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Consett's Independent Magazine

ISSUE 22 / May 2014

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OLYMPIA SKATING RINK

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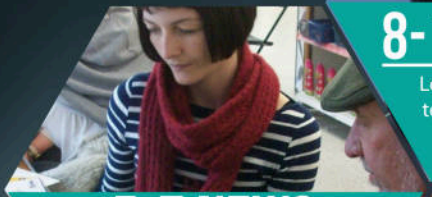



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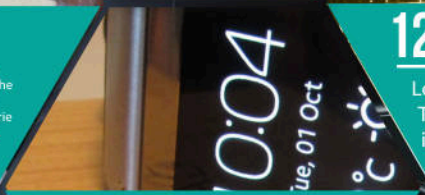

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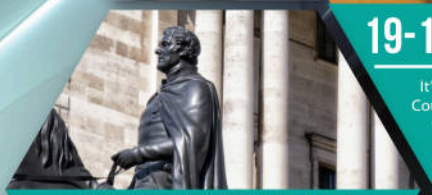

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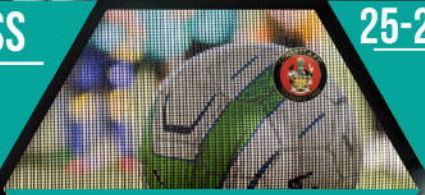

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HELLO AND WELCOME TO THE MAY EDITION OF CONSETT MAGAZINE!

The article submissions have been coming thick and fast from all angles and categories.

As always we welcome all types of content and would like to thank those who have come forward to contribute to Consett's independent magazine.

When you're spinning around the Maypole this month, spare a thought for Consett Magazine and keep your copy close to home.

IVAN LAIDLER - EDITOR



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KNOW YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE DAY

The Rotary Club Of Derwentside Beats Their Record

BY MICHAEL DYNES

Did you know that in the North East of England alone, approximately 5,500 people suffer from a stroke each year and 58,883 are living with stroke? This is why the Rotary Club of Derwentside are delighted to report they had another very successful day when they held their fifth annual Know Your Blood Pressure Day in Consett at the beginning of April.

Know Your Blood pressure Day is a national event done annually to raise awareness to the causes of strokes and how they can be prevented. One of the major causes of stroke is high blood pressure, which is why the event takes the form of giving blood pressure checks.

In a previous edition of Consett Magazine the Rotary Club of Derwentside was on the lookout for a new venue, following the closure of InShops on Middle Street.

Through Consett Magazine, the Rotary Club of Derwentside would like to extend their thanks to the Co-operative Pharmacy on Middle Street, Tesco on Genesis Way and Belle Vue Swim Centre. Through their generosity and excellent support the club was able to facilitate the event in three new venues this year.

It was another successful year with just under 200 people having their blood pressure taken, which beat the record on previous years. The event is done in partnership with the NHS Health Improvement Service, NHS nurses and local community nurses. We also have volunteers who assist with registration and this year the club was joined by the recently formed Consett Stroke Club. Again through Consett Magazine, the club would like to extend their thanks to all their volunteers who come out and give up their time so freely to ensure the success of this important event.

Every year there are approximately 152,000 strokes in the UK. That's one stroke every five minutes. Since the Know Your Blood Pressure campaign began, more than 100,000 people have had their blood pressures taken.

The Stroke Association is hoping that in this year, another 50,000 blood pressures will be taken throughout the UK as the event will be held in over 1000 venues. Thanks to the participation of the good people of Consett, the Rotary Club of Derwentside has been able to make a significant contribution towards that target.



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PAT GLASS MP ATTENDS PRESENTATION OF BRITISH EMPIRE MEDAL TO MR CLIVE ROBSON



Pat Glass MP joined Senior Managers and Councillors from Durham County Council, Derwentside Homes, Consett AFC, other organisations and family and friends of Mr. Clive Robson as he was formally presented with the British Empire Medal by the Lord Lieutenant in recognition of over 50 years of community service to Consett.

Mr. Robson was recognised in Her Majesty The Queen's New Years Honours list of 2013 for his years of service, including being a Cabinet Member for Durham County Council whilst representing Consett North and being a Eucharist Minister since the mid 1980's and being very active in many charities and local groups for many years. In his acceptance speech, Mr. Robson paid tribute to his family and in particular his wife Val, who has supported him for many years.

He also praised the many colleagues he has worked with over the years, many of whom were in attendance at Belle View Stadium, where Consett Football Club hosted the champagne reflection. Consett Football Club Chairman Frank Bell hosted the event, reading out many letters of thanks and support received by those who could not attend the reception to see Mr Robson presented with his award. Whilst observing the event, Pat Glass MP said:

"I am delighted that Clive has been presented with his British Empire Medal. This is an award for working class people who have dedicated themselves to their community in an exceptional way.

Clive has served his community for over 50 years so he is a very worthy recipient of this award. Today he rightly received the recognition and thanks for many years of hard work and dedication to Consett."

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Marie Curie Cancer Care

NEW FUNDRAISING GROUP TO LAUNCH IN CONSETT & STANLEY TO RAISE FUNDS FOR MARIE CURIE CANCER CARE

Marie Curie Cancer Care is delighted to announce that they will shortly be launching a new Fundraising Group in Consett and Stanley.

The Group will be raising funds for the Newcastle hospice and the home nursing service which Marie Curie nurses provide in the local area.

"Fundraising groups are a great way to meet people in the area and get involved with the community" says Katie Searles, Community Fundraiser for Marie Curie Cancer Care. "They can also be a lot of fun."

Consett Fire Station is generously supporting the group by offering free meeting accommodation for residents of Consett and Stanley, and meetings are open to all.

The Consett and Stanley Fundraising Group will raise funds for Marie Curie nurses to provide free care to people with terminal illnesses, by supporting Marie Curie's major fundraising campaigns such as the Great Daffodil Appeal and the Blooming Great Tea Party scheme, as well as promoting fundraising within the local community and encouraging new supporters to help the charity.

To find out more about the group meeting and other ways to support the charity, please contact Katie on 0191 219 1205, or e-mail her at katie.searles@mariecurie.org.uk



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British Heart Foundation

BY LORRAINE WEIGHTMAN

Dedicated to the fight against heart disease, The British Heart Foundation's task is to keep hearts beating and they focus their work on their ground-breaking research. They are the UK's number one heart charity and through 50 years of funding cutting edge research they have already made a big difference to people's lives.

However, the landscape of heart disease is changing.

More people survive a heart attack or cardiac arrest than ever before, and that means more people are now living with heart disease and need their help. As a result they have been reviewing their strategic approach with the help of staff, supporters and stakeholders.

Their new strategy will give them a powerful focus in their fight for every heartbeat, and enable them to lead the fight against cardiovascular disease more effectively.

The British Heart Foundation shop in Consett is supporting the national campaign of fighting for every heartbeat by encouraging people to make a special effort to donate clothes, shoes and gifts at the end of each month.

The campaign began at the end of March by asking people to donate a bag of clothes, shoes, toys, gifts or books and bring it into the shop or call for collection. All donators receive a free raffle ticket for a hamper.

Victoria Whitehead the manager of the British Heart Foundation Shop in Middle Street said,

'Your donations fund our pioneering research that will save lives. By donating a bag of clothes, toys, or some books, you are bringing us closer to a future without heart disease.'

The shop will accept a whole range of donations but they do ask that you check the items you're donating to a shop are clean and in good working condition.

The list below will give you some ideas

Books / Shoes and handbags / Clothing / Accessories / Jewellery / CD's and DVD's / Children's toys / Home ware

To help with this worthwhile campaign fill a bag and bring it into the shop in Consett or give the shop a ring on 01207 581707 or 07761435994 and they will come and collect it from you if it's local.

Consett BHF Shop
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01207 581707



BY LORRAINE WEIGHTMAN

MEMORIES OF A CHILDHOOD IN CONSETT

The school holidays are here again and we were all looking forward to our day out by the river.

We are sent out to play in the street while the food is prepared. This is no ordinary picnic as the whole street are participating.

Corned beef pies rested, cooling on the back kitchen windowsill nestled among the whitened sand shoes with the light brown rubber soles.

The smell of hard boiled eggs freshly shelled and mixed with butter in a bowl, filled the kitchen. The uncut loaf was sliced thinly with an old well used bread knife made for the job and the cheese scones huddled together in brown grease proof paper.

This was going to be some feast. The adults had flasks of black tea to share and milk was poured from its glass pint into a dark brown pill bottle with a screw on lid.

A sugar topped tinplated apple pie with a hole in the top to let the steam out was being lifted from the oven as I looked through the window to see how close we were to being ready.

It would be a while yet, so my Brother and I decided to join the others at the top of the street who were racing down the hill on their homemade bogies.

I hadn't had the pleasure of making one but envied the boys who did. Botched together with rusty nails and planks of smooth wood planed by the neighbours' Dad, the pram wheels with silver cross spokes and soft chewing gum coloured tyres adorned the designer carts; two smaller ones at the back and the larger ones bringing up the rear. A thick coarse rope to steer and a padded seat covered with old dusters was the usual.

To see the rest of Lorraine's story, head over to consettmagazine.com

THE ROTARY CLUB OF CONSETT CELEBRATE A SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

Harry Gardiner, who celebrated his 90th birthday on Monday April 7th 2014 is seen here at The Rotary Club of Consett's meeting on Tuesday April 8th where his fellow Rotarians gathered to share a meal with him and raise a glass to celebrate his 90 years.



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SUPER SHINY SPRING FAIRE

By Sue Fox

In spite of it being a cold and foggy day, Willow Burn Hospice's newest and shiniest event, a first ever Spring Fair, held in Consett on 29th March, was deemed to be a great success with over 200 people attending.

Manned by volunteers and boasting the usual array of home-baked cakes and pies, crafts and merchandise, raffles and tombola, and information about hospice services and current fundraising plans, the fair organised at St Patrick's Church Hall, attracted people of all ages from the local community and saw many individuals leave with armfuls of goodies.





Some of the highlights of the afternoon were the raffle of a 'Be Attitudes' quilt made by volunteers and members of Willow Burn Book Shop's Chat and Craft Group; a guess the name competition… run by an Easter Bunny!... and the presentation of a cheque for £3808.55 made by Judith Robson of the Calendar Girls' project from Castleside – the total income of which was £11,341 split between Willow Burn, Cancer UK and Castleside Village Hall.

On receiving the cheque, Willow Burn's CEO, Helen Mills, commented favourably on the continued support of the hospice by the local community and thanked everyone for attending and showing their commitment to the provision of much needed services and the building of a new hospice.

She also expressed her gratitude to several Newcastle Building Society staff and employees from Lloyds Bank who volunteered at the event and for providing matched funding opportunities to boost the income to what has recently been confirmed as £5,000.

The Phase 1 build of the new hospice will be launched and opened for services in the summer. Anyone wanting to financially support or help to promote fundraising activities for the Phase 2 build , a new six bed, all en suite In Patient Unit, should contact Sue Fox, Income Generation Campaigns Lead on (01207) 523292 or e-mail sfox@willowburnhospice.org.uk

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by Barry Kirkham

SKYDIVING FOR WILLOWBURN

On the 10th May, Abby Sanderson and Glen Haggon from Consett will be freefalling from the clouds at 120MPH from a height of 10,000 feet. Why, you ask? It's all in the name of Willowburn Hospice.



Abby has already raised in excess of £4,500 for Willowburn at Christmas, Easter, and with an event held last month in memory of her father called "Ernie's Night". She said, "I am fundraising for Willowburn because they really looked after my Dad when he was sick.

They do such a great job going above and beyond with their care".

The skydive will take place in the Lake District and is being conducted by skylineparachuting.com.

All the team at Firefly New Media and Consett Magazine wish Abby and Glen all the best in their amazing freefall adventure.

To donate to this wonderful cause please visit: www.justgiving.com/willowburnhospice/ and quote "Abby's skydive" in the message section or you can donate via text by texting:

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THE OLYMPIA SKATING RINK, CONSETT

BY BRIAN HARRISON



With the upcoming Exhibition of the Consett & District Heritage Initiative and Friends on the 7th to 10th of May, 10am- 4.30pm daily at Consett Methodist Church, it got me thinking about what heritage inspires people or provokes a response. Over the past few years many of the photos we have unearthed and exhibited have sparked both memories and wonder. Donations found in cupboards, draws and long lost albums have been brilliant and hopefully these will continue and help boost the archive for future generations. However, one photo and piece of history seems to have really resonated with nearly everyone who has seen or heard about it, that of the Olympia Skating Rink, Templetown.

The skating rink was located in the site of the old power plant, now Jewson's. It was opened in about 1909 and was well received, quickly became a big focal point in Consett. There are loads of stories of people's parents and grandparents meeting and courting there.

From the newspaper articles of the time it would also seem that the rink was a major venue for political meetings, especially for early socialist and Labour groups. Early Labourer rallies along with Suffragettes urged the working men and women of the area to dismiss their master's voices and stand up for their rights like never before. The Irish movements used it as a place to rally support for the troubles in Ireland in 1914 and drew crowds of almost 3000 people, giving a real insight into Consett's link to Ireland.

The rink closed down for a few years in the early 1920s but was reopened in 1925 by George W Lawson. The story around this point becomes very vague as we know the rink was burnt to the ground either before or after George reopened it. All we know is that it closed and if it was not for this one blurred picture, a couple of newspaper articles and a few peoples passed on memories this building, along with its history, would have faded into the mists of time.

READ THE FULL STORY @ CONSETTMAGAZINE.COM

All enquiries please call: 01207 438292

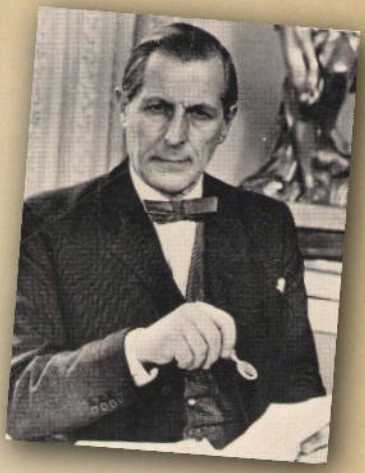
BARON AVRO MANHATTAN 1914-1990

WRITTEN BY GERARD BARRIE

While on a visit to a cemetery one might be tempted to spend some time reading the inscriptions on the headstones of people laid to rest there and wondering what kind of lives these people had lived.

Some cemeteries house the graves of very famous people i.e. Highgate cemetery in North London houses the grave of Karl Marx while various cemeteries around the world, house the graves of many other influential people.

On a walk around Benfieldside cemetery near Consett, one may stop at the grave of a Baron Avro Manhattan who lies buried alongside his Shotley



Bridge born wife Anne and not realise the colourful and eventful life that he led prior to his death in his South Shields home in November, 1990.

Yet Baron Avro Manhattan could count Pablo Picasso, George Bernard Shaw and the scientist, Marie Stopes among his many friends and was author of more than twenty books, among them the best selling "The Vatican in World Politics" which was translated into most major languages including Chinese, Russian and Korean, "The Vatican Billions" and "The Dollar and the Vatican".

Baron Avro Manhattan was born in Milan, Italy on April 6th, 1914 to American and Swiss/Dutch parents of Jewish extraction.

To find out more about the mysterious Baron, head over to consettmagazine.com

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COMMEMORATING WWI 100 YEARS ON

BY JIM CALLAN

It's one-hundred years ago this year that this country entered into the so-called "war to end all wars", better known as the First World War.

To commemorate one of the most important events in world history, there are a number of events taking place across the United Kingdom and, especially, the North East of England.

It was the northern part of the country that felt some of the heaviest losses during the conflict as many regiments were formed in the area and filled by those who felt duty-bound to defend the country, the large number of unemployed and even underage volunteers, all of whom came together to defeat a common foe.

To commemorate those who fell and the occasion itself, many voluntary and charity groups are holding special events with one of the first having taken place in Stanley in County Durham.

The Tanfield Railway held a World War One Commemorative Weekend at the end of March with a display of vintage vehicles and personnel dressed in the military uniform of the day.

Built in 1725 and known as The Waggonway at the time, the Tanfield Railway was a revelation of massive engineering and unlike anything seen since the Roman Empire. A triumph of engineering over nature, it was a clear signal that railways were about to play a massive part in the new industrial age.

The Tanfield Railway also has its own place in history as it was laid down a quarter of a century before the first railway officially sanctioned by the Government and over 75 years before the first steam locomotive. It was also built 100 years earlier than the Stockton to Darlington Railway making the Tanfield Railway the world's oldest railway.



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WHAT SHOULD WE DO ABOUT BANKS?

BY RALPH MUSGRAVE

About five years ago, the worst economic set-back since 1929 started; caused by irresponsible bank lending. As a consequence, billions had to be spent bailing banks out.

It gets worse from there. Besides bail-outs, banks are subsidised year-in, year-out anyway, to the tune of billions. So how do we prevent banks collapsing and how do we stop bank subsidies?
Well there's a simple way of doing all that which has been around for almost a century. The solution is called "full reserve" banking and it goes as follows.

The banking industry is split into two halves. One half caters for those who want their money to be 100% safe. In order to make sure the money really is secure, nothing is done with that money, it's simply stored at the Bank of England. That money is instant access, but it earns little to no interest as the money is not doing anything. Since that money is completely safe, bank failure cannot stem from that source.

The second half is for those who want their money loaned on or invested. Those people, not banks, decide what is done with their money (e.g. depositors can choose to fund safe UK mortgages, or go for something more risky). It's those people who benefit when all goes well, but who also foot the bill when problems arise (rather than taxpayers footing the bill). So there again, bank failure cannot stem from that source.

That system is backed by an organisation called Positive Money, and there is a North East group of Positive Money supporters who meet once a month.

For the full version of this article, see the online version of the Consett Magazine.

THE SYSTEM IS BACKED BY AN ORGANISATION CALLED POSITIVE MONEY, AND THERE IS A NORTH EAST GROUP OF POSITIVE MONEY SUPPORTERS WHO MEET ONCE A MONTH

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YouTube GOING VIRAL

BY MALCOLM CLARKE

The Holy Grail for the YouTube video creator is see the number of views of their video exploding in front of their eyes, with many YouTubers enjoying and sharing their work via social media. A video called "Charlie bit my finger – again!" which was uploaded on 22nd May 2007, has received a staggering 690 million views since it was posted! The video is simply of two babies, where one of the babies bites the others finger. The enticing part of YouTube is that even the most innocuous posting can capture the public's imagination and go viral.

YouTube allow anyone to become a 'YouTube partner' and earn revenue from their videos.

There is a financial benefit in receiving many views on YouTube, although it is very difficult to achieve a viral video. As a very general rule, YouTubers can earn a minimum of $0.92 per 1000 views they obtain. This does not sound like a lot of money, but if you post a video that goes viral and gets many thousands or even millions of hits, advertisers will be interested to associate with your video and pay for the privilege. Many "YouTube celebs" post two or three videos per week, getting in excess of 500,000 views or more at a time. These YouTubers will earn advertising agreements and make very good money, far more than the minimum I suggested above.

Anyone can produce a video for YouTube and there are many tutorials to help you if you are interested in doing so. The best types of videos to post if you want to get lots of hits are videos that make people laugh. Cute baby videos, pets doing something funny and even angry rants are often popular videos and video game footage, in particular the cult game Minecraft, are also very popular on YouTube.

Malcolm Clarke posts YouTube videos about Virtual Pool 4 for PC at - http://www.runout.tv/



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MYSTERY MINERAL FIND SPARKS INTEREST

by Carol Rocke

Members of an environmental campaigning group in North-West Durham have chanced upon a find in the Pont Burn, below the village of Dipton, which they believe to be a rare mineral, only known to be present in the North East of England in very few locations.

The mineral formations were brought to the attention of David Marrs, chairman of the Pont Valley Network, by a local ecologist. They believe what they have found is 'TUFA', a relatively rare rock-like formation, usually present in Limestone areas, which is why it is especially unusual to have found it in this area of the North East.

The Network got in touch with a national expert on TUFA, who has visited the site and taken samples, which are currently being tested.
Network chairman, David Marrs said, "If this turns out to be TUFA as we strongly suspect, then we will be urging Natural England to begin the process of designating the area as a Site of Special Scientific Interest, (SSSI)".

A local geologist who accompanied them on the site visit is to begin the process of registering the site as one of geological interest via a regional geology committee.
David Marrs also commented, "If we can have this area designated as an SSSI, it can only help us in our environmental work in the valley, which is basically to protect and preserve what is there. We've already undertaken a project to find and restore a number of old boundary stones in the vicinity of the Pont Burn and have erected interpretation boards for local walkers. We involved local residents in that project who helped to locate, clean up and relocate the stones, many of which had fallen into the burn, or been obscured by undergrowth".

The Pont Valley Network, made up of a group of local residents from the villages surrounding the Pont Valley, has existed for 7 years. Members meet fortnightly and focus on delivering work of real benefit to the area, most recently planting 240 trees in Dipton with children from the two local primary schools. Network member Carol Rocke said, "Tree planting is typical of our projects. One of our main aims is to involve local residents and encourage them to take an interest in the environment. Working with the children is so important, to help them to learn and care about where they live".

Network members are looking forward to the results of the mineral testing and will be discussing how to take this forward at their next meeting on Monday 28th April. The group meets in Dipton Working Men's Club, fortnightly at 7.15pm. They are an open group, all are welcome.

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BY CHRIS BROWN

HEAT WAVES EXPECTED BY 2040

Although we have just experienced the wettest winter on record throughout the end of 2013 and the start of 2014. The Met Office are now suggesting the by the year 2040, Great Britain in the summer time will regularly hit 38 degrees Celsius and above in a similar manner to the great European heat wave of 2003. Rather than being a freak, one off summer of sun which unfortunately killed 20,000 people across Europe, this could potentially become a regular occurrence due to global warming.

After studying the events of 2003, scientists have deduced that the heat wave in question was mainly due to the effects of global warming. If the levels of carbon dioxide emissions keep heading at the same trajectory as their current state, heat waves may not be so uncommon across the UK. To put it in perspective, average summer temperatures of 38 degrees Celsius is similar to what is experienced throughout the month of June across Pakistan.

Recent weather systems around the world have all started to point towards global warming playing a significant part in the unusual and unpredictable weather patters we have been recently experiencing. Typhoons, flooding and large winter storms have all battered a number of locations across the globe ranging from the Far East, the United States and also here in the UK. One thing is for certain, if we don't start to buck the trend of global warming, this wild weather may well become a regular occurrence.

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SERIOUSLY SMART WATCHES

BY JARED HARRIS



These days, you can wear technology just as easily as you can interact with it. From Google Glass to the smartwatch, the possibilities are nearing infinite for user inter-device communication and telecommunications.

With the newest line of wearable technology making an appearance on news sites and pre-orders available in stores, the smartwatch is the wearable to keep your eyes on. There are many variables to consider when choosing from the available smartwatches and their various models. For instance, most of the watches run on proprietary operating systems, which may mean problems with connectivity to smartphones whose own OS don't play well with others.

LG: G WATCH

LG's G Watch is set to launch next quarter running on the newly announced Android Wear operating system. Android Wear is a Google product that is coded specifically for developers hoping to leverage the smartwatch as a platform for apps. From this watch in its consumer version we can expect a design that is oriented toward the minimal, with a slim profile and no physical buttons that will support email, text, and call notifications. The prototype sported a plastic body and square face, but we have yet to see which materials the final version will incorporate. For the accessorizers out there, LG has said that the G Watch's band will be able to be switched.

SAMSUNG: GALAXY GEAR

Samsung's Galaxy Gear runs on the Android operating system and connects to your phone through BlueTooth technology. As one in a string of Gear products, this particular smartwatch is intended for everyday use and has no specific suggested use. Verizon observes the gadget's streamlined ease of use by noting, "From the watch screen, swipe left to access [your] favourite apps." The watch offers an auto-lock/unlock feature that will protect your phone's information if you've moved more than five feet away. With a square design that is also minimal, the watch looks sleek and one may opt for multiple bands.

To find out more about the latest wearable technology, head over to consettmagazine.com

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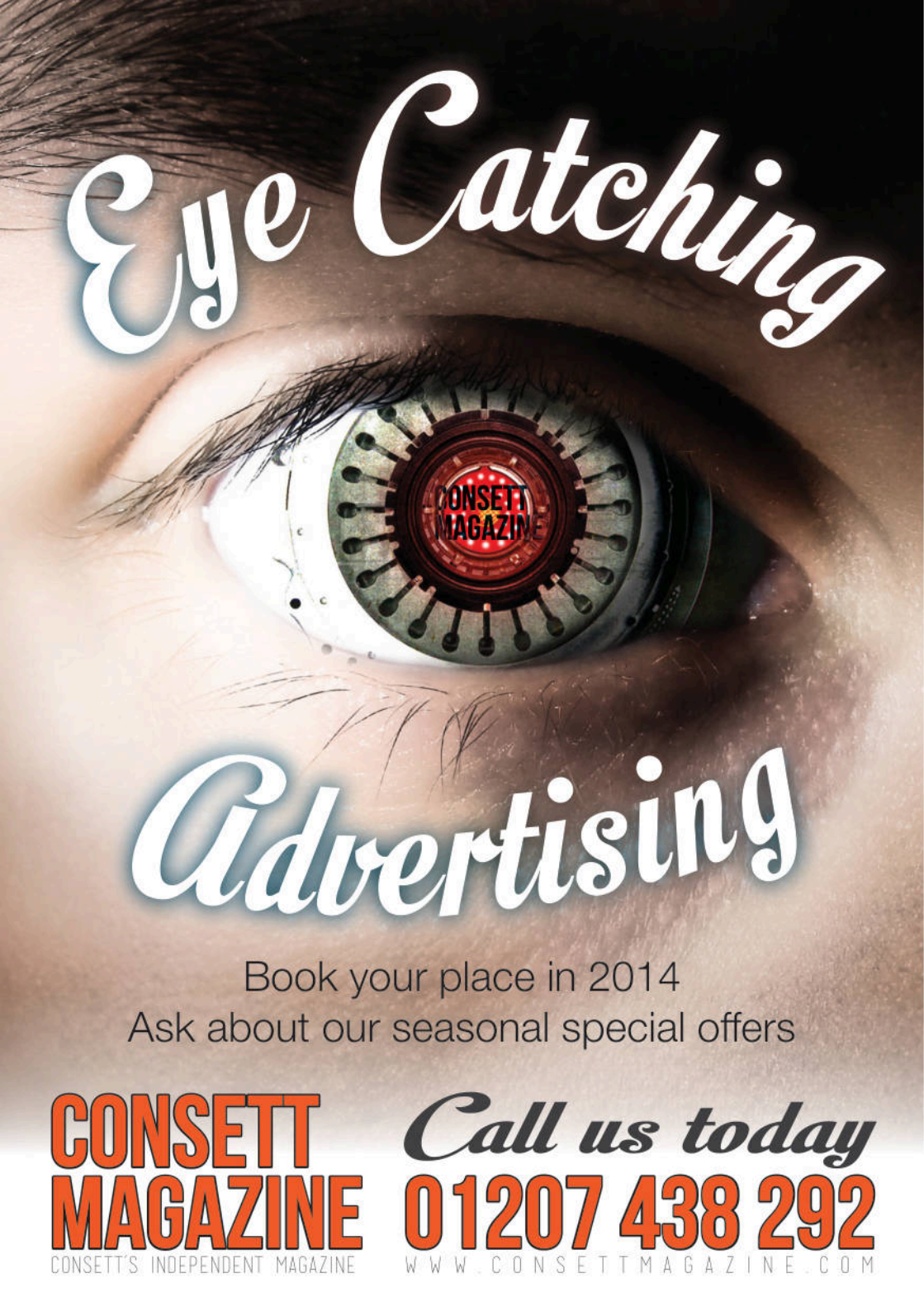

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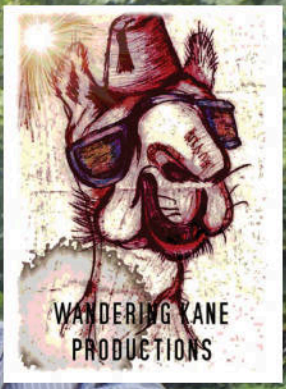
THE GAMEKEEPER

by Chris Brown



Local film production company Wandering Kane Productions is setting their sights on the big leagues with their first feature film, The Gamekeeper. Shot entirely in the North East of England with a fully local cast and crew, Wandering Kane have been trying to break the mould of film and television production in the UK by ignoring the media centres of London and Manchester and instead focusing on the wealth of talent available in our local area.

The group behind the project are a charismatic bunch who have a clear passion for working both in front and behind the camera. Producer Peter Kane has assembled a cast of dedicated professionals who want to showcase what the North East has to offer.

The film in question is about a veteran of the war in Afghanistan who returns back to the UK to work as a Gamekeeper, looking over the land. The secrets the mysterious man holds drive him to acts of madness, killing any and all trespassers on the land which he resides. Although the budget may not be the biggest, Wandering Kane are looking to provide quality entertainment through the amazing talent brought together for the project.

The guys and girls at Wandering Kane Productions would like to thank Wallsend Hall, Low Friarside Farm, the Collingwood Building, Parkhead Quarry and of course all of the cast and crew for making The Gamekeeper possible.

To find out more about The Gamekeeper head to http://www.gamekeeper.org.uk/. Here you can watch trailers, see the earlier work of Wandering Kane and also find out more about the group.

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THE NEXT GEN ERA IS HERE AND WE ARE WAITING

BY MALCOLM CLARKE

Xbox One and Playstation 4, collectively known as 'Next Gen' consoles, have the capacity to allow far more sophisticated games with better graphics, a larger gaming world and more creative game development. The gaming public are excited about the possibilities of Next Gen and are eager to discover how the increased capabilities of the Next Gen consoles will translate into better and more stylish games. But with amazing graphics already with us, where will the big leap in game quality come from?

During the past ten years the most significant gaming advances have come from better in-game graphics. I remember playing the first ever Fifa Soccer game for the Mega Drive and thinking it looked fantastic. Try playing the game now and it is archaic! Compare that with the NBA 2K 14 game for PS4, where your computer player even appears to sweat in a realistic way during the game and it is safe to say we have reached a point where players look almost lifelike.

Not content with looking realistic, player movement and AI decision making mimics the real life sports stars' personality and playing style. Messi and Bale play like Messi and Bale in FIFA 14. This heightens realism and is more immersive. Next Gen gamers expect attention to detail in every nuance of a game and the standard set by the first games released on Next Gen consoles has set the bar high for other developers to meet and in time, surpass.

It is such early days for Next Gen gaming that there is plenty of room for improvement. Compare the quality of games in Playstation 3 when it was first released to what is now being released today. We sit here in 2014 and speculate that we are not yet seeing a fraction of the potential capability of Next Gen games.

To continue your journey into the world of next gen gaming head to consettmagazine.com and find out more.



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2,000 GUINEAS

BY BARRY KIRKHAM

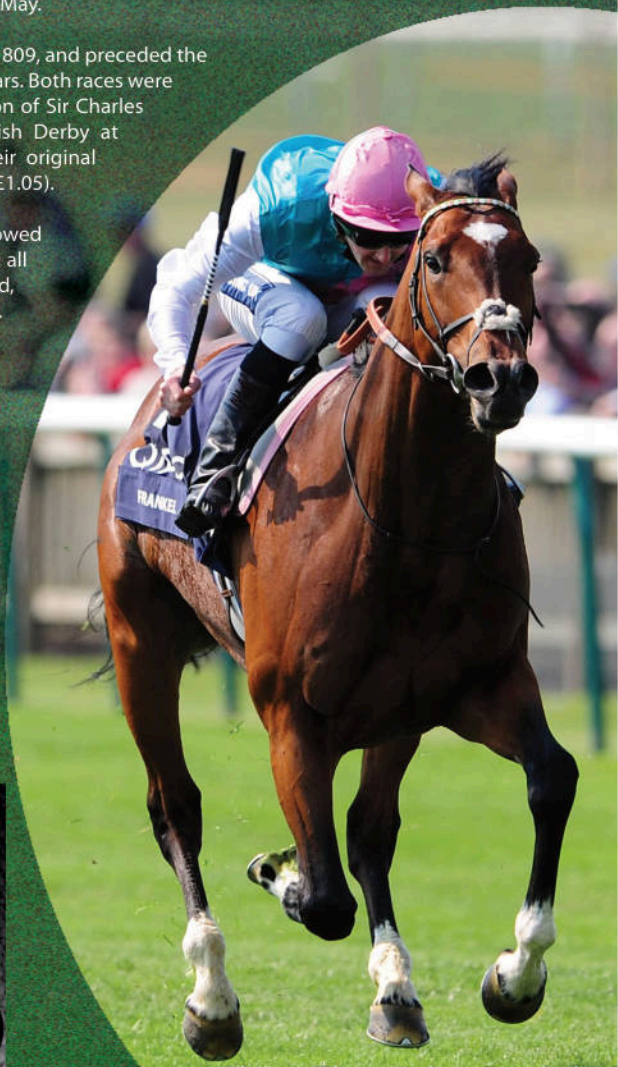
This month sees one of horse racing's big Classic races, the 2,000 Guineas Stakes at Newmarket on the 3rd of May.

The 2,000 Guineas was first ever run on April 18th 1809, and preceded the race version for fillies, the 1,000 Guineas, by five years. Both races were established by the Jockey Club under the direction of Sir Charles Bunbury, who had earlier co-founded the English Derby at Epsom. The races were named according to their original prize funds (a guinea amounted to 21 shillings, or £1.05).

The race is the first leg of Britain's Triple Crown, followed by the Derby and the St Leger. The feat of winning all three British Triple Crown races is rarely attempted, the last winner of all three was Nijinsky in 1970. Nijinsky was from the second crop of foals sired by Northern Dancer, the winner of the 1964 Kentucky Derby who went on to become one of the most influential sires of the 20th century.

Since 2001, the 2,000 Guineas and the 1,000 Guineas have offered equal prize money. Each had a purse of £350,000 in 2012.

This month our Editor, Ivan, is backing "Kingston Hill" who at time of print was 10/1.



Above:The mighty Frankel at the 2000 Guineas

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NUFC FOUNDATION TRAINING DAYS

by Chris Brown

Over the Easter holidays, Consett AFC has been the venue of an exciting project with the Newcastle United Foundation offering great training opportunities for kids in the local area to play sport, have fun and improve their skills. Over 102 kids from as far away as Spennymoor have been at the Belle Vue Stadium giving it their best shot. The future of sport in the UK is something which needs to be developed and events such as this demonstrate the effort which is put in to help kids improve and enjoy their sport.

During the event, the Newcastle United Foundation brought out their inflatable goal with laser technology to measure the speed of shots and give the kids a footballing activity which helped them improve their skills whilst having a good time in the process. Over the 4 days, the kids were enjoying the coaching from the dedicated NUFC Foundation staff who did their best to deliver top quality training whilst bringing a smile to the kid's faces.

This is only the beginning of courses available for the kids at Consett AFC with more events planned for the 27th, 28th, 29th and the 30th of May and the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th of August. A special girls football day will also be held on the 8th of June.

If you have kids who love nothing more than getting out on the pitch then maybe this could be for them. You can find out more about t
hese courses by getting in touch with Consett AFC and
speaking with Frank Bell on 07710133694.



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