CONSETT MAGAZINE

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Consett's Independent Magazine

ISSUE 05/ December 2012

SNOW WAY
How cold is too cold?

BRIDGING THE GAP
The history of a famous local structure

THE END?
Will the doomsday theories finally come to pass this year?

SEASON OF SPENDING
Does Christmas make the world go round?

CHRISTMAS CUISINE
Some festive recipes to fill you up this winter

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We have increased our distribution to 10,000 copies this month, just in time for the festive season!

As an independent magazine for the town of Consett we want to hear from you about any of your concerns, events or news.

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A SEASONAL MESSAGE FROM

THE EDITOR



Hello and welcome to the November issue of Consett Magazine...

Welcome to the extra special Christmas edition of Consett Magazine. We have been hard at work over November making this issue bigger and better than ever before. As you can see things have changed at Consett Magazine as this issue is a whole 8 pages bigger than the previous editions. We have been working hard to bring you more great stories along with features from our contributors. With Christmas and New Year just around the corner everyone is getting into full swing ready for this year's festivities but is Christmas changing before our eyes?

Christmas has been celebrated in its current form in Europe since the early to mid 4th Century as a mark of remembrance for the birth of the Jesus but nowadays things have changed significantly. Even if some of the religious significance has been lost, Christmas is a time for celebration and kindness which we should all revel in with families and friends across the globe brought together by a day of celebration.

In this festive issue of Consett Magazine we are giving you some great Christmas articles which with some great ideas over the season of good will. We have some recipes for some fantastic baked treats to make over Christmas, how to keep your tree looking good and a look at how to throw a great seasonal party. Along with these fantastic Christmas ideas we have a look at starting your own business, a look at the beautiful history of our town and the increasing presence of big business and franchises in the Consett area. Overall there is something for everyone in this Christmas special of the Consett Magazine.

The team at Consett Magazine would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and hope you all have a great New Year too.

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National Chains Target Consett

As I'm sure many of you have noticed, large chain restaurants and goods outlets have really begun to take hold of the town of Consett. Whether or not this is a good thing is yet to be seen, but the big business are looking like they're here to stay.



The lower end of the town is starting to look like a snapshot taken directly out of the U.S.A, with McDonalds on one side and KFC on the other; not to mention the huge dual Morrisons supermarkets and Tesco in progress just down the road. There is more of a balance in the centre of town between shop chains and local outlets but this is steadily changing as we speak with the addition of Domino's Pizza to Middle Street.

by Ivan Laidler

What do the local residents think? Naturally there are mixed opinions on this subject. On one hand we have new jobs becoming available as new businesses open up around the town which is a great way to stimulate the local economy during the current period of economic downturn. Whereas on the other hand we have the "big boys" coming in and muscling out local businesses of the same type; some of which have been around since the early 1900s. The other main concern is that Consett may be steadily losing its character and charm as it takes on the image of a "Little America", containing mostly retail parks and car parks with no individuality.

A pro argument for the commercialisation of Consett is that it brings a greater variety of services to the area, especially in the food department. Does Consett actually need any more food outlets? Our streets are already laced with take away after take away for the local connoisseurs to have their fill many times over.
What do you think about the influx of big companies in Consett.

Go to consettmagazine.com to have your say.



Public Announcement

In the recently concluded Police Crime Commissioner election, the Durham populace voted Ronald Hogg, representative of the Labour Party, as the right man for the job.

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Recipes for Christmas

Butter Shortbread:



Butter – 225g
Sugar – 125g
Plain Flour – 350g

Cream butter and sugar in a bowl. Add the flour and mix until it forms a ball. Make into biscuits by rolling out on a floured surface and cutting into shapes. Put on a greased baking tray and bake at 300 Fahrenheit or 150 degrees Celsius for about 20 minutes. When ready, put onto a cooling rack and sprinkle with sugar. Then store in an air tight tin when fully cold.



Quick Chocolate Log:

1 Chocolate Swiss Roll
Butter – 115g
Icing Sugar – 225g
Cocoa – 1 Tablespoon

Cream the icing sugar and butter. Mix the cocoa in a bowl with a little bit of hot water to make a paste. Add to the butter and icing sugar and mix well. Coat the swish roll with the chocolate icing. Mark it with a fork to make it look like a log and then dust with icing sugar to give it a coating of snow. A quick and easy activity for the family at Christmas.

Sweet Mince Pies:



Plain Flour – 350g
Butter – 175g
Sugar – 85g
1 Medium Egg
1 Jar of Sweet Mince

Put the flour and butter into a bowl and rub in until it looks like bread crumbs. In a small bowl mix together the sugar and egg. Add this to the flour and butter mix and then roll into a ball. Roll out the pastry on a floured board and cut into circles to fit into bun tins. Then cut smaller circles to use as your pie lids. Fill the pies with the sweet mince and put the lids on the pies. Bake at 325 degrees Fahrenheit or 170 degrees Celsius for about 25 minutes until the pastry is firm to touch. Put on a cooling rack and when cold store in an airtight tin. Before serving dust with icing sugar to give them that authentic Christmas feel.

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Christmas Cheer

by Chris Brown





The Festive Period is a great time to throw a party with Christmas and New Year being the perfect opportunity for getting together with your family and friends for some good food, good drink and big laughs. Planning a party can be somewhat daunting for people who are giving it their first go but there are some small things which you can do to make sure your soirée goes down a treat. A lot of the time it is all about keeping it simple and not going overboard leaving you with more work getting everything sorted and arranged.

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> "PLANNING A PARTY CAN BE SOMEWHAT DAUNTING FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE GIVING IT THEIR FIRST GO BUT THERE ARE SOME SMALL THINGS WHICH YOU CAN DO TO MAKE SURE YOUR SOIRÉE GOES DOWN A TREAT."

Good food is always a must at a dinner party or something a bit less formal. If you are not one for donning an apron and getting stuck in then it may be best to avoid a dinner party and instead serve a selection of canapés. Small treats such as bruschetta, prawns with dipping sauces and other bite size snacks are great for a party as it gives everyone a good selection of food. Another great food idea is to get a fondue set and let everyone tuck in with a selection of vegetables and bread. Although this 70s classic may seem somewhat old fashioned, it is a great way to have some fun whilst you're eating.

Everyone likes a drink over Christmas and New Year but some people may have to drive. Don't forget about the drivers at your party and make them something special so they don't miss out on the fun. Non-alcoholic cocktails are a great way to give to the drivers at your party. Why not try a variation of a cosmopolitan using cranberry juice, some lime and to mix things up a twist of lemon to keep things fresh.

Whatever you do at your festive party, make sure to keep your guests safe and drink responsibly.

Beauty & History on our Doorstep

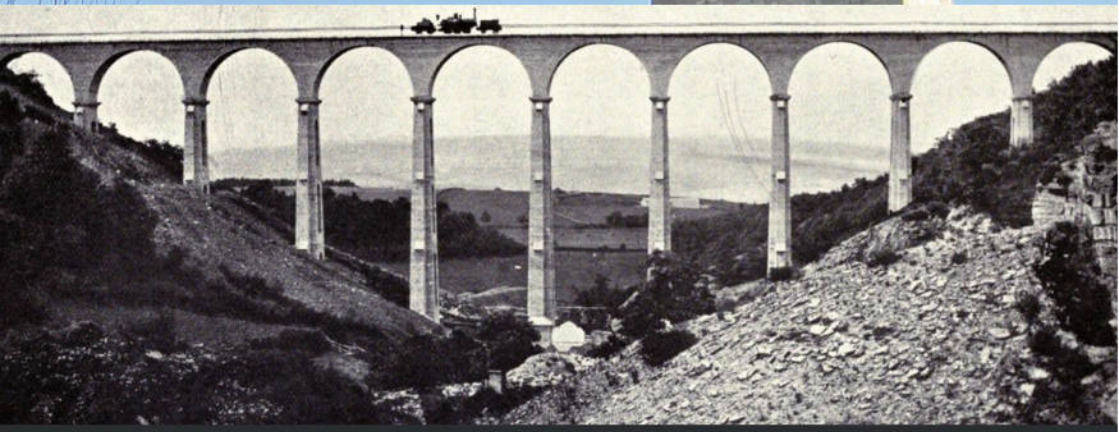
by Brian Harrison

Consett's industrial giants are now gone, but in their wake they have left us some amazing treasures. No matter where you live in this wonderful area you are only ever a few minutes away from some truly awe inspiring countryside. The Waskerley Way and The Derwent Walk, as well as many other pathways and cycle paths are all reminders of our industrial past. Left by the abandoned railway lines which serviced The Works, they have become an integral part of our area and heritage. One of the greatest of all the treasures is the Hownesgill Viaduct found on the Waskerley Way which is not only a major attraction of our town, but is also stated as one of the must see sites of County Durham. The Gill has always been a place of wonder and awe to me. I would spend hours playing beneath its arches in the wood and the caves, especially on those hot summer days.

The Hownesgill Viaduct was built between 1857 and 1858, opened in 1859 and designed by Thomas Bouch, to enable the completion of the Stanhope to Tyneside railway link. It is constructed of 12 arches, each with a span of 50 feet, stands at a height of 175 feet and is 700 feet long. There were some 3,500,000 yellow fire bricks and over 10,000 feet of stone used in its construction and is estimated to weigh over 12,000 tonnes. It was truly a major feat of engineering. Saying all that, it always seems to be the red cross of stones that intrigued us all! The cross which is high up on the fifth pier from the south is reputed to be the spot of a fatal accident but no records have ever been found to prove this one way or the other.

So next time you have a chance to go exploring, forget about those far flung places and get yourselves out and about around our area. There is loads to see and find right here on our doorstep.

For more information about the Consett and District Heritage Initiative contact cdhi@live.co.uk or drop into The Lodge, Blackhill and Consett Park on Wednesdays between 10am and 4pm.



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Can it be Too Cold to Snow?

by Chris Brown

I'm sure you have all heard someone at one point say the faithful words "It's too cold to snow." But how true is this urban myth. Is it actually possible that after a certain temperature it just can't snow? We take a look at the science behind this urban myth and try to decide if it really can be too cold to snow.

> "CAN IT EVER HAVE GOTTEN TOO COLD TO SNOW IN CONSETT?"

Most years Consett gets a flurry of snow which ranges from a light sprinkling to a heavy snowstorm but can it ever have gotten too cold to snow in Consett? When it snows, you may notice that the temperature actually increases somewhat. This allows the moisture in the atmosphere to condense allowing snowfall. This creates a dilemma; if the temperature rises before snow starts to fall does that mean it can be too cold to snow?

At low temperatures, it reduces the amount of water vapour in the cloud which reduces the chance that snow will fall. If it does snow, it will be in a smaller amount than if the temperature is warmer. This snow will stay on the ground for a longer period due to the extremely cold temperature. If it is warmer, the conditions are more ideal for heavy snowfall as their will be more water vapour in the cloud and convection will help the cloud rise causing it to condense.

> "ABSOLUTE ZERO IS −273.15°C"

Even though this is the case, it appears that in natural conditions on Earth, it can never be too cold to snow. Even with the temperature being a big factor in the amounts of snow, it would take a temperature at absolute zero for it to be impossible to snow. Absolute zero is −273.15°C and this is the point where all molecules lose all of their energy and stop vibrating making it completely impossible to snow. So it is true, it can be too cold to snow, but not naturally on Earth.

Visit consettmagazine.com and leave a comment on this article to join the discussion.



The largest snowflake ever recorded was 38cm wide and 20cm thick. Observed in Montana, U.S.A in 1887.



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Start Your Own Business

by Michael Coyle

With so many people out of work and wondering where their next job will come from, there has never been a better time to get into business. Do you have a passion or a hobby which you would love to do all day and make a living doing? Then starting a business may be for you. It's not an easy journey but the end rewards will be worth the struggle. With the New Year just around the corner, why not make a change and change your life.

There are so many different ideas for businesses out there, some ground breaking while others more ordinary but all fulfilling careers. Almost any skill or talent can be used to make a business for example; tradesmen can easily strike out on their own and work for themselves, building on their business, expanding with time. Creative people can also benefit from starting their own business. Home made goods can be easily sold over the web via online marketplaces such as eBay. This is a great way to start as it can help your business to grow organically.

The first thing you need to start your business is a plan. Without a plan you are destined to fail so heed the advice "Fail to plan, plan to fail" when you are starting to get your business off the ground. When making your plan, try to account for any possibility which may come to light. Think about the costs of starting your business, factoring in essential items such as business rates, flyers, charges from your business bank account and business cards. Many people forget these costs and it can hurt them later on. If you put some time and effort into researching your market and the business model you can help make things much more streamlined when things take off rather than picking up the slack later.

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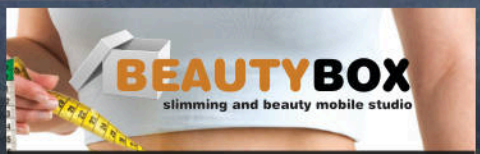

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Consett - Memories Gone By

by Marco Elsy

Consett has come in leaps and bounds in the last 80 years, some may say different, but the memories of those who grew up in Consett and the surrounding areas tell a very different tale to the Consett we know today.

Some recall the bad winters and the blistering summers where tar bubbles would form on the roads, where huntsmen and their dogs would ride by blowing bugles, or the rag and bone men who would frequent the streets.

Others recall the streets full of noise from the hustle and bustle of the industrial machines associated with the steelworks, the steam engines, locomotives and the smoke laden emission from a battery of tall chimneys. Children would play on the banks of the Derwent at Allensford, Ebchester and in the red glow of dusk the still orange glowing slag poured down the embankments commonly known as the red heaps.

Rossi's Ice Cream store and Atkinsons Fruit and Veg were places many seemed to recall with fondness and during the beginning of Teddy Boy era the Co-op Dance hall was frequented by the 'older boys'. Other places of interest included 'Testo's Night Club' with the house band 'The Joe Morrell Trio' .

To the younger generation of Consett who might not see the significance of the boom era, but with the introduction of some international franchises it seems like something big may be in store for this old steel town.







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Christmas Tree Tips

Keeping a real Christmas tree looking fresh and healthy is a battle from day one. With needles needing cleaned up on a regular basis they can be the bane of many home owners over the festive season. This isn't always the case as a Christmas tree which is kept properly won't be such a problem. Here are a few tips and tricks to keep your Christmas tree healthy until January.

1.
Make sure you buy a healthy tree. A healthy tree will last longer and drop fewer needles making it easier to look after. You can test how healthy a tree is by running your finger up a branch. If the needles don't drop off, you're onto a winner.

2.
Just before you bring your tree into the house, chop around 1 inch off the bottom of the trunk. This will allow the capillaries in tree to be opened so it can take up water more efficiently.

3.
Try not to put your tree near a radiator once inside the house. The heat from your radiator can dry out the tree causing premature needle loss.

4.
Use a special stand to allow the tree to be placed in plain water only. This will help it live longer like a bunch of flowers in a vase.

5.
Remember to keep it topped up with water from day to day. Add some sugar to the water as this can keep your tree looking great.

By following these simple tips you can help your tree stay healthy and reduce the amount of vacuuming you will have to do as well.

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The Economic Impact of Christmas

by B. Kirkham

The economic impact of Christmas is a factor that has grown steadily over the past few centuries in many regions of the world, especially here in the UK. Retailers generate significant proportions of their profits in the run up to Christmas. It will come as no surprise that the media is filled with articles and ads all hyping up the Christmas season. The media are not alone, many people use Christmas as an excuse to spend. The Christmas season must be good for the economy, right?

The benefits of Christmas spending go far beyond the jobs which are created. People who work in manufacturing, transport, food and drink services, and retail will all usually spend much of their hard earned money over the Christmas period. In turn this extra cash is recycled back into the economy. Taxes generated by workers and businesses will also help to fund government jobs and services. This is all great for the health of our economy.

There are some people who believe the economy is indeed inefficient during the Christmas months. Many items people will be buying for Christmas this year are in fact manufactured overseas, think iPads, laptops, clothing and televisions, all of which are mainly produced abroad by companies based outside of the UK.

Christmas holidays are all too often taken to other countries so again, much of this type of holiday spending is taken abroad and away from the UK. Many economists claim that the Christmas season encourages people to buy items they ordinarily would not, so shopping is generally a great thing during tough economic times.

The overall effects of the Christmas season are for the most part wonderful for the wealth of the country. If there was a way to keep the money flowing after the Christmas period then I am sure it would work wonders for our economy. The circular flow model in economics refers to a simple economic model which describes the reciprocal circulation of income between producers and consumers; this flow of money effectively increases during Christmas in the UK and could be a great indicator for the true health and confidence people have in the UK's economy.

Let's hope the big Christmas spending spree creates a much needed boost to our economy.



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Scrapped for Cash

New regulations to the scrap metal industry mean that as of the 3rd of December, Scrap metal collectors and traders will have to be paid by a cheque or bank transfer to eliminate cash in hand transactions from the industry. With the recent increases in metal theft across the country, the government sees this as a means to reducing metal theft across the country.

These regulations are being placed on a group of hard working individuals who already get relentless checks from the police making sure they have their numerous licenses checked on a regular basis.

How can these changes in the scrap industry affect those working in the trade? Find out more on consettmagazine.com



Rocking All Over The World

New Year's Eve is a time of celebration for people all across the world with parties going on through the night. We all know what goes on in England every year along with Hogmanay in Scotland and Calennig in Wales but what happens in other countries across the globe? Traditions change drastically from country to country even within the confines of Europe. For example, in Finland, families tell their fortune by dropping molten lead into some cold water and analysing the resulting shape. This practice is known as molybdomancy which is a tradition from years gone by.

Want to know more about New Year around the world? Want to know the best place abroad to celebrate the arrival of 2013? Come and read more at consettmagazine.com



Wrapping Up

Christmas is a time for giving, and gifts need to be wrapped. Wrapping paper is a big part of Christmas tradition with millions of people across the UK, young and old, getting up on Christmas morning and tearing the paper from their new gifts.

Christmas creates a massive increase is waste over these few days which must be disposed of.

There is enough wrapping paper used over Christmas in the UK to get all the way around the world a number of times.

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The End of the World as We Know It?

by B. Kirkham

Could the 21st December 2012 be the end of the world? This is the belief of many people around the globe. It is thought that this date is the end of a 5,123 year long cycle in the Mesoamerican long count calendar. There are also various astronomical alignments and numerical ideas pertaining to this day although mainstream academia does not always accept these ideas.

December 21 2012 is the end of a time period in the Mesoamerican Long Count calendar which was used in Central America prior to the arrival of Europeans. The long count is associated with the Mayan civilization whose classic period was around between 250AD and 900AD. How could the ancient Mayan civilisation have predicted this date so many years ago?

Some theories which also point to the end of days being on the 21st December 2012 include; the galactic alignment, precession of the equinoxes (the Sun's proximity to the center of the Milky Way), Geomagnetic reversal (Pole-shift), Planet X / Niburu, and there are even claims that aliens from other worlds will reveal themselves to Mankind on this date. In astrology terms, 2012 marks the end of the Age of Pisces (the last 2,000 or so years) and the start of the Age of Aquarius.

There are so many theories about what will actually happen on 21st December 2012, if anything at all. This question will go unanswered until the day finally comes. This 2012 phenomenon has spread like wildfire through the internet with hundreds of thousands of sites online pointing to this date. The "Ask an Astrobiologist" section on the NASA public outreach website has received over 5,000 questions about the so called end of the world since 2007. It is also being noted that 12% of Americans believe that the end of the Mayan Calendar marks the end of the world, where sales of underground blast shelters have increased.



What do you think will happen this month? Have your say on this article at consettmagazine.com.

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Spare Bedroom? Pay for it!

by F. Jackson

As of April 2013, the government will bring in new rules regarding housing benefit. The 'Bedroom Tax' as it is commonly known, is a new piece of legislation which deducts housing benefit from claimants based around how many bedrooms are unused in their house. Anyone claiming housing benefit with a spare bedroom will lose around 14% of their benefit, or 25% if they have 2 or more spare bedrooms. The Bedroom Tax is a measure designed to encourage housing benefit claimants to have one bedroom per person or a couple living in rented accommodation.

The Bedroom tax is expected to apply to 660 000 social tenants of working age, roughly a 3rd of all housing benefits claimants, most of which have only one spare bedroom. A large proportion of tenants in the Consett area do claim housing benefits, and a great deal of those have a spare bedroom. County Durham is one of the poorest counties in the UK, and the Bedroom Tax is expected to have a massive impact on the area.

To put this into more relative terms, if you are living on your own or as a couple in a 2 bedroom property, you would be expected to lose between £14 and £16 a week from your benefits. Since housing benefit is designed to meet the costs of renting a property, this will require claimants to make up this extra themselves. This has caused opposition throughout the country with tenants fearing issues such as going into debt to pay the difference, moving miles away from work and families, or having to take a stranger into their home as a lodger.

One person told the BBC: "I was terrified of falling into arrears. I saw my housing officer and she said I would have to pay roughly £11 to £18 a week. I couldn't afford it. I couldn't even afford a fiver a week."

Obviously this raised many questions about what exactly these tenants should do to make up the extra cost. For example, many of the people who this bedroom tax will affect, will also be Jobseekers, would they be expected to pay this out of their benefits? The government haven't been perfectly clear on this, but Lord Freud, minister of Welfare Reform, told the BBC:

"People in the private sector who are not on benefits have got to match what they can afford with where they live all the time. So we're not looking for them to do anything different to people who live in social housing. Some people are able to work more and there are quite a lot of job vacancies coming up all the time, including in the North East."

Many residents in the Consett area do not realise how close to home this issue is, for example in Chester le Street, there are under 100 one bedroom properties for rent, with over 600 people that would be liable for this Bedroom Tax. With differences like this in people who would be liable to pay, and the one bedroom properties available, there may be reason enough for the Government to look again at this.

> **I WAS TERRIFIED OF FALLING INTO ARREARS. I SAW MY HOUSING OFFICER AND SHE SAID I WOULD HAVE TO PAY ROUGHLY £11 TO £18 A WEEK. I COULDN'T AFFORD IT. I COULDN'T EVEN AFFORD A FIVER A WEEK.**



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Back to the Roots

by Ivan Laidler

Dubstep has quickly became one of the most popular music genres across the world with club nights and parties springing up in cities all across the world with DJs elevated to superstar status in the blink of an eye. A lot of people will have heard Dubstep music and associated the sound with noise, mechanical grinding and electronic beeps but Dubstep has beginnings in a much more organic music with its roots over the ocean in Jamaica.

One of Jamaica's biggest cultural exports to the world is Reggae music. With names like Bob Marley, Peter Tosh and Toots and the Maytals all hailing from the shores of this small island in the Caribbean. This music's distinctive half time feel and off beat rhythms can be attributed to the drum beats in Dubstep. With the deep bass lines running throughout, it's easy to see how this urban electronic music takes its influence from the Dub Reggae in Jamaica.

Along with the reggae influence, urban Garage is also seen to have a relation to Dubstep. The first Dubstep releases can be traced back to the late nineties as remixes of popular Garage tracks but with less emphasis on the vocals whilst exhibiting a darker, much more experimental sound. From this came the rise of some of the biggest names in the scene as the genre started to attract attention in the underground scenes of London, Nottingham and Leeds to name a few. Names such as Skream, Rusko and Caspa became commonplace as Dubstep started to gain a foothold in the mainstream. These innovators blended the wobbles of Garage, the Dubstep beat along with their own inventive twists creating a unique and individual music. Things have now changed and Dubstep is a worldwide phenomenon. In the US, the sound changed and became closer to what we know today mainly thanks to the electronic sensations Skrillex and Bassnectar but it lost some of its soul. Today the reggae influence isn't as prevalent due to the US influence but the UK scene will always have an attachment to the UK's roots.

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Wii U - Nintendo's New Console

by Marco Elsy

Nintendo have a long history of being an innovative company, from the early days of cartridges to the more recent use of disks. Last month Nintendo released the long awaited (for some) Wii U. Using the latest hardware and user interface software Nintendo hope to achieve a what the Wii failed to do; bring back the mainstream gamers who migrated to the likes of Xbox360 and the PS3.

The Wii U GamePad, which is the controller for the Wii U console, boasts a 854×480 touch screen, an accelerometer, gyroscope, camera, dual analog sticks, a built-in sensor strip, a built-in microphone to bring it up to the current communication demands of the tech savvy consumer. The console will be released alongside a long list of familiar games to keep you entertained over the long winter nights.

Tech Specs

Size
Approximately 1.8 inches high, 10.6 inches deep and 6.75 inches long.

Weight
Approximately 3.5 pounds (1.6 kg).

Appearance
The new console features a compact design that will make it a natural addition to any home entertainment setup.

CPU
IBM Power® -based multi-core microprocessor.

GPU
AMD Radeon™-based High Definition GPU.

Storage
The Premium Pack console has 32GB of internal flash memory, and the Basic Pack console has 8GB. In addition to the internal flash memory, external USB storage can be used to increase maximum storage capacity.
SD Card support
SD Memory Cards up to 2GB and SDHC Cards up to 32GB are supported.
Supported Media
Wii U and Wii optical discs.

Networking
Wii U can access the Internet via wireless (IEEE 802.11b/g/n) connection. The console features four USB 2.0 connectors – two in the front and two in the rear – that support Wii LAN Adapters (sold separately).

Wii Compatibility
Nearly all Wii software and accessories can be used with Wii U. Please note: Nintendo GameCube software and accessories are not supported.

Audio Output
Uses six-channel PCM linear output via HDMI port, or analogue output via the AV Multi Out connector.
Video Output
Supports 1080p, 1080i, 720p, 480p and 480i. Compatible cables include HDMI, Wii Component Video, Wii RGB and Wii AV.







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Big Cats: A Feline Fake or Cat Conundrum?

by Chris Brown

One of the most majestic groups of creatures in the world, big cats have inspired speculation and wonder around the world. From the Lion of Africa and the Bengal Tiger from Asia, big cats are powerful and dangerous but are not generally found in the UK. While big cats can be found in various regions across the world, the UK is not known for an abundance of exotic fauna. The most ferocious mammals in the UK are animals such as the badger and the wild boar but sightings of alien big cats have been noted from as far back as the 1950's.
Some theories of the existence of big cats point to the passing of the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 as a cause for the sightings in the UK. This law meant that dangerous animals could no longer be kept as pets by individual causing many rich people with ridiculous pets to release them in the wild to roam the countryside of the UK. This meant some big cats may have been left to their own devices and could well have been living in the wild.

There have been sightings all across the UK with a high percentage of these sightings in recent time being down the country in Devon, in Yorkshire and further up north in Scotland but there have been reports of the elusive big cat in the North East. There are always rumours of the beasts appearing in the area with a select few claiming to have seen an alien big cat. May these released pets and escaped zoo animals have bred in the wild and formed feline communities across the country? Who knows but reports keep coming in of sightings of these creatures across the UK.

Do you think alien big cats are just a big hoax or an unexplained phenomenon which needs more research? Share your views on consettmagazine.com

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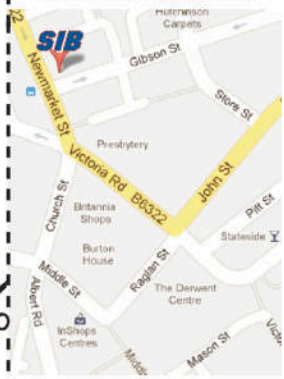

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