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TO ISSUE 24 OF THE CONSETT MAGAZINE

ONLINE ARTICLES

Lorraine Weightman - Consett Community Service Award 2014
Lorraine Weightman - Derwentside Mind 30th Anniversary
David Gray - Wheels of Fortune

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www.consettmagazine.com/competition

The winner will be picked at random on the 15th December and notified by email. Only one entry per person.

DECEMBER EDITORIAL

As I type this, my 2-year anniversary editorial, with white knuckles and a dose of holiday spirit, I wish only for a pair of plug-in USB gloves to keep me going this year (really, Google them!).

Indeed, Winter has rolled in faster than you can say 'Merry Christmas' with a mouth full of turkey and stuffing. With it we have brought you another packed Consett Magazine and I wish to thank all supporters, both businesses and writers alike, for their help in keeping things ticking along.

We have a few extras this month. A selection of the stories sent to us we were simply unable to fit in the print copy, and so I would like to direct you to our website at **consettmagazine.com** to read everything available. Our authors put in a lot of hard work, so all comments are appreciated.

Did you know: The old picture hall in Consett used to be known as the 'Loppy Opera' back in the day. Do any of you remember it? Let us know!

All the best, Ivan Laidler.
Editor at Consett Magazine.

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WEDNESDAY 3RD DECEMBER - 'CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK'



Wednesday 3rd December 2014 between 3pm and 6pm in Blackhill and Consett Park - in partnership with Friends of The Park and Leisureworks.

A special 'Christmas in the Park' carol singing and Christmas lights switch on event will be taking place down in the Park on Wednesday 3rd December between 3pm and 6pm. There will be a range of activities such as children's rides, meet the Frosty Magic characters, join in the FREE family Christmas decoration workshops, be entertained by the North East Theatre Academy, view the handmade Christmas decorations made by local schools and enjoy carol singing with the Consett Salvation Army Band before the park Christmas lights are switched on by the cast of Aladdin, Consett's family pantomime.

Hot refreshments will also be available (chargeable).

For more information about the 'Christmas in Consett' events, please contact a member of the DVP Team on **03000 260 725** or e-mail us at **dvaap@durham.gov.uk.**

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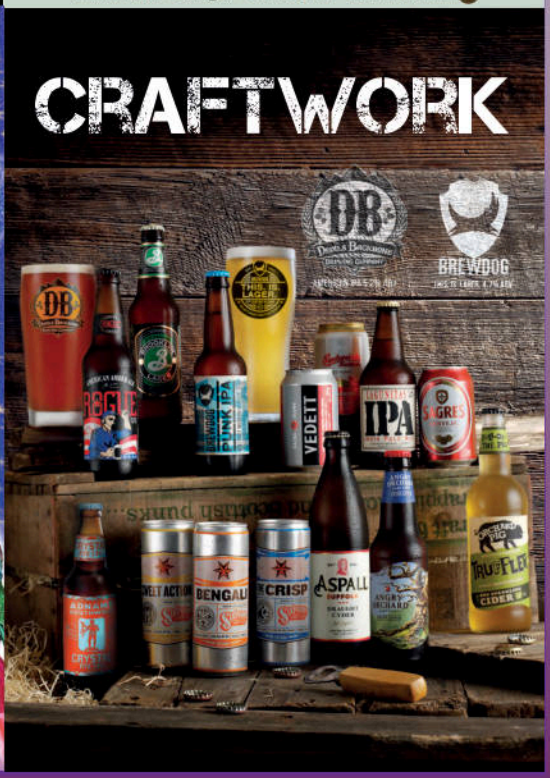
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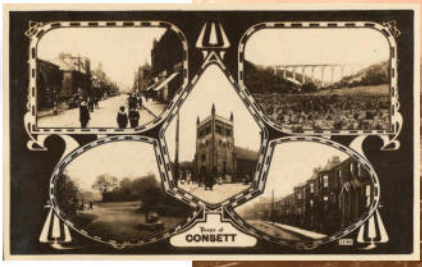
BY BRIAN HARRISON

CONSETT OR BERRY-EDGE IN BRIEF



For years there has been a constant argument among many people about the original name of Consett. From most local history books it was stated that the original name of the town was actually Berry Edge and that it only later became known as Consett. An initial letter sent to a Newcastle paper in the late 1850's had a person stating this was the case and nearly all the local Historians of the last Century have used this as their basis. However, Berry Edge was not even mentioned until 1791 and then only as an "allotment" in a part sale of Conside. It seems there was a lot more to it than I had initially realised.

If you look on the early maps Berry-Edge is actually written next to the new town in big bold letters, peculiarly at a place where anyone today would say Berry Edge existed, just above Consett College. Going back further you can find mention of Berry Edge Farm and Berry Edge House situated next to Blackfyne. In reality it seems that Berry Edge was a section of land that ran from Blackfyne across the top of the park and along Albert Road, almost like a boundary.

Consett or Conside was different however, it encompassed a very large area which in 1723 enclosed some 693 acres which stretch from the Stamfordham to High Conside (approximately half a mile from Shotley Bridge) and stretch all the way up to Carr House. Most of this land was owned by Sherburn Hospital, originally a Leaper Hospital set up in 1181 by Bishop Pudsey and that had been granted huge amounts of land in this area (probably were the name Sherburn Terrace originated).

To read the full article, head on over to consettmagazine.com or find us on Facebook!

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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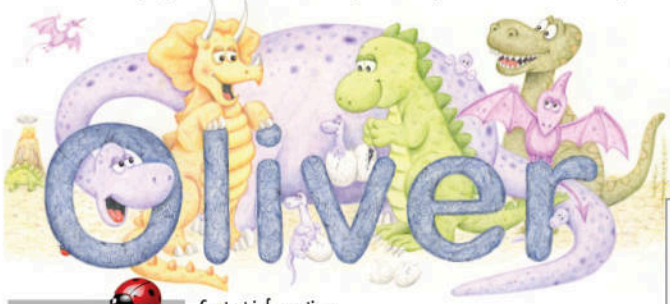







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CHOPWELL WOOD - THE NORTH EAST'S FAVOURITE PLACE FOR CHRISTMAS TREES

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

IT'S PARTY TIME

BY ROB GRINTER

It's the festive season and the work Christmas party is just around the corner. Everyone is looking forward to letting their hair down and having a good time. Just be careful though that you don't do something which you may later regret.

A work party is still a work function and inappropriate behaviour could get you into trouble.

Alcohol can dampen inhibitions and it is not a good idea to tell the boss what you really think of him or to start a fight with the smug guy from despatch who thinks he's something special. Employers are still responsible for the behaviour of their employees at parties whether they are held during working hours or after work. So if you step out of line and someone complains about your behaviour you might find yourself in trouble.

A survey by the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development reveals that 10% of workers know of a colleague who has been disciplined for inappropriate behaviour at the Christmas party.

Let's keep this in perspective though and remember that the vast majority of Christmas parties take place without anyone behaving badly so no one wants to be a killjoy but employers need to make it clear to employees what is and is not acceptable behaviour.

A quiet word about what is expected should be all that is needed but all employers should:

• have an equal opportunities policy and a dignity at work policy in place to cover any misdemeanours which may arise.
• ensure that managers also know how to behave responsibly
• have an agreement about late or non -attendance at work the following day

Finally, sites like Facebook often carry unflattering photos or comments about the boss or work colleagues. This may cause a loss of respect and trust between colleagues and in serious cases can bring the employer into disrepute. Many companies now have social media policies and you could find yourself in trouble for such actions so be careful what you post.
So having said all that…..have a good time and enjoy your party.

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Director
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2014 ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL PROVES A HUGE LOCAL SUCCESS

BY JIM CALLAN

The 2014 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal has taken on an entirely new aspect this year with Remembrance Day also being used to mark the Commemoration of the one-hundredth anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War in 1914.

The Royal British Legion was set up in 1921 to support the families and carers of wounded British Services personnel, as well as the injured and disabled personnel as well. This includes all of the relevant parties that have been involved in, and affected by, all conflicts since the First World War.

They are also the national custodian of the Remembrance, safeguarding the Military Covenant that exists between the nation and its Armed Services and, of course, the operation of the Poppy Appeal and its emblem, the red poppy.

In the Stanley and Consett areas, the fundraising activities were overseen by the Consett and District Branch of the Royal British Legion and its team of volunteers. who, over Remembrance Sunday, arranged and attended a number of services in Stanley, Consett, Castleside, Shotley Bridge, South Moor and Annfield Plain.

Read the full article online at consettmagazine.com or find us on Facebook!

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3000 DIFFERENT MATERIALS

As promised this month we are going to be looking at some of the materials asbestos was used in, as a theme this will be rolled out over a few issues of the magazine as there was estimated to be in the region of 3000 different materials used in the UK which had some asbestos content. These were bought from the shops as you would buy any building material or appliance today, just off the shelf !

YOUR AVERAGE FLOOR TILE

Some of the most common items to contain asbestos were your average floor tile, the adhesive used to stick down the floor tile, Textured Coatings (incorrectly referred to as Artex – Artex is a trade name, many brands were available) to ceilings and walls. roofing felt, putty, roof sheets, radios, irons, hair driers, cookers, door handles, toilet seats, toilet cisterns.. And yes you have guessed it, these were not simply in places of work, but at home too.

NO DETECTABLE HARM

But what's really important to remember is that asbestos does no harm when it is in good condition and sealed. The interesting thing about all the materials listed above are still very common place today, in asbestos and non-asbestos forms, and they are doing no detectable harm. And this is because the asbestos in these items are bound (stuck) into other materials which hold the asbestos fibres firmly in place. Making them unable to be released into the air without smashing, cutting, drilling or sanding (any abrasive task) the asbestos containing material.

But beware not all materials are good at keeping the asbestos within them and this is where the it can get into the air, and this is when harm can be done.

If you are considering working with any material which could be disturbed abrasively or intrusively and it was around prior to the year 2000, we have online training courses for individuals, we can also visit your premises if you have a group that needs awareness increased, after all asbestos awareness training is a annual legal requirement, for ALL tradesmen, surveyors architects, in fact anyone working in construction/demolition or any of the allied trades.

Alternatively you may wish to give us a call and have it tested or inspected or even removed.

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Since their introduction just over a year ago, the new Venture bus fleet have proved a big hit with the people of Consett. More people are choosing to travel locally in Consett and that's great news for the local economy. The new buses feature next stop announcements that make journeys easier for partially sighted customers and those who aren't familiar with their route.

The Venture routes link Delves Lane, Castleside, Shotley Bridge, Chopwell, Blackhill, The Dene, Stanley, Dipton and Leadgate with Consett. Bus fares start from just £1.50 or travel all day in the Consett zone (which includes Castleside Shotley Bridge, Medomsley & The Dene) for only £3.40.

So why not Venture into Consett or Hermiston Gate Retail Park to shop by bus!

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