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Welcome

Thanks for picking up your free August edition, please remember to pass this copy along to your friends and family when you're finished with it.

This month we bring you Lorraine's house sitting incident as well as Brian Harrisons peice about the end of a Pub Crawl.

The historical city of York is this months "Place to go" and Lyndsey Dunn takes a look a the story behind the upcoming film "Dunkirk" on page 13.
Chunkcast is back and chunkier than ever on page 15.

Got something to shout about this August? Get in touch, email editor@consettmagazine.com to speak to us about your idea for an article in print or online. And remember, we always aim to work with charities to help promote their good causes. So if you are a charity or community group, send your press releases to us and we'll help you to promote it in the Consett and DH8 area.
If you'd like to have your business included in Consett Magazine next month, you can call Barry or Marco on 01207 438 292 or email sales@consettmagazine.com.

We have heavily discounted campaigns for six and twelve month plans. There's never been a better time to use the magazine to reach more people and get them talking about your great business.

All the best,
Barry Kirkham
Marco Elsy,
and the everyone who contributes to Consett Magazine.

P.S. Check out all of the local advertisers in the magazine, they are the people who make the magazine possible. Let them know you saw them in the August edition of Consett Magazine.

Welcome to the August edition of Consett Magazine!

Contributors

Brian Harrison
Garry Hughes
Barry Kirkham
Marco Elsy
Frank Bell
Neil Sullivan
Lorraine Weightman
Lyndsey Dunn
Christina Stubbins
Mark Tee
Alex Nelson
Steven Webb

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AN END TO THE (PUB) CRAWL

By Brian Harrison

There are very few things in an old industrial town like Consett which stir the memories quite like the stories of the old Pubs and I The Brit Pubwas always fascinated by them. Every time one of the old guys would reminisce you could see their face light up. Within minutes, every one in ear shot would join in adding their bit to the story. Sadly many of these old pubs have now gone or are struggling to survive.

I suppose for me, and a lot of others, the most well known of all the pub tales or challenges; depending on whether or not you had tried it; was the fabled Consett Pub Crawl.

Initially first mentioned in the papers in the early 1900's it was said that if you had even a Half Pint in each of the Consett Pub's you would have trouble standing at the end!

There are still some of the old Pubs left in Consett, but now we also have Pub Chains, Gastro Pubs and Wine Bars, etc.. giving a much greater diversity. It is purely down to everyone's own personal opinion whether they think it is for the better or worse. For me there was always a sense of familiarity and comfort in the old pubs which is lacking in some of the new. The time of the old Consett Bar crawl is definitely a thing of the past. As with everything time marches on.



The Pub Crawl was immortalised in an anonymous poem back in the 1930's:

Let's start at the "Stirling Castle"

And admire the "Royal Oak"

Let's watch the "White Swan" swimming

From "The Turf" I'm a happy bloke

Let's climb the "Mount Pleasant"

And look around "The Park"

Have a good drink at "The Burton"

Before it gets dark

Let's stop next at "The Railway"

The beer is a real treat

We can look through the stained glass windows

At "The Shakespeare" across the street

Next let's visit "The Queens"

Mine host Albert Pigg

Then pop into "The Mason's Arms"

And do an Irish jig

We can shake hands with the "Duke of Wellington"

Meet "Alexandra" with all her charm

Who took "Britannia" to the "Fountain"

In front of the "Freemasons Arms"

Then through "The Edinburgh House"

To "The Wheatsheaf" we can stray

Then take the "Coach and Horses"

The "Black Horse" and "The Gray"

We'll take "The Imperial" route to "The Commercial"

Skirt "The Beehive" what a test

Let's stop at "The Railway Tavern"

As we will need "A Traveller's Rest"

Now I think I'll finish

I am full of beer and gin

But if you can manage a walk up John Street

You can sleep at "The Old Board Inn"

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200	£30	£31	£34	£34	£34	£39	£42	£42	£66	£57	£81
300	£32	£33	£39	£39	£39	£44	£50	£50	£74	£73	£97
400	£34	£35	£43	£43	£43	£49	£58	£58	£82	£89	£112
500	£36	£38	£47	£47	£47	£54	£66	£66	£98	£105	£127
750	£44	£46	£56	£56	£56	£66	£84	£84	£130	£137	£168
1000	£49	£53	£65	£65	£65	£76	£99	£99	£162	£169	£199

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15000	£80	£89	£101	£112	£132	£149	£179	£209	£274	£329	£394
20000	£98	£108	£128	£142	£152	£179	£209	£239	£319	£399	£479
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200	£30	£32	£35	£35	£35	£45	£47	£52	£71	£61	£86
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400	£35	£39	£44	£44	£44	£63	£67	£69	£91	£96	£121
500	£38	£43	£49	£49	£49	£72	£74	£76	£98	£113	£139
750	£46	£53	£62	£62	£62	£95	£94	£94	£118	£159	£174
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15000	£91	£102	£122	£136	£156	£199	£249	£269	£342	£437	£509
20000	£111	£124	£148	£164	£184	£229	£299	£329	£419	£551	£641
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HOUSE PARTY

One of our friend's quite well off parents were planning their annual August holiday. This year they'd opted for Torremolinos as they felt the Costa Brava's resort of Lloret de mar and Majorca's Palma Nova were now old hat; and anyway they had enough souvenir donkeys!



Their daughter asked me to help her house sit for a couple of weeks to look after the dog and cat. I was happy to oblige as I had nothing else booked and it would make a nice change from the bottom of the market.

The family were anxious to show me round their stylish home; while introducing me to their brand new avocado bathroom suite with bidet and contrasting tiles. They had even managed to purchase matching green toilet paper hidden neatly under a hand knitted cover with a Sindy doll poking out of the top.

Next I was ushered into the spare bedroom which was mine for a fortnight. It was all burnt orange including the Artex ceiling; and there were scatter cushions on the bed and a shag pile carpet. I was very impressed.



No sooner had we waved them off to the airport my friend and I planned the house party for the weekend. We raided the chest freezer in the garage, searched in kitchen cupboards and the well stocked bar in the corner of the lounge for what we needed.

The word was out, it was a 'bring your own drink' do, but we would provide food and punch.

We covered the potatoes in foil and cut up tiny chunks of cheddar cheese before arranging them carefully on cocktail sticks next to wobbly hot dog sausages and tinned pineapple.

Behind the bar we found four bottles of Babycham, Martini rosso, Warninks Advocaat and two bottles of Mateus rose - which we planned to turn into bedside lamps at a later date - all were mixed together with a couple of sliced oranges and apple juice.

Pleased with our efforts we turned on the radio and danced around to 'Good Times' by Chic and 'Reasons to be Cheerful part 3' by Ian Dury and the Blockheads.



Of course the party was a runaway success, as was the punch, even though it turned everyone's mouth to the colour of marmalade.
It was only when someone noticed water dripping through the ceiling that we were alerted to the fact that one of us was missing. Legging it upstairs to the bathroom we found the culprit asleep on the floor with her Dr Scholl sandals wedged in the sink with the taps running. To our despair we found we couldn't turn them off.

Stressed and panicking we ran downstairs to look in Yellow Pages, asking the party goers if they knew names of any plumbers.

It was just then that the Dr Scholl girl appeared at the top of the stairs, confused and still half asleep she shouted down, 'Try Armitage Shanks, he's left his name all over the bathroom!'

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Places to Go: York, North Yorkshire

YORK, North Yorkshire
York has more world class sights and attractions per square mile than any other city in the UK. You're spoiled for choice. If you like going underground, for example, there's York Minster crypt, the Roman bath house under a pub in St Sampson's Square, the York Dungeons for a spooky experience, the cellars of the National Trust's Treasurer's House with its ghostly legends of Roman legions, and a cold war bunker in the care of English Heritage. Here the Royal Observer Corps would have plotted nuclear explosions and survived underground for up to 30 days after nuclear war began. The bunker is outside the city centre, 1 ¼ miles from the station, walkable along the Acomb Road or use local bus 1.

All of the other attractions are to the east of the station, except the free to enter National Railway Museum which is best reached by the footbridge and footpath from all platforms. Afterwards it offers a half-hourly dotto train (a train which is really a tractor pulling rubber-tyred carriages) to a stop on Duncombe Place close to the Minster. The Minster charges for admission, but if you wish to avoid this the best way is to attend a service. Evensong is sung most afternoons by the choir and you get a much better experience taking part in the worship than paying to walk round. Of course, the plate goes round at the end, and you'll probably wish to make a voluntary donation.

The more energetic might try a free walk around the walls, which takes around two hours around the 45 towers, including Micklegate Bar where children will be entranced to hear the sad story of the little girl who lost the keys to the City. Wall walking is not wise in icy weather, but should be ok in August!.

York offers plenty of opportunity for eating and drinking and staying over. Chocoholics will love the story of chocolate in King's Square. I have used the Bar Convent at Bootham Bar, where the Catholic nuns are most hospitable, even to an Anglican. The chain hotels can be expensive: on a recent trip from London to Scarborough I tried to book a Premier Inn close to York station and the best price was £130, but I obtained the same standard of accommodation at a Premier Inn close to Doncaster station for only £31.

For a relaxing trip on the River Ouse, try City Cruises York, which have recently taken over the York Boat company for £2.5m, sailing from the Lendal Bridge near the station.

Have a think about going to York on Bank Holiday Monday 28th August when the full Monday train service is operating, but the fares are at off peak rates all day. We can promise, for example, a day return trip to York from Chester-le-Street at £17.90 with railcard discounts too, for anyone going on the 0815 or 1013 trains direct to York on the bank holiday, returning any time on TransPennine trains. That compares with the published online fare day return of £37.80 you might buy on the internet, and good value fares are available from other stations too. Just ring us to book on 0191 387 1387 and we'll post tickets out to you. Bear in mind that the Chester-le-Track team each spend nearly two thousand hours a year finding the best deals in booking tickets, so they are likely to do it quicker and more effectively than someone spending, say, four hours online a year doing the same thing. Take advantage of our experience.

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SNOOKER MAD DUO TAKE ON CHARITY WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT

Two snooker players are aiming to complete a 100 hour snooker marathon, breaking the current world record and raising money for charity at the same time.

Phillip Marshall, 25 from Consett and Kevin Teasdale, 39 from Gilesgate, will play snooker continuously from 4.00pm on Wednesday, August, 16 until 8.00pm on Sunday, August, 20.

The event will be hosted at Consett's Supa Snooker Club on Newmarket Street and any money raised will be split between four charities chosen by Phillip and Kevin.

The charities which will benefit are The Activity Den, a local Young People's charity, of which Phillip is a Director, The Northern Brainwave Appeal, St Cuthbert's Hospice and Diabetes UK.

Phillip and Kevin have known each other for several years and have played each other on numerous occasions, although this is a charity attempt, there is still a friendly rivalry there between the pair, Phillip said: "We got to know each other playing pool, but we soon started playing snooker too. Kev's highest break is 128 and he is a much better player than me, although I'll still be trying my hardest to beat him!"

Phillip completed 65 hours of continuous play a few years back but wants to take it a stage further. He added: "Ever since I heard my record was broken I wanted to give it another go, the current record is 85 hours 19 minutes so decided on the magic 100 hours. We will get five minutes break every hour but other than that it's pretty much four days of snooker"



Thank you to Steven Webb for these fantastic pictures of a Red Squirrel in the Consett area! Keep an eye out Summer. You might just see one!



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KNOW DIABETES. FIGHT DIABETES.
St Cuthbert's Hospice

The Dunkirk Spirit

Christopher Nolan's critically acclaimed war epic, Dunkirk, hit cinemas on 21 July, and soon will be playing at Consett Empire. We take a look at the story behind the film, and recap the key events of 26 May – 4 June 1940.

Operation Dynamo was the code-name of the Dunkirk evacuation, which saw over 300,000 allied soldiers evacuated from the beaches of Dunkirk, France, during World War II.

The advancing German forces cut off the majority of escape routes in the area, forcing British and French soldiers onto the beaches of the town. These men - fathers, husbands and sons – were trapped, sitting ducks that were helpless against the threat of unexpectedly powerful German forces. It is widely acknowledged that the British, French and Belgian governments had underestimated German firepower, which turned out to be far superior to our own at the time.

Panzer tanks waited in the wings for the signal from Hitler to attack. Time was running out.

British Destroyers were sent to rescue as many men from the harbour as possible, although they only had capacity to take around 30,000. However, ships sunk by relentless attacks from enemy aircraft blocked the harbour.

It became apparent that the only option was to attempt to take the men directly from the beaches, a seemingly impossible task due to the shallow waters.

On May 27th British Admiral Ramsey, who lead Operation Dynamo, reached out for help, asking local civilians to provide assistance. In response, over 800 fishing boats, trawlers, yachts and many other types of craft sailed over the channel to help. Many of them ferried men to the waiting Destroyers, though some sailed all the way back to England to bring our men home. Over several days, 338,226 men were saved.

Without the local community coming to the aid of the allied soldiers, over 300,000 people could've perished in what would've been a crippling loss to the war effort.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill went on to call the events at Dunkirk a miracle, and referred to the 'Dunkirk spirit', something that is still celebrated to this day.

Dunkirk is screening at Consett Empire Cinema from 11th – 17th August.

By - Lyndsey Dunn

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By Neil Sullivan





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ASK the VET

PRINCE BISHOP VETERINARY HOSPITAL

By Christina Stubbins
Prince Bishop Veterinary Hospital

Lungworm

Angiostrongylus vasorum (also known as canine lungworm) has become a widespread problem in the dog population across the UK in recent years. Dogs become infected when they ingest slugs or snails, and potentially if they ingest their slime too. Lungworm infections can result in a number of different (and often vague) clinical signs including coughing, changes in behaviour, seizures, lethargy, unexplained bleeding and anaemia. After examining you pet, there are several ways in which your vet can diagnose lungworm, including a patient-side blood test and a faecal test. Unfortunately, lungworm can be fatal so preventing infection in the first place is far better than curing an already infected dog. There are several products available that will protect your pet from lungworm, all of which must be given monthly. A vet or nurse at your local practice would be able to speak to you about all the options available to keep your pet safe from lungworm as well as all other internal and external parasites.

http://princebishopvets.co.uk/client-advice/

Chunk Cast - August 2017

So… it's been a busy July for Chunkcast 54.8 Consett's No.1 Podcast.
In the words of my NorthUK Radio Colleague DJ SSR, Big ting be gwarn!!
The Chunkcast 54.8 has been out and about around Derwentside focussing on showcasing some of the areas up and coming talent and some well-established local superstars.

With a podcast featuring Heavyweight MMA fighter Darren Towler who brought the European Heavyweight UWC Title back home to Consett after his fight with MMA great Kamil Bazalek, Darren let us in on his training regime, pre-fight rituals and how he's sponsoring local youth teams and charities through his new venture Bad Boy Barbers situated on Church St.

James Hobson joined us on the Chunkcast 54.8, a genuinely fascinating guy whose audio creations need to be heard by everyone. This guy's talent is so immeasurable you need to experience it to even believe it. We talk music, theatre, life growing up with Asperger's and what the future holds for James, definitely one of #Consettsfinest!!

We chatted with Cain on the Guardians of The North Special confronting taboos and putting Chunkcast 54.8 listeners questions to the group which produced an interesting, informative podcast.

Phillip Marshall has a bit craic with us about being a Snooker World Record Breaker and his latest attempt at regaining his crown as 'Longest Snooker Match' record holder in August at Consett Snooker Club.
We also set a competition on Chunkcast 54.8, with the prize being a Bungee Jump at Consett Rugby Club.
Chunkcast 54.8 filmed a short documentary at the 'Conny' Art Exhibition organised by Elaine Robertson. The short-film features abstract artists Frank Briffa and Alison Gargett and local art legend Michael James. We also catch up with local cartoonist Phil Bartle.

I headed down to Leadgate with Richard Graham Judd chair of The Leadgate Taskforce for some litter-picking and networking and later joined Terri-Lee Shield and The Alt Group, helping with the cooking Christmas Dinner for 80+ hungry people at their weekly Free Community Meal.
Consett's' charity game is so strong at the moment, a great achievement for everyone involved, Willowburn Hospice, Bright Red, North East Autism Society and GNAAS (Great North Air Ambulance) all setting the standards with events, fundraising and inspirational people left, right and centre.

So far in the Blackhill Broadcasting Centres 'LIVE LOUNGE' we've had amazing local talent performing acoustic versions of their tracks including local Ukulele songsmith Chris Justice in a Three-Part Special, Counterfeit Youth performed some classics of their setlist including I-tunes/Spotify favourite "There She Goes".

Once you've heard it you'll be humming it and singing it at work for weeks to come!
Super Songwriter Andy Lee from local folk band The Ree-Vahs talked to us about his life as a musician and performed songs from his amazing album "Geordie-Land" and a new track from the soon to be released EP "Man Over Board".

It's been a great month for local bands and if you like any of the music you've heard on Chunkcast 54.8 please check the social media for available free downloads, I-tunes, Spotify and up-coming gigs and events featuring all the musicians.

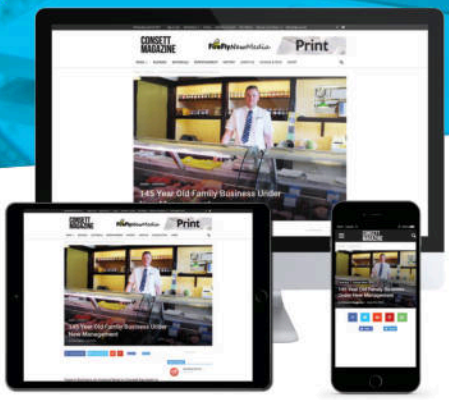
All the information is on the Chunkcast 54.8 Facebook Page or add me as a friend, come say Hi on Instagram and Twitter or if you would like to contact me via E-mail… chunkcast54.8@gmail.com is your first port of call.
Also, you can listen to our weekly 2-hour eclectic music set, Chunkcast 54.8 Live! 7-9pm on NorthUK Radio, download the app and listen on your phone, tablet, laptop or PC.

As you can see it's been a great start to Chunkcast 54.8 and thanks to all the support Consett has a place for discussion, celebration, promotions and generally giving Consett an online platform we can all getting involved with. Thank you all for youre continuing support and get in touch anytime, it'd be great to hear from you.
Cheers Guys.
Chunk Out.

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