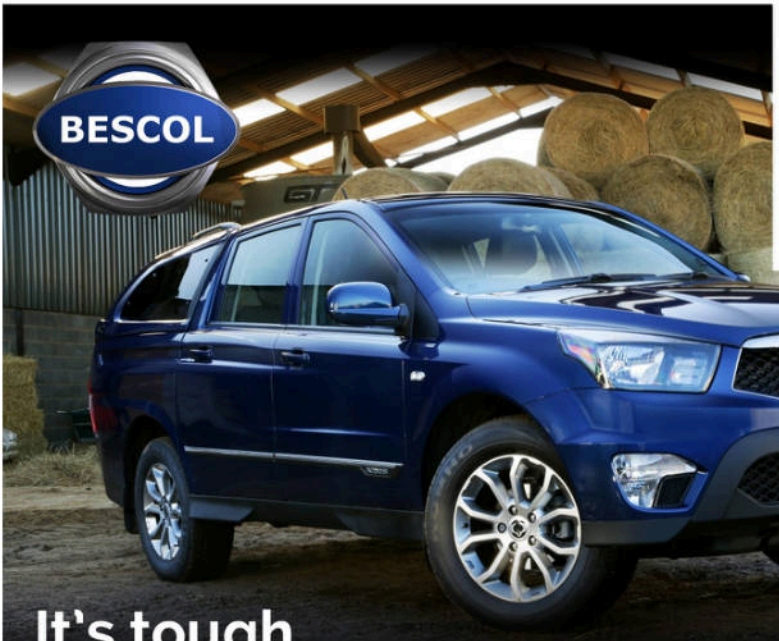

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WELCOME

TO ISSUE 23 OF CONSETT MAGAZINE

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CONSETT MAGAZINE IS ON THE LOOKOUT FOR ASPIRING WRITERS TO BOLSTER OUR TEAM. GET IN TOUCH USING THE DETAILS IN THE NEXT BOX IF INTERESTED >>>>>

HELLO AND WELCOME BACK TO CONSETT MAGAZINE!

You many find yourself surprised to be holding a copy of Consett Magazine again after our cessation earlier this year. The truth is that we have received an outcry from readers and businesses alike to bring it back from the dead, as it were.

We've had to make a few tweaks here and there with how we do things, and the booklet might be a little more modest than usual, but we are back and working our way up to our former glory.

Please help support us by spreading the word!

Enjoy the read.

IVAN LAIDLER - EDITOR

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CONSETT FIREWORK DISPLAY

KABOOM! Continuing the amazing success of last year's event, the Consett Fire and Rescue Team will be holding a Firework and Bonfire Event again this year. The Bonfire Night event will be held on November 5th at Consett Fire Station on Villa Reel Road, Consett starting at 6.45pm.

EVENT DETAILS :
The bonfire will be lit between 7.15 and 7.45pm. There is a competition will be held to find the best 'Homemade Guy' and hot food and drink will be available. Wrap up warm and bring the family along to the best firework show in Consett.

PARKING and TRANSPORT: Cars parking has been allocated on the No 1 Industrial Estate but as the organisers are expecting a large turnout it could be advisable to walk, use public transport or grab a taxi.

COST: This is a FREE event for friends and family of Consett, and remember everyone is welcome to come along to this great organised firework shows.

10 REASONS TO SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS

1. Local Character and Prosperity
Communities that support their one-of-a-kind businesses provide their town with distinctive character and offer local economic advantages.

2. Community Well-Being
Local businesses are able to build strong communities within a vibrant town centre while also providing social and economic benefits to individual members of the community. Local businesses also help to contribute to local good causes.

3. Local Decision-Making
Businesses which are locally owned are able to make important decisions to benefit and positively impact the local community directly.

4. Keeping Pounds in the Local Economy
Compared to big corporate businesses, locally owned businesses recycle a much larger share of their revenue back into the local economy, thus enriching the entire community.

5. Job and Wages
Locally owned businesses create more jobs locally and in turn drive up wages in a local economy.

6. Local Entrepreneurship
Entrepreneurship fuels the local economic innovation and prosperity, and helps local people to move out of low paying jobs and into the middle class.

7. Public Benefits and Costs
Local shops in town centres require comparatively little infrastructure and make more efficient use of public services.

8. Environmental Sustainability
Local stores help to sustain vibrant, compact, walkable town centers-which in turn are essential to reducing traffic congestion, habitat loss, and air and water pollution.

9. Competition
A marketplace of hundreds of small businesses is the best way to ensure local innovation and lower prices over the long-term.

10. Product Diversity
A multitude of small local businesses, each selecting products based, not on a national sales plan, but on their own interests and the needs of their local customers, guarantees a much broader range of product choices.

ROTARY CLUB OF DERWENTSIDE ARE LOOKING FOR YOUNG WRITERS AND YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHERS

BY MICHAEL DYNES

The Rotary Club of Derwentside is pleased to announce their Young Writer and Young Photographer Competitions

The Rotary Young Writer and Young Photographer Competitions are well-established and successful competitions organised by Rotary International in Britain and Ireland. It is a three-stage competition designed to support and encourage development of writing and photographic skills.

Young Writer Task

The theme this year is Light Up The Community and the task is to produce a written or typed story in prose entitled, 'Light up the Community'. Please write a story on a project in your community, which you know about, or a suggested project in your community, which will help others and improve the community. For more details of the task. An A4 page or 500 hundred words is a suggested suitable submission.



Young Photographer Task

To produce a portfolio of three photographs based upon the theme, "Light up the Community" in colour or black and white on photographic paper. Prints to be submitted separately. Each print, including any mount should be no larger than A4 size. For more information see Competition Guidelines below.



Who can take part?



This competition is open to students in full time education in three age groups:

Junior - 07 to 10 years old
Intermediate - 11 to 13 years old
Senior - 14 to 17 years old

With the age qualifying date of 31 August 2014, it should be noted that some junior entrants may be 11, intermediate entrants may be 14 and senior entrants may be 18 at the time of some or all the stage competitions e.g a competitor who is 17 on 31 August but turns 18 on 1 September is allowed to enter. Competitors must include their date of birth on the application form.

For further information, visit the Rotary Club of Derwentside website at:

www.derwentsiderotary.org.uk

The winners of each competition will receive a £50 prize and their entry goes into the next round. The best runners up receive a £25 prize. All entrants receive a certificate.



POLIO WOOD WINS AWARD

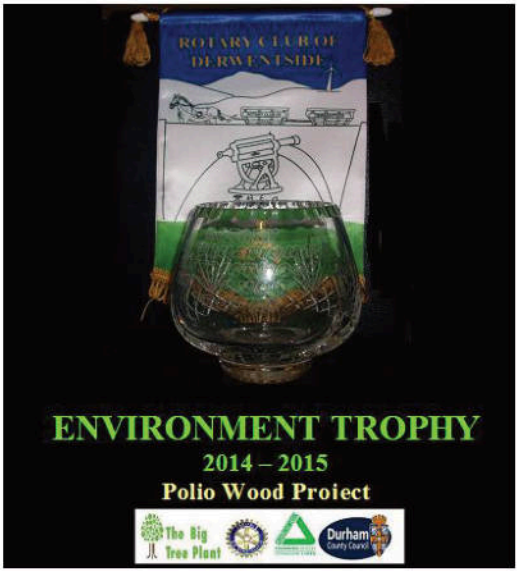
BY MICHAEL DYNES

In March of 2014, to commemorate their tenth anniversary, the Rotary Club of Derwentside, along with members of the local community planted a wood for polio. The project was to raise awareness and funds towards Rotary International's aim to eradicate polio from the world. Since commencing the project, over 2 billion children around the world have been immunised against polio.

Recently, the Rotary Club of Derwentside were presented with the Rotary District 1030 Environment Trophy for this inspiring and unique project. The project was a partnership initiative with several partners and the Rotary Club of Derwentside share this award with Groundwork North East, The Crookhall Foundation and Crookhall Community Association.

When planting the wood, the club promised that they would take their share of the responsibility in maintaining the wood and looking after the trees. The site is visited regularly and in the spring of 2015, they will be planting another 125 trees.

Through Consett Magazine, the club would like to thank those members of the community who supported this project. Over £2000 was raised towards ending polio.



To learn more about this club and the project, visit:

www.derwentsiderotary.org.uk



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CHOPWELL WOOD - THE NORTH EAST'S FAVOURITE PLACE FOR CHRISTMAS TREES

A fantastic place to visit, and from November 29th you can be sure of a unique seasonal experience when buying a tree. The choice of spruce, pine or fir trees is huge, and prices start from about £15 and up, depending on size, species and quality – each tree has a price shown. Sales are organised by a partnership between local community group the Friends of Chopwell Wood, and tree suppliers Formoss.

All the trees sold are from British forests, and advice is available to help keep those needles on the tree. There are decorations and wreaths to buy, and also a special design of tree stand. Weekend extras include refreshments from 10 am until 4 pm and Santa from 11 am until 3.30 pm. The site is illuminated after darkness has fallen until 8 pm.

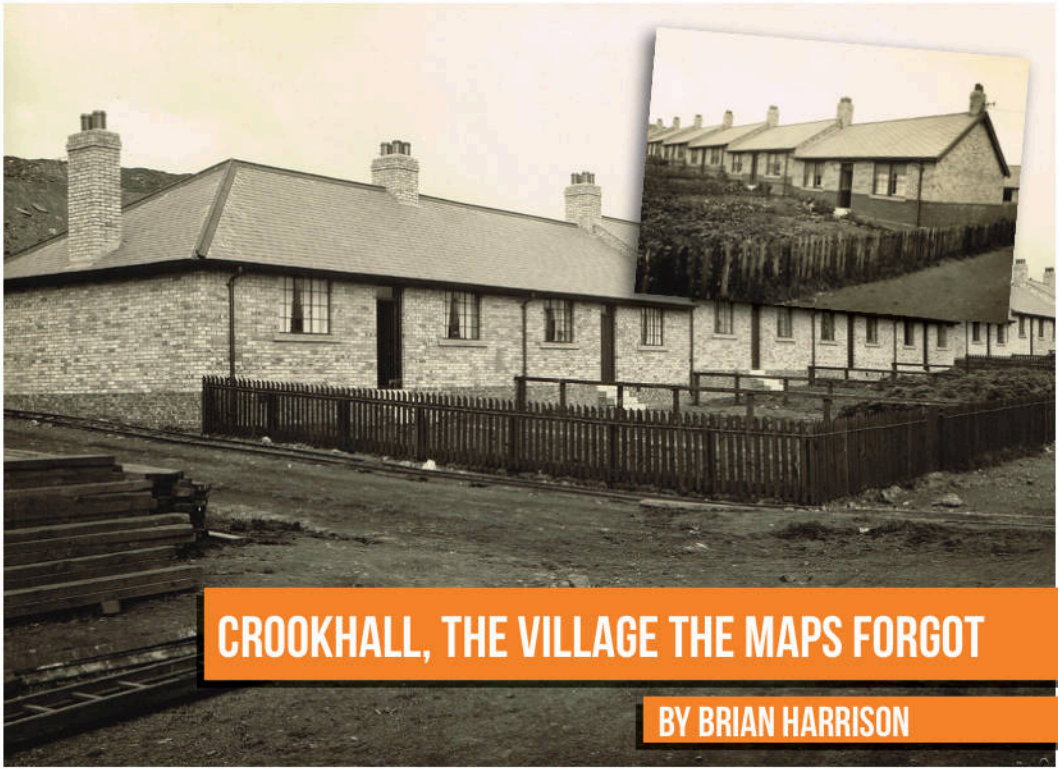
Follow the AA signs, from Rowlands Gill and Ryton to the access road to the wood, just off the B6315, at Hookergate/High Spen. Sales are open from 8 am until 8 pm each day. Site remains open on 20th/21st December, but there will be no catering or Santa that weekend.

Sorry, but there is NO RECYCLING of trees at Chopwell Wood this time, but trees can be returned to local Council sites. The tree sales are the Friends main source of income, enabling them to fund essential conservation work throughout the year, and support education and recreational activities in the wood.

FRIENDS OF CHOPWELL WOOD

More information be found on the Friends website at www.friendsofchopwellwood.org.uk or telephone:

01207542495



CROOKHALL, THE VILLAGE THE MAPS FORGOT

BY BRIAN HARRISON

It was the winter of 1934 and the residence of Crookhall decided it was time to make a stand.

For more than 50 years the village had been booming and now could boast a population of more than 1000 residents. Unfortunately they were totally isolated having no road access whatsoever. They were literally "off the map" and had been known as County Durham's "Lost Village" throughout that entire time.

The village was owned by Consett Iron Company, it had no bus or car access, no shops, Post Office, Pub or even local policeman. The children had to walk 2 miles back and forward to school every day and many of the older residents had not left the village in years due to the distance they had to travel to any amenity.

As with all such villages however, they had become a very strong knit community and everyone looked out for one another. In mid 1934 they began to plan their course of action and it was decided that they would make a last ditch effort to finally; once and for all; get the road that they deserved. The entire populous began to lobby first their local Council, then their MP and eventually the Minister for Transport and the Prime Minister himself.

By December 1934 and with mounting pressure from all sides it was brought up and discussed at a Conference of local Authorities. The efforts of the community had worked. It was decided that a road should be build as soon as practically possible to connect Crookhall to the main town of Consett. The community rejoiced at the news. It took 6 months but in mid 1935 Crookhall could no longer make the claim of being the Lost Village and was added to the road map.

Ironically my Grandfather Wilfred was born in Crookhall in 1927, next door to his grandparents, John Thomas & Dorothy Wharton. Due to the lack of facilities his parents left the area the year prior to the action in 1933 to take up residence in the new houses at The Grove.

Brian is part of the Consett & District Heritage Initiative. For more info contact cdhi@live.co.uk or drop into The Lodge, Blackhill & Consett Park, Wednesdays 10am-4pm.

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Hello, and welcome to what will be the first of a monthly article which we hope you will find interesting. But first of all let me introduce our company.

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We are **A D Scott Asbestos Consultancy Ltd** and **Think Asbestos Ltd.** Starting out in 2008 from Chopwell we now have two offices in Blackhill and employ 16 staff. You have probably guessed that we are asbestos experts and to that end I would like to offer some general knowledge, facts and advice on the subject to our DH8 readers; so enough waffle for now:

STRENGTH SIMILAR TO STEEL

Many people have been affected by asbestos and its related diseases and there is no doubt many more will be. However asbestos was never used sinisterly, it was for many years called the magic mineral, because it was fire/chemically resistant, was a great insulator and had strength similar to steel. It could be mined from the ground and be used in its raw form or as an ingredient in other materials, often associated with engineering and general building, but also in many everyday home products. Adding asbestos had the effect of adding its properties to whatever it was being used in.

SERIOUS RISK TO HEALTH

Asbestos can be found in many materials still about the work place and homes, as use of the material was not finally banned until 1999. Given our understanding of the material now, and its serious risk to health, which is not immediate (the fibres that do harm cannot be seen, smelled, tasted or heard), there is lots of law surrounding the use of materials which can contain asbestos and this is where we as a company can help. Especially if you are a tradesman, business owner, safety representative or simply a concerned homeowner planning refurbishment.

For now remember: Asbestos cannot harm you if it is sealed, in good condition and not likely to be directly or indirectly disturbed.

If you would like further information on our services please take a look at the web site or give us a call.

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In the next issue I will be discussing the types of asbestos and the materials they have been used in and the likelihood of these getting into the air and causing harm.

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EVEN RETAILERS HAVE A SOFT SIDE FOR SUPPORTING NATIONAL CHARITIES

BY JIM CALLAN

Charities, whether large or small, local or national, have very limited places in which to exhibit their work publicly. However, supermarkets are now becoming more involved in supporting such charities and the Stanley branch of ASDA is fast becoming a leading supporter and location where charities can get pubic exposure.

Even though ASDA has been supporting charities for some time, many consumers are unaware of how supportive they have been and how important every little green token given away at the checkouts can be.

ASDA are probably best known for supporting the breast cancer charity, "Tickled Pink". However, in recent weeks they have given tremendous support to charities via the token collection and across the weekend of 10th and 11th October played host in store to the Consett and District Branch of the Royal British Legion and the Northumbria Blood Bikes. Both were not only the current token donation charities, but this also allowed for a physical presence for fund raising.

Firstly, on the Saturday, the Consett and District Royal British Legion appeared in the store with a display of fund raising merchandise that is tied to both the work they do and the armed forces personnel whom they support.

The Royal British Legion was set founded in 1921 and is now the UK's leading Armed Forces Charity who not only support those who had fought in the two recognised world wars, but in every conflict involving the British forces since 1945. Including those who are still fighting for the freedoms that every one of us enjoys today.

The Legion is also the national Custodian of Remembrance and safeguards the Military Covenant between the nation and its Armed Forces and is best known for the annual Poppy Appeal and its emblem the red poppy.

The last 18 months have been particularly important for the Consett and District branch as they very nearly closed but, following a major remodernisation plan, they survived and recently succeeded in welcoming their very first two Honorary Youth Members into the Consett branch. And membership is open to everyone with an interest in what the Royal British Legion does in insuring that remembrance is kept alive and that the sacrifices that our brave men and women in the forces are not forgotten.
Another successful day was had on the Sunday when representatives from the Northumbrian Blood Bikers team paid a visit, in the same vein, to the store to fund raise for one of the most important medical services that we have in this region.

From Berwick Upon Tweed, down to Darlington and sometimes across borders to Carlisle and Cumbria, depending in the need, the Blood Bikers provide on out-of-hours motorcycle based service that's completely free and in place to transfer blood products, test results and blood samples that would otherwise be done by courier, to hospitals at the Trust or hospital's expense.

The service, which covers 365 days a year and which is manned by volunteers at no cost to the NHS, relies on donations and support to be able to carry on with this extremely important service and is always on the lookout for volunteers which are fully trained by the unit.

All drivers are trained up to a standard far higher than the legal requirement and they all hold an advanced driving qualification to ensure a professional standard of driving at every time.

As with all organisations like the Royal British Legion and the Northumbria Blood Bikes, they are always on the lookout for volunteers to help in their efforts.

So, anyone wishing to learn more can do so by going to www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk or for the Consett and District branch of the Royal British Legion, simply log onto their Facebook page or call 07754827784

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www.consettmagazine.com/competition

The winner will be picked at random on the 15th of November 2014. Only one answer per person. Winners will be notified by email.

JOSEPH PAGE

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