

Amble's Community Newspaper

Issue 83 Oct/Nov 2013

Harbour plans

Plans to develop part of Amble's harbour have been unanimously approved by NCC's northern area planning committee. The application has now been submitted to the Coastal Communities Fund, with a decision expected in January.

Scores of people viewed the plans which were on show at Fourways2 at the end of September.

Comments were almost universally positive for the development, which would see the creation of small business incubator units and a seafood centre as well as a waterfront walkway.

"It'll be an asset to our town and it'll bring much needed employment" said Mayor Craig Weir.

Keep up to date with this and other development plans via our website: www.theambler.co.uk and Facebook page: www.facebook.com/TheAmbler

New world record: the biggest leek ever grown



Champion leek grower Geoff Moscrop has broken two world records for his leeks. At the Cramlington leek show, Geoff learned his entry was officially the biggest leek ever grown,. He also broke the world record for the biggest pair of leeks.

"I started growing leeks back in 1982" said Geoff, "I won quite a few shows, but I stopped for a few years while I was building my house. When I returned to growing them again, I regained a bit of success" he said modestly.

Geoff lives in North Broomhill and is a regular exhibitor at the Hermitage Leek Show in Warkworth.

Unsurprisingly, he won best leek in that show too. He was presented with 1st in Show and Best Leek in Show Cups by the club Chairman Ron Easton.

The Rose Bowl for the most improved grower was won by Alan Richmond and the cup for most points in "other classes" was retained by Paul Creighton.

"When I won I was over the moon." said Geoff. "I'm looking forward to next season."

Low Hauxley archaeology project was an extraordinary dig

Thirteen weeks of digging, scraping, brushing and sifting have come to an end, as the archaeological dig on the Low Hauxley dunes comes to a close. Six hundred people took part, 20,000 flints were uncovered and the project featured in local and national media.



Hailed as "an extraordinary dig", the project has taken professional archaeologists and local volunteers on a journey back to the time when Britain was still physically connected to Europe. Experts believe that around 8200 BC, a tsunami event occurred, bringing with it a massive and destructive sandstorm which fell over our coastline and

which also heralded the process of separation of Britain from the continent.

"It's been quite an extraordinary dig," said Clive Waddington, lead archaeologist and project manager of the Rescued From the Sea dig. "Partly because there's been such a huge local interest and partly because the Amble community and the area around Amble have got so stuck into this project, which is quite amazing. And even with archaeology nationally, it's very rare, very rare indeed to have such a project that has so many people actively involved."

Six hundred people were involved in the dig, 20,000 flints have been unearthed, as well as bones, burial pottery and antlers from ancient red deer. Traces of ancient food remains have been found, as well as pots and whetstones from the Bronze Age. Iron Age and Roman pottery was also uncovered, and a wonderfully delicate bone pin.

During the summer-long dig, valuable evidence emerged of the long line of ancient people who lived along this part of the North East coast. What we know and love as wild and rugged Northumbrian dunes, was not always the landscape our ancestors

knew. The sea was further away than it is now, but it would have been visible to the people building a patio in Roman times, burying their dead in the Bronze Age, and further back still, to Mesolithic hunter gatherers who built their homes here ten thousand years ago, when the area was swamp and forest.

After the dig, work began to restore the dunes by levelling the soil and planting marram grass.

But for the archaeologists the work is still ongoing. Sifting, sorting, cataloguing and writing reports is all still to come. And a talk in Amble from Clive Waddington

followed by a Time Team special programme will be scheduled for next year.

Anna Williams

Full story and video on our website Right: Early Neolithic leaf flint arrowhead





The Ambler

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Amble Youth Project



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Happy Hallowe'en

Once again, we have a tightly packed *Ambler*. In the final instalment before the Christmas period, there is much to contemplate. Firstly, we would like to thank everyone who nominated their great Amble businesses, and we would like to encourage people to do so again (the nomination forms can be found on the back page).

In the approach to Remembrance Day, we are reminded of the fortitude and courage of the people of Amble and Warkworth who contributed to war efforts, both at home and on the frontline. The Heritage Lottery Fund has launched a £6million programme in commemoration of WWI (page 4), and the Royal British Legion are asking for volunteer Poppy Collectors (page 23).

On the front page, we learn about the remarkable finds at the Hauxley dig, and the hard work of the locals who took part. Coquet Shorebase Trust tells us of their development plans (page 20). We also have articles on wildlife (pages 4, 14 and 15), our local young people (pages 4, 5, 11, 17, and 20), including as always our famous Artograffi (pages 12 and 13). We have seasonal comedy from our eccentric Warkworth friends (page 18), and - of course - the memories of Ray King (back page).

The high street is not dying. That's the mantra of Helen Cutts owner of The Pin Cushion on Queen Street in Amble. Here she tells us why her business is expanding.

Family firm expands..... again!

Business has been good to us these last two years, the popularity of crafts, make do and mend and recycling has really helped us.

It's not just The Pin Cushion which has been busy; the family business P.E.C. Furniture has seen changes. People want to invest in well-made furniture which they know will last them more than a couple of years. If their budget won't stretch to new bespoke furniture, they have opted for a full recovery service bringing their favourite furniture back to life.

Since starting to sell the roll ends of fabric, our remnants and craft bags started a whole new era for our business. When the chance to take over The Pin Cushion came up it seemed like a



Strands gift shop

A fter visiting Northumberland for the past eight years, Dean and Debbie decided that this is where they wanted to 'live the dream'.

Previously based in Leeds, Debbie ran a hair salon called Strands. The business incorporated a gift shop, which was looked after by Dean. Earlier in the summer, the couple took over JK Crafts on Queen Street. Readers will likely know that was run by Amble veterans Florence and John Angus who have run businesses in the town over the last 40 years. Florence and John are now taking a well-earned rest.

Dean and Debbie have renamed the shop 'Strands Gifts and Fashion Accessories'

natural progression so I jumped at it. Two years later we're moving into a bigger shop with a dedicated craft room serving all of our workshops and courses. Equipped with sewing machines, over-lockers and large table space, it's the ideal area to use and when the room is not in use it can be rented out by the hour. We have experienced tutors teaching knitting, sewing, general crafts and crochet, felting, rag rugs and dress making and there's more to come.

But that's not all; because the high street isn't dying (especially Amble's high street) we didn't want to leave an empty shop so we are going to open Amble's first pop up shop. Queen Street Fabrics will sell discounted fabrics, ready-made curtains (made in Amble) curtain linings, sheeting, household textiles and much more.

So, as far as the Cutts family are concerned Amble and its high street is definitely not dying. *Helen Cutts*



Above: Debbie and Dean of Strands gift shop

"We want to say thank you to everyone for their support and making us both feel very welcome in Amble" said Debbie.

The gift shop is now getting ready to put their Christmas gifts and decorations out. Strands offer a wide selection of Italian leather and suede handbags, scarves for both men and women, Snoozie slippers, jewellery, Lolita wine glasses and gifts for all occasions.

Dean and Debbie look forward to seeing you in their shop.



Robson Green's Northumberland



Actor Robson Green came back to Amble in August. He was filming for another television programme, "Robson Green's Northumberland", which will probably be shown on ITV in October.

He set off with the film crew from the Radcliffe Quay, on board the Natalie Kristen, skippered by Adam Dunn. Adam took them out to the south of Druridge Bay, to join Kevin Henderson on board the coble Resolution, fishing for salmon and trout.

The interest of this part of the film is in the heritage of the typical Northumbrian coble. And Kevin was most impressed by Robson's knowledge of catching the salmon and their life history.

"He made us feel like farmers!" joked Kevin. "He had been to talk to one of the older fishermen from Boulmer about the old

When they were ready to bring their catch in, Robson brought the boat back into harbour, from Druridge Bay.

"We had a brilliant laugh", said Kevin. "He was just like one of the lads. We all enjoyed it". Norma Hinson

Support the Friendliest Port: great local businesses

Congratulations to Amble Angling Centre and Roland's Butchers who have both won a free advert in this issue of *The Ambler.* As part of the 'TryAmble1st' campaign, we asked readers to nominate their favourite local businesses. Amble Angling Centre and Roland's Butchers tied in first place, but many other businesses were snapping at their heels.

Here are the businesses you recommended this month. We'll be continuing this promotion for the next issue, so send in as many nominations as you want and get your friends and family to nominate their favourites! Don't forget its open to all local businesses, not just Queen Street shops. Nomination forms are on the back page, but you can also email, Twitter or Facebook. (see page 2 for details)

	1		1 8 , ,
Cromies Chemist	Great prices, friendly staff and great contact with the doctors	Old Boat House	Good for tourists and locals; excellent quality
Raggy Doll	Staff always chatty; goods all at reasonable prices	Indian Restaurant	Good for tourists and locals; excellent quality
Leannes	Pleasant staff and quality goods at reasonable prices	Forresters**	Lovely staff, very helpful; good range of different clothes
Queen Street Post Office	Didn't know you can take cash withdrawals - not just for stamps	Rolands Butchers***	Good deals, lovely staff, quality produce. Take time to serve you
Sweets & Treats	Gets cheaper things in - good value.	Farm Bakery**	Good quality produce. Friendly and helpful staff, plenty of choice
Young's paper shop	Very helpful, always pass the time of day	Co-op**	Helpful staff, keep most of the things I want. Caring people
Robb's Motors	Professionalism first class. Always cheerful. A credit to Amble	Lawrences, Queen St	A good range of stock, good service, always open.
Angie's Tavern	Owner and staff make you feel welcome, always happy faces	S&M Electrics	Good service and wide range of stock
Dial Dave	Hard worker, happy and polite. Good work	InSync	Professional service, friendly staff
Trotters	Reasonable prices, good value and friendly staff.	42 Queen St	Friendly staff and a good range of cards and presents
Amble Angling Centre***	Friendly, helpful, shop is really well stocked	XIT Games	Good range of games, comparative prices; always happy to help
Heron's**	Reasonable prices, friendly staff always willing to help	Serenity	Friendly staff and good prices. Always able to get an appointment
Amble Butchers**	Good service; good quality. Great pies!	Pride of Northumbria	Wonderful selection of goods and the most pleasant staff
Spurreli**	Best ice cream ever tasted; staff pleasant; great atmosphere	Artique	Brought together lots of local artists and traders under one roof
Fish and chips	Good for tourists and locals; excellent quality	Premier Design & Print	Great design, always helpful. Very competitive prices



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Edwin Street's Amble book

Year Three pupils at Amble First School, Edwin Street, organised a coffee morning at the school to launch a local study project.

Working in conjunction with Bailiffgate Museum, the whole school will be involved in writing and publishing a book about Amble, which will be aimed at children and will explore all aspects of our history, geography and culture. Members of the community who loaned resources and photographs and shared their memories were warmly thanked.

The book is due to be published in the summer of 2014 and will be on sale to the public.

Ex pupil Mabel Durham who will be giving schoolday anecdotes to the Museum pointed out how important the school has been to generations of her family. "My two brothers and I went to this school, my three sons went and now my three grandchildren are there."



Watched closely by her daughter, Melanie Henderson checks for her name in the past register

Grants to commemorate WW1

World War I had a huge impact on every single village and town in the country. We believe that stories of courage, fortitude and comradeship of men and women from Warkworth and Amble areas during the war need to be shared with the community. If you have a story or photographs of family members who served in World War I, we would like to hear from you. In commemoration of the centenary, many organisations are compiling in-depth databases of those who served, or are raising funds for particular projects. If you would like to organise a project to commemorate the anniversary, the Heritage Lottery Fund has launched "First World War: then and now", a £6million small grants programme to help communities mark the Centenary of the First World War. Visit www.hlf.org.uk and click "How to apply".

Seal watch

them alone.

In the next few weeks, we are likely to see young seal pups along the coast. They always attract attention from the public, but
Northumberland Wildlife Trust is urging everybody to simply leave

The adult seals return to the Northumberland coast to give birth to their pups and, after a few weeks, these pups head off to sea to prepare to live an independent life. However some will turn up on beaches along the coastline as they learn to swim and feed. In circumstances such as

this, their mother is usually not too far away.

The biggest risk they face is from disturbar

The biggest risk they face is from disturbance so owners are asked to ensure that any dogs are kept under control and away from any young seals.

The Trust is also asking for help from anyone who may come across a dead seal during a visit to the coast. There is growing concern over an apparent rise in numbers of deaths, but this has not been formally monitored. Some are shot off the Northumberland Coast, some are diseased and some are thought to die as a result of



injuries caused by contact with ship propellers and some of this can be determined by photographs rather than an expensive autopsy.

Should anybody find a dead seal, it would be really helpful if they could contact Steve Lowe, Head of Conservation at the Trust on: 0191 284 6884 or email him at

steve.lowe@northwt.org.uk with details of the exact location and, if possible, a digital photo of the dead animal to help establish the cause of death. Although post-mortem is more accurate, this method will also be valuable and is cost effective in monitoring the issue.

NHS trying to improve care for all

When you visit the doctor or hospital for treatment the details of your ailment and treatment are recorded and kept in a secure system.

This is what most of us would expect, as we don't want to go through our medical history every time we need to visit the doctor or hospital.

In future, the NHS want to use this information to plan and improve services for all patients. They believe that linking information from all the different places where you receive care, such as your GP, hospital and community service, will help to provide a full picture. They can then compare the care you received in one area against the care you received in another, so they can see what has worked best.

Information such as your postcode and NHS number, but not your name, will be used to link your records in a secure system, so your identity is protected.

Information which does not reveal your identity can then be used by others, such as researchers and those planning health services, to make sure the best care is provided for everyone.

How your information is used and shared is controlled by law and strict rules are in place to protect your privacy. Everybody needs to know this is about to happen and the choices you have.

You have the right to prevent confidential information about you from being shared or used for any purpose other than providing your care, except in special circumstances.

If you do not want information that identifies you to be shared outside your GP practice, ask your practice to make a note of this in your medical record. You should let your GP know if you want to restrict the use of this information. Your choice will not affect the care you receive.

If you are happy for your information to be shared you do not need to do anything. You can change your mind at any time. If you have concerns or are not happy for your information to be shared, speak to your GP practice.

More info:www.nhs.uk/caredata or www.hscic.gov.uk.



Amble Links pupils: reading and growing

Amble Links are celebrating their brand new library, which has been decorated with children's book characters by Joanne Howden and the books have been organised and scanned in by Suzy Purvis, both parents with children at the school.

A storytelling session by Don White and Jackie Barnes from Northumberland County Council was much appreciated by the children as they heard about The Big Bad Wolf that did good deeds, and other alternative fairy tales.

Jack and the beanstalk may prove a

popular story as the youngsters combine their love of books with their new found skills at gardening.

School dinners at have become super healthy as the children been able to sample fruit and vegetables grown in their own school garden. The children sowed the seeds back in the spring and learned how to weed and tend the growing plants

"The skills they learnt last year were beginning to show through with more children now recognising the difference between courgettes and rhubarb, and peas

Welcome donation from town council

Northumberland Wildlife Trust has received £100 from Amble Town Council towards its Hauxley Land Appeal.

The wildlife charity hopes it will help it purchase 12 acres of farm land adjacent to its Hauxley nature reserve. It will then be able to extend the path, giving members greater access to the site.

The Hauxley Land Appeal total now stands at £73,649.55 with a total needed of £75,000

You can help NWT raise the last amount it needs to secure the land via www.nwt.org.uk/donate or to donate £10, text LAND13 £10 to 70070.

and beans." said Cathy Gascoigne, a governor at the school.

The children had great success with the lettuce, runner, french and barlotti beans as well as courgettes, onions, rhubarb, beetroot, rocket, mange tout, carrots, potatoes, broad beans, swede and leeks.

The school kitchen enjoyed receiving the crops from the children and providing even more healthy options for the children with no travel miles involved.

"If you pass the allotment please look out for all the produce and leave the plums and pears for the children, they are very tempting we know." said Cathie.

THE HARBOUR INN

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YOUR LETTERS

Supporting Amble Christmas Lights

We recently held a fund raising Tombola at the Quayside Sunday market and on behalf of the Amble Lights committee, I wish to convey our gratitude to everyone who helped in any way. We would especially like to thank all the Amble businesses, the market traders and the many individuals who made donations for the tombola, thus making the day a great success. Thanks go to all of you for your generosity. Just as important, we offer a big "thank you" to everyone who took the time and trouble to come along on the day and part with their £1 coins.

We made £392.50 on the day. Thank you all so much! Could I also make an appeal for more volunteers for the lights workshop team. We are especially short of people capable and fit enough to work on ladders. People with electrical skills are always welcome. We usually work on weekday morning, normally one morning per week. This kind of work is ideal for recently retired people in reasonable good health. Another asset would be a good sense of humour! Please give me a call on 01665 711453

Trevor Colbourne, Chairman, Amble Christmas Lights

Nostalgia

The last edition of The Ambler was a mix of memories tinged with nostalgia. My column went back to the 1980s but my good friend of almost a lifetime, Jean Gregor (née Pierpoint), went further back still to the late 1930s with her memories of the Boys' Brigade.

It is wonderful to know that Jean at 93 is still reasonably active. She still remembers when we both worked at the ill-fated Coquet Cinema as ushers. I was a "bouncer' at the "dog-end" (cost four pence) and Jean was at the "posh-end" (cost six pence and one shilling on the balcony). At the time I was 14 and received 7s 6d per week whereas when I worked at N. & F. Young I got 6s 8d.

I knew every member of that brigade group and I do hope that there are some who are still around. Thank you for those memories Jean and as the old Geordie saying goes, "Keep a haad!"

Ray King, Thailand

Looking for Amble ancestors

I live in Australia, but my grandfather and his family lived in Amble, before emigrating. My great grandfather was mentioned in the 1871 census as the inn keeper of the Harbour Inn, Thomas Young with his wife Isabella.

I am very keen to see if I have relatives living in Amble and wonder if you can recommend anyone to contact. These relatives would have descended from my grandfather's sister Elizabeth who married an Edward Matthews and was living with him at 9 Lime Street in 1901. They had six sons. Many thanks for any help

Ken Young, kgy52@westnet.com.au

Coffee morning

June Hoyle Thompson would like to thank everyone that came along to her coffee morning at 107 Gloster Park on August 24th. The magnificent sum of £400 was raised in aid of the McMillan charity. Thank you to the ladies of both St Cuthbert's Parish Church and The Sacred Heart & St Cuthbert Catholic Church for their help in making the event a success. Thank you

June Hoyle Thompson, Amble

AND EMAIL

Amble Juniors 1898 - 99



My Grandfather John William Manson who was born in Amble was the trainer of the Amble Junior Team, but I am not sure where the photo was taken. It certainly looks like a ball had gone though one of the windows in the dressing room. I wonder who kicked it.

Sadly all of my family who would have been able to tell me more about the photo and its location have now died It will be interesting to see if anyone knows more about the photo.

Peter Manson, peter@jacobscottage.fsnet.co.uk

Photo entitled "Amble Juniors Team 1898-99"

T. Matthews T. Laidler R. Hume J. Carse T.Burton

T. Hunt W. Smeetham J. Manson (trainer) R. Bartle (?)

T. Johnson J. Tuck T. R. Hendry

Editor: Perhaps they look a bit too old to be juniors? This photo first appeared on *The Ambler* facebook page on 30 August

Hauxley Fun Day

Bank Holiday Monday dawned bright and sunny and visitors to Hauxley Fun Day enjoyed a great day out. Our resident fortune teller was soon very busy, as was Anna doing a brisk trade in face painting. The Wild Life Trust sold their merchandise and got their message across about what they are trying to achieve in the area. The RNLI also sold their wide range of products.

A picture donated by local artist Jimmy Thompson was raffled as well as the main raffle supported by local businesses. We would like to thank Lawrence's, Coquet Tea Rooms, Strands gifts, Jasper's, the Co-op, RC Roland & son, 42 Queen Street, Pride of Northumbria, The Old Boathouse, The Farm Bakery, Zecca and Spurreli for all their kind donations. A thank you also to all the people who came and supported us.

The money raised helps the upkeep of the village hall (this year we have refurbished the kitchen and toilets and redecorated), but just as important is that the people who come to Fun day have a good time at a reasonable cost. We hope to see you all again next year.

Hauxley Village Hall Committee

We welcome all your letters and email.

Your name and address must be supplied, but will be withheld on request.

Letters may be edited. Contact details on page 2.

Park visitors keep Amble beach clean

Environmentally aware visitors armed themselves with bin bags to clear up a stretch of Amble beach recently. Organised by Jeremy Reuben of Park Leisure's Amble Links Caravan Park, the event was a huge success and cleared up a very popular section of the beach.

"It was just an idea that I had!" said Jeremy. "I had noticed the area was looking a little untidy, and thought we could make a difference. I also thought it would be good for the children on park to learn it was not 'cool' to throw litter in natural environments.

I posted some leaflets around the park and in the main information areas, and got my park team involved."

Jeremy was really pleased by the response from the caravan owners and awarded prizes to the children for the best piece of debris and most rubbish collected,

"We all really enjoyed it, I've been working around holiday parks for over 15 years and this has been the best feedback ever for a park event!"







The Old Storehouse brings new flavour to Amble

The transformation of The Old Storehouse (formerly The Granary on Links Road) is almost complete and the newly appointed manager, Tyrone Fitzgerald, is excited to welcome you to your new local.

The Old Storehouse and its team will bring an exciting new dining experience to Amble and its residents, catering for all tastes. Casual diners will be welcomed into its relaxed bar area, where even your four legged friends can join you, or if you're looking for something a bit more special why not try its restaurant where you will find only the freshest seasonal dishes served in the stunning new dining room.

Tyrone is passionate about using local produce and says his goal is to provide great

tasting quality food;

"Our meals will be the best in the area due to the hard work and dedication put in by our suppliers, head chef Adian Montaque and our dedicated team" he said.

"We know that the heart of The Old Storehouse will be its food, which is why we've taken extra care to choose only the best quality local produce. It's our mission to serve you great-tasting, high quality fresh food every time you visit."

Tyrone is eager to invest back in to the local area, not only by using the best seasonal produce from local suppliers but also through its very own scholarships, helping young, up and coming local talent break into the industry.

The Old Storehouse is looking to offer Amble's budding chefs the chance of a lifetime through its scholarship programme in 2014; helping participants gain key knowledge and skills that can only be gained through working in a professional restaurant environment. All scholarships will be industry accredited with both on and offsite training, with tasks ranging from working in the kitchen aiding the chef through to learning vital front of house skills.

Be sure to keep an eye on *The Ambler's* website and Facebook pages for more news, offers and competitions including a chance to win a free meal for four in The Old Storehouse's beautiful new restaurant opening mid-November

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Welcome bank

The posters said, "Welcome to your new bank, it's 200 years old," as Amble's Lloyds TSB branch reverted to just the TSB bank. The new venture was marked by a ribbon cutting ceremony on 9 September.

New manager Ben Black told *The Ambler*, "We are very excited about the new bank, it's all about community," and so a member of the

community Stuart Howard was invited to do the honours; the prizes were donated by The Mad Jam Lady and Moira at Pride of Northumbria

All the current staff welcomed the customers, and staff from the old Amble TSB branch were invited to share in the opening. The manager when it closed, Michael Sergeant, brought along old photographs of his time in the branch, which was previously located on the other side of the road.

They had a very busy morning, some



Suzanne Gair, Pauline Goodfellow, Stuart Howard, Julie Green, Manager Ben Black, Toni Ross, Pearl Roper and Irene Hall

people had come to do banking, others to join in the celebrations, many to ask questions about the new set up, and inevitably some were disappointed because some transactions were no longer available

to customers who have stayed with the Lloyds part of the banking system.

The raffle was won by Susan and

Derek from the Schooner and raised £175 for the Nial Howard Fund. Other fundraising raised £282 for the Alzheimer Society. This total was doubled by matched funding from the bank.

Drop in for hearing aid support

Held at the Amble Health Centre on Percy Drive, there will be hearing aid support (re-tubing & batteries for NHS hearing aids), taking in old batteries for recycling and information on hearing loss each month on the first Thursday, 1.30 - 3.30 pm (excluding bank holidays), each month. The help is provided free but donations are welcome.

The session is run by Action on Hearing Loss (formerly RNID) as part of the 'Hear to Help' project. No appointments are necessary – it's 'first come, first served'.

info:heartohelp.northoftyne@hearingloss.org.uk or 01670 513606.

Azea's record year

Local safety company Azea have just had a record year, bucking the trend and showing that locally based companies can perform well in the international market. Azea, who specialise in reducing accident rates in large high risk/high pressure companies, have seen the past 12 months bring a flurry of contracts and new opportunities moving forward into 2014.

South West Water, Kier, May Gurney and EON are an example of the business's growing client list. 'I'm very happy with the way the company has performed in the last financial year' said Bruce Durham, Managing Director at Azea. 'By investing in our staff, and encouraging relationships with existing clients, we have seen a large amount of referral work come our way, due to the results that we are delivering for long standing clients'.

Azea recently won a large contract to deliver communication training to over 150 supervisors on one of the largest water alliances in the UK. 'We won the contract from one the largest training providers in the UK based on our reputation' said Bruce. 'Not only did we win the contract, but the performance feedback that our trainers achieved was over 15% higher than the last consultancy. Based on that, they have approached us to deliver more behavioural based training, which has allowed me to take on more local based safety professionals to meet the demand from all over the UK'.

Bruce himself has been asked to deliver safety key note speeches to audiences ranging from 200-1500 delegates, and has been asked to go to the Gulf Area to bring Azea's skills to companies in this region.

Azea also won best stand at this year's Safety Expo at the NEC in Birmingham.

New skiff rowing club

A new rowing club is being set up. This is a rowing club with a difference however: the first task will be to build the boats. Ex Amble fisherman Rob Angus wishes to establish a community project to build and operate two St. Ayles "skiffs" which can then be raced with other skiff clubs around the coast.

A skiff is a traditional small coastal or river boat used for fishing and more recently, leisure. They are available to build in kit form. They can be rowed, sailed and used for racing. There are a number of skiff rowing clubs up and down the North East Coast, which regularly race against each other, from as far north as Anstruther and south down to Yorkshire.

Rob's idea is to build two 22ft x 5.5ft skiffs initially, training local people in boatbuilding in the process, and then to participate in skiff races, including one or more annually at Amble. Participation in rowing and racing would be open to all, not just those who built the skiffs – Rob wants to maximise participation.

Each skiff requires a crew of five: four oarsmen/women plus one coxswain. The races would enable and encourage participation by local people (especially young people and including disadvantaged) developing and building teamwork, leadership and confidence.

Rob's group already includes local boat builder Hector Henderson, another retired traditional coble builder formerly employed at J & J Harrison's Boatyard (now Amble Boat Co.) and Puffin Cruise owner Davy Gray. A home for the boatbuilding project is being sought. "We're talking with various parties to find a home" said Rob. "But in the meantime, I'm happy to speak to anyone who's interested."

Anyone who is interested can contact Rob on 07855766171 or clanangus@hotmail.com

Please fill in the town survey

Amble Town Council is working Alongside Northumberland County Council and Action for Market Towns on a benchmarking project.

This will provide a comprehensive report

highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of Amble, how the town centre could be improved, examples of good practice and how the town fares against other similar towns across England and Wales. Benchmarking is used to understand how town centres operate, to plan and develop regeneration, to measure the impact of developments and as an evidence base to attract funding.

You can complete the survey by going to http://tiny.cc/ambletcu



Above: Richard Wardman of 42 Queen Street presenting a cheque for £175 to Eleanor Cassidy and Linda Taylor from Amble Lifeboat Fundraisers. The money was raised from sales of the 2013 Amble calandar. Copies of the 2014 Amble calendar will go on sale from early November, with proceeds once again donated to Amble Lifeboat.



Above: Thieving Herer played a storming set



Local singer Rachel Lumb

he Re-Emerge music event, rescheduled from the Puffin Festival, was held at the end of August. It was organised by local young people and featured a variety of bands, a bbq and facepainting. It also raised money for the RSPB. Over the last three years, young people have organised the festival, which is funded by Coquet Youth Team, supported by Amble Town Council, Amble Development Trust and local shops and businesses.

Below: Puffin carved by chainsaw artist Tommy Craggs during the Puffin Festival is now on display in the High Street garden







Recipes for Myanmar

book containing favourite Abook containing ravelled recipes from members of St. Cuthbert's church congregation

will be on sale shortly to help the people of Myanmar(formerly Burma) by providing funds for health services, completely absent from some areas of the country.

St. Cuthbert's Church

Council decided it was a worthwhile project. The problem then was how to raise money. The book of recipes was suggested and accepted, and the congregation asked to contribute their favourite recipe, both sweet and savoury. Doreen Colbourne of First Avenue volunteered to co-ordinate the project.

When the book is printed it will be available for sale in shops and from church, hopefully in time for Christmas.



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Puzzle created by Ambler reader Frederick Ellis. Solution on page 22

Exercise your brain

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

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Included in the puzzle are two Northumbrian place names. Can you find them?

Do you enjoy these word puzzles? We'd like some feedback on what kind of puzzles you like doing. Fred Ellis who creates these unique puzzles would be happy to alter his contributions if need be.

Tell us if you find these puzzles too hard, too easy or if you prefer more traditional wordsearches.

Please send your feedback to editor@theambler.co.uk or drop a note into Fourways2, 6 Dilston Terrace, Amble





Amble Darts Open

An enthusiastic crowd gathered at the Radcliffe Club in Amble for the annual Amble Open Darts 2013. The competition is in it's third year now ranking Tournament.

Andy Chalmers beat Davy Richardson in the Men's final and Meg Cullen defeated last year's losing finalist Angie Best in the Ladies Final

The organizers of the tournament would like to thank Lionheart Cleaning, www.amblenorthumberland.co.uk website, The Schooner, The Dock Hotel and Margaret and Stevie from the Blue Bell for their sponsorship of the event.

Meg Cullen and Andy Chalmers winners of the Ladies' and Men's events. *Photo: ian@ivtography.com*

Northumberland breaks record for Reading Challenge

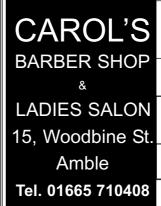
Northumberland's youngsters are obviously a literate lot. A record breaking number of children from around the county signed up to and completed this year's Summer Reading Challenge. In total, a fantastic 3657 children in Northumberland signed up to the challenge - an increase of 650 on last year - and

the highest numbers since the challenge started in 1999. This week a group of young readers were all smiles as they were presented with certificates and medals as their reward for a summer full of reading.

Every year Northumberland County Council's libraries take part in the national Summer Reading Challenge which is co-ordinated by the Reading Agency. The Challenge, now in its 15th year, is designed to help children develop a love of reading, boost their confidence and teach them new skills. The youngsters aged from four to 11 are encouraged to read six or more books over the summer. They receive incentives along the way and then a medal and certificate when they complete the challenge.

Councillor Val Tyler, policy board member for community infrastructure and culture said: "It is absolutely fantastic that we have had a record number of children join the challenge this year and I'd like to congratulate every single child who took part. It's really important that youngsters are encouraged to read. The Reading Challenge is a great way of doing this so more families visit their local libraries, enjoy reading together and discover all the fantastic free resources that are available."

See story and photo on Artograffi pages.



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Coquet Youth Team trek

It makes you think, we have so much and so many of these people have nothing" (KH)

In July six young people from the Amble area were part of a team undertaking a trek, walking and camping in the Tichka Plateau in Morocco, at 7500ft. Organised by John Bell from Berwick Youth Project, and run as a joint venture with Northumberland Youth Service, the group was immersed in Moroccan culture for the duration of their visit.

After a day in Taroudont, a traditional Moroccan city, we headed for the mountains to begin the trek. Our bags and camp gear were carried on donkeys and mules, whilst we plodded along in temperatures of up to 42C. Led by our Moroccan guide, Ali, we climbed up and over passes amidst breathtaking scenery, pausing for regular gulps of water in the heat. Our food was all freshly prepared by our cook and very healthy - lots of veg and salads and couscous.

We even took cricket stumps, a bat and ball with us as we knew that the others we would be with from Berwick were very into cricket. Our evening games attracted a lot of attention from the locals who seemed to come from nowhere in this remote mountain terrain to watch and play.

At the end of the trek we had one more day in Taroudont. It felt like pure luxury to have water from a tap again. We were sad that such an amazing time was coming to an end. We had made new friends and learnt so much about another culture. (Scott, John, Ben, Demi Kelly and Alexandra)

Reflecting on their experiences, one young person said "It was the best ten days of my life, and being with young people of your own age is great." (JB)

On meeting up with the group a week later they said how much they were still "missing Morocco."

Angela Manktelow



New Interact President

"At the first meeting of the new term Alex Carruthers handed over the Presidency of the Coquet and Aln Interact Club (Junior Rotary) to John Briggs. The Interact Club is for 14 - 18 year olds and they meet every two weeks on a Monday at 6.30pm at The Fourways in Amble.

New members are welcome to join and can be assured of an interesting programme of events. Some of the events the club is planning include:

Tea Party for Senior Citizens, A Trick or Treat Night on 31st October, Poppy Selling in November, a sponsored swim in January and helping with Rotary's Christmas collection. They are also planning a Christmas Party at Zecca.

There are Interact Clubs throughout the UK and they are committed each year to organising a community-based project and an international project. There is a close link with the Rotary Club who usually have two members attending each Interact meeting to give advice and help where needed, but the programme of events is decided by the Interact members.

Anyone who wishes further information should contact John Briggs or Angela Manktelow (Youth Leader) at the James Calvert Spence College."



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New island appears near Pakistan

1 week ago there was a big earthquake in Pakistan. More than 320 people were killed. When the earthquake was over, an island appeared in the middle of the sea. Lots of people found it intresting, but it is now completely covered in rubbish from people who have been

By Annabel Mackintosh



competition. Loads of people travel to the

beach to see this crazy event. The money that is raised from the event is The money that is raised from the event is given to the local animal shelter which is home to

The surfing dogs are judged on their ability to stay many of the participating dogs.

on the surfboard and ride the waves. This event nappens every year in August/September time so if you're ever in the This event happens every year in







Summer reading challenge

Lala Smith age 6 years old completed the challenge at the Library. She read Gangsta Granny by David Walliams and loved it. She liked it because a boy went to his granny's and stole something

Faith Bell is 9 and she read Sapphire Battersea by Jaqueline Wilson She liked it but it was a bit sad.

Emily Shore read 6 books and she is 8.

Hayden Lee age 6 read Traction Man. He said he liked all of it.

Lilly Tibbits age 9 read Summer's Dream by Cathy Cassidy. It is about a girl who loved to dance.

lope Vernan's favourite book is called Penguin Pandamonium. She is 8 years

Amy Patterson is 7 years old and her

favourite book is called Clarice Bean by Lauren Child.

Ava Tibbits is 7 years old and her book is called Secret Kingdom and she liked it because the main character is transported to another world (sounds exiting ~Ed

Joshua Curtis is 8 years old and his favourite books are a series called Beast Quest by Adam Blade

Rhys Handyside is 5. His favourite book is called Bottom's Up by Jamie Willis

Ella Handyside is 6 years old, her book is called Unicorn School by Linda Chapman. (It is a story about a sparkly unicorn) and she liked it.

By Victoria Coleran and Ben H-D

Pumpkins Are With Us!!!

Once there was a girl, sorry let me start om the beginning. Last year on lalloween Bobina was carving her oumpkin, then she heard a high itched voice coming out of the oumpkin, and it said "owe geroff ahhhhhhhhhhh".[scream.] "What? It is normal for a pumpkin like me to talk. "B...b...b...but." "But nothing." "Let's be friends." By Catherine The End

Who are the

litter bugs?



We have decided to hold an art competition with a theme of the Day of the Dead. The Day of the Dead is a Mexican Halloween, in Mexico people

decorate skulls made of sugar and have picnics at their relatives graves.

You can: Draw some fun decorated skulls like we have here on

Do a piece of art on an A4 piece of paper or make a small model or do a collage.

> To send your art in the address is: Fourways 2, 6 Dilston Terrace Amble



Litter is everywhere; in parks, in streets, in bus stops. Everywhere. Most people think that it doesn't matter, that it will only affect the people millions of years in the future.

But it will affect us. The earth will get dirtier and smellier, it can also help germs spread diseases and illnesses, all it can take is an ill person dropping litter and another person passing to pick up the germs.

I asked people in Artograffi and half think it is teenagers. Half thinks it's everyone. But who is it really causing all

Who are the litter bugs? By Niamh Mackintosh



On bonfire night you need to keep your pets safe. If you let them run wild they could hurt themselves, to keep them safe you could..

Stay with them in a quiet room block out the sound with nice music, give toys to

But you should also keep yourself safe by only going to well organised displays

By Victoria Coleran

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Diamond Skull

An artistic skull was made by Damien Hirst in 2007. He used an 18th century numan skull. It was cast in platinum and covered with 8601 diamonds that cost £14 million pounds. The skull was sold for approximately \$100million dollars.

Horrible Halloween Ideas Here in Britain we like to celebrate Halloween

treating and dressing up in scary outfits. We would like to be afraid on Halloween. We like to tell each other scary stories.

Scary Halloween skulls

Skulls can be used for flower vases Rubbish bins, Ornaments, Pen holders Ear phones, Plant pot, Money box Phone case, Biscuit box, Makeup case Jewellery box, Bin, Bowl, Storage

Pumpkins are used for:

Scaring children away before they trick or treat on your door

By Victoria Coleran and Gracie Matthews.



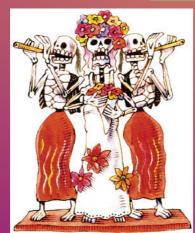
Halloween in Sicily is not all about scary things. It's all about remembering and celebrating dead relatives.

This is what they do: On All Souls Day (November 1st) they clean their dead relatives' graves and then have a picnic. Some people even make biscuits in the shape of bones. Children in

Sicily pray to the dead

souls, and leave their shoes out the window or the door. When they wake up on the 2nd of November they find their shoes full of treats!

Gabriella H-D





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To us the 31st of October is Halloween but in Mexico the next day is the Day of the Dead. To us it's a scary time, but for them it's joyful.

In Mexico they have parades and very fancy cakes. They decorate skulls heads. Not real ones though. Day of the Dead in Spanish is "Dia de los Muertos"

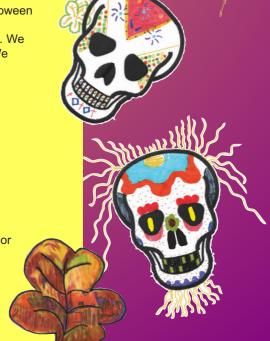
People believe that on this day the spirits of the dead return and enjoy visiting their friends and relatives it's a happy time and they have parties

By Annabel Macintosh





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Corner

Holiday time for Coquet's birds

This year has seen all kinds of weather, from storms to seemingly endless sunshine, but at last the island's breeding birds have dispersed and the reserve is getting busy with the first of the winter visitors.

Part of the RSPB's work on Coquet Island includes ringing some of the birds in order to give us some feedback on where they go and if they return to Coquet or nest elsewhere. Over fifty Sandwich tern chicks were ringed this year, to add to our knowledge of the birds' behaviour and travel plans!

Last year, a Coquet Sandwich tern was spotted off the coast of Gambia, and this year a world first was reported with the sighting of a Coquet Sandwich tern in Massachusetts, North America; the first ever record of a Sandwich tern there. Another has been seen in the Netherlands whilst others seem to be content exploring the south coast of Britain before working their way to Africa.

The British Trust for Ornithology and Natural History Society of Northumbria (who run the ringing programme on Coquet) are delighted at the reports, and encourage people to keep a look out for birds with rings and report them to the RSPB or other organisation, so the information can be added to the national database.

The Sandwich terns aren't the only ones! This year, a Coquet-raised roseate tern was spotted in Poland (only the second sighting in that country) and another roseate tern spotted in Switzerland. Quite amazing considering we only had 78 pairs nesting in the UK – and all of those were on Coquet Island!

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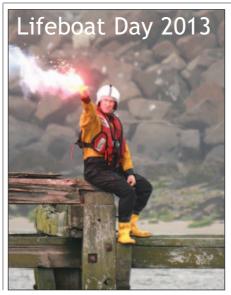


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Crowds flocked to support Amble RNLI on a warm but misty day. The annual fund raising event for Amble RNLI was once again the focus for lifeboat rescue demonstrations.

Lifeboat Day 2013 was officially opened by Dr Kathleen Long, and Rev Lynda Coulthard held the service at Trinity Methodist church.

Over £9,500 was raised for the RNLI. Steve Isaacs, Chairman Amble Lifeboat Fundraisers thanked everyone for their support

More on this on our website: www.theambler.co.uk

Photo by Bart Rippon



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Give the Roseate terns a home on Coquet Island

Roseate tern sponsorship

Every year the amazing roseate terns fly back from West Africa, a distance of over 4000 miles to breed on Coquet Island,

This is the only place they breed in the UK and only about 60-80 pairs breed here every year. This makes the Roseate tern the rarest of the UK's breeding seabirds so it is absolutely essential that they always have a home where they are safe to rear their young without human disturbance. This is why we monitor their nests 24 hours a day while they are on the island.

Roseate terns use nest boxes that are put out each year, to raise their young, a behaviour that is unique to these special terns. The boxes significantly improve their chances, protecting the chicks from inclement weather and being eaten by gulls.

By sponsoring a roseate box, your donation will go to help provide 24 hour protection, preventing unwelcome visitors from landing on the island and disturbing the birds or worse still, trying to steal the eggs for their collections. Sponsorship will

"Coquet Island is the only place in Roseate terns breed"

also be used to clear the nest sites of vegetation, and to continue research into understanding their needs and the reasons the UK where for their decline since the1970s.

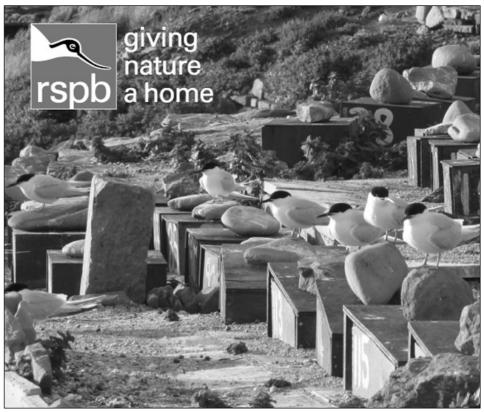
> If you join us as a sponsor, you will be allocated one of our 60

boxes to ensure your numbered box is occupied and we will provide you with a certificate onto which you can enter the following information that we will provide as the breeding season progresses:

Adult dates of arrival and ringing information if ringed (ie. age of birds and where they were born)

Number of eggs laid and roughly when the first one was laid

Number of chicks successfully fledged and ringing information (so that if you sponsor a box over a long period, you may well be able to identify it later as the adult



Coquet Island is the only place in the UK where the rare Roseate terns breed

that was previously, one of "your chicks".

You will also be entered into a prize draw to win one of four places in my boat to sail around the island during the breeding season and see the roseate boxes on their specially built nesting terrace.

If you cannot make it up to the wonderful coast of Northumberland and are Island, a place I love and have been working on for the past 30 years and which lies only 1 mile from my own home in Amble.

Sponsorship enquiries each year for the following breeding season can be made at any time, to my colleague, Mike Harris by email at mike.harris@rspb.org.uk or by phoning or texting him on 07738 029905.

Sponsorship options

3-years 1-year 5-years £150 £225 Individual sponsor £60 £500 Company sponsor £150 f.350

one of the lucky prize winners, we will send you a framed photo of a Roseate tern on Coquet Island instead.

I very much hope that you will feel able to support the conservation work on Coquet

Together we can give these amazing birds a home.

Paul Morrison Coquet Island Site Manager



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From a scruffy little town to 'Millionaire's View'

It is just over 41 years since I left Amble to begin a career in teaching that would eventually take me to the other side of the world. How exciting you may say, but where has all this led me to? To Amble!

Yes, you could say that I have gone full circle, almost navigated the globe and then come home.

So why did I return? Why have I returned to a funny, little scruffy place that once exported coal, had collieries near at hand and bragged about golden beaches on its coastline?

Let me try and put it like this. I was born and bred in the town. Went to the Secondary Modern School and generally did all the things that youngsters did. It was fun. As I grew up I enjoyed an active social life working in St. Cuthbert's Church – Sunday School teacher, choir master, and youth leader. I followed in my Mother's footsteps.

I also worked at Charlton's Dairy and eventually got to know where every bottle of milk was delivered to around Amble.I was even part of a local band. Our little outfit began its day as 'Second Sequence'. (Don't follow us on Facebook – we're not there!) Romance too was high on the agenda.

So why return this year? It all came about when I had the opportunity to take early-retirement after a career of 37 years.

During part of those years I was teaching in South Shields and always afforded the time to visit Amble and Warkworth, a place my wife adored, no matter the season or the weather. There is a certain magic about the area that is so attracting.

This year, however, seems to have been something special. I returned to live on what I call 'Millionaire's View'. A small residence that overlooks the old river bed, Amble, the harbour, Coquet Island and uninterrupted views up the coastline towards Boulmer Haven. The weather was fine but after my wife returned to Perth, Australia, to continue working, my stay became rather damp and cool.

Visiting the Development Trust I was gently persuaded to help at the opening of the Puffin Festival. The opening had been devastated by continuous rain and therefore the event was delayed by 24 hours. Once the break in the weather came the following day,

the Festival began in style. The spirit of the people warmed the occasion, watching the school children's performances. After two weeks of successful events, the final day thrilled the locals when Amble's singing talent adorned the stage and entertained a good responsive crowd climaxing in dancing and making merry at the final stages of the day down beside the Little Shore.

Eventually, the weather took a turn for the better and the sun tan level increased.

Everybody swarmed to the beaches, and anywhere else they could soak up the sun. I have never seen the 'Little Shore' so full of people, old and young, enjoying themselves playing games, building sand castles, plodging (a good Northern word) and swimming in the safe area of sea. A great number of anglers of all ages were jostling for positions along the pier to catch that fish for tea.

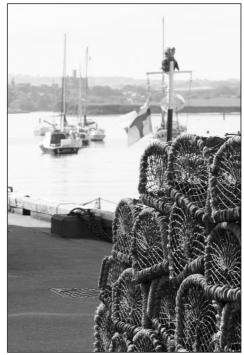
Trips out to sea were delightful as Davy Gray's boat was to take us over today's calm waters to the majestic Coquet Island. Here we could see those gorgeous little creatures, the Puffins. How stunning they look with their brightly coloured beaks, their cute shapes when taking flight. There were also terns, black headed gulls and the ever quizzical bobbing of the seals.

As the summer this year draws to a close, the climax of summer activities continued around Amble. The Harbour Day, organised by the local RNLI team, took place with all sorts of events while the Newcastle All Stars entertained with their vibrant steel band and the Ashington Sea Cadets enchanting the visitors with their hornpipe dancing. But nothing is more spectacular than watching a demonstration by the R.A.F. helicopter and lifeboat crews.

So that brings me back to why come 'home' after 41 years when my life took me to Australia?

It could be said, 'You can take the boy out of Amble but you can't take Amble out of the boy'. But is this true?

Could it be walking down Queen Street meeting someone unexpectedly from years ago who is delighted to greet you and wish you well? Or seeing how that 'scruffy little town' has improved over time, such as the growth of housing in the Gloster Park area.



Despite his experiences of far flung shores, Bart's heart remains in Amble

The 'new' town square has also given a lift to the area with a place to sit and even enjoy an ice cream from Spurreli's. Sitting on my 'Millionaire's View' (aka Coquet View Caravan Park) I can't help admiring the unique view I have with Coquet Island gleaming brightly in the sun.

Not only do I have these views but the million memories of the days where I grew up, playing guitars, delivering milk, romance, watching the trains (yes, that book of mine, The Amble Branch) bringing coal to the harbour and the ships taking this cargo to many destinations around our coast and over the North Sea to Europe.

Romance? Yes, there is still romance in this old lad, I still love Amble and its surrounding area. Where better can you live where you can experience urban life styles, country lifestyles and seaside lifestyles all in one day?

That question still has to be answered, why did I return? Simple really, my heart is still in Amble.

Bartle Rippon



HMS Northumberland visits JCSC

Excitement levels were flying high at James Calvert Spence College, when pupils were visited by crew from HMS Northumberland. Pupils were treated to a closeup view of a Merlin helicopter and met some of the flight crew. Later a group of sixth formers travelled to visit the warship as it docked in the Port of Tyne.

"We do a few visits when we can," said Flight Commander Karen Barnicoat. "We try to increase the visibility of the Navy. We're normally at sea, so visits like this give the kids a chance to look around."

This was the first visit to Amble by HMS Northumberland. In recent years they have visited schools elsewhere in the county. Head of JCSC Governors Cllr Scott Dickinson organised the warship crew's visit to the Friendliest Port.

R-L: Pilot Rob De Maine, Flight Commander Karen Barnicoat, Cllr Scott Dickinson, pupils from JCSC, Councillor Kath Nisbet Civic Head of Northumberland and Margaret Richardson Consort to the Civic Head.

Making a difference to young lives

We are two local women who have recently returned from a three week trip to Ghana, staying at the Ho Hoe Christian Charity School in the Volta Region and also visited Eugemot

Rotary Club Charity Golf

Pollowing the highly successful Charity Golf Day at Foxton in July, the Rotary Club has recently presented cheques for £2,000 each to the Great North Air Ambulance Service (GNAAS), Macmillan Cancer Support and SSAFA.

Pictured is Audrey Jones receiving the cheque on behalf GNAAS from Rotary Club President Dr Paul Creighton, Rotarian David Bell, Rotarian Fred Calvert, who with Rotarians Dick Wailes and John Young made up the Golf Day organising committee.



Orphanage on several occasions. Shirley had been here on a month's voluntary work in 2011 and was shocked at the poverty in the area and was determined to return and try to make a difference to the lives of the orphans.

In order to do this, we needed to raise funds. We had two charity nights: one in the Togston Terrace Club and one in the Amble Club.

On both occasions, the clubs kindly gave us a donation towards the costs of the artists. The artists, 2 good 2 go and the Shawaddydaddies, both performed at a reduced price. We ran raffles at both events and raffle prizes were kindly donated by local businesses and people from Amble and the surrounding areas.

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who supported us. Your donations have enabled us to provide three months worth of food for both the school and orphanage. We helped finish three classrooms at the school, built a storage room at orphanage and essential medication for the children such as antibiotics, worming tablets and malaria tablets.

We provided them with new sleeping mats and buckets for washing as well as buying weed killer and fertiliser for 9 acres of land to



Shirley (l) and Nicola with orphans from the Ghanian school

enable them to become self sufficient and grow their own rice.

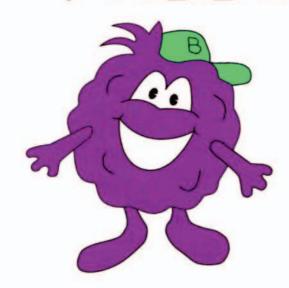
We also took two suitcases full of football strips, books, games, pens and paper. This could not have been done without the help and donations from our families, friends and local community.

We are hoping to return next year and are looking to start our own charity to enable us to provide running water in the small villages of Ho Hoe, and to enable underprivileged children with an education as well as continue to support the school and orphanage. If anyone wishes to donate to our next project, please contact Shirley on 07889656151 or Nicola on 07809438269. No donation is too small and will be gratefully appreciated to help make a difference to the lives of the children.

Shirley Fraser and Nicola Brennan

Brambles Childcare Centre Ltd

FREECHILDCARE



Do you have a child aged 2-4 years?

Your child may be entitled to receive a fantastic 15 hours of flexible FREE childcare at Brambles.

In order to apply certain criteria must be met, for further information please contact Pauline or Paula on

01665 710453

Coquet Enterprise Park, Amble, Northumberland. NE65 OPE.

Email: <u>brambleschildcare@hotmail.com</u>
Website: www.brambleschildcare.co.uk



Join us on facebook
www.facebook.com/brambles.childcarecentre

Reports from our County Councillors

Inspirational

I recently joined students at James Calvert Spence College for a talk given by Professor Sir Alan Craft, a distinguished children's cancer specialist, now retired, and formerly the James Spence Professor of Child Health at Newcastle University. Sir Alan gave us an insight into his own career, but also into the life of Sir James Calvert Spence who was born in Amble, gave heroic service in the First World War, and then spent much of his career working in the region's hospitals. He was a man ahead of his time. He researched the link between poverty and health; his work formed the basis of future policy and remained influential for more than fifty years. He understood the importance of involving and supporting families in the care of sick children. When the NHS was established in 1948 Spence became an adviser to the Government. He had a huge influence on those who worked with him. When he died in 1954 his work was known internationally. The links he had with Newcastle continue to this day.

I am delighted that there are now links between JCS College and the RVI children's cancer charity which continues to fund research and development locally. Students are already raising funds and are planning future events. Who knows what one of our youngsters might achieve in the future? They were certainly given two fine examples to follow.

Buses - good news

Thanks to a concerted effort by local Councillors, County Council transport officers and a rethink by Arriva there will be additional services to the Links estate from October. Look out for details, and help to make the new service viable by using it. *Robert Arckless*

Telephone: 01665 711938

Email: Robert.Arckless99@northumberland.gov.uk

It seems likely that Persimmon will start the development of houses in the Marks Bridge area shortly, as final planning issues have been sorted out and approved. Part of the agreement is that funds are made available to the Development Trust to enable them to carry out further work on the Welfare field. I note however that once again vandals have caused damage to facilities in the area which has resulted in the removal of the football dug outs. When will these vandals, whoever they are, learn that it is the local community and particularly our young people who suffer when this sort of thing takes place.

Warkworth Parish Council, Amble Town Council and myself have all objected to the proposed building of six houses at Gloster Hill. This proposal is on the edge of the flood plain that we see filled regularly when our Northumbrian weather sees fit. I am also concerned for the effect it may have on the stability of the Hill and also the wildlife that abounds in that area.

I have always believed that Amble has a great underexploited potential for tourism and because of that, I am delighted to see, and to be part of, the proposals prepared for the new Harbour Village. I believe this offers a great opportunity to increase the attractiveness, employment and general prosperity of the town to the benefit of all its residents.

I detect that the work of some of our voluntary groups is beginning to make a difference to the appearance of our town already and I am doing what I can to help with this activity. I am sure more volunteers would be welcomed.

As ever I am available to you on 07802385367 And by email jeffrey.watson@northumberland.gov.uk

WITHERED AND WEIRD: A HALLOWE'EN SPECIAL

From the macabre etchings of Gerald Honk Esq.

There are some things in life that occur without warning, reason nor sense. Things that no matter how much you hope to prepare for, will undoubtedly prove to be too overwhelming and result in complete capitulation and the sudden and deafening termination of all peace. One of these things is my friend, the heebiest jeebie and prince of pagans, Sir Hilary Harrison-Nairn.

I was just scratching off the previous day from our bespoke beeswax calendar when it dawned on me that the most terrifying date the year has to offer was fast approaching: invite day for the Harrison-Nairn Hallowe'en party!

As my wife Lillian was about to issue a tut after glancing at the calendar over my shoulder, the door bell rang and I made for the portal expecting to welcome a tall betweeded shape over the threshold. I was to be disappointed. In place of HH's lolloping frame was instead that of an officer of the law, a look of knowing concern spread across his red face.

Gesturing for me to go with him, I donned my raincoat and hat. It turned out that a Wight or Ghast of some kind had been reported plaguing the cemetery and village shop late at night. Witnesses claimed the figure spoke in tongues and gesticulated wildly.

An idea of what we were to expect was already forming in my brain.

We approached the churchyard with Caution (a silly name for a police dog but she didn't seem to mind). The rain bucketed in increasingly heavy streaks of near horizontal splatter.

Sudden whispered chatterings seemed to come from all around us. We swept the church yard with the torches, beams of light briefly illuminating the gravestones. And then we saw it. A long white shape disappearing around a set of tall memorials. We threw Caution to the wind and gave chase, the dog landing somewhere near the last known position of our quarry. Rounding the corner, we almost leapt from our skins as the torch light was broken by long thin fingers and arms, and a rapidly approaching billowing mass clattered into us.

"Mutatni, hoynee mera van templom mey kell, vasharolni..."

Clad all in white and looking quite drawn was the babbling form of none other than my good friend Sir Hilary Harrison-Nairn. I reached and pulled a set of earphones from his head and instructed the officer to bring my friend to my house.

After a hot bath and a stirring cocoa I sat down with my friend and the constable.

"So you are learning Hungarian in your sleep, and because your wife has hidden your sweet stash, the combination of these situations has caused you to sleep shop. Is that it?"

"Sort of, old chap. Any lack of confectionery makes me loopy at the best of



times, but the effect is certainly exacerbated by the language tape. One was getting told off for yabbering away during the day, so I did it at night...unfortunately it seems I'm getting quite good and my subconscious has begun seeking the locations the tape describes."

"And when we found you, what were you saying?"

"Show me the way to the church please, I need to buy some cheese"

"And at three times the speed!" I interjected. "You'd sped it up to learn quicker, hadn't you, old thing? That's why you were running about so wildly."

"Hungarian in a week, next is Galapogan Dutch!"

There was a pause.

"I'll leave him with you." The officer rose and bid farewell.

"I think we need to find another way for you to learn languages, HH."

-HH and Honk would like to wish you all a vile and terrifying Hallowe'en.

- The Hungarian of what Nairn said is "mutasd meg az utat a templom kérem. Meg kell venni egy kis sajtot."

Trust Life

Welcome once again to life at the Trust. As another new day dawns I think it is fair to say we have had a rather nice summer. The town has been packed with tourists, some new, some returning and all with positive things to say about Amble.

In our visitor book in Pride of Northumbria we have noted visitors from as far afield as Australia, but in some ways it is more pleasing to receive comments on how the town has improved from those who have been before and can see the changes.

With changes in mind and thoughts on future regeneration projects, I'm sure many of you will have seen the Harbour Village proposals that we have been working up, featured on *The Ambler* website and in the Northumberland Gazette. This work has been carried out in conjunction with Northumberland County and Amble Town Councils.

There are many facets to the project and we have tried to create a concept that will develop tourism thereby aiding all businesses, assisting the fishing fleet – one of our greatest tourism assets (along with location and friendly community of course) and offering start up units (incubator units) for new/small businesses.

So far we have received positive

responses but if you would like to know more and have missed the consultation day then please call in to the Trust office and we will discuss it with you.

Of course this comes with a caveat: it is all funding dependent, and will only happen if our bid is successful!

You may also have seen an article in the Gazette about the Persimmon development and the Trust set to receive £450k through a Section 106 agreement. While this is appreciated and will allow us to finalise works to the welfare and create three flats above Pride of Northumbria, this money will only be received once Persimmon commence on site. On the brighter side, Persimmon have declared a higher profit than originally forecast, so here's hoping they start soon.

Torchlight Procession: we have agreed a series of workshops to create lanterns for the Torchlight Procession. We are hoping to have a Mardi Gras theme – with a winter twist!

This will be the final event funded through the Mary Portas scheme.

So while the sun may be shining outside, I'm encouraging you all to take part and enjoy the celebrations!

juna
Director, Amble Development Trust
julia@ambledevelopmenttrust.org.uk



Northumberland Music Festival

The third Northumberland Music Festival returns this autumn to three of Northumberland's finest country houses: Guyzance Hall, Doxford Hall and Eshott Hall.

Begun in 2011, the Festival has attracted music lovers from across the region. This year's programme features full performances of La Boheme, and Gary Wilmot, one of Britain's most popular musical theatre singers. Also presented are choral, traditional music, jazz and the classic Broadway of Rogers and Hammerstein.

The Festival will take place between November 8th and November 24th, and all of the performances take place over three weekends. Tickets are being sold with dinner or lunch included.

A percentage of all ticket sales will be donated to HospiceCare North Northumberland.

Performers from the North of England continue to take key roles in the Festival, proving that it's not just the land and people that are in perfect harmony.

See www.nmfestival.com for details or phone 01668 283100.

Warkworth Harbour Commission Amble Commissioners

Are you interested in becoming part of a small but dedicated management team? We need people that have skills, experience or involvement in at least one of the following disciplines:-

- Finance
- Estate Management
- · Health & Safety
- Planning
- Engineering
- Public Service
- · Harbour Authority

WHC offer in return no salary but the satisfaction that you are contributing your time, skill and enthusiasm to a vital facility providing work and leisure to the local community and visitors to our town.

Apply in writing to the :- The Chairman

Warkworth Harbour Authority

Harbour Office

Ouavside

Amble, Morpeth, Northumberland. NE65 OAP

Mark your application Private & Confidential to be opened by addressee only



New football strips for Amble Juniors



The local Rotary Club have purchased new strips for Amble Juniors Under 14s team for the 2013-14 season. The team is pictured with their new gear. The Rotary Club members have been unanimous in wishing to help the youngsters financially. This they much appreciate.

Pictured above with the footballers are Gary Chambers, Team Manager and Paul Martin, Assistant Manager; with Rotarian Chris Ward the Senior Vice President.

Pictured right is Gary Chambers with Rotarian Dr Paul Creighton at a recent Rotary Club meeting when Gary presented the club with a trophy as a mark of gratitude for Rotary's continued support. "We'll have to think of some suitable sporting event so that the Rotarians can compete for this splendid trophy" Paul told *The Ambler*.



Carers Northumberland's miles better



The staff and Trustees of a Northumberland charity used to caring for others have been spending some time recently caring for themselves.

Carers Northumberland is taking part in the Better Health at Work Award to demonstrate the importance of good health alongside encouraging others to stay well.

Fifteen staff and trustees took part in a challenge by wearing a pedometer every day and keeping records of mileage covered. By the end of July, those fifteen had achieved the equivalent of eight times round the perimeter of the county!

Kate Whitehead, BHAW co-ordinator for Carers Northumberland said "We've spend so much time helping carers look after themselves and their health, we thought it was time we took some of our own advice! The challenge has been fun and educational. Everyone should try it – they'd be surprised at the results."

Participants reported the challenge had made them really take notice of the amount of exercise they did, and in most cases the number of steps they each took increased throughout the month. Kate said, "There were a few unexpected incidents on the way like the pedometer that ended up in the rubbish bag and the one that got lost in the garden but this all added to the novelty of the challenge."

If you're a carer and would like information or support, Carers Northumberland would like to hear from you. Tel 01670 320025/0844 800 7354 or by email at info@carersnorthumberland.org.uk

Coquet Shorebase news

By the time you read this, our new building at Druridge Bay Country Park should be open for business.

It has been a long slog, over two years since we made the initial grant application to the Sport England Inspired Facilities Lottery Fund, but thanks to the support from our local Councillors - Robert Arckless, Glen Sanderson and Jeff Watson, additional funding from the Maiden's Hall Community fund and the Sir James Knott Trust, plus contributions from Canoe England, Morpeth Lions, Amble and Warkworth Rotary Club - we now have facilities to be proud of.

We are very grateful as well to Northumberland County Council, in particular the staff at the Country Park, without whom it could never have happened.

However, the work we are doing at the lake is only part of our operations.

You will all be aware of the proposals for developing Amble as a Seafood Town, which include the possibility of relocating our Amble base to a site upstream of the Boat Club (though we need to wait to see if the grant applications are successful). We waited21 years for a new building - and two come along at once!

The lake is an ideal situation for learning basic skills, particularly windsurfing and sailing, and, being non-tidal, is excellent for flat-water canoe training.

The harbour, on the other hand, provides a much more interesting environment for improvers, with access to both the river, the estuary and the sea.

Between the two we have possibilities that most clubs and centres can only envy, and although the present lack of decent facilities doesn't seem to put our club members off, they aren't what people expect these days.

We have always been here for the local population, keeping the cost as low as we can, providing boats and equipment for everyone to get them started, and running our clubs with qualified coaches to National Governing Body standards.

Maybe this isn't the best time of the year to make a start on Watersports, but look out for things starting up again in the Spring. See you then. *Vic Brown*

Did you know...

Do you love knitting? Do you knit for your family or yourself or for charity? Well I have to warn you that you are in possession of lethal weapons! Yes, truly! That is what Health and Safety consider them to be. They asked the Cramlington Librarian, "Have you ever been attacked by a knitting needle?"

The 'Knit and Knatter' group have been meeting in the library once a week for three years. They knit garments for premature babies and items for midwives in training. They met in the library at the request of the Council and were given free use of the room. Now, without explanation they can no longer do so. Their MP Wayne Daley calls it a 'barmy' decision. So do they. So beware all you knitters, hide away those needles if you hear a knock at the door. *Lou Pickering*



Amble Town

www.amble.gov.uk

Meetings 6.30p.m. unless stated otherwise

Town: 10th Oct, 14th Nov, 12 Dec Cemeteries: 28th Nov
Finance: 24th Oct, 28th Nov (7.30pm) Amenities: 21st Nov

RADCLIFFE WAR MEMORIAL

The stonework on the Radcliffe Memorial is being repaired; the missing letters are being replaced and the tablets cleaned. The work is undertaken by a specialist firm as the monument is a listed structure and must be repaired to its original state. Taking care of memorials is a task given to all parish councils. Fortunately we have been able to set aside money to add to the grant from the War Memorials Foundation so this can be a fitting memorial to all who gave their lives for their country.

It is however still disturbing to note the amount of young people who treat this area as a playground and the parents who sit by and encourage them to kick a football or run a scooter against the steps, walls and memorials and disapprove if you politely ask them to stop! Repairs are costly but these may be the same people who complain loudly when Council tax goes up to pay for them.

PLANS
Plans for
developments in
Amble can be
viewed by
appointment at
our offices. Please
go along to the
public
consultations to
be held in the
Autumn for the
plans for Tesco
and Persimmon
Homes.

TESCO UPDATE

In late August we met with new representatives from Tesco as their North Region Development Manager has now left the company. His replacement will be in situ this month and will spearhead the new plans which we are assured will come before the community later this Autumn. Tesco remain firmly committed to developing a new store in Amble but want to reconfigure the layout to 'present a better offer to their customers'. In the meantime, although the site has been fenced off and CCTV cameras installed, we have urged demolition of the buildings not only to tidy the area but to make it safer until work starts on the site. It would now appear that Spring 2014 is the most likely time for commencement with an opening before Christmas that year.

COUNCILLOR'S CORNER

Helen Lewis

At a recent meeting anti- social behaviour came up. Our local police say these incidents have decreased but nevertheless for those who are experiencing it, it naturally remains a big issue in their lives. Some people think this means aggression and violence but excessive or prolonged noise, rude gestures, littering, intimidation, vandalism, graffiti can all prevent you enjoying the relaxation of being in your own home, walking in your own area or taking part in your hobbies or sports. Our police are actively campaigning to stop this behaviour from a minority but are increasingly finding that, having caught the young person in the act, their parents do not believe it to be so! However, it isn't always young people to blame, as there are those 'adults' who find it 'fun' to harass, yell, shout, damage things and perform natural acts in public view. We must all be prepared to report any type of anti-social behaviour we witness and show these people that we want our town to be a place to be proud of, clean and tidy, a place where everyone can live in peace and harmony and enjoy all the good things in life.

PRIVATE SYDNEY CRACKETT

Recently a new Commonwealth War Grave headstone to mark the grave of Pte Crackett has been placed in the East Cemetery, where he is buried. The commemorative headstone was originally placed in the entrance to the West Cemetery. Nobody seems to know why and the true reason is probably lost in time. However now that it is in the correct place, the Council has decided it would

be fitting to have a short dedication ceremony on Saturday 2nd November at 2.30p.m. Family descendants, scattered throughout the world, have been traced and asked to join us as well as representatives from the Royal British Legion and the Military Police - his regiment.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE

Everyone is asked to join us in the Town Square at the Memorial Gardens for the traditional Laying of the Wreaths on Sunday 9th November at 11a.m. Many local organisations will be taking part to show that those men who fought for their country are not forgotten. This year the service will be at Trinity Methodist Church and, for safety reasons, the parade will go from the Town Square over the grass area to the Cartington Court end of Percy Street then on to the Church. We feel privileged that we always have a large gathering on this occasion regardless of the weather. Do please join us.

FLODDEN COMMEMORATION

Our Councillors were delighted and privileged to take part in the service commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Battle of Flodden. It is good to have our town recognised further afield and to be asked about the changes in our area. This was also a time to reflect on all the heritage we have. We have a rich history-Roman remains at Gloster Hill; Mining, Boat building, Fishing; the uniqueness of 2 War Memorials and now possibly looking forward to the exciting proposals for a Seafood town Harbour Village! Also the history at Warkworth and 'new' finds from the dig at Hauxley.

HIGH STREET GARDEN

We were delighted when Amble Action Group donated the wooden puffin sculpture from the Puffin Festival. This iconic symbol is now in place in the High Street garden to welcome everyone to the town and encourage them to explore Queen Street and the Harbour. The garden is to be revamped providing a relaxing area for all to enjoy. The wall by the footpath will be taken down and the garden altered after a permanent fixture has been placed to safely secure the Christmas tree; a new seat and litter bin will be installed. This will give us a place to be proud of at the entrance to our central area. We ask everyone to keep it tidy and discouraging any vandalism.

EAST WARD:

Robert Arckless,

37 Anne Crescent, Amble NE65 0QZ

Tel: 01665 711938

Helen Lewis,

Tel: 07762069026

Craig Weir (Chair/Mayor) 76 Priory Park, Amble NE65 0HY

Tel: 01665 712342

WEST WARD:

Ian Hinson,

11 Eastgarth Avenue, Amble. NE65 0LW Tel: 01665 710583

Jeff Watson

Thimbles, 60 Robsons Way Amble NE65 0GA Tel 07802 385367

Katherine Bennett

12 Robsons Way Amble. NE65 0GA Tel: 01665 714812

CENTRAL WARD:

Rev. Velda Nicholson,

24 Glendale, Amble NE65 0RG

Tel: 01665 713796

Kate Morrison,

3 Island View Amble NE65 0SE

Tel: 01665 711191

Jane Dargue

10 Sylvia's Close Amble NE65 0GB Tel: 07795360513

TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES, THE QUAYSIDE, AMBLE. NE65 0AP Tel: 01665 714 695 ambletcclerk@btconnect.com www.amble.gov.uk
Elaine Brown (Town Clerk) Angela Burn (Clerical Assistant) 10-11.30a.m. & 1.30-3p.m. Monday to Friday
Minutes available to view in Office or at Amble Library

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Devious minds magic show

Amble Parish Hall has joined the Highlights Rural Touring Scheme. Highlights is a network of 90 volunteer groups that organise professional events in village halls, schools and community centres. The first show, "Devious Minds", will be presented on Sunday 13th October at 7:30 p.m.

Devious Minds is not just another magic show! It is a journey by two established members of the Magic Circle, with little in common other than wanting to do a show without compromise.

Shoesmith hits you with wit and sleight of hand. If you're not laughing, you're asking how?Maudsley tells you it's a con from the start but by the end you'll believe he reads minds. He will change the way you look at a soft drink forever. Fresh from two national tours and an Edinburgh run this has become a polished theatrical show, which truly delivers. More information on Devious Minds can be found at: http://www.deviousminds.co.uk/

There will be a licensed bar at the event.

Tickets cost £8 for adults, £7 for seniors (60+) and £5 for children (under 15). They are available from N. & F. Young or Mike Dixon $(01670\ 760007)$. You can also book online at: http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/highlights/

Hauxley Chapel services

Sunday Oct 13 Rev.Ron Forster.

Sunday Oct 20 4pm Area Service. Venue to be confirmed.

Start of One World Week.

Sunday Oct 27 Rev Diane Westmoreland (Holy Communion).

Sunday Nov 3 Rev. Gary Ridley.

Sunday Nov 10 Local Arrangement. Remembrance Sunday.

Sunday Nov 17 Rev. Lynda Coulthard. (Prisons Sunday).

Sunday Nov 24 3pm. Sectional Service. Pegswood Methodist Church. Women Against Violence Day.

We are a small ecumenical congregation who worship in Low Hauxley on Sundays at 4pm unless otherwise stated, followed by a cup of tea. All are welcome.

Spin classes with Breeze bikes

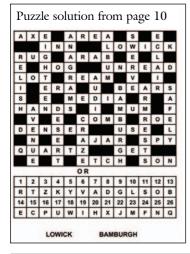
on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 6.15pm to 7pm and 7.15pm to 8pm £5 per session Sessions to be booked and paid in advance.

24 hours notice required for cancellation or payment will not be refunded.

Contact mark@breezebikes.co.uk. Tel: 07447 689331

WEA Notice

Please note that Tony Barrow's course in January is entitled "Parallel Lives: Stalin and Hitler", not as advertised in the brochure



Live Music at The Mason's Arms

October

12: On the Rocks

19: Uncle Gilbert

26: King for a day

November

2: The Beer

Monkeys 9: Night Train

16: Broken Spoke

23: Sheiks

30: Bullet

WHATS ON

RBL visit to the Somme

The Royal British Legion, Northumbria, with Craiggs Travel of Amble, is organising a pilgrimage to The Somme area of Northern France September 7-12, 2014. Coaches will pick up from various points in the north east, to Hull, to sail for Zeebrugge.

Price includes cabin, dinner and breakfast on the ferry (both ways); three nights accommodation with breakfast and dinner each day; and coach travel to major battlefield sites in Northern France and Belgium. The cost of a tour guide and entrance to museums etc will be charged extra.

Price £390 per person, deposit of £30 per person (non-refundable) will secure your place on this fantastic tour. Please contact Mr Derek Bland Tel $0191\ 581\ 5247$

Royal British Legion AGMs

Warkworth and Amble Branch will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, 6 November, at 7pm in the Legion Room, Warkworth Memorial Hall, Castle Street, Warkworth. Our Guest Speaker for the evening will be John Hardy who will give us a talk on the "Northumberland Fusiliers in WWI". £2.50 for non members.

Alnmouth & District Branch

Annual General Meeting: Monday, 18 November 2013 7.15 pm (to 8.00 pm)

Followed by a talk by Alan Jones; 8.00 pm for 8.15 pm 'Return from Falkland Islands via South America, USA & Iceland' Suggested minimum donation to the Branch Social Fund is £2 Light buffet supper included. Visitors & new members welcome. RBL meetings are held at Alnmouth & District Ex-Servicemen's Club, Northumber and Street, Alnmouth

Contact David Easton or David Crump 01665 – 830928 01665 – 710133

http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/alnmouth

Felton and Swarland Local History Society

Our 2013/14 season continues on Monday 21 October when Bill Racalton takes us back to the Second World War. In a presentation entitled 'Felton in Mortal Danger'.

On **Monday 18 November** Robert Moon discusses 'Rasputin – Holy Devil'. This story of the mad monk and his hold over the Russian Tsarina giving an insight into Russian and European history. We meet at 7.30 pm on the third Monday of every month in Felton village hall. Membership is £11 a year. Visitors and guests are welcome to all meetings; entry fee £2.50. Tea and biscuits are served afterwards for a small voluntary donation.

For further information, please contact Chris Guthrie 01670 787421 or chrisguthrie@btinternet.com

Tau Tong School of Tai Chi

Two new Beginners' Tai Chi classes on Thursdays 11am-12noon Acklington Village Hall: Minimum of 10 people necessary. Thursdays 2-3pm Warkworth Memorial Hall £4.80 per class Classes have already started but you can join in at any time. All are beginners.

Tai Chi is like 'movement for health and to increase your general wellbeing' with slow movements. You need time to understand this ancient Chinese Art! Wear something comfortable and soft flat shoes, socks or bare feet. To book your place, please contact Amanda 01670 820464 or 07885 682078

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Poppy collectors needed

The Poppy Appeal is an important part of the British Legion and with so many Service men and women coming home from Afghanistan with life-changing injuries we must be there to help them. The demand for our support is increasing – some of our young veterans will need us for a long time. We need your help.

You could raise £50 in just two hours as a Poppy Collector. That's two hours of physiotherapy for a badly injured young soldier. Volunteers are needed to join our loyal team of Poppy Collectors in Warkworth and Amble District.

We have vacancies in areas of Amble, Warkworth, Guyzance and Acklington. Please telephone our Poppy Organiser on 07785 753100 if you can spare a couple of hours, also telephone this number if you wish to purchase a wreath.

Poppy collectors awarded

The Secretary of the Warkworth & Amble District Royal British Legion branch is delighted to announce Royal British Legion Poppy Collector awards to three dedicated residents of Warkworth who have served for 15 years as door to door collectors during the Poppy Appeal.

Brooches and tie pins were awarded to Elizabeth McQuillen, Eric Angus, and Gillian McCormack.

Photo competition

Through the Lens 2014

Remember that the subjects for this year's photography competition are "From Tyne to Tweed" and "Natural World".

The exhibition of all entries will be in the St Cuthbert's Church Hall on 3rd May 2014, 1pm to 4pm, 4th May 1pm to 4pm and 5th May 11am to 3pm. The results and prize giving will be on the 5th, at 2.30pm. The closing date for entries is Monday 31 March 2014.

Each photograph must be accompanied by an entry form and should state the title of the photograph and where it was taken. Entry forms are available from N&F Young, St. Cuthbert's Church and Amble Development Trust office at Fourways 2. *Peter Cordingley*

Torchlight procession

Come and join in the magical torchlight procession on **Sunday 17 November.**

The procession leaves from The Wellwood at 5pm, moving down Queen Street and into the Town Square where there will be music, stalls and (if you've been good this year) Santa may even put in an appearance.

The theme for the procession this year is Christmas by the sea.

WHATS ON



At 11am on August 15th, 93 year old Clar Hedley, Amble's last surviving Far East Prisoner of War paid his respects to "The Forgotten Army". He laid a wreath at the war memorial as he does on VJ Day every year.

"I think of my mate," Clar told *The Ambler*. "He was standing shoulder to shoulder next to me. We were in Singapore. It was 1942. Suddenly there was mortar fire. I looked round and he wasn't there. I asked 'Where's he gone?' They said to me 'He's gone. Shot through.' He had been standing right next to me."

Remembrance Day

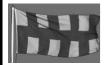
Sunday, 10 November, 2013

A Service of Remembrance will be held in St Lawrence's Church, Dial Place, Warkworth on Sunday, 10 November, 2013 at 9 a.m and a short service and wreath laying will take place after the church service at the War Memorial outside. Members of the Royal British Legion, Branch Standard Bearer and Amble Army Cadet Force will join members of the public to remember those who gave their life for their country.

At 10.30 a.m there will be a Service of Remembrance in the Town Square in Amble where wreaths will be laid at the Amble and Radcliffe War Memorials and members of the Royal British Legion, RBL Standard Bearer, and Amble Cadet Force will join with members of the public and representatives from the local community for the service.

Christmas crafts

Rainbow Pottery Painting & Funky Needlework @ The Cart Shed, Acklington Monday 28th October & Thursday 31st October - 10am to 4pm. Have fun creating Christmas decorations, stockings or Christmas presents 10% of proceeds are going to Warkworth & Acklington Pre-school 'Build' Project.



Northumberland

COUNTY COUNCIL

County Councillor Robert Arckless

will be holding Surgeries on

Friday 29th November 6pm - 6.45pm at Hauxley Village Hall and Saturday 30th November

from 10am - 11am in Amble Library

All Constituents Welcome



The Old Boat House

A new and exciting bistro, driven by local produce, the sea and wood fired ovens

The Old Boat House Leazes Street, Amble 01665 711232

info@theoldboathouse.co.uk www.theoldboathouse.co.uk

Bowls news

North Northumberland League

Amble Bowling Club won the North Northumberland League after a crushing defeat of Alnwick in the last game of the season. An 8-0 victory at home gave Amble a six point gap at the top of the league. This was a great achievement after two seasons as

runners up.

The rink of A. Shipley, M. Allan, M. Brown and G. Dixon (S) managed to complete all 10 league games with 10 wins, a fantastic result.

The bowling seasons closed on 14th September and starts again in mid April 2014 when new bowlers will be



most welcome; contact this 'Champions' club at your convenience. Contact club Secretary: Stephen Jones 01665 714529 (07907672369) or President: Carol Nelson 01665 711236

Record set

Praise for Amble Bowling Club came from the winners of the Amble 2 Wood Pairs Open competition. Chris Coan and Barrie Nicol of High Heaton Bowling Club entered both the Alnwick and the Amble competitions – and won, possibly the only ones to win both competitions in one year.

"As a result of someone dropping out, we got a last minute entry to the Amble competition – and we won" said Chris (pictured right). "We'd like to say thank you, on behalf of the competitors, on how well the Alnwick and the Amble Open competitions were run. There were competitors from far and wide, but we managed to win both in one season, which we think hasn't been done before."

There were 27 competitors in the Amble Open which meant a 9.30am start, with the final finishing at 7pm.

Chris is chairman of the High Heaton Bowling club: "I was born and bred there and my grandfather started the club, that's why my allegiance is still there, even though I moved to Hauxley some ten years ago" he said.

Nominate an Amble business for a free advert

As part of The Ambler's support for the #TryAmble1st campaign on page 5, we are offering a FREE advert to the best recommended local business. Fill in this form and drop it in to Fourways2, Dilston Terrace, Amble or email: editor@theambler.co.uk

I nominate
as a great local business. It deserves praise, because
Your name &
(optional) SUPPORT OUR TOWN #TRYAMBLE1st

Ray King column

Everlasting Memories

Having now drifted into my 90th year my mind continues to remain extremely active but frustratingly my body does not respond with anything like the same degree of enthusiasm.

Memories of yesteryear ceaselessly



invade my memory but I am limited by just how much I can write!

It had always been my intention that if I returned to Amble my first task would be to arrange a commemoration for all local sportsmen who performed on the sporting fields of Northumberland and beyond. Well, as many of you will know, I did return almost thirty years ago. To arrange such a function was an enormous task but I was fortunate to employ the services of several old friends: former Amble footballers Jimmy Stewart, Jim Taylor, Billy Briggs and Teddy Taylor.

Our first assignment was to book the Legion Hall, an imposing building which stood opposite the Memorial Clock. Invitations were sent out to all those sportsmen and their wives who by their presence would make the occasion special.

In order to finance this event we needed the support of Amble business people and it was my task to visit local businesses in order to garner the support that would be essential. With one exception all those I visited responded very positively and their contributions enabled us to provide our guests with drinks and a wonderful meal.

I had invited my great friend, the legendary Newcastle United footballer, Jackie Milburn. He told me that he would be absolutely delighted to attend such a worthwhile event. Being such a popular figure, the news of Jackie's attendance spread like wildfire and very soon it seemed that everyone wanted to attend.

The occasion was a resounding success. The highlight for me was the attendance of my boyhood hero Sandy Allen. During the evening he came up to me, pint of beer in his hand and a beaming smile on his face. He said, "Ray, this is the happiest night of my life! I want it to last forever." He continued to walk around the room clutching his pint and greeting friends.

I particularly remember seeing goalkeeper Derek Goodfellow who played for Amble before the war and who had been another boyhood hero of mine. We had played against each other at St. James' Park in front of sixty thousand fans when Derek was playing for Sheffield Wednesday.

Various groups of guests were huddled together, engrossed in animated conversation, recalling their days on the sports field. One hundred years old Billy Luke, a former Preston North End outside right, was there with his son Gordon, also a fine footballer in his youth. There was Norman Miller, then in his late eighties, who had kept wicket for Amble Cricket Club over several decades. Both Billy and Norman were presented with special plaques.

Jackie Milburn was, of course, kept very busy by the attentions of United's fans. He gave a witty speech, which couldn't have been easy for him, as at that time his health was starting to fail. He told me that his eyesight was deteriorating swiftly and he had little or no appetite. I hadn't realised, until his wife Laura told me, that Jackie had been a very heavy smoker. All of us that night felt very fortunate to be in Jackie's company - he wanted nothing in return.

It was certainly a night to remember - such happy memories.

Ray's book 'To the End of the Road' is available from Pride of Northumbria, Queen Street Amble, price £6.99

