

# The Ambler

## Amble's Community Newspaper

Issue 106 Aug/Sept 2017

### Anger as investment halted in Amble

A multi million pound investment for James Calvert Spence College announced last February will no longer go ahead, after the new administration in Northumberland County Council (NCC) voted to halt the project.

At a meeting in July, county councillors voted to reverse a previous declaration to fund improvements to the Amble school, saying that the plans had never been formally agreed. They promised to work with JCSC in future funding applications.

The Labour-led council announced, in February, the £9m project, which would have seen refurbishment of the school on Acklington Road, the closure of the South Avenue site and the construction of one building to house children from both sites.

However the new Conservative-led administration which took over control of NCC in May has now halted the project, bringing criticism and anger from local Labour councillors, who claim schools in other parts of Northumberland are being favoured, to the detriment of poorer areas like Amble.

#### Review of all schools announced

After the cabinet meeting in July, NCC leader Peter Jackson announced a review of developments for all schools and colleges in the county. He said: "In recent years James Calvert Spence College has received over £1.2 million in repairs, ensuring that its buildings are fit for purpose.

"The new council has given a clear public promise to work with the College to draw up a viable, sustainable scheme to take education in Amble forward and to actively support all applications for future funding



Plans for a £9m investment in James Calvert Spence College have now been put on hold

for James Calvert Spence.

"As yet I have seen no detailed business case for the £11 million scheme that was previously proposed, and no plan for how it was intended to be paid for, aside from producing more debt for the council. The scheme had never been formally agreed by the previous council and was just one of a number of projects that were considered before May.

"Cabinet members yesterday agreed that proposals for James Calvert Spence will be considered as part of the wider review of

school and college developments in Northumberland and I would like to reiterate my wish to work with the school to come up with a detailed and viable package of improvements. Our responsibility is to work in partnership with all schools in our county."

#### Disappointment with decision

Councillor Scott Dickinson, former Chair of Governors at JCSC told The Ambler:

"Naturally, I am disappointed, not because of the many years of work put in by me and the school to get to the decisive point of final approval but for the children and families of the local area. This was an opportunity of a lifetime for children in Amble and surrounding areas to get large scale investment in educational buildings and resources to help the school improve standards and environments for learning.

"This was an opportunity for the Conservative administration to let the children of Amble know that they matter just as much as Alnwick, Morpeth, Ponteland and Prudhoe. Unfortunately, they chose not to do that. Instead, they chose to vote against the

recommendations left by the previous Labour Administration who had committed to the school and the children of the area.

"In planning for this point there has been much work carried out, from Educational Briefs completed by the school in July 2016 to the architects being appointed in October 2016 to create drawings and plans. Many hours have been spent meeting, discussing and tweaking plans, NCC Schools Capital team meeting with school leaders to keep momentum going and get to the ultimate point of approval. A short delay meant the project missed the March meeting and therefore the Councils Mixed Cabinet couldn't approve during April, so this unfortunately meant the ultimate point came when the Conservatives were in control and they changed the Cabinet to a single party Cabinet which meant the project stood no chance."

#### Refurbishment Plans

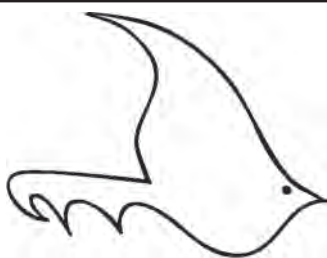
Back in February, NCC announced the investment, saying: "Planning is underway now for the £9 million investment by Northumberland

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*"The public just want the truth and not what some feel have been lies."*

Rebecca Shoemaker  
More of your comments on p4



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## So lucky to live here

Summer is here and the long holidays, bringing a scurry of excitement from children and panic from parents; what is there to do? Will this damn rain ever stop? Can we risk a barbecue? And, finally, yes, that moment when it's actually hot outside, the sun is glistening on the sea, and the beach is bliss. Coquet Island lighthouse shimmers like a Greek church from a long lost holiday, you can sit and eat tapas at the side of the square, and just marvel at being privileged to actually live in this beautiful place.

Of course one of the best things about the Friendliest/Kindliest Port is our quirky, independent spirit. A sword dancing Vicar (below) and the 'March of the Lobsters' (p10) could only really be at home in the same town as a Puffin Festival and Mauretania Day (p16). We're getting spoiled with our fabulous restaurants (p15), we have a strong sense of history and community (p16 and p18) and we applaud the good deeds and behaviour of our young people (p6, p8, p9 and back page).

Closures (p9), cutbacks (p3) and promises 'reviewed' (front page) are concerning for a small town like ours, remember we are always keen to hear from you, and what you've noticed. This is your community paper, you are also our eyes and ears, so let us know your opinions. Hasta luego everyone.

## Tour of Britain returns to zoom through Amble

Well wishers and cycling fans are encouraged to line the Wynd and Albert Street on the afternoon of 4 September, to cheer on the contestants of the 2017 Tour of Britain. Last year, cycling legends Sir Bradley Wiggins and Mark Cavendish were part of the elite teams who took part.

The 2017 event starts in Edinburgh on 3 September and ends in Cardiff on 10 September. The teams will pass through Amble during Stage 2, on 4 September at approximately 2pm. The riders will follow the A1068 from Warkworth, up the Wynd, along Albert Street and out past the fish roundabout.

## Sword dancing Vicar welcomed to St Cuthbert's

At the installation of Reverend John McDermott, as Priest in Charge at St.Cuthbert's Parish Church, the Right Reverend Christine Hardman, Bishop of Newcastle, on her first public visit to the parish, talked about journeys.

She described the people of Amble as being on a journey, as is the new vicar, and his installation is an important stage in both of these journeys. She was impressed by St. Cuthbert's Mission Action Plan and said this would provide a marvellous map for this journey. Rev Hardman talked about the key things to take on the journey and gave her profound blessing for all that lies ahead.

Rounding off the service John was welcomed by various community groups starting with the Lay Chair of the Deanery Synod, Francis Allsop; Chair of Coquet Churches Together, Lilian Dixon; representing all the schools in Amble was Neil Rogers, Head of James Calvert Spence College; representing Amble Town Council was Craig Weir; Jan Slinn represented the Mothers' Union; Mac Hetherington, the Church Wardens and finally the youngsters from Threebies, an after-school group organised by church members brought up a banner they had made for the occasion.

In his address, John thanked the Bishop and Archdeacon for all the support and encouragement they had given him in the run up



l-r Lesley Young, Reverend John McDermott, Bishop of Newcastle Christine Hardman and Mack Hetherington.

to this installation. Everyone then retired to the Parish Hall where a buffet was provided.

Rev. John McDermott was an RE teacher at James Calvert Spence College while also serving at St. Mary's Monkseaton. At Monkseaton he was a member of Monkseaton Sword Dancers and he and his colleagues gave a demonstration of Sword Dancing, Rapper Dancing and some country dancing, finally inviting the assembly to join in the country dancing – which they did.

*Vivienne Dalglish*



## Criticism over axing of blood donor sessions

Blood donor sessions in Amble have now been cancelled, much to the surprise of local donors. Sessions had been held at the Radcliffe Club in recent months, ever since the Dovecote Centre closed, but they have now ended, with donors told the sessions were financially unviable.

Radcliffe Club manager Charlene Allan said she was surprised at the cancellation and only found out when blood donors told her their next sessions were to be held at Willowburn Leisure Centre in Alnwick.

"There's no other within a 10 mile radius, we already cover Warkworth, Hadston, Broomhill, Widdrington," said Charlene.

Jane Green, Assistant Director Blood Donation

Operations - North, told The Ambler: "Hospital blood use is declining by 3-4% a year and this means that sometimes we need to reduce the amount of blood donation sessions that we hold. It's important that we do not waste precious donations by collecting too much blood.

"We have made the difficult decision to close the session held at Radcliffe Working Mens' Club in Amble and we thank our donors for their life-saving generosity.

"This was a smaller six-bed session that could only accommodate a limited number of donors. The session was also in a more rural area with a higher travel time for our mobile team.

"We greatly value the generosity and commitment

shown by our Amble donors.

"We appreciate it may be too difficult for many people in Amble to travel to an alternative session and we thank them for the lives they have already saved."

Student nurse Jennie Rutherford had been a regular blood donor in Amble since she was 17. She was critical of the decision to cancel the service.

"I feel it's going to drop the numbers of existing donors and also not encourage any more. Blood donors are few and far between anyway and ending the



Jennie Rutherford

service is not going to help."

Jennie is a third year nursing student in Dundee and gave blood at University and at home in Amble.

"The blood service is always texting, phoning, emailing you, pleading with you to donate, yet they're getting rid of Amble's local

service and replacing them with venues that are hard to get to.

"I know from my Nursing how crucial blood and the blood donors are, and I'm really sad to see sessions and donors being cut."

Anna Williams

## No more front desk service at Police station

Northumbria Police have announced that Amble Police Station no longer has a front desk service. This means you can no longer call in to Fourways 2 to speak to a Police Officer or Community Support Officer.

A telephone has been installed on the reception desk for calls to 999 or 101 service only.

There is also no provision for reporting lost items, or handing in found items other than those of a high value (eg mobile phones, laptops, large quantities of cash) or items it is illegal to possess (eg drugs).

If you have lost your passport or driving licence you should contact the passport office (0300 222 0000 [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)) or DVLA (0870 174 7001 [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)).

Found passports and driving licences may be handed in to the police, but they will not be returned to the owner.

A police statement said: Northumbria Police is making changes to the opening times of some of our stations. The changes include the end of front office services in Amble, Killingworth and Hebburn. These changes do not affect the number of operational stations across the force or the availability of our officers.

The changes are being made in response to a significant decline in the use of front offices.

This is due to people using other means of communication to report incidents, including the use of online and phone services.

Despite these changes Northumbria will maintain 24 front offices operating across the Force area. This is the largest in the country.

The savings that are generated will be used to support operational policing and invest in greater accessibility to the service we provide. There are no plans to close any operational stations. There are forty seven bases located in communities, an increase of seven in recent years. This ensures our officers are located where needed.

Further investment will also be put into the 101 contact centres to make significant improvements to the current service.

Steve Ashman, Chief Constable of Northumbria Police said: "We are still wrestling with the impact of austerity and the cuts that we have faced in Northumbria are the largest of any force in the country.

This has meant that we have to make difficult decisions while striving to deliver the best possible service to our communities.

"We know that the public want to see police officers on the street and we are changing the way we work in order to protect this.

### Here is a list of how to contact police or offer information on crimes taking place.

In an emergency, if someone's life is in danger or a crime is taking place: call 999  
To report a crime, or incident or for general information and advice: call 101 or text 07786 200 814  
For deaf/hard of hearing: Minicom 01661 820915 or text 07786 200 815  
To contact Alnwick Neighbourhood Police Team: email [alnwick.npt@northumbria.pnn.police.uk](mailto:alnwick.npt@northumbria.pnn.police.uk)

To call independent charity Crimestoppers with information about people who are involved in or are planning crime: call 0800 555 111 (This is an independent charity which respects your anonymity. It is not connected to the local police station)  
If you are affected by someone else's drug or alcohol use: call 07702 833 944 (24 hr support)  
Victims First Northumbria for free confidential advice: call 0800 911 3116

"We also know that residents don't want to have to go to a police station in order to report information; but rather report it in their own home and at a time that is convenient for them.

We always strive to provide

an outstanding service to everyone in our communities and this investment in online and social communication will enable us to continue to do that."

See also Sgt Forster's column on p8

### PIANO TIME !

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# School funding decision sparks anger and scepticism

>> *continued from page 1*

County Council at James Calvert Spence College in Amble.

"Meetings have taken place between the school, Northumberland County Council officers and designers, to establish the educational vision for the relocation of the middle school onto the James Calvert Spence College (JCSC) site on Acklington Road. In addition, refurbishment of existing accommodation on the site will be carried out, to form one large college to cater for nine to 13 year olds.

"Initial designs and architectural plans have now been developed and a team of quantity surveyors are currently developing accurate project costs to enable the project to move to the next phase of design. The building work is set to begin in the spring term of 2017."

## Amble councillors comments

New councillor Terry Clark, was angry at the decision and accused the new administration of ignoring Amble. On Facebook he said: "I see that the Tories are once again ignoring Amble whilst pushing ahead with pouring money into new schools in Ponteland. It's noticeable the new schools there, sitting in the Tory Leader's ward, will have many millions poured in to support some of the wealthiest kids in Northumberland, yet some of the County's poorest young people from Amble are to be denied similar levels of investment. As to the Tories, Amble's children just don't matter."

Councillor Jeff Watson disputed that Amble was missing out. He told *The Ambler*: "Amble is not missing out to the so called richer parts of the County. What it needs is a proper business case for the development of the school presented to the Cabinet which is made up of councillors from across the county."

"A proper and complete case for JCSC was not presented to the Cabinet for approval by the last administration whereas Ponteland plans were submitted and approved in the last budget by the Labour administration."

"Local Councillors and the current administration are all working to have a proper plan for the development of JCSC but will not announce them to the public until they are firm and agreed properly so that the general public are not misled by promises that are not fulfilled."

Members of the public gave *The Ambler* their views, and some



Terry Clark



Jeff Watson

voiced scepticism with the original announcement.

"I think the promise of funding for JCSC was only for political gain prior to the elections, I do believe there were discussions, but no concrete decisions made, or even the money available," said Rebecca Shoemaker, whose daughter goes up to JCSC Acklington Road this September.

"The publicity led the public to believe the promises that were made by politicians and has now caused upset amongst the public now the apparent agreed funding has been halted. The public just want the truth and not what some feel have been lies."

*Anna Williams*

## Some of your Facebook comments

MB: This is ridiculous so far private houses are ok but nothing else. As a newcomer myself I obviously wanted to move here but do believe that you have to invest in the infrastructure of a place not just keep building houses. It makes no sense to back track. The council need to invest in Amble with school, shops and roads, not pull out of what has already been promised.

JS: Terrible news

BD: Contrast this with the news that James Calvert Spence College in Amble has had its proposed improvements shelved by the council. I would respectfully suggest that the accusation by Conservative members of the former Labour council buying votes has been swiftly turned on its head.

LL: I think it's about time our elected councillors started telling the truth. Was £9m put aside and agreed upon for the expansion and improvement to JCSC? And if so, can we see the minutes or written statements from the meetings when it was agreed? And where is this money now? Even our esteemed council can't lose £9m....or can they? It appears honesty is never the best policy within our local councils and all the way to government. Sickens me, these people are supposed to be representing us, the tax paying, voting public.

AD: I hope I live to see the day when I can say that our council is looking out for the best interests of our county as a whole. We had the previous administration needlessly moving the council headquarters from Morpeth (a non labour area) to Ashington (a strong labour area). Now we have the new administration canning proposed improvements to Amble's school system (a labour area) and approving improvements to Ponteland's school system (a tory area). My kids could do just as good a job as this lot, in fact they might do better with being highly proficient in school ground politics. Whilst I had my doubts about the proposed project in Amble as it would be woefully inadequate if the planned expansion of housing takes place it would have been nice to have heard some well reasoned narrative to the decision with a view to a new plan being put forward as soon as possible. Ponteland's current school and leisure facilities are superior to Amble's so its hard to see the logic in the approval granted other than looking after their own. Hey Ho.

SH: Same council tax as Ponteland should equal same facilities



## Brambles Summer Fair



The Brambles summer fair was a great afternoon and with the support and generosity of our families, we raised £998.00 for our resources and the sun shone too.

We would like to thank the

local businesses for their kind donations and our fabulous Brambles team for all their hard work especially Kath Chamberlain and Maureen Handyside for organising the event.

We said goodbye to our leavers with a graduation ceremony. A big thank you to Adele Younger our deputy manager and pre-school manager for all her hard work ensuring the children had the best graduation ever.

We have our summer sizzler sessions throughout the summer holidays: two hour sessions for £7.50 for over 4yrs and £8.50 for under 3yrs. Please contact Pauline Donoghue for further information.

*Pauline Donoghue*

## Wood wizard visits Links First school

At the end of June, the children at Amble Links First School welcomed Ray Nichols (The Wood Wizard) to school.

They were amazed by Ray's skills with a chainsaw as he gave noisy demonstrations to create an owl, a stoolhouse and a wizard's face.

Ray also installed carvings of a jellyfish, puffin, shark and penguin on our school field, representing the names of some of our classes. We are already looking forward to a turtle and a seahorse arriving.

The carvings have proved hugely popular and are just the start of plans to improve the outdoor areas.

*Paul Heeley, Amble Links First School*





# Saying goodbye to a much loved Headteacher



Children at Amble First School (Edwin Street) with Headteacher Joyce Jenkins

After thirteen years as Headteacher at Amble First School, Mrs Joyce Jenkins will be retiring this summer.

Working with a well-established team of staff, the school has seen many changes over these years – the opening of a kitchen to cook school meals on site; the development of the

playground area to provide a whole range of outdoor activities and challenges; the introduction of Breakfast Club; partnerships with schools in Nairobi, Kenya; developing the capacity for Beach School activities, with many staff now qualified as Beach School practitioners; the publication of a book “All About

Amble”; the opening of Edwin Street Nursery and extension of the teaching facilities for older children with new classrooms - as well as gaining a whole range of awards including Healthy School, Basic Skills, Artsmark Gold and the International School Award.

“My time at Edwin Street has given me some of the most interesting, challenging, exciting and rewarding years of my entire career”, said Mrs Jenkins.

“Working in Amble has been a joy, especially collaborating with a range of community groups and seeing how beautifully the town has developed over recent years.

“I have loved it all, I will miss it hugely and I thank everyone - pupils, parents, staff, governors, community members and friends for making it such a wonderful time....though I am looking forward to not getting

up early and having the chance to take some holidays in term time!”

Simon Baxter, chair of governors told The Ambler: “I speak on behalf of the children, parents, staff and governors when I say that Joyce has been an outstanding Headteacher of Amble First School and will be greatly missed by all.

“Throughout her time at AFS Joyce led from the front with a constant stream of new ideas for teaching our children new skills and nurturing their enthusiasm to learn.

We all truly thank her for all her endeavours and wish her a long and happy retirement.”

The new Headteacher, Mrs Helen Bruce, will take over the reins at Edwin Street in September. Helen is currently Deputy Headteacher at St Aidan’s First School in Ashington.

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# Discovery Centre at Hauxley Nature Reserve opened by Simon King



Simon King OBE at the new Visitor Centre

TV nature presenter Simon King officially opened Hauxley Nature Reserve's new Discovery Centre at the end of June. After the official opening ceremony and a volunteers' party, members of the public were invited to meet Simon and those who had worked so hard over the last two years to bring the building to completion.

The eco building has many green credentials: it is the first building to use gabions as a structural element, and clay for the floor came from construction of the Morpeth bypass.

Northumberland Wildlife Trust CEO Mike Pratt thanked all the funders, supporters and

staff: "Without the Heritage Lottery, we wouldn't have this building."

He paid tribute to the huge effort of the volunteers. "The volunteer effort has been unique. Most of this building is built by hand. It took 112 regular volunteers and 23,000 hours of volunteering. They were effectively a land army. We're humbled and proud of everything we've achieved."

Volunteer Christine Hall (pictured below right, chatting to Simon King) had clocked up the most number of hours working on the build. She turned up to Hauxley four days a week for two years, and became an expert on filling the thousands of gabions (wire baskets packed with stones). This was a job which would have been deemed uneconomic had it not been done by hand – and by volunteers.

Christine said "There'll be a big hole in my life after this. I was a volunteer on the nature reserve before this and I thought I'd be interested in helping on the construction. But I became more and more interested almost obsessive. It's a good design and I hope it gets lots of use."

Architect Henry Amos was delighted with the finished result. "It took two years in the end, but I'm really pleased. There's no concrete, for ecological reasons and the building straddles part of the opencast wall, so the foundations had to be flexible."

He was particularly pleased with the clay floor, which he believed to be the biggest of its kind anywhere. "We're standing on a triumph," he laughed to construction manager Tony



l-r: Anthony Johnston, Druridge Bay Reserves Officer; Alex Lister, Druridge Bay Living Landscapes Manager; Tom Patterson, volunteer; Howard Perrin, volunteer; Tony Lewis, Project Manager; Alan Dodds, volunteer; Roland (Roly) Watson, volunteer; Jeff Garret, volunteer.

Lewis. "We're standing on the Morpeth bypass" countered Tony, who explained that they had struggled at one point to get enough clay.

"The Wildlife Trust got in touch with Carillion working on the bypass, and thanks to them

broadcaster Simon King OBE unveiled a plaque.

Simon said "I am delighted to be introduced to the site and honoured to officially open this building."

He continued, "There are generations of people who don't



l-r: Roly, Tom, Simon, Alan, Christine and Howard

we got 40 tonnes of clay from them."

The volunteers then spent 'a lot of time' cleaning and sieving the clay, mixing it with straw and horse hair to bind the whole process together.

All the volunteers were pleased that the build was now complete, but said they had appreciated making good friends. "There were loads of laughs and hard grafts" said Roly Watson.

And then it was time for the official opening, as naturalist and

understand the fundamental importance with relation to the real world. Facilities like this can begin that connection."

The Discovery Centre at Hauxley Nature Reserve has a cafe and an outdoor play area for children. NWT is running regular events for children, including mini beast hunts, small mammal walks, bird watching and other wildlife themed fun. See [www.nwt.org.uk/whats-on](http://www.nwt.org.uk/whats-on) for all their upcoming activities.  
*Anna Williams*

## Youth group praised for litter pick



**L**EFT: The young people of Amble Youth Project's After School Club took part in a Community Litter Pick on Wednesday 14th June 2017 concentrating on the bus shelter on Church Street. Well done kids, Lisa, Jo, Tracey and the trustees are very proud of you.

*Tracey Bagnall, Amble Youth Project*



# WHAT YOU SAY...

## Keeping in touch with Amble

I enjoy reading *The Ambler* very much. It keeps me in touch with the town I was brought up in and spent many happy years among friends and worked in Akeroyd and Hogg's drapery shop on Queen Street.

I left Amble on getting married at the age of 21, I am now 85 and still get a bit homesick on looking back.

It is uncanny just how many people I have met over the years who belonged to Amble or have connections with Amble. When I hear the dialect, I speak to them and get some nice stories. It is a small world.

*Jean Elliott  
Broadstairs, Kent*

## Response to open letter on cycle route

Dear Mr Rackham,  
I would like to begin by assuring you that the campaign to relocate the cycle route is not being driven by an 'unelected local quango' but by the Amble Parking Group which comprises a mix of elected Town and County Councillors, the Chair of Amble Business Club who is elected by local businesses, the Director of Amble Development Trust, Ruth Bendell NCC – Head of Sustainable Transport and other Northumberland County Council officers and specialists with backgrounds in Highways, Transport, Local Service provision and other specialist advisory bodies.

Mark Breeze of Breeze Bikes, Ian Rochester of Pedal Power, Tracey Sample a cycling professional and Chair of Triathlon England (North East) were consulted about the current cycle contraflow as being local people well versed in aspects of cycling safety. All have provided letters stating that they too have monitored the contraflow route and believe that in this location it is hazardous to direct cycles towards oncoming traffic.

It is important to be clear that as a group we are not upholding the position that all contraflow systems are wrong or dangerous. There is no doubt that, although not widely used in the U.K., in many towns and cities cycle contraflow systems do work. We have been working with representatives from Sustrans, looking to make Amble more cycle-friendly in terms of signage, cycle-racks and shelters and ways in which as a town we can be more proactive towards encouraging and welcoming cyclists of all kinds.

However in the case of the particular cycle contraflow operating along Leazes Street against the one-way system, we as a parking Group are in strong opposition. Yes, there is an issue on Leazes Street and yes, the problem is with road design – this is precisely why the one-way system was trialled and introduced as a means of alleviating severe congestion in this area.

From the onset of discussions about the introduction of a one way system, it was felt that the cycle route being contraflow could need to be amended. However this did not happen and during the trial period there were many comments and concerns raised about the safety of all whilst a contraflow was in place. Therefore the request for an amendment is being pursued and public opinion sought by a petition which in a short space of time raised over two hundred and fifty signatures from people who stated they too believe the situation as it stands to be unsafe. The only possible way to make a cycle contraflow system viable and safer would be to designate this area a no parking zone.

Given the residential nature of the street and the critical parking issues that the town currently has, this is not a viable option.

We continue to work with NCC traffic officers to monitor the current contraflow and one-way system issues. Our stance may be 'anecdotal' in that there have as yet been no major accidents or fatalities. However we and other specialist groups and members of this community believe that the situation as it stands is dangerous to cyclists, vehicles and pedestrians alike. We would rather not have to wait for some form of accident to occur in order for the situation to be changed.

Alternatives routes are being considered and analysed by Sustrans and officers from NCC. We are happy to be guided by them and their expert knowledge. As we have tried to make clear, we are looking for the best outcome for all, and are happy to consider all options – however we remain strong in our stance that the cycle contraflow system as it stands is hazardous and puts cyclists, pedestrians and drivers at unnecessary risk.

I hope that this makes our position clear and goes some way to address your concerns.

*Jane Dargue,  
Amble Town Council (Chair),  
Amble Parking Group (Chair)*

## WI at Puffin Festival



On 29 May we operated our stall, with a tombola, homemade bakes, and crafts made by our ladies. Even though the weather was not in our favour, we still managed to raise money to support our chosen charities for 2017-2018 - HospiceCare North Northumberland, and Amble Clock Tower Restoration Fund.

*Amble Women's Institute  
via email*

## Food bank award surprise

Last Tuesday evening I was invited to attend the Amble Town Council Garden Awards.

To my great surprise Amble Food Bank were awarded the Amble Town Adult Community Award and was presented with a certificate encased in a frame and a cheque for £50.00

All the volunteers would like to thank all who support the Amble Food Bank and who work behind the scenes on our behalf.

This is a Community award and is awarded to the community of Amble and surrounding district.

*Bill Cruickshank, Amble Foodbank  
amblefoodbank@gmail.com*

Please continue to donate at the Queen Street Co-op, the Co-op on Newburgh Street or the Blue Bell Public House on Albert Street. Any larger donations please contact the Amble Food bank volunteers. Suggested items:

Toilet rolls, biscuits, toothpaste, shower gel, soap, puddings, cereal, soup. Tinned potatoes, tinned carrots, tinned sweet corn, chopped tomatoes, cooking oil, tinned peas, tinned green beans. Pasta, pasta sauce, rice, baked beans, tinned pilchards, tinned tuna tinned ham, tinned luncheon meat, tinned hot dogs. Coffee (100g), tea (80 - 100), sugar, long life milk. Tinned beef and onion, tinned sausage casserole. tinned Irish stew, tinned stewed steak, tinned chilli con carne.

We welcome your letters, email, Facebook and Twitter comments for publication.

Your name and address must be supplied, but will be withheld on request. Letters/Facebook comments may be edited. Contact details on page 2.

## Policing matters: YourNorthumbria

Welcome to my latest update from Amble Neighbourhood Police. Since the last edition of The Ambler, Northumbria Police has announced changes to the civilian staffing levels of reception desks at Police stations throughout the force area. This has changed the opening hours when members of the public can walk into a police station and report something.

Most police stations have been affected by this and 3 are no longer open to members of the public, one of which is Amble. What this means is that since 17th July there is no longer a civilian member of staff available to speak to members of the public at the Police station at Fourways, Amble. The least busy police stations such as Amble means that it cost nearly £40 of tax payers money to serve each member of the public who attended and the changes will save £1.4 million each year.

The Police Station at Fourways remains as it is and there is no reduction in the number of Police Officers and Community Support Officers as a result of these changes. The only difference is that you can no longer walk into the Police station to report something.



Sgt Ian Forster

### How to report matters to the police

The vast majority of crime reports are made via 999 in emergency situations, for minor incidents its 101 and via the website.

More and more people are choosing to use the telephone or online services, so the number of people calling at police stations has fallen with some stations seeing only a handful of visitors in a day. The force has, and is continuing, to invest in its customer services strategy which is designed to facilitate contact with the force via online and digital means.

New ways to contact Northumbria Police, will include online web chats, YourNorthumbria, a new alert system for texts

and emails, improved web capability so that residents can report 101 information directly into the call centre, and later on the ability to report through social media for non-emergency crimes.

Police Officers also have the ability to record crimes on their mobile devices and can be approached at any time. Further investment will also be put into the 101 contact centres to make significant improvements to the current service.

As mentioned above, YourNorthumbria is a great new system where you can be kept updated about local crimes and matters of public interest. You will only receive messages through your chosen communication channel of voice, email or text message. The amount of messages you receive will be based on your chosen location/s and the amount of activity happening in each of those locations. By having the ability to select your personal preferences on the 'My Interests' page means that you can reduce the amount of messages you receive to only those that you wish to be notified about. Please go onto the YourNorthumbria website and press join to be kept updated.

It was my very great pleasure on 14th July to host the Amble and Warkworth Young Citizen Awards. This was started and has been run by Community Support Officer Darin Fawcett

in association with Amble Development Trust for several years and is an acknowledgement of where young children have excelled in aspects of their life.

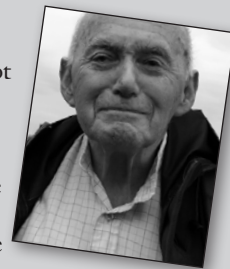
Amble First School nominated Harrison Gough, Warkworth Primary School nominated Joe Denny and Amble Links First School nominated Evie Bell. It was truly humbling to read what these young people had achieved. They all got an award and presents, with Joe being the overall winner who also got a bike.

Thanks to all the sponsors for donating the prizes and thank you for your time.

*Ian Forster, Amble Neighbourhood Police Sergeant*

## Age of insecurity

Swallow diving on tarmac is not yet an Olympic sport. I've become quite good at it, after my first three performances when I was a mere stripling of 77.



My recent performance was accomplished while walking at about four mph along our rough tarmac promenade next to the Little Shore. The essential part of the performance is to look sideways and to catch one's right foot on a projection while walking at speed. My swallow dive ends up with the removal of bits of skin, with concomitant bleeding and the need for medical attention.

Six years ago my treatment took place at our Percy Drive medical Centre. This time I received attention at the Minor Injuries Clinic at Alnwick Infirmary and wonderful treatment too! Our NHS is the most cherished of all our public services and we need to take care of it.

Triage is a word recently added to the vocabulary of many of us. I'm convinced that the filtering of the services we all use adds to the efficient delivery of those services. It's easy to waste time and money by doing things more than once. 'Efficiency' and 'throughput' may appear to be cold concepts, but the practice of them adds value to any enterprise. What could be more valuable than the treatment of as many patients as possible? We're all patients at one time or other, so we must each learn to wait for our turn. Perhaps we can help out by doing whatever we can for ourselves and for one another.

A recent article in the 'T', my chosen newspaper, points to a time when 125 years could be the lifespan for quite a lot of people. I have my doubts, if only because of the implications for the dwindling resources of this beautiful world of ours. It could be bountiful too if we learn to look after it.

I don't envy politicians, especially at a time when many of our old certainties don't seem to work. All is in flux on both sides of the political spectrum.

The present government needs support from the Democratic Unionist Party and we all wonder how that will pan out. Meanwhile some members of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition are making noises about changing rules for selection (and deselection) of MPs. The algorithms used by major companies have been labelled by some wag as 'Weapons of mass deception.' So we are back to Brexit, Trump, Fake News and the shifting sand of events. Heigho.

*Harry McQuillen*



## Honours for JCSC students

Pictured left are two students from JCSC, Verity Grainger (Year 12) and Lucy Ball (Year 10), at the Physicist of the Year awards at Northumbria University at the beginning of July.

Students from schools across the North East were presented with a certificate and voucher to reflect their outstanding efforts in Physics this year.

The student's families and Mrs Bailey were there to see them receive this award. "We are very proud of them", "They have done so very well and worked extremely hard and deserve this recognition".



## Barclays to close in November

Barclays Bank has announced that it will be closing its Queen Street branch on 3 November.

But Barclays customers can be reassured that they don't have to leave town to conduct their banking business. Postmaster Bryan Hewson told *The Ambler*: "All business and personal banking for Barclays can be done at the Queen Street Post Office."

And as they are open 9am - 6pm six days per week, that's better than the bank offered for many years.

## Water testing to take place at Hauxley

The Coal Authority has been granted permission to undertake a pumping test to investigate and assess water levels in the Hauxley area.

A temporary pump will be used to pump water from an existing borehole and it will be discharged via an existing outfall at the beach near to Low Hauxley.

It is expected that this work will take place between August and October.

A spokesperson for the Coal Authority, said: "During this pumping test all works will be safely carried out by competent persons and in accordance with all conditions set out in the permissions.

"After the pumping test is finished, our experts will analyse the data that is collected.

"As these works take place, the Coal Authority and its contractors will endeavour to minimise disruption for local residents and people who use the area as much as possible."

## Exhibition showcases students' amazing talent

The annual DT and Art Exhibition 'Create' took place at JCSC at the end of June. Made up entirely of work from students Yr 8 to Yr 13 it showcases the amazing talent and imagination of our young people.

Despite the terrible weather, the evening saw over 150 guests enjoying the array of design and artistic skills on display - from hand carved stools, to fused glass mobiles; from contemporary lamps to fine art and fashion. Complete projects were displayed, from inception to final production and the full extent of the effort and work that has gone into every single piece of work was on view, enabling visitors to fully appreciate the level of commitment from both student and staff to achieve the end results.

Paintings, sketches, collages, ceramics, wood, design, catering...all was on display to be enjoyed and sampled and the positive feedback is very rewarding for JCSC:

"We have so much enthusiasm, talent and skill at JCSC across students and staff", said Mr Steve Thompson, Head of Design and Technology, "Seeing it culminate in a breath-taking and impressive exhibition, is so very satisfying for us all and makes us proud to be part of the school. Well done to everyone involved."

Executive Head Neil Rodgers praised the staff for their commitment to the students. He said: "You are a fabulous bunch of people and, whilst you may get tired of hearing me say this, it gets ever more true - our students are so incredibly lucky to have you.

"Thanks to all those people who contributed to the evening and who made it the event it was."



Contemporary lamp by Chloe Cannon

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## Hatchery update



TO DATE we have now three releases here at Northumberland hatchery. The first two were released from NIFCA boats around Coquet Island and the third is a dive release at Beadnell.

For the dive release we have collaborated with 5th Point Diving Centre in Blyth. We are hoping that releasing the lobsters will be a new experience for divers and get more people involved in our work.

If you are interested in getting involved or volunteering with the hatchery please contact us. (01665 713580)

We are eagerly anticipating the arrival of our visitor interpretation materials at the hatchery.

Once these are installed we will be charging visitors an annual fee for entering, which will cover running costs. It is expected that by charging an annual fee people will make repeat visits to the town and our businesses.

Andrew Gooding  
Northumberland Hatchery Manager

## Life at the Harbour Village

I opened Coquet Cosmetics at Amble Harbour Village on the 2nd of May 2015.

After moving to Amble, I struggled to find anywhere decent to buy cosmetics and I felt that there was a definite gap in the market.

The products I sell are all sourced by me and I love brands like W7 and Technic which are so affordable and still really good quality. My most recent addition to the Pod is the Beauty Without Cruelty range, which is the original cruelty free makeup brand suitable for vegans. The range is selling really well so far and I plan on expanding it throughout the year.

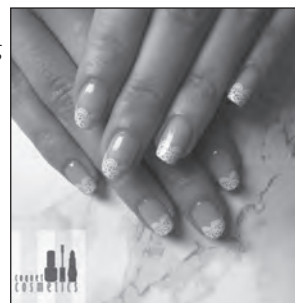
I also sell and love Chain Bridge Honey Farm products which are made locally in Berwick Upon Tweed and contain honey and beeswax from their own hives.

I am currently in the process of creating my own range of Amble themed Bath Bombs and I aim to have these available in the Pod at the end of 2017. I also have further plans to make my own soaps too, so watch this space!

In January last year I qualified in Manicure, Gelish Gel Polish and Nail Art and I do Nails at the Pod. Appointments can be booked by popping in the Pod, sending a message on Facebook or texting 07464269245.

A Gelish Manicure is £20 with other treatments starting at £10. Full details can be found on the website or Facebook page.

Laura Stubbs, Coquet Cosmetics



## March of the lobsters

Children from Brambles and Amble Links First School helped with the first lobster release at the Northumberland Hatchery in June.

The children learned about what the hatchery did and viewed the lobsters in their tanks, before accompanying the baby lobsters down to the quayside, where they were handed over to Jon Green from Northumberland Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (NIFCA).



On board the NIFCA boat, the baby lobsters were taken close to Coquet Island and released on to the sea bed. Mother lobsters were also released after having a small v cut into their tails (v-notching) to identify them as having recently shed eggs. Fishermen are not allowed to land the adult females until the v grows out, which takes several years.

## New faces at Warkworth Harbour Commissioners

Amble's new Harbour Master is Alan Punton, who brings with him decades of experience as a Northumberland coastguard and lifeboatman.

"I've worked in mental health for the last 25 years, but I'm also a serving mechanic with the lifeboat at Craster."

But Alan has local credentials too, attending Amble Secondary Modern school in 1975.

"I started in June; my job is to look after the piers, quays, four car parks and the ice plant and fuel, as well as the general running of the quay for the fishermen."

"I also look after the Little Shore - and we're planning a big clean up there soon."



Above: Angela Woodburn, Commercial Manager and Alan Punton, Harbour Master

Alan says he has now met most of the fishermen and is busy building up a good relationship with them and with local businesses.

"The harbour is a focal point of Amble and it needs to be kept that way," he said.

Also joining the Harbour Commissioners is Angela Woodburn, who is their new Commercial Manager.

"I'm looking at new revenue streams for the harbour. We have huge expenses; the quays, piers and all the infrastructure. The costs are significant. But we've got land and buildings and we need ideas and plans for the future to make better use of those assets to pay for our core function; which is maintaining the harbour."

Anna Williams



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## Is technology ruining your life?

Would you die without your phone? Do you check your phone every 5 minutes?

In school, out of school, people use technology every single day, but is it affecting people in a positive or a negative way?

So I asked members in Artograffi what they think about tech and social media. When I asked



Bethany, she told me a little story about when she lost her pen. She asked Siri where her pen was and Siri said to check her pocket - and it was!

But I also asked Emma-Jane and she said she went 3 weeks in year 5 without technology and she reads paper books instead of books on kindles.

Are some people addicted to technology?

Bethany said 'I check my phone every few minutes and even through the night. I may be addicted but I don't really know. '(She is, isn't she?)

Emma-Jane said very certainly 'No I'm not addicted at all to technology.'

I personally think that technology can be good for things like homework research, talking to your friends, and social media. But I also think it can be bad because you can disconnect from the world because your focus is on one place and it becomes your comfort zone.

Here's a tip - try going to a party without your phone or going out anywhere without a phone. And interact with each other instead.

By Erin Douglas

## Fun games for your phone

Recently I have downloaded some new games on my phone. I think they are good so would recommend them to everyone.

The first game is Word Cookies. This is a game where you have to make words from the letters on the screen.

Another is Ice-Cream Jump; this game is extremely addictive. All you have to do is tilt the screen so your personalised ice-cream lands on the platform. These are my two favourites but some other good games are: Crossy Road (tap to cross the road), Disney Crossy Road (same as crossy road but with Disney characters) and Pakka Pets (looking after your virtual pet).

I would recommend all of these games, they are all very good.  
By Ava

## tour of Britain comes through Amble

The cycle race the Tour of Britain starts Sunday 3rd of September and finishes the following Sunday in Cardiff. The race comes through Amble on Monday the 4th of September. It will come through Amble at approximately 14:00.

All the the top teams will take part; these are some of the teams. Sky/monster energy/jlt and several others. I like the fact that the cyclists reach the speed of 87.km/h.

I think if you are wanting to stand in a good spot one of them is next to Edwin Street First School.

By Ethan



## Snap maps: good, bad, or a fuss about nothing?

It's no surprise Snapchat has another update, but was this one a good one? Was it really necessary?

Snapchat's new feature Snap maps was added on June 22nd and it has raised concerns for a lot of parents as it shares your location with anyone that follows your Snapchat account.

Although you can limit it so that only certain people can see where you are, but how can you be sure that your friend is on their phone because peoples phones go missing all the time and anybody could be looking at your location.

This update would be fine if it just said your general area for example what city/ town you are in, instead of saying you're at a certain place it really should not be specific. This is a concern as hackers and stalkers could easily see where you are at all times.

There is a way to switch off Snap maps called ghost mode that can be found in the settings. If you go onto maps then click on the cog icon in the corner and turn on ghost mode.

By Emma-Jane

## Dennis the Bird Guy



We've been speaking to Dennis, a volunteer with the RSPB, a charity that looks after over 44,000 birds on Coquet Island alone. Dennis says that working with the RSPB is enormous fun but also a privilege.

He gets to go places no-one else gets to go. For example: he gets to see and handle rare species and work on Coquet Island where the public can't go. He began to get interested in wildlife back when he was young and his father had a yard where there was lots of wildlife for him to look at.

When he retired from his job as a fire fighter, he decided to become a volunteer and help these species, especially the ones where their population is decreasing.

He says that Coquet Island is like a forgotten place but at other times it's so loud with all the squawking of the birds. Coquet Island holds over 90% of the Roseate tern population and the famous puffins! Dennis says his favourite bird is a dipper as it has remarkable determination. 'They can 'fly' in the water and walk on the bed of rivers to get to their prey.

By Lily

PHOTO: DENNIS WITH A PUFFLING ON COQUET ISLAND

I asked Dennis how fast can puffins fly?

He said: Their wings are short. And they flap their wings very fast. They can fly 48 to 55 mph, which is 77 to 88 km/hr.

By Louise



## Out with the Old, in with the New (DOCTOR WHO SPOILERS)

By now I think everyone reading this knows who will play the thirteenth Doctor on Doctor Who: Jodie Whittaker. That's right. For the first time in nearly sixty years, the Doctor will be female. (duh duH DUH).

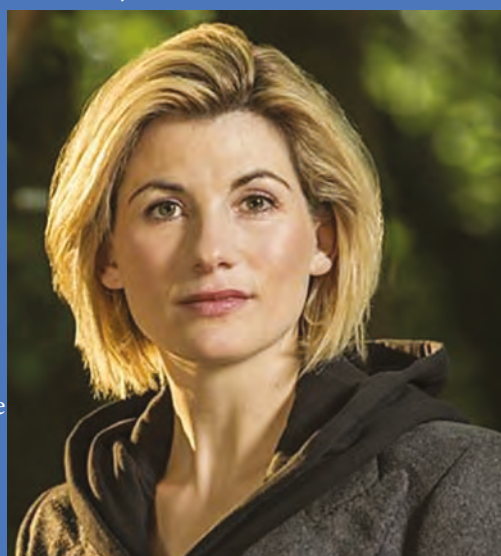
Obviously, this has come as a shock to many, with reactions varying. Brian from London wrote in to the BBC: "Time travel is for men, and men only."

I wonder what he'll do when he sees most of the companions. You know, the female ones.

24-year-old Thomas says that a female doctor "excites me" and that there will be "a lot of new opportunities for relationship dynamics" but will need to be "backed up by superb storytelling, lest this doctor turn into the 'all-time-worst'. (...)

I am glad we have a female doctor and wish for the best." Otherwise, I have seen an overwhelming amount of support for Thirteen, especially from previous actors, such as Colin Baker and Peter Capaldi. Capaldi said "She's going to be a fantastic Doctor!" whereas Baker stated "I was the Doctor and I'm over the moon that at last we have a female lead."

What do you think? Go to our Facebook page and tell us your opinion!  
by George-Anne



## top summer movies

- |                               |                           |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Nerve                      | 8. The Notebook           |
| 2. The Parent Trap            | 9. High School Musical    |
| 3. Hunger Games Trilogy       | 10. The Space Between Us  |
| 4. The Amazing Spiderman      | 11. Pixels                |
| 5. Beauty and the Beast       | 12. Spiderman: homecoming |
| 6. Captain America: Civil War |                           |
| 7. Wonder Woman               |                           |

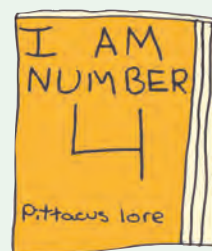
By Bethany

## Good summer reads

I love books as much as I love lollipops. I love lollipops A LOT. Recently I have started reading a few different series of books and I LOVE the majority of them.

My favourite is Lorien Legacies (starting with I am Number 4) by Pittacus Lore. Though this is not suitable for younger children, it is very captivating.

One that I read a while ago was Gone by Michael Grant. This also isn't suitable for



younger children but is also a great book.

I love the Hunger Games and the Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children (these are soooooooo amazing).

A good series for younger children is the Mr Gum series. This is about an evil man who has to be stopped by Polly and her friends. There are lots of other series that are amazing but these are some of my favourites.  
by Ava

## Binky and the time machine

The big metal box had just appeared from nowhere. Binky had been walking along past the castle ruins, turned a corner and walked face first into it, falling over to the floor. He scowled at it, rubbing his sore head, but found himself staring in awe. It looked like a time machine out of a sci-fi film with its large metal doors, futuristic build and strange design.

He stood up and began to walk towards it. Binky opened the door and went inside, gasping in wonder at all the computers and gadgets. He couldn't help clicking one of the buttons.

There was a quick, barely noticeable jolt but not much else, but Binky still felt like he shouldn't be messing with it. He stepped outside only to step straight back in, backing up in shock as he saw what was outside.

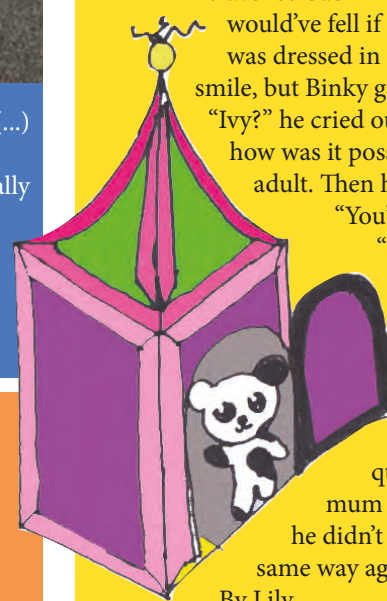
There was a huge medieval castle and lots of pandas in strange armour, but his vision went to the bamboo forest not too dissimilar to the one he'd been in before. Binky gasped as he realised he must have travelled back in time! He took another step back and would've fell if another panda hadn't caught him. She was dressed in strange futuristic clothes and had an easy smile, but Binky gasped recognising her immediately. "Ivy?" he cried out in shock at seeing his little sister, but how was it possible? Ivy was 3 and this panda was an adult. Then he realised:

"You're a time traveller?"

"Hi big brother!" she said with a grin, "Wow this is weird, but I can't stay for long. Let's get you back"

They got back into the time machine and went back to Binky's time. With a short goodbye, Ivy was gone, leaving Binky confused, dizzy and with a lot of questions. He went back home and told his mum about the experience. It had been fun but he didn't think he'd ever look at his little sister the same way again!

By Lily



## DASHING ABOUT



Some of the Artograffi gang have been taking part in Amble Code Club's robot programming sessions over the summer, using these Dash robots, as well as programmable LEGO



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Contact details:

Parish Clerk: Miss Vicki Smith

Address: 11 Acklington Road, Amble, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE65 0NF  
Telephone: 07875445495

Email: hauxleyipc@hotmail.co.uk  
website: www.theambler.co.uk/category/news/politics/hauxley-parish-council

## Councillor Vacancies

There are currently 2 vacancies within Hauxley Parish Council. Advertisements will be posted on social media and in local notice boards. If you would be interested in applying please contact the Clerk at hauxleyipc@hotmail.co.uk.

## Parking plea

Residents and members of Hauxley Parish Council have requested again for all residents and members of the public to adhere to the parking restrictions to help alleviate the persistent issues with car parking and access

## Food, glorious food

## Jasper's is the tops



Congratulations to Jasper's Bistro which has recently been voted the number one spot for lunch in Northumberland on Tripadvisor. They are also voted the top restaurant in Amble.

Owner Ryan Humphreys told The Ambler:

“We're really chuffed. Some say it must really boost our ego, but we're just humbled and feel honoured. As long as it helps put cash in the till then ultimately it gives peace of mind that financially we can stay on top of things. That's the main positive we take from it... but onwards and upwards and really looking forward to seeing what the future will bring to Jasper's.”

“We're really chuffed. Some say it must really boost our ego, but we're just humbled and

## La Famiglia creates 11 new jobs

The Old Boat House Food Group have expanded their portfolio with a new Italian themed venue in Amble, creating 11 jobs.

The group, who run a series of successful Northumberland restaurants including Blyth Boathouse and The Old Boat House Amble, have opened La Famiglia in the former Pride of Northumbria premises on Queen Street.

La Famiglia is set to offer authentic Italian dishes with a Northumberland twist. The family run group hopes that by creating new jobs they can further demonstrate their commitment to creating opportunities for young people in Northumberland.

## HAUXLEY PARISH COUNCIL - DRAFT ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2017

Opening Bank Balance Brought Forward

5848 \*adjustment of £4

### INCOME

Precept on County Council

4000

Other income

3

TOTAL INCOME

4003

### EXPENSES

Salaries & Wages (Inc Employers NIC)

1524

Parish expenses

1505

Earmarked funds

0

TOTAL EXPENSES

3029

TOTAL INCOME LESS EXPENSES

974

Bank Balance at 31st March 2016 - Carried Forward

6822

The above accounts indicate an excess of income over expenditure for 2016-17 of £974.

The Balance is designated for contractual requirements such as legal advice as well as to fund for projects including a Village Plan, replacements bins/seats, and stones for the village square

\*£4 adjustment as a result of a unchased payment relating to previous financial year

## Rural funding chips in to support Amble café expansion plans

A family run fish and chip restaurant in Amble has recently received funding from the North East Rural Growth Network to support the development of their business.

The Quayside Chippy were awarded £59,400 of funding by the North East Rural Growth Network who approved the investment from the Rural Business Growth Fund.

The chip shop, located on Amble Quay is a well-established business serving locally sourced fish and chips. The project is to develop a connected derelict building that is currently

unused, creating capacity for an additional 30 seats as well as an outdoor terrace. The extension will have direct views over the quayside and Warkworth castle.

The project which is due to complete by the end of 2017, will provide at least 5 new jobs over the course of the year. Director, Mr Ian Riches explains how the funding has impacted on the business:

“The support of the grant funding from the North East Rural Growth Network and the delivery team from Arch has been invaluable for the continued growth of our business. This



Katy McIntosh, RGN Implementation Officer, Arch, at Quayside Chippy

investment will create further local employment by allowing us to accommodate a larger number of customers. The expansion

of our business will benefit our local community and strengthen Amble's status as a tourist destination.”



# Back to the beaches

Travelling in a convoy of 94 London taxis with French police outriders on motorbikes was an unforgettable experience.

Taxi Charity for Military Veterans planned and paid for the whole thing. The veterans were all in their nineties and they were all involved in D Day and its aftermath.

I was a carer for Johnny Johnston, who has lived in Amble for more than 30 years. A train journey to London led us to our first night in the Union Jack Club in Waterloo. On the morning of June 4, we were picked up by Derrick Dane, our wonderful taxi driver, to travel to Portsmouth. Our ferry took us to Ouistreham, the port for Caen. A wreath laying ceremony near the beach was very moving. Arriving at Caen rather late, we eventually ended up in the Ibis Hotel. Not much sleep and a porridge free breakfast, (a sore trial for both of us!) we went on to the Pegasus Bridger area in convoy.

The welcome we received was heart-warming, people of all ages were waving hands and flags, smiling and greeting us. The Johnston Fan Club appeared for the first time, just as it did everywhere we went. Johnny was asked to autograph books, pictures, posters and cards. The cards showed a lovely black and white photo of Vera and Johnny at the time of their wedding in post war Britain.

Each veteran was given a pack of 100 postcard sized pictures to present to interested parties. Johnny gave away all of his cards to enthusiastic people of all ages who came to meet

him. I didn't expect that my school French, from 65 years ago would be so useful.

The next few days flew past. We visited Ranville war cemetery for a service for paras who lost their lives. Johnny landed at Ranville early on D Day. A very good police brass band gave us music, as did an impressive pipe band. Johnny was a boy piper at the age of 14, later becoming a pipe major. We then went on to Bayeux, to a convent with large grounds, yet another meal and pleasant music.

Next day we went to Merville Battery, a German artillery site which needed to be silenced on D Day. Lovely food was served in a marquee, with wine of course, served by local ladies, who made us feel at home. We were entertained by more music and lots of visitors came to talk to the veterans.

On our last full day we spent our time at an interesting Question and Answer session with a group of French school children and about 100 veterans. Natalie an accomplished interpreter did a great job, often translating quite long answers from the vets.

Our final event was in Ouistreham, near Sword Beach. We mingled with locals and visitors in an atmosphere of camaraderie.

All good things must come to an end, so it was back to the ferry, across to Portsmouth and a very interesting drive back to London, with all the lights and sights of our capital.

Unlike Johnny, I have never done anything like this and I know that I'll keep many



Johnny and Vera married just after the war

pictures in my head. We saw sites, ceremonies and some of Normandy. The dignity and appearance of former paras, with all their medals brought a special atmosphere.

The kindness and good humour of Derrick our taxi driver made everything so much easier. It was a visit to remember!

*Harry McQuillen*

## About 22nd Independent Company Airborne

During the Second World War small groups of parachute soldiers were formed into 'pathfinder' units, to parachute onto the selected drop zone ahead of the main force. Their tasks were to mark the drop zone, establish directional radio beacons to enable the coming transport aircraft to "home in" on the exact drop point and to clear and protect the area as the main force parachuted or air landed.

The Pathfinder Company also acted as an early warning if the selected drop zone was heavily defended, possibly enabling diversion to an alternative. Once the main force was down the pathfinders were employed as a small reserve or reconnaissance force.

The 22nd Independent Company the Parachute Regiment was formed between May and September 1943 to serve the 6th Airborne Division. On D-Day on June 6 1944 they jumped achieving limited success with the subsequent scattered main lift insertion. They fought around Breville and remained as line infantry in Normandy until the break out to the Seine in August. Johnny was a member of the 22nd Independent Company the Parachute Regiment.



photo by Andrew Mounsey

## Mauretania Day

A special day to honour Amble's connection with the RMS Mauretania was held at the beginning of July.

In celebration of Amble getting our famous Friendliest Port nickname, Amble Harbour Village once again transformed itself back to the 1930s, with six vintage Morgan Sports cars on display, 1930s music, balloons, bunting, and performances from the award winning Newbiggin Brass Band and the Harbour Lights community choir. Living up to its 'kindest' reputation the Harbour Village gave away £10 shopping vouchers to people in the crowd on the hour, every hour, as a random act of kindness.

On 3 July 1935, RMS Mauretania passed Amble on her final journey to Rosyth to be broken up. As she did, the clerk to Amble Urban Council sent a message to the captain of the ship saying: 'Amble to Mauretania. Greetings from Amble, last port in England, to still the finest ship on the seas'. Back came the reply: 'Mauretania to Urban Council, Amble, to the last and kindest port in England, greetings and thanks. Mauretania'. Decades of retelling this story has meant the kindest has turned into friendliest; which is why Amble is known as The Friendliest Port.

The weather was kind and the turnout fantastic, proving to be an excellent day out for all the family.

*Helen Spark, Amble Harbour Village Co-ordinator*

Welcome back to Trust Life and so quickly, or so it seems!

At the time of writing we have just hosted the Young Citizens Award, an initiative originally set up by Darin Fawcett to celebrate good acts by the young people of the town.

Each of the first schools nominates a pupil who they think merits recognition.

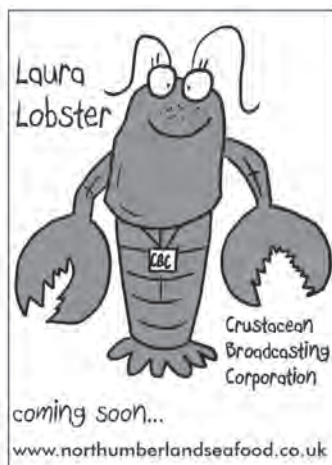
Sadly this year Darin hasn't been too well and was unable to attend what is the seventh celebration of our young people. However he did see the nominations

which made him proud, each one being deserving of an award.

Special thanks must go to everyone who supports the event; from donation of presents, celebration cake, attending, organising and photographing the event and of course the parent and teachers of these young students who also deserve recognition. It truly is one of the highlights of the year and a paper hankie always comes in useful!

### Lobster Hatchery

Our baby lobsters are doing well, with the second batch recently despatched to the sea.



We had hoped to have the interpretation panels installed by now, but this has taken longer than anticipated (don't things always). However the design and details have been agreed, now we await their production and installation. So please keep your eyes open for Laura Lobster if you are passing!

### Local elections

Following on from the local elections and the change in administration, we are still waiting for clarification on investment in Amble.

We have been informed by the CEO of Arch that most of the Amble projects are under review, however information from our conservative councillor looks more promising, but for the time being we can only keep our fingers crossed.

### Welfare update

While I offer updates in every Ambler, it seems there is still some misunderstanding of what the allocation of funds were for work through the Persimmon money.

So for the avoidance of doubt; the original agreement when the Trust took ownership of the Welfare, was that £250k was agreed to complete work to the football pitches, upgrade of the pavilion, children's play area and MUGAs (multiuse games area).

Because work on the Persimmon site was taking a long time to commence, the Trust found grants from other funders to complete the MUGAs, children's play area and do some work to the pavilion.

Obviously the skateboard park is there as well, but that was not included in the original plan.

In the meantime the Trust secured an additional £200k from Persimmon with agreement from them and NCC, that the Trust would complete the planned Welfare work, and create affordable housing for the community.

There was never £450k for the Welfare, which appears to be the rumour – I can assure you that is pure fabrication! NCC have never specified a split of funds between the projects, merely that both were to be completed, and while it is taking longer to achieve both aims, be assured they will happen.

Enjoy the sunshine.

*Julia and Trust staff*

*julia@ambledevelopmenttrust.org.uk*



### Why choose our Meals on Wheels service?

- **Meals delivered to your door by police checked friendly staff**
- **4 week menu choice offering traditional meals and light snacks**
- **Five star food hygiene rating**
- **You can pay daily, weekly or monthly**
- **Experienced cooks to support dietary requirements**
- **No contract or minimum usage just call when you want a meal or block book**

**We deliver to Amble, Hadston, Widdrington and Broomhill**

**We have a range of meeting rooms large and small with WIFI, Telephone, White Boards, Refreshments, Friendly Staff, on the main Public Transport networks from North and South.**

**Why not visit our community Café where all the profits are recycled into the community**

**Monday- Saturday 9am-2pm**

**We have a lot of activities for older people, younger people why not get in touch!**



At my second full county council meeting I asked the Conservative leader the following question: "Can he confirm whether the financial commitments to James Calvert Spence College by the former administration which was endorsed by the officers and the Capitol Works Advisory Group will be honoured and investment for Amble will be delivered?"

His answer, "All school developments are being reviewed."

A week later the Tory cabinet voted unanimously against the investment for J.C.S.C.

Amble needs a well functioning modern school that will provide us with creative, well educated young individuals, that brings hope and the development of opportunity throughout their lives, and to achieve this, schools should be at the heart of our communities, with new classrooms, new laboratories, a library, computer rooms, and a place to play and chill-out.

Young people must have the entitlement to be taught with suitable learning provisions in high quality buildings. Buildings proud of the place they call school.

The Northumberland Tories once again ignoring Amble.

*Cllr Terry Clark Amble Labour*

*Terry.Clark@northumberland.gov.uk*

07779 983768

The proposed continuing development of Amble still causes concern and I managed to request a site visit to the proposed development of 500 homes on Acklington Road so that councillors can see the effect of what I calculate to be approximately 750 cars (without trade vehicles) entering and leaving the development every day. This increase of traffic will of course have a major impact on the already congested Acklington Road and Masons corner area and I want to ensure that this is properly considered by the planning committee members.

I will be speaking at the planning meeting (as I already have done) and will point out the obvious problems and the much talked about idea of a road from the southernmost roundabout on the 1068 in Amble that could link with this development and alleviate many of the concerns expressed by residents. I have already suggested this road improvement to officers of the County Council and have stressed its importance to the infrastructure of the town.

For clarity I would inform residents that NCC current policies regarding new house building stipulate that a proportion of a development of private housing has to be made available as either affordable to rent or buy homes, this proportion is currently at least 15%

I was pleased to agree to a further 19 car parking spaces being created to link up with the existing ones on the area of the braid in the recycling /shore base trust area, although not perhaps a huge help to the parking problems of Amble 'every little helps!'

I am available on 07802385367 or [jeffrey.watson@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:jeffrey.watson@northumberland.gov.uk)

*Jeff Watson*

## An opportunity of a lifetime

Back in April, Amble mosaic artist Julie Smith was invited to take part in a multi-cultural project in Jericho.

"Being chosen to embark on a trip to Jericho with a group of Italian mosaic artists was a chance of a lifetime opportunity and I couldn't refuse," said Julie.

The group, known as Pictor Imaginarius, comprised Italian, Palestinian and English artists, who worked with the Jericho Mosaic Centre to create a mosaic monument to welcome people to the building.

"We started off by exchanging ideas and sketches to symbolise the rising awareness among people living their everyday lives through unstable political situations" said Julie.

"The finished work integrated a celebration of different cultures through a range of vivid colours and patterns.



The mosaic monument at the Jericho Mosaic Centre

"The mosaic project took over two weeks to construct and complete. During our stay in Jericho, we were all fortunate to visit the Holy Cities of Jerusalem and Bethlehem. We also took a swim in the Dead Sea.

"It was an experience I shall never forget, and I am so very grateful for all the generous hospitality in Jericho, and for the support and sponsorship of my trip by Grieves Grindle Accountants, Alnwick. Grazie!"

## Raising money for war memorial restoration

Fundraising for the clock tower restoration project continues to receive a great deal of support, with approximately £2770.44 raised so far.

Veterans Peter Proctor-Cannon and Fred Coxford of 15/19 the King's Royal Hussars, have raised around £1200 for the Amble war memorial repair fund. The pair have collected money in the Town Square over several weekends over the summer. "I'm gobsmacked at how much we've collected, and as proud as punch. We started on Mauretania Day and we'll carry on till August Bank Holiday," said Peter.

Estimated costs for the memorial restoration are £50,000, with the Town Council hoping for a grant from the War Memorials Trust.

The ticking of the clock  
Is the beating of their heart.  
The sound of the chimes,  
Their voices across our town,  
Saying: remember our sacrifice.  
Please give us life by repairing our clock.

*by Peter Proctor-Cannon*



Above: Prelude playing at the clock tower fundraising event at the Bede Street Club in July



# Amble Town

# COUNCIL

Meetings all at 6pm unless stated  
Town: 14th Sept, 12th Oct  
Amenities: 31st Aug, 28th Sept

## GARDEN & COMMUNITY AWARDS

What a great night- the room packed to capacity with everyone enjoying refreshments and a chat. Many certificates to present with the best garden in Amble being 156 Gloster Park. The Mayor was delighted to present the cup to Mr Spears and urged people to pop along and see the wonderful display. The judge from Alnwick Gardens was very impressed with the standards throughout the town. It is hoped that next year more people will nominate their 'Secret Garden', those hidden gems of beauty at the side or rear of properties which are not usually seen by people passing on the footpath. The Adult Community Award was presented to Amble Food Bank whose volunteers make such a difference to so many families in the town. The Junior Award was presented to Tiny Woods Academy for their fantastic football work with our youngsters.



The winning garden:  
156 Gloster Park

## DEFIBRILLATOR

Amble Town Council and Warkworth Harbour Commissioners have worked together to provide another community access defibrillator for the town. This will soon be positioned at the Harbour Master's Building in Harbour Road and whilst we would all hope it is not needed too often, it is there should the need arise.

## PLAQUE

When the town history trail was changed recently, we realised that one of the oldest parts of Amble which was mentioned in the leaflet and the companion book, Reflections, was no longer clearly marked. In fact the stone with the name 'Togston Square' has been eroding for so long that many may not even recall where it is! We have had a new plaque put on the wall in Albert Street, opposite the side of the Wellwood Arms, as we feel it is important to retain recognition of this old area for future generations.

## LITTER/DOG BINS

Now that the central area litter bins have been renewed- the most recent being a joint venture with Warkworth Harbour Commissioners along the beach walkway in Harbour Road- we will be reviewing all the others throughout the town. Some may need replaced and we will gradually do those; then move on to upgrade the dog bins.

The aim is to replace the old red dog waste bins with litter bins as NCC, who remain responsible for their emptying, are discouraging new dog bins. Please remember you can place your dog waste bags in any litter bins in the town. We are firmly behind the Green Dog Walkers initiative recently introduced by NCC to encourage everyone to be responsible dog owners and pick up their dog faeces.

Those who don't not only create health risks for our children but also give all good owners a bad name.

## WEBSITE

If you have visited our website recently you will have seen that some pages aren't quite set out correctly. This is because the site is being updated with fresh information and new photographs. However more importantly, it is being modernised so you can access it more easily with modern media such as smartphones and tablets. We expect to 'go live' during August and hope you will all take a look at it.

## COUNCILLOR'S CORNER

In these days of financial restraints and busy lives, partnership working is often the only way to get things done or maintain areas of the town. Although a Councillor, I am part of other groups who also work hard because they care for the town. Pride in Amble is the name used by that small group of dedicated volunteers who you see working in the flower beds around the Town Square and Memorial Gardens. To clear up a few misconceptions - they are not on Community Service, they do not work for Town or County Council, they receive no funding and they volunteer because they care about Amble. Some small donations are given by individuals and a few token gestures from organisations, when asked. A big thank you must go to Sodexo for their continued support over the past 5 years generously bringing on plants for them. However, time is taking its toll, money is getting less, more help is needed. Can you help?? Just approach one of the volunteers and offer to help before the appearance of this area reverts to the shabby state it was in before they started to care. *Cllr Weir*

### EAST WARD:

Ian Parks,  
33 Warkworth Avenue,  
Warkworth. NE65 0TP

Helen Lewis,  
5 Meadowburn,  
Amble NE65 0PH  
Tel: 07751 229 739

Craig Weir  
76 Priory Park,  
Amble NE65 0HY  
Tel: 01665 712342

### WEST WARD:

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

Jeff Watson  
Friarsgate  
14 Magdalene Fields  
Warkworth NE65 0UF  
Tel 07802 385367

Tracey Hinton,  
13 George Street,  
Amble NE65 0RZ

### CENTRAL WARD:

Kate Morrison,  
3 Island View,  
Amble NE65 0SE  
Tel: 01665 711191

Jane Dargue (Chair/Mayor)  
10 Sylvia's Close,  
Amble NE65 0GB  
Tel: 07795360513

Martin Horn  
22 Mariners View  
Amble NE65 0JH  
Tel: 01665 712836

TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES, FOURWAYS 2, AMBLE. NE65 0DT Tel: 01665 714 695 [www.amble.gov.uk](http://www.amble.gov.uk)

Email [ask@amble.gov.uk](mailto:ask@amble.gov.uk) Twitter: @AmbleTC Facebook: [www.facebook.com/AmbleTownCouncil](http://www.facebook.com/AmbleTownCouncil)

Office hours: 10-11.30a.m. & 1.30-3p.m. Monday to Friday

Elaine Brown Town Clerk

Minutes available to view in Office or online





# Amble Town

Litter Pick: Wed 13 September 5.30pm. Meet in Town Square

# COUNCIL

## 2017 WW1 COMMEMORATION

Each year of the WW1 Centenary is being commemorated by Amble Town Council.

This year, wreaths were laid at both Town War Memorials to remember those who gave their lives in the Battles at Passchendaele.

We also held a fund raising event in the form of a World War 1 themed meal with entertainment. Amble Women's Institute volunteered to help prepare and serve the meal.

The North East England Cadets Pipes and Drums played before the meal and afterwards all joined in community singing of war time songs led by Jane Dargue and Carmel Adamson accompanied by John Bird.

There were information displays about WW1 by Amble Town Council, June Watson and Vivienne and Alan Wade.

A raffle was held for the Poppy Appeal. A fruit cake, decorated by Anne Moffat-Orde, and a framed Memorial photograph, donated by Jim Donnelly were also raffled with the proceeds and the ticket sales going to the Community Funds for the War Memorial repairs.

The evening ended with a toast and the National Anthem.



This was reminiscent of fund raisers held during and after the war years to raise the money for building the Clock Tower War Memorial.

It is wonderful that so many in the community are helping again to raise money for these repairs so that it can continue to honour those who gave their lives for us all.

### AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL - DRAFT ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2017

Opening Bank Balance Brought Forward

£ 261,863 (Adjusted by -£93\*)

#### INCOME

Precept on County Council

£ 124,300

Town Income

£ 13,368

Amenities (Including Cemetery)

£ 27,415

**TOTAL INCOME**

**£ 165,083**

#### EXPENSES

Salaries & Wages (Inc Employers NIC)

£ 62,264

Amalgamated funds

£ 14,764

Amenities

£ 35,113

Town

£ 15,907

Advertising & Publicity

£ 1,200

Earmarked funds

£ 59,346

**TOTAL EXPENSES**

**£ 188,594**

**TOTAL INCOME LESS EXPENSES**

**-£ 23,511**

Bank Balance at 31st March 2017 - Carried Forward

**£ 238,352**

The above account indicates an excess of expenditure over income for 2016-17 of £23511. This is a result of spending earmarked.

The earmarked funds has decreased due to releasing the £20,000 which was earmarked for Paddlers Park refurbishment.

The remaining balance is designated for items such as contractual obligations including training and development costs, elections, WW1 commemorations 2016-2018, West Cemetery Development, administration, a contribution towards the lease of land for additional car parking.

### EARMARKED FUNDS AT 31ST MARCH 2017

#### COMMUNITY

SCHOOL PRIZE FUND	towards the next 10 year batch	£400
SEATING—refurbishment/replacement		£2000
LITTER BINS—refurbishment/replacement		£2639
BUS SHELTER refurbishment/replacement;		£24375
( including funds from Persimmons for 2 new shelters (£19300.75)		
HISTORY TRAIL Information board repairs/replacement; leaflet reprints		NIL
TOWN PROJECTS help towards large scale new equipment/projects/town enhancements etc.		£8000
COMMEMORATION - WW1 Centenary Events		£8882
COMMUNITY/ENVIRONMENTAL		£2184
Towards community events/public meeting/environmental works/car park lease		
MATCHED FUNDING toward project costs which attract outside funding		£1300
PHILIP DRIVE PLAY AREA		£181
Residue from handover money—towards refurbishment and maintenance		
ALLOTMENT FUND	Boundaries, walkways and maintenance	£4186
RECREATION —For future equipment & environmental works needed		£11862
EVENTS COMMITTEE—held within ATC accounts		£3529

#### COUNCIL

COMPUTERS AND IT, Hardware and Software replacement	£1564
NOTICEBOARDS repairs/maintenance	£1000
QUALITY STATUS—cost of entry/registration	£500
WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS	£1579
ELECTION COSTS for elections/by elections	£8512

#### CEMETERIES

EAST CEMETERY MAINTENANCE including walls, info boards	£7000
MACHINERY Grass cutters, brush cutters, blowers, pesticide equipment	£17150
MEMORIAL SAFETY regular checks and stabilisations are a legal requirement	£1400
WEST CEMETERY PREMISES refurbishment, repair, modernisation	£13000
WEST CEMETERY MAINTENANCE including walls, drive, fences, paths, trees	£3000
WEST CEMETERY DEVELOPMENT new signage, environmental works/mapping	£18561
CEMETERY REGISTERS a legal requirement to document interments	£340

#### ASSET MANAGEMENT

Memorial Clock maintenance and repairs	£1470
War Memorial Repairs refurbishment/upkeep	£757
Wynd Wall for repairs	£3190

#### STAFFING & COMMITMENTS

TRAINING for Councillors and staff	£3914
LOYALTY FUND A ringfenced pension fund	£16879
REGULATORY PROCEDURES Legal requirements/advice	£5000
6 MONTHS CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS	£45000
CONTINGENCY to cover any expected expenses, e.g. sickness cover, damage to property equipment not covered elsewhere	£10000

**Total £219354**

**Total held in accounts £238352**

Balance at 31st March to reallocate into earmarked and general funds £18998

## Sea Angling competition winner

The winner of the 2017 Bob White Memorial Boat Competition was Ken Goward (pictured, right).

A total of £3710 was raised, which will be donated to St Oswald's Hospice Gosforth, and Amble RNLI. 159 people registered for the annual event, which included boats and kayaks.

Thanks to all for your support  
*Norma Urwin and Amble Sea Angling Club*



## Footcare warning

Patients with diabetes and carers met in the Sacred Heart and St. Cuthbert's Church Hall, Amble to learn of the importance of footcare for anyone with Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes.

Senior Diabetes Specialist Podiatrist for Northumbria Healthcare NHS, Duncan Anderson, recently visited the group to explain the consequences of not caring for and monitoring feet, especially for those with diabetes.

Amble and Warkworth Diabetes UK Group Chairman, Derek Conway of Warkworth said, "We were fortunate to have his thirty years' experience as a podiatrist shared amongst our members, who were urged to see a podiatrist regularly."

The Amble and Warkworth Diabetes UK Group holds regular "open meetings" which anyone can attend. There is no membership required and no charge is made. The gatherings enable those with Diabetes to chat about their experiences and share their concerns with healthcare professionals. Anyone requiring further information should contact Mr. Conway on 07515 419050 or email him on derek@derekconway.com.

## Walking football continues

Walking Football sessions every Tuesday night from 6-7pm for over 40s for both male and female at James Calvert Spence College, Acklington Road. Hosted by Tiny Woods Academy, sponsored by ISS.

## 'Under the Stars' up for grabs

We are delighted to announce our latest fundraiser promotion. This beautiful framed print "Under the Stars" Howick - has been generously donated by popular Amble photographer Darryn Wade. It is on display in The Greenhouse, Warkworth.

For a chance to win the print purchase your chosen number from The Greenhouse only £2 each.



The winning number will be selected at random by computer drawn on Saturday 19 August, Warkworth Show Day.

As always, all proceeds go to Marie Curie for their end of life care of the terminally ill.

Huge thanks to all our supporters who so far have helped to raise a fantastic £6242.

Details of all our products and events are online at: [www.facebook.com/warkworthbook](http://www.facebook.com/warkworthbook), or contact Beryl at: [book.holmes@gmail.com](mailto:book.holmes@gmail.com)

## Rotarian clocks up 50 years of service

There cannot be many Rotarians who receive the same prestigious award twice, whilst a member of the same Rotary Club. However, Bill Wake, a member of Amble and Warkworth Rotary Club for fifty years, is one of the select band to have been awarded two Paul Harris Fellowship Awards. The award is named after Paul Harris, a Chicago lawyer, who started Rotary in 1905, and Rotarians designate a Paul Harris Fellow as "someone whose life has demonstrated a shared purpose with the objectives of the Rotary Foundation."

Bill has been a Rotarian since 1967 and explains "I opened my first chemist shop in Red Row in 1951, and later moved the premises to the Hadston Precinct. The reason I became a Rotarian was to give something back to the local

community who had been so supportive to my business for many years."

During his time in Rotary, Bill has held a number of posts. He was President from 1980/81 and was Secretary of the Club for sixteen years.

At a recent Rotary meeting Bill was presented with a certificate to mark his 50 years in Rotary. He said "I am very proud and honoured to receive this certificate. I've found that my experience in Rotary has been very fulfilling as I've been involved in community projects and fundraising for many excellent and worthwhile causes, both local and international. I

have also made a lot of good friends, and have many fond memories."

The certificate was presented by retiring club President, Stephen Kerry, himself a Rotarian for 30 years. He said: "Presenting this certificate to Bill has been the highlight of my year as President. He has been an outstanding Rotarian who has

certainly lived up to Rotary's motto 'Service before Self.'"  
*Peter Forsyth*



Bill Wake

## Bowling Club's open pairs winners



Winners of the Amble Open Pairs held on Sunday 2 July were Terry Watson and John Calder from the host club Amble. Here they are being presented with the Donaldson Trophy by president Maisie Donkin. Runners up were C. Brown and B. Reay of Cowpen and Croften Bowling Club.

It was full house as 32 teams from around the county played for the trophy in sunny but blustery conditions.



## Harbour Day 2017

This takes place on Sunday 27 August. The service starts at 10am. The event will be opened by Harry Mascall, a young Lifeboat Superfan, who is travelling around the country visiting as many Lifeboat Stations as possible to raise funds for the RNLI.

This is a fun day out for all the family. There will be the usual stalls and a Grand Raffle; first prize is a painting by local artist Jimmy Thompson, plus many other prizes.

Youngsters can test their skills at a penalty shoot-out. RNLI Crew members have volunteered to be thrown into the water – for a price. Have your photograph taken with some classic Harley Davidson motorcycles. Watch out for the RNLI mascot Stormy Sam who may be making an appearance. Come and see our new Shannon Class All-Weather Lifeboat Elizabeth and Leonard.

Donations of items to sell i.e. books, tombola prizes, Bric-a-Brac (no electrical items) can be dropped off at Premier Store, Queen Street or from Wednesday 23 August at the RNLI Boathouse. Any home baked goods can be dropped off at the station on Saturday 26 throughout the day.

If you can help out on the day please contact Jill on jill.faulconbridge@gmail.com or Caroline on j.telford24@btinternet.com. All donations and offers of help are very much appreciated. Come along and have a great day out.

## Amble Lifeboat Fundraisers

Please come and join us for coffee and home baking at the Amble RNLI Lifeboat Station on the follow dates between 10.00am and 1.00pm Sunday 17 September and Sunday 15 October

Once again we would like to thank the community for all of the support you give us. If you would like to help us in our fundraising for 2017 please email Jill at jill.faulconbridge@gmail.com

Date for your diary - 12 October 2017 "In at the Deep End" An RNLI Story staged by the Mikron Theatre Company. See posters around town for more details.

## The Scapa 100 project

Warkworth and Amble District Royal British Legion's next Meeting: 11 October 2017 at 7pm in the Legion Room, Warkworth War Memorial Hall

Speaker: Richard Booth will give a talk on "The Scapa 100 Project" - The Commemoration of 100th anniversary of the sinking of the German fleet in 1919 at Scapa Flow."

Non-members welcome at all our meetings. Suggested donation of £2.50 to include pooled supper. Remembrance Sunday will take place Sunday 12 November 2017. If you wish to order a wreath please contact Poppy Organiser on 07785 753100.

**Isabel A. Morrison**  
*Dip Mus Ed RSAMD*

Established and experienced teacher of  
**Piano & Theory**

All ages, beginners to advanced  
Adult re-starters/beginners welcome!

Tel: 01665 713459 mob:07462554943  
Email: isabel.bellamusic@googlemail.com

## Drama - September in the rain

Warkworth Drama Group's next production will be 'September in the Rain', by Jon Godber. This is a true northern love story following the life of a Yorkshire miner, Jack, and his wife, Liz, on their annual summer holiday across the Pennines to Blackpool, which has been a ritual for over 40 years.

Saucy postcards, knotted hankies, stripy deckchairs, and trips to the Tower Lounge conjure up a bygone era and the good old days. September in the Rain at Warkworth Memorial Hall  
On: 28, 29, 30 September

Time: 7:30 - licensed bar opens 7:00pm Tickets: £7  
Available From: N&F Young's, Warkworth Village Store or visit our website. <http://www.warkworthdrama.org.uk>

This amateur production of 'September in the Rain' is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, LTD.

## Table Top sale

Saturday September 23 10.00 -1.00 at St. Mark's Church Hall. Refreshments available. Please book your table by September 16 contact Sue on 01665 711177

All proceeds will go to St. Mark's Sunflower Project, supporting schools and teaching in Kenya and Bangladesh

## Tiny Woods' best youth group award

At the recent Town Council Awards ceremony, Town Mayor Jane Dargue said "I am really pleased to be able to present this award to Tiny Woods - a fantastic Academy that does so much for sport in the community".

Academy Director Josh Rutherford said "I am delighted and proud that we have received this award, it is nice to know that my hard work is appreciated. The children of this community are shown to have had some of the best education and experience in football through Tiny Woods Academy".



Josh Rutherford receiving the award from Jane Dargue

## Holiday fun at Hauxley reserve

School Holiday Fun at the Wildlife Discovery Centre: Tuesdays and Thursdays in August 11:00am - 12:00pm and 1:00pm - 2:00pm  
Solar Observing with NASTRO: Sun 20 Aug 10:00am - 4:00pm

Hauxley Wildlife Group: Coquet Island - a virtual experience, Wed 13 Sept 7:00pm - 8:30pm  
Autumn Birds, Sun 10 and Sat 30 Sept - 10:00am - 12:00pm  
Autumn Wildlife, Sun 10 and Sat 30 Sept - 2:00pm - 3:00pm  
Our Wildlife 2017, Sat 16 and Sun 17 Sept 10:00am - 5:00pm  
Tracks and Signs, an Introduction: Sat 23 Sept 11:00am - 12:00pm

More details at [www.nwt.org.uk/whats-on](http://www.nwt.org.uk/whats-on)



Wholesale orders welcome!

- Beans roasted for local restaurants, bistros, and cafes.
- Free weekly delivery service.

**mochamondo@gmail.com**

Unit 6D, Amble Industrial estate

## Highlights autumn show

As part of Amble Parish Church's on-going collaboration with the Highlights Rural Touring Scheme, for our autumn event we will be hosting a one-man show that has already had a successful run at the Edinburgh Fringe.

"Leaf by Niggle" by JRR Tolkien Friday 29 September at 7:30 p.m. in the Amble Parish Hall, Dovecote Street, NE65 0DX

Tickets: Adults £8, Concessions £7, Children £5 Available from: N & F Young, 8 Queen Street or at [www.highlightsnorth.co.uk](http://www.highlightsnorth.co.uk)

Niggle is a painter, not a very successful one, partly because he has so many other things to do. For some time he has been obsessed with one particular canvas - a curious picture of a tree with a vast landscape stretching out behind it. The painting keeps getting bigger and bigger, but Niggle has a journey to make. He doesn't want to go, but he cannot get out of it...

In 1939 Tolkien was despairing of ever bringing his great work The Lord of the Rings to a conclusion. One morning he woke up with Leaf by Niggle complete in his mind and wrote it down.

Surrounded by ladders, bicycles and heirlooms, Richard Medrington recounts Tolkien's miniature masterpiece, with soundtrack by Karine Polwart and Michael John McCarthy.

"exquisite ... so beautifully told ... completely seductive" \*\*\*\* Scotsman.  
'Enchanting one-man show' \*\*\*\* The Guardian  
Mike Dixon, *Highlights Local Coordinator*



Leaf by Niggle by JRR Tolkien

## Warkworth golf updates

As ever mid-summer is the time of peak activity at Warkworth Golf Club. Captain Graham Sawley's day was a huge success. The largest field for some years played and the trophy went to Billy Douglass for the second year running.

The North Northumberland scratch team is having a superb season. At the time of writing back-to-back promotion is close and the team has reached the final of the Glendale Cup. The Captain's Outing took place at Northumberland GC and Dale Elgar went home with the trophy. The Lady Captain's Outing is at Duns GC in August.

The seniors section continues to thrive. Bob Thompson won the Joe Lewis Trophy and also recorded the lowest gross score to become the seniors champion. The junior section is growing again after a lean period with more entrants to their cup competitions. However, Freddie Bremner is still the one they have to beat as his handicap gets ever closer to single figures. As usual August sees both the Gents and Ladies championships and this year will be the formal opening of the rebuilt Killie bridge which is scheduled for the bank holiday Monday.

We have been visited by Golf Monthly and will feature in a forthcoming article. Having already hosted two rounds of the Inter-County foursomes in March, in September the course will see the final of the Cecil Leitch Cup and the annual meeting of the County Lady Veterans.

Membership remains open. Once again there will be a 15 months for the price of 12 offer from October 1 and you can join as a winter member from the same date for just £125.

[www.warkworthgolfclub.co.uk](http://www.warkworthgolfclub.co.uk)

## Hauxley fun day bank holiday Monday

Hauxley Fun Day is on Bank Holiday Monday 28 August starting at 11am.

Grab a bargain at the Bric a Brac stall, win a prize on the Tombola, buy your tickets for the chance of a fantastic prize from the raffles, or try your luck at the Wheel of Fortune. Demonstrate your creative talents in the sandcastle competition on the beach or the kids' art competition. Enjoy the live music whilst imbibing a fine local beer or refreshing cup of tea, and don't forget a slice of cake or scone!

After testing your muscles on the Feat of Strength, stay for lunch at the delicious BBQ, followed by a scrumptious ice cream for dessert. Catch a glimpse of what the future holds with our Fortune Teller, vent some steam at the plate smashing stand, or win yourself a coconut at the coconut shy!

And don't forget to bring your pets for the pet show.

It's a great day out for all the family, so put the date in your diaries and don't forget to tell your friends!

## Coquetfest four day music festival

This year's Coquetfest runs from August 17 - 20. A four day festival of music, beer, beach and food with attractions for everyone at Druridge Bay country park, alongside a spectacular beach. Tickets and more info via their website: <http://www.coquetfest.co.uk/tickets/>

## Kickboxing school's haul of medals

Pupils at Hybrid Kickboxing (Amble) returned from the BCCMA (British Council of Chinese Martial Arts) National Championships with five fighters taking part.

They returned with four Gold and one Silver, a remarkable achievement in the 16 months the school has been running.

Alex Robertson Quinda gold 70kg, Jack Brown Quinda gold u85kg, Alex Henderson Quinda o90kg Silver, this was an unexpected achievement as Alex had undertaken only 14 weeks full training. Schoolgirl Polly Long gold girls u64kg junior female Quinda. Polly had to give away 12kg and a lot of height to take her gold medal.

Also competing in the men's full contact Sanda Chief Instructor Adam White returned with gold in the u80kg.

A remarkable achievement to have four British Champions from the Gym after being open for under 16 months.

The School would like to thank their sponsors TDL Autos, Richard Greenley, (joinery), Kelly Construction, Sandee, and Ti ME4 Nutrition without their support this could not have been possible.



l-r: Alex Henderson, Jack Brown, Adam White (Chief Instructor), Polly Long, Alex Robertson, in rear Asst coach (corner man) Allan White.



**NORTHUMBERLAND**  
Northumberland County Council

**Councillor Terry Clark**

*will be holding surgeries on*

**Saturday 30 September & 4 November**

**10am-11am in Amble Library**

**11.30am-12.30pm at Christ Church Hall Broomhill**

**1.30pm-2.30pm at Hauxley Village Hall**

***All Constituents Welcome***

TELEPHONE ORDERS WELCOME  
**01665 710 442**  
MONDAY TO SATURDAY: 11.30AM-9.00PM SUNDAYS: 11.30AM-2.30PM  
\*\*\*\*\* NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL  
1 BROOMHILL STREET AMBLE NORTHUMBERLAND NE65 0AN



# Why these young citizens are the pride of our community

Three young citizens were nominated for this annual award for outstanding behaviour and attitude.

Joe Denny from Warkworth First School, Harrison Gough from Amble First School and Evie Bell from Amble Links School were all shortlisted for the award given by Alnwick Neighbourhood Police Team and supported by local businesses.

This year's overall winner was Joe Denny aged 7½ from Warkworth First School.

Joe was nominated for his outstanding attitude to life. He adopted the motto "Never give up", a mantra which has helped him meet some of the challenges of his ADHD, particularly when he finds many situations overwhelming. He has tackled personal fears and is caring and supportive of his younger brothers. When he heard a local charity had lost a significant amount of funding, he wanted to help. So far, Joe has raised more than £2,000 for the charity, running a mile a day throughout the month of June.

He said "I'm happy. I was surprised when they read my name out."

Being presented with a bike was a particular treat, as he only learned to ride during the Easter holidays. Now he has a bike, he says he is keen to try a triathlon.

Joe's mother Nell McGrath said "I'm a bit overwhelmed. It's lovely; he's done such a lot of work. He tries really hard and he's a great character."

Evie Bell was nominated by Amble Links School, for being conscientious and hardworking at school. She's a highly effective Junior Play Leader, helping to organise equipment and games, she's a school librarian, and at home, often helps her grandfather who has Parkinson's disease. Evie also helps around the house, walks her dog and sets a good example to others.

Harrison Gough was nominated by Amble First School, for being up for most challenges. He is very good at maths and helps his peers, even making a series of



l-r front row: Harrison Gough, Joe Denny, Evie Bell  
Back row: Julia Aston (Amble Development Trust), Ann Burke (Amble Business Club), Ken Mouat (Amble Neighbourhood Police Team), Sgt Ian Forster (Amble Neighbourhood Police Team), Craig Weir (Amble Town Council)

short maths videos. He is a great organiser, a kind and considerate group leader, and happily manned a book stall at the summer fair. Harrison is a huge help at school, and encourages other children even when he finds tasks challenging. At home, he helps his disabled mum, and although he dislikes PE and sport, sets himself goals to keep fit and healthy.

This year's good citizen's award was organised by Alnwick Neighbourhood Police Team and Amble Development Trust. Now in its seventh year, the award recognises outstanding and exemplary behaviour by local children, both at school, at home, and

in the community. Each winner received a certificate and trophy, and a goody bag filled with treats and vouchers, all donated by local businesses. A cake was donated by Amble's Farm Bakery. The overall winner received a bike and helmet donated by Spurreli.

Thanks go to Spurreli, The Farm Bakery, 42 Queen Street, Lifestyle Clothing, Amble Pin Cushion, Amble Town Council, English Heritage – Warkworth Castle, Castlemania, Park Leisure, The Old Storehouse, Amble Lobster Hatchery, Warkworth Parish Council and Amble Co-op Funeralcare for their generosity in supporting this award.

*Anna Williams*



The Yr 11 Prom took place for JCSC students at the end of June. They gathered at first in their finery at the school to enjoy a drinks reception with their families and enjoy their Awards Service to celebrate their achievements over the year.

Students received Certificates of Excellence from each subject, recognising effort, attitude and achievement and Shania Allan was presented with a cheque, by Fred Calvert, from the Rotary Club of Warkworth and Amble, for Special Endeavour.

Following the celebrations, students were taken by bus to The Riverside Lodge in Morpeth where they danced the night away and enjoyed a buffet.

"The students looked amazing and were all really well behaved and in good spirits," said Mrs Parks, teacher and organiser with Mrs Kim Wingfield, Food Technician at JCSC. "We had lovely comments from the venue and the bus company who said we should be very proud of the way our students presented themselves. As staff we are really proud of them and want to thank them for being so wonderful and their parents and families for supporting them on the night."