

# *The Ambler*

## Amble's Community Newspaper

Issue 98 May/June 2016

### Friendliest welcome for Sophie

Wonderful weather encouraged many to turn out to watch the Countess of Wessex visiting the town. Accompanied by the Duchess of Northumberland, she visited the new Shorebase Trust, met the trustees, and spoke to some of the user groups, including disabled users.

The Countess called into the Pride of Northumbria shop on Queen Street. She met students from the Culinary Institute of Northumbria and presented them with certificates. She and the Duchess had a cup of tea and a piece of homemade cake.

Ann Burke, Chairman of Amble Business Club told her about the Great British High Street win, to which the countess replied, "That must bring the community together".

The Royal Party walked though the Town Square where they met Brambles' children and members of the Rotary Club.

At the Harbour Village, the Countess spoke to some of the pod owners, lifeboat crew, trustees of the Development Trust, the Harbour Village co-ordinators, and the 'Harbour Gadgets'. She asked the lifeboat crew about their day jobs and discussed football with them (apparently she's a Sunderland fan).

Artist Julie Smith presented her with a sea-themed mosaic and 2 year-old Phoebe Aston gave her a posy, while 22 month-old Jamie Wood gave another posy to the Duchess. Chairman of the Development Trust Terry Broughton gave a short speech of thanks.

Development Trust Director, Julia Aston accompanied the Countess around the town centre.

"It was a wonderful day", said Julia. "The sun shone, as did the Countess. She was very



Above: The Countess is greeted by crowds in Queen Street. Photo by Célia Fery

relaxed and interested in all the businesses, trainees and the High Street award. She looked at the old photos of Amble and commented on the differences between then and now".

The pod holders were "quite excited" about meeting the Countess and said they found her "charming".

Laura Stubbs of Coquet Cosmetics had a chat with her: "She was very interested in the sources of my products and I told her that most of my sources are local".

Many thought that the

visit and the publicity could provide a boost to Amble. Julie Anderson and Louise Skirving owners of "A touch of love" pod commented on how much they appreciated the questions from the countess: "She took the time to talk to everybody."

Katie Henery and Libby Watkins, who produce their own work for Harbourside Studio said she was "Really interested" in their work.

From the Harbour Village the countess was taken to the Paddlers Park. Waiting there were pupils from both First Schools,

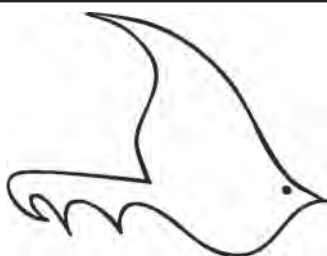
the designers and contractors, town councillors and county councillors.

The Countess met members of the public and some of the school children. Emma Evans the county council's Green Spaces and Play officer guided her around.

Elaine Brown, Town Clerk, said, "She was enthusiastic about the project and she was well received by everybody."

*Norma Hinson*

More photos on p11 and on our website [www.theambler.co.uk](http://www.theambler.co.uk)



## The Ambler

Fourways 2  
6 Dilston Terrace  
Northumberland NE65 0DT  
Tel: 01665 712929  
www.theambler.co.uk  
editor@theambler.co.uk  
Twitter: AmbleByTheSea  
YouTube: AnnaAtTheAmbler1



Follow us on Facebook  
Follow us on Pinterest

Editorial Team:  
Vivienne Dalgliesh - Céla Fery  
Cath Findlay - Norma Hinson  
Mir Jannetta - Tim Jones  
Lou Pickering - Anna Williams

Thanks to:  
Mark Beswick & The Artograffi Crew  
Justin Cooper

Distribution:  
Dawn and Taylor

Printing:  
Azure Printers, Pegswood

Would you like to join  
The Ambler team? We are a friendly  
group who welcome contributions  
and help from anyone who would  
like to volunteer.

Thanks to all our contributors,  
sponsors and advertisers:

Amble Town Council  
High Sheriff of Northumberland  
Youth against Crime Awards.

Inner Wheel Club of  
Amble and Warkworth

Rotary Club of Amble and Warkworth

Sir James Knott Trust

Northumberland County Council  
Community Chest



The Ambler is a project of  
Amble Development Trust

The views expressed in The Ambler  
and The Ambler Online are not  
necessarily those of  
the Editorial Team

Printed on paper from sustainable  
forestry in the UK

## Right royal boost for Amble

The biggest news event in this issue is obviously the royal visit to Amble. See the front page and page 11, but for many, many more pictures go to our website. Any publicity is good, but such an event with a charming visitor, excited crowds and developments in the town being showcased, can only boost our town for both business interests and tourists.

Then there will be more fun and enjoyment next month when the 4th Puffin festival will take place. Go to the back page for the provisional programme.

Locally, the war memorial clock is suffering, with repairs in the offing (page 3) and there is good news about funding for the future lifeboat (see below). More local initiatives appear on page 4, a second skiff being built, the Coquet Venture.

We have departed from our usual habit in this issue and printed a politics page (4). We have opposing views expressed as to whether it is best to leave the EU or stay within it. Everybody will be able to take part in the referendum so it is best to find out what we can about the effects of staying in or of leaving.

Other local news is about people, in particular, on page 15. Miss Murdy, former town clerk has reached a significant age and Rev. Diane Westmoreland is leaving Amble.

We are sad to see Katherine Bennett has closed down her shoe shop, Classic Shoes, formerly Shaws Shoes. Many of us remember her father and grandfather working in the shop, when it was in Bridge Street, where they also carried out shoe repairs.

>>>STOP PRESS >>> NEWS JUST IN >>> JACKIE CHARLTON TO OPEN NEW FISH SHACK >>> SUN 1 MAY >>>

WE HAVE JUST BEEN INFORMED by chef Martin Charlton of The Old Boat House, that North East legend Jackie Charlton (no relation) will be officially opening his new Fish Shack on the Quayside on Sunday 1 May, at approx 11.15am. The shack will sell cakes, scones and breads as well as a selection of fish dishes, fish snacks and home smoked items. The Fish Shack is situated in the upturned boats next to the harbour office.

## Shannon appeal closing in on £200k target

The Shannon Appeal fund is getting nearer the magical figure of £200,000. It currently stands at £178,055.

Who thought that in July 2014 when the RNLI set Amble Lifeboat Fundraisers the target that we would be so close less than two years later?

As Chair of the Fundraisers I have to thank the fantastic committee that we have. They have worked so hard and donated not only their time but their money, and while you may meet them at our monthly coffee mornings, they are beavering away throughout the year, coming up with ideas to get us to that magical figure.

I have to thank the local community, visitors, businesses, clubs, schools and the council who have supported and continue to support the appeal and the lifeboat. Without your help, encouragement, and donations we would not be anywhere near that figure. Thanks to the Northumberland Gazette's Jam Jar Army Appeal we raised £4104 – that's a lot of pennies and small change to count. Thank you all for bringing in your jars, bags etc.

Work is well underway for this year's Harbour Day on Sunday August 28, but in the



Above: Amble's new lifeboat is currently in construction. It will be called the Elizabeth & Leonard

meantime we have many other events coming up:  
Sunday May 15 – Coffee Morning 10am -1pm  
Saturday May 28 – Street Collection Morpeth  
Sunday May 28 – DB10K  
Sunday June 19 – Coffee Morning.

We are looking for volunteers to give up a few hours each month to help the fundraisers or if you can bake or sew then donations are always welcome for our coffee mornings and in August for Harbour Day. Please contact me either via Facebook (Amble Shannon Lifeboat Appeal) or by email: [katrinacassidy@hotmail.com](mailto:katrinacassidy@hotmail.com).

Once again many thanks for your support.

Katrina Cassidy Chair, Amble Lifeboat Fundraisers



## Our milkman brings all the cows to the yard

Enterprising dairy farmer Alan Conway is hoping to bring back the traditional milk-to-your-doorstep delivery service and create jobs for wounded service personnel.

Last year we reported how the price dairy farmers were getting for their milk had dropped from 34p per litre to 19p. This year the price has fallen again.

"We get 17.5p per litre for milk now, so that puts a strain on things," explained Alan. "We've fancied the idea of selling milk direct for a while now, and there's a big demand for local produce these days."

The Conway family have been running their 200 acre dairy farm at High Hauxley for decades. They have 120 cows and are not short of ideas for diversification. Last year they even introduced the idea of a Zombie run on their farm, although sadly in the end, not enough people signed up.

Watching a TV programme about the Walking with the Wounded charity sparked the idea that Alan and his family could use their new project to

help some of these wounded ex-soldiers back in to work.

"I emailed Walking with the Wounded and we are in the midst of discussions about the idea," said Alan.

The family plans to build a dairy on the farm at High Hauxley, which will include pasteurising, homogenising and bottling equipment. They will produce whole, semi, skimmed milk as well as cream and possibly butter.

Alan is hoping enough people will want to buy this local product, with the bonus being that they would be helping injured ex-service personnel to get back to work. They aim to sell to households as well as local restaurants, coffee shops and hotels.

"We will sell to pretty much anyone who wants local produce. The milk will be reasonably priced, and on your doorstep first thing in the morning, not sitting there all day in the sunshine!" said Alan.

If you are interested in learning more or signing up for the milk delivery service, please contact Alan via Facebook:



Above: Alan Conway and his cows at High Hauxley dairy farm

[www.Facebook.com/HauxleyFarm](https://www.facebook.com/HauxleyFarm) or email [hauxleyfarm@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:hauxleyfarm@yahoo.co.uk)

They have also set up an online survey to get an idea of demand and what

service customers would like. You can find the survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/JGG3LF3>

*Anna Williams*

## War Memorial clock repairs needed due to excessive damp



Above: repairing the clock (pic from 2013)

The war memorial clock has been a subject of discussion recently as its timing has been out.

Engineers have discovered that the clock is suffering from excessive damp which may have been caused by objects on the roof of the memorial building blocking the drainage system.

Amble Town Council undertook a condition survey on the memorial clock, so a grant application could be submitted to the War Memorials Trust for repairs based on the findings.

Council members acknowledged the importance of the War Memorial and preserving it and wanted to have

repairs carried out as soon as possible, but agreed to be guided by the correct methods due to the listed status of the memorial.

An engineer recently carried out a planned routine annual servicing of the clock and his investigations revealed that due to excessive damp, parts of the clock and auto-wind units had partially seized up.

He carried out a partial cleaning operation which left the clock working, but he expressed a lack of confidence that this will continue.

In his opinion, the auto-wind units need to be taken into the workshop for dismantling and cleaning and when re-fitting them the mechanism itself should be dismantled and cleaned to completely remove the impact of the damp.

### Leaking roof

The fitting of an auto regulating unit is currently "on hold" due to the leaking roof.

A leading engineer was asked to carry out a full and

thorough survey of the clock and associated equipment when he was in the area in March, so that a more detailed report can be put together which may well form part of the general refurbishment.

The conservation accredited engineer came out to look at the War Memorial and the internal structure.

The damage has been caused by rain water collecting on the roof and saturating it. The engineer discovered that the reason it did not drain away was as a result of five footballs and a tennis ball which were on the roof and blocking the drainage system.

The town council is awaiting reports on the exact damage this has caused. Whatever repairs need to be carried out, the council would remind all that the town square and memorial gardens is not an appropriate location for ball games.

Repairs will hopefully be carried out as soon as possible and we will all be on time.

## Should we stay or should we go? Two views on the forthcoming referendum

Have you made up your mind on whether it will be better to remain in the EU, or leave it altogether? In the run-up to the referendum on 23 June, we asked Leave campaigner Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP, and Remain supporter Julie Pörksen, Parliamentary spokesperson for the Liberal Democrats to share their views.

### Why we should vote to leave the EU



negotiations on North Sea quotas and would take back control of fisheries management.

Funding for vital services, whether it be farming or regional development funds, will continue regardless – it is better for Britain if that funding comes from our Government, and is spent in a way that is accountable to the British people.

By voting to leave we would take back control and set up systems that work for our public services and our people.

Without the constraints of EU red tape and without having to funnel huge sums of money through Brussels, we will have the capacity and resources to ensure our farmers are better supported, work up more favourable trade deals, and decide our own migration policy which would enable us to welcome the brightest and best from Europe and the wider world.

The safest option for our future is to vote to leave the EU's political institutions, and to move forwards without their bureaucracy holding us back.

So many of our laws are decided in Brussels without any accountability to the British people.

We can take back control of our

future if we vote to leave the EU. A future beyond the limitations of the EU's political systems hold so much promise for a strong, outward-facing nation such as ours, and I look forward to campaigning for it in the weeks ahead.

Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP

On 23rd June we will be asked to make a once-in-a-generation choice about the future of our relationship with the EU.

I will be voting for us to leave, so that we can forge new links with the wider world, and take back control of our laws, our immigration policy and our spending from the EU political project which continues to flounder.

Instead of sending £350million per week to the EU, and then reacting with gratitude when it sends some of it back (with strict conditions attached), we can spend that money on farmers, universities, science, technology and public services, via decisions made by UK politicians who can be held to account.

In the case of farmers, the Conservative Government has already pledged that if we vote to leave the EU, UK farmers will receive at least the same level of funding they presently receive, via a system designed for their needs, not their French counterparts.

The UK would regain its seat at the table for crucial



### Why we should vote to remain in the EU

Prosperity in Britain depends on businesses being able to access markets for products and inputs, capital, and human resources. Being a member of the European Union guarantees that access. Withdrawing from the European Union provides no guarantees on export markets – lengthy trade deals must be negotiated with trading blocs and exports may face tariffs, imports may be so cheap to make businesses unprofitable in some sectors.

In the North East much of our economic investment comes via the EU – with their more regional approach than Westminster, we also benefit by the investment the EU puts into agriculture and rural businesses and communities. Yes this is 'our' (British) money coming via the EU, but I very much doubt any Westminster Government would invest in the North East or rural areas to such a degree – risking our prosperity.

There is a tremendous knock-on effect on towns like Amble from being in a prosperous North East. Thanks to the hard work of many people, and the confidence to invest in new businesses, Amble is now a key destination for day-trippers – who want to spend money rather than picnic on the beach. Amble cannot risk a downturn in the spending power of its North East visitors.

European institutions are not perfect, evolving over time to try and respond to the challenges faced by our continent. Change can be slow too, yet appropriate as the long-term nature of some sectors from farming and



fishing to energy supply and climate change means quick fixes favoured by Westminster Governments can be about immediate image not future impact. The biggest challenges we face – climate change, security, financial crises, cyber-crime – can only be countered by working in partnership with other countries. For these threats, within a modern, globalised world, Britain is not an island.

A future of uncertainty, being dependent on the whim of changing Westminster governments for our basic human, working, animal and environmental rights is not healthy for people, businesses, animals or nature.

The future should be full of hope and opportunity – being able to live, work, study and go on holiday across Europe easily, and with full

rights, is a great opportunity for the next generation that we should welcome as members of the European Union.

Maximising our future prosperity and opportunity can only be achieved by remaining in the EU.

Julie Pörksen,  
Liberal Democrat Parliamentary  
Spokesperson





## Second skiff takes to the waves

A new skiff, Coquet Venture, has been built by volunteers in Amble, as a sister ship for the Coquet Spirit.

Bits of history have been incorporated into the build: wood was recycled from a number of sources, including seats and floorboards made from 145 year old pitch pine, church pews donated from St Cuthbert's Parish Church, strips of teak from school science benches, Rob Angus's old fireplace and strips of mahogany from Mrs. Matthews' old kitchen table, made from salvaged timber during the war.

The oars were donated by Vic Brown of Coquet Shorebase Trust and are estimated to be about 60 years old. They were originally from the admiralty whaler "Collingwood" which was used by the shorebase to teach seamanship when it was part of the school curriculum. Rob Angus can remember rowing with these oars in the early 80s.

For the launch ceremony, local piper Bev Palin led the skiff, oarsmen, members of the community and fellow Northumberland skiff

rowers to the Little Shore.

There has always been superstition around setting out to sea and no chances were taken.

A naming ceremony was performed by the Rev Diane Westmorland of St Cuthbert's and Rev Lynda Coulthard of Trinity Methodist who blessed the boat with water from the Sea of Galilee and then with Alnwick Rum anointing the boat, then offering a drop to the sea and then a drop for Diane and Lynda followed by the launch itself.

Once in the water when the two skiffs met on the sea for the very first time, a Celtic blessing was exchanged by the crews.

Coquet Venture carried a Njord, Lord of the ships, and other good luck charms including driftwood from the Little Shore inscribed with fishbones for a safe return home.

Coquet Venture is Amble Coastal Rowing

Club's second St Ayles skiff. It is 22ft in length, guided by the coxswain and powered by 4 rowers. There are over 150 of these skiffs around the coast of Britain built by community clubs such as ours.

Amble's club has been running since 2013 and their first skiff Coquet Spirit was launched in 2014. They currently have around 35 members.

With Coquet Venture launched there is now room in the shed for Coquet Spirit to be brought in for a coat of paint and some TLC ready for the new season ahead.

There are more boatbuilding projects in the pipeline and these will be revealed in due course.

*Rob Angus, Amble Coastal Rowing Club*

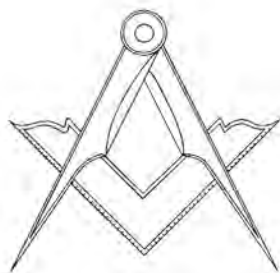


Coquet Venture was blessed by Rev Westmoreland and Rev Coulthard



Coquet Venture is Amble's second hand-built skiff

### LORD MARKWORTH LODGE 1879 GLOSTER TERRACE AMBLE



Meetings held on the second  
Wednesday of every month

Masons visiting the area very  
welcome

Enquiries for membership from  
interested persons also welcome  
subject to further enquiries  
and interview.

#### TO BE ONE JUST ASK ONE

*Interested?*

Contact; Bob Catchpole: [robert.r.j.catchpole@btinternet.com](mailto:robert.r.j.catchpole@btinternet.com)

The Lodge premises are also available for  
Private Hire; Wedding Receptions, Christenings,  
Birthdays or any other Special Occasion.

Function room suitable for up to 100 guests.

Separate Lounge/Bar suitable for smaller parties  
(up to 25 guests)

Fully licensed bar and varied menus at competitive  
prices. Quotations available on request at time of  
booking.

Further information contact our Events Co-ordinator  
Mr.G Gordon; Tel No: 07980412603

*Or find us on Facebook at Amble Masonic Hall*

### Sullivan Associates

CHARTERED BUILDING SURVEYORS

Offering professional property advice throughout Northumberland

Building Surveys, Defects Inspections  
Plans drawn for extension and new build  
Planning Applications, Building Regulations Approval  
Disabled Access Advice, Party Wall and Boundary Matters  
Design and Project Management

Tel: 01665 513010

Email: [info@sullivan-associates.co.uk](mailto:info@sullivan-associates.co.uk)

Fourways 2 6 Dilston Terrace Amble Northumberland NE65 0DT

## STYLES by Helena

New Unisex Hair Salon  
15, Woodbine Street, Amble

Tel 01665 798081

# WHAT YOU SAY...

## Charity fundraising

A charity event was held at Bertram's in Warkworth in March to raise money for Marie Curie Cancer Care in memory of Ray Holmes.

A cheque for £2,700 was presented at the event. This money was raised over ten months and then another £525 was raised on the night from book sales, donations and a splendid raffle. Huge thanks were expressed to all the supporters; Bertram's for their generous hospitality, Peter Regan who was dressed as a characterful and masterly hermit, Phil Stuckey for his great music, Darryn Wade for amazing photographs and Darren Holmes whose daffodil head gear was an unforgettable highlight.

I wrote the Hermit's Tale in memory of my brother. The book and two other local products, the Warkworth Guide and the Village Colour in Scroll are currently on sale at the village store, the Greenhouse and Cabosse in Warkworth.

They are also available on line from [northern-heritage.co.uk](http://northern-heritage.co.uk)  
*Beryl Homes, Warkworth*

## Poem for Robson Green

In the land of Northumberland  
High up on the Cheviot Hills  
Looking down to the coast  
Every Northumbrian loves to boast  
Auction marts an ancient way of land  
Piped music all around  
With terriers led by rope, strange thing that, us northern folk  
Ospreys soaring around looking down on this wonderful land  
The salmon leap to catch the mayfly in the evening setting sun  
Where it lies down behind the Cheviot Hills  
In the morning the sun will rise  
To reveal our Northumbrian coast  
Beaches you just love to roam  
Where the Anglo Saxons had their home -  
Doing the same as us  
Rock pooling just for fun  
Tall ships, fishing boats and pleasure crafts  
Play in the sea next to you and me  
Artists capture time capsules of light and dark  
The film crew has not a wide enough lens  
To show this wonderful land  
He can only glimpse and tease you  
As every mile has its canny fork  
What's this combine asleep in the field  
Beer brewed in that shed  
Glass fused to give coloured light  
Why I can go on all night  
But my blacksmiths shop beckons me



Stephen Lunn with Robson Green  
Picture by ITV

All black and dirty  
Where no computer can go  
Delicate artwork blossoms and grows  
Mermaids, fish, trees and birds  
Seaweed entwined wrapped around rope  
All of these things forged hot from the fire  
Cooled down for Northumberland to admire.

*By Stephen Lunn - written for Robson Green and "Further Tales of Northumberland" March 2016*

## Can you remember ?

Can you remember when Amble UDC and Joint Burial Board had a very good workforce. Shortly after Dad began working for the Burial Board in 1939 he was called up for the army, on his return he became cemetery superintendent working with Bill Grey and Joe Nicholson, digging the graves, cutting the grass, keeping the footpaths tidy, clearing some of the autumn leaves in the cemetery and West Avenue, also keeping the east cemetery tidy.

In 1945, he transferred to the council as foreman overseer for the workforce of the refuse dept., street sweeping, grass cutting, the street lighting, the water system, clearing street drains and the town clock maintenance.

The grassed areas were Bay View Promenade, Hall Bank Well, War Memorial Garden and the Caravan site. The team also helped Mr Henderson, the welfare caretaker, cutting the grass for the Amble Feast handicap race day. I believe Tommy Lawton, a Newcastle footballer won one year. There was a good team of council workmen, the refuse collectors were Tommy Dixon, Albert Mossman, Ernie Bocking, Bill Lillico, George Hindhaugh, and Harold Braithwaite; there were still earth closets at this time. Other workers were Georgie Wood, Bill Grey, Tommy Donachie, Jack O' Keefe, Ronnie Scott, Bert Isham, George Aitman and Mr. Clark who worked on street sweeping, checking street lighting, providing cover on all sections of the council work areas.

My father had to visit Hazon/Morwick reservoirs on a regular basis to check the Amble water system established in 1896-97. He was sometimes called out at night when it was high tide as some houses flooded at the harbour area, the tidal backwash at the sewer exit at the little shore caused the flooding. There was very little he could do (he was no King Canute) Father wrote the enclosed poem which he sent to Mr Rodgett, surveyor and overseer for the council.

Dad retired in 1972 after about 27 years of service with A.U.D.C/Burial Board. On the day before his retirement, he pruned the roses that he had bought and planted at the top of the Wynd, memorial garden and the A.U.D.C caravan park.

I apologise if I have forgotten any of the workers names. Could some of the funding generated by the development centre be used by the A.U.D.C to employ some men to carry out some of tasks in Amble.

### A new Broom

A poem written by Dad

Just go inside and say  
I've come to buy a broom

My days are past and over  
I'm sorry I cannot do any more  
So will you please buy another  
To sweep the dirty road-floor

This is from Jack & George  
With us you must agree  
For in your pocket you have to search  
It's a new broom we want you see

When next you go Newcastle  
way

And to the stores you come

*Joan Shepherd, Bisley Rd, Amble*

## Weather from the Met Office

Please help to get 100,000 hits for a country wide petition. Join others supporting a petition to the BBC to keep its weather contract with the Met Office. We have to keep the weather supplied from within the United Kingdom.

Go to website [www.petition.co.uk](http://www.petition.co.uk); enter section environment; sign petition weather contract.

If you do not have internet access, please ask family or friends.

*E. E. Sharpe, via email*

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 may be edited. Contact details on page2.



# Mosaic placed at Harbour Village

A beautiful mosaic by artist Julie Smith and blacksmith Stephen Lunn has been placed on the Northumberland Seafood Centre, in honour of the man who envisioned the first design for the Harbour Village.

The mosaic, entitled 'An Architect's Dream' was commissioned by Judith Bulmer, whose late husband Ian Clarke was the original architect on the Amble Harbour Village project.

Ian was a big fan of Amble. As an architect with Newcastle firm Jane Darbyshire and David Kendall Limited, he was involved in the Town Square project, and he drew up initial designs for the Harbour Village. On a personal level, he and Judith liked the Friendliest Port so much, that they bought a house here.

After Ian's sudden death in late August 2015, Judith had the idea of commissioning a piece of outdoor art in his memory.

"We were great collectors of all sorts of art and craft and Ian was intending to devote his retirement to stone carving," said Judith. "The council agreed to the proposal and I asked two local artists if they were willing to be involved. Stephen Lunn (Anvilman) is a well known blacksmith from Red Row and Julie Smith is a mosaic artist who lives and works in Amble and whose work Ian and I have admired for several years. We have some amazing examples of Julie's work in our house and garden at Amble."



Ian's name appears in the mosaic along with the letter J for Judith. Julie Smith and Stephen Lunn's names are also depicted.

Judith initially imagined a small mosaic, but Julie and Stephen worked together to explore ideas of design and scale. Judith

explained how ideas for the theme came about.

"Ian was a great lover of seafood and, married to a vegetarian, he took every opportunity to eat seafood whenever possible; we always said that if there were a fish desert he would have gone for it. This and the location led to a theme related to seafood and the sea."

Julie explained her thoughts during the making of the mosaic.

"It came into my mind immediately because of the shape of the building. I wanted to create something using his initial 'i' and put it on the horizontal to go with the curve of the roof. I wanted to keep the pattern and images as natural as I could, and highlight with ceramic tiles, sea glass, shells, pebbles, coal and mirror."

"My work is influenced by aboriginal patterns and I try to put in as many ideas as I can for what it's based around. I interpret my work through music, and I knew Ian liked Kate Bush. I thought 'An Architect's Dream' was perfect because the Harbour Village was a dream of his."

Award winning blacksmith Stephen Lunn and his daughter Ashlee fabricated a stainless steel frame and created sections and metal artefacts; including seaweed and the lettering. He also took charge of fixing the mosaic to the Seafood Centre's wall, on a wet and windy day in April. Judith and Julie watched nervously as it was lifted into position.

"Stephen is a true artist. He's a friend and he's very talented. He let me work in his workshop, it was the first time I've worked outside my workplace, and he and Ashlee made me feel part of the family. His input was really helpful. He got the scale perfectly. I'd love to work with him again," said Julie.



l-r: Julie Smith and Judith Bulmer with the mosaic at the Seafood Centre

"This is the biggest outdoor project I've ever done myself. I hope when people see it, it will stay in their minds and lift their spirits. I hope they'll take something away that reflects the atmosphere here; the people, the food, the easy way of life."

Judith was keen to acknowledge the



Ashlee Lunn and her award-winning dad Stephen

tremendous support she has had from colleagues, friends and family.

"It is 10 years since Ian and I came to Amble," she said. "Since Ian died, friends in Amble and Warkworth have shown me so much love and support, influencing my decision to make this my home. I hope that everyone will enjoy the mosaic and that those of us who knew and loved Ian will smile at the crabs and kippers, remembering his love of art and craft and all things fishy."

*Anna Williams*

## Lionheart Cleaning

Commercial & Domestic Cleaning Services

### Your One Stop Cleaning Service Provider

Our ever expanding teams of fully trained and insured operatives are insured and able to carry out all of the following aspects of Domestic and Commercial cleaning for you, or your business.

Carpets and upholstery	Conservatory	Pressure washing
Windows	Roofs	End of Tenancy
Gutters/Fascias	Commercial	Post Build
	Kitchens	General

01665 713448 [www.lionheartcleaning.co.uk](http://www.lionheartcleaning.co.uk)

## "All aboard" Puffin Cruises



## Reiki Practitioner

Petra Jobson



for relaxation & stress reduction

Mobile No. 07449034693  
[PetraJobson@myreikihealing.co.uk](mailto:PetraJobson@myreikihealing.co.uk)  
[www.reikihealing.co.uk](http://www.reikihealing.co.uk)

Suitable for all ages, young, and old  
All welcome

## Rotary Club helps Brambles

President of the Rotary Club of Amble and Warkworth, Dave Shoemaker, is pictured presenting a cheque for £300 to Brambles Childcare Centre in Amble.

Dave told *The Ambler*: "I was most impressed with the facilities provided by this excellent not-for-profit community organisation which provides a much needed services for children in our community. Members of Rotary had no hesitation in agreeing to this donation from the proceeds of our annual Christmas collection."



Pictured (L to R) : Ailsa Dellbridge (Admin Staff), Rotarian Dave Shoemaker, Mum Stephanie Smith and her son Dexter (Bramble Berries Friday afternoon drop in for parents and babies up to 18 months), Nicky Gemmell (Early Years Practitioner), Adele Younger (Early Years Professional), Pauline Donoghue (Centre Manager). In the front are 5 year-old Bonnie Durham and 6 year-old Lucy Raine.

## Beach safety this summer

Northumberland County Council is encouraging people to take care when enjoying the county's coast this summer.

With the popularity of beach parties during the warmer months, the council is providing some early advice by urging beach-goers to act responsibly and take some precautions before taking the plunge.

Coastal residents raised a number of concerns with the council last year about beachgoers who were putting

themselves or others at risk – either from dropping litter, careless use of disposal barbecues or going into the water after drinking alcohol.

Councillor Liz Simpson, Chair of Safer Northumberland, said: "We want people to enjoy themselves and make the most of our spectacular county's beaches - but we want them to do it safely.

"That's why it is important that beach-goers, in particular those having beach parties, act responsibly

to ensure the safety and the maintenance of our beautiful unspoilt coastline."

Advice includes staying clear of the water when under the influence of alcohol, and ensuring that children are always accompanied by an adult when near the water.

All litter should be taken home, keeping beaches clean and safe from dangers such as broken glass. Those using disposable BBQs should be extra vigilant to avoid the risk of fire when the dune grass is dry.

## Will you volunteer as a befriender?

The Alzheimer befriending service supports people with dementia and you can make a difference to someone in your community in the Amble and Warkworth area.

Become a gardening buddy, a running chum, a bake mate or simply pop round for a cup of tea. Befrienders may visit at home, out and about or at a group. Everyone needs a companion.

Volunteer befrienders offer social contact to people with dementia or carers of people with dementia.

They provide companionship either in the home or in the local community and help the person to take part in appropriate social and/or recreational activities.

Your involvement aims to help people to feel less

isolated and feel part of an enjoyable social relationship. Full training will be given.

To find out more about becoming a volunteer befriender in Northumberland, contact the Volunteering Officer at Alzheimer's Society on 01670 813255 or you can email them at [volnorthumberland@alzheimers.org.uk](mailto:volnorthumberland@alzheimers.org.uk)

## Age of insecurity

A number of people of my generation have told me that they often feel lonely.

There isn't an easy answer to that problem. A smile and a word with somebody on the street can make a world of difference.

There are a lot of other problems in Zero Hours Britain. We're told that by 2030 only one in ten young people will be able to buy their own home.

Of course a high proportion of our fellow Europeans rent houses and flats, partly for ease of movement for work. The EU referendum is causing anxiety among expats. I've just received a letter from a friend in Spain who is concerned about how Brexit could affect her. Changing 'descriptors' (a word or expression used to describe or identify something. Ed.) may seem to be no big deal to those of us who don't receive health-related benefits, but an increasingly harsh regime is causing hardship for lots of people with special needs.

The refugee crisis is likely to cause all sorts of trouble for both refugees and potential hosts. How do you distinguish between asylum seekers and economic migrants?

It's all so confusing. I remember reading Wordsworth's Ode on the Pleasure Arising from Vicissitude (that's the ups and downs of life to you and me!) The fact is that we have no choice about our need to ride the bumps in the road through life.

So where are the green shoots? As I've said so often in the past, we need to look at ourselves and the things we do with others, to be prepared to reach out a hand to somebody else.

One of our greatest problems is seeing anybody who looks or sounds different from others. That's where conflicts start, with our prejudices. We all have prejudices, me as much as anybody. But somehow we all need to rub along together.

My great-granddaughter is two this month. In 80 years' time, when she's my age, world population at the rate of growth prevailing in my lifetime could be 25 billion. (That's 25,000,000,000)

That's a whole lot of people and we will have to find answers we haven't thought of yet.

Meanwhile we carry on here in Amble with our great climate and high life expectancy. We must be doing something right!

Harry McQuillen





## A walk around Alnwick with Harry McQuillen

This outing covers about three miles and the walking time is about one hour, but don't forget to allow time to enjoy the views. Leave Alnwick bus station (1) opposite 'Twenty One'.

Turn right past Pottergate Tower (2) and walk down to Bailiffgate you will see St. Michael's Church (3) in front of you. Turn right along Bailiffgate and see Alnwick Castle (4) ahead.

Turn left down the Peth and cross the Lion Bridge, (5) turn right through the gate into the Pastures. (6) Take a photo, or just enjoy the view.

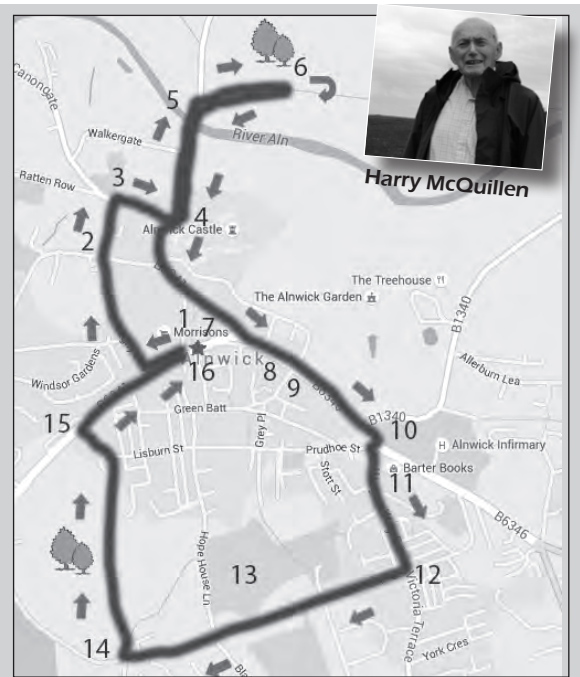
Go back up the Peth, past the castle and walk along part of Narrowgate leading to the Market Place (7) to see the Northumberland Hall, (very well scaffolded at present) the Town Hall, that's the building in the corner with the stone steps, and the Market Cross.

Go back onto Narrowgate and turn right long Bondgate Within. You will see the Bondgate Tower (8) and the Playhouse (9) keep going to the corner and you will come to Barter Books (11) on the right, with a view of the Tenantry Column (10) on the grassy hill.

Turn right up Wagonway Road and you will come to the Post Office (12) on the corner on the right. Turn right up Swansfield Park Road looking through the railings at the Duke's School (13) a great building.

Keep walking straight across the corner and up the sloping part of Swansfield Park Road. You'll see the entrance to the track along the Summer Seats (14) with the best view of Alnwick and the sea.

Carry on until you meet Clayport Bank (15) then turn right back to the Bus Station.



## New Council HQ gets planning go-ahead

Plans for a smaller, more cost-effective County headquarters have been granted planning permission, with only one objection lodged by the public.

According to a council press release, the headquarters in Ashington will save the authority £630,000 a year and

almost £16m over the next 25 years – compared to staying at its current site.

Construction could start as early as October 2016, with staff moving in by end of 2018.

The overall development will include office space, a customer service centre next to the main entrance, conference facilities,

publicly accessible meeting rooms and a cafe and rest room that can accommodate public access.

Council Leader Grant Davey said: "This is a welcome next step in our market towns initiative to regenerate and improve Northumberland's towns. The fact that planners

received just one objection from the public shows the proposals have been well received by residents from the town and the wider area."

This is part of the council's strategy to safeguard frontline services while it needs to save £58 million from its budget over the next four years.

## Don't be duped on your doorstep

The local community is urged to be on guard against bogus callers and rogue traders.

At this time of year doorstep scammers can target individuals, particularly vulnerable people, with offers such as gardening work and property maintenance.

Councillor Dave Ledger, Northumberland County Council Deputy Leader said: "Some door step callers will be genuine honest traders, but a number of them may be unscrupulous rogue traders.

Once a rogue trader has found a victim who will pay them, they will form a habit of calling at the same house regularly, suggesting work to be done on the property, knowing that they have extracted money from them before and believing they will probably be able to do so again.

The public are being asked to help the council in safeguarding the wider community by keeping an eye on any of their vulnerable neighbours, who may be targeted by these rogue traders, and reporting any suspicious

door step trading activity.

David Sayer, Business Compliance and Public Safety Unit Manager said: "If consumers do engage with doorstep traders, they should always get a full written quotation with the trader's full name and postal address.

If you're unsure about a doorstep trader call 03454 04 05 06 and discuss the matter with the Citizens Advice Consumer Service, before handing over any money.

Never let a trader take you to the bank or a cash point to withdraw money.

If you ever feel threatened in any way by a trader calling at your door, you should call the police immediately on 999.

If you feel that you need work carrying out at your house you should use a reliable local trader who is registered as part of the Northumberland and Tyneside Registered Trader Scheme.

Details of the scheme can be found at [www.traderregister.org.uk](http://www.traderregister.org.uk)

## Julie Hewitt

Foot Health Practitioner  
Beauty & Holistic Therapist

- ✓Nail trimming and thinning ✓Corn removal
- ✓Callus reduction ✓Fungal nail treatment
- ✓In-growing toe nails ✓Diabetic foot care

- ✓Indian Head massage ✓Reflexology
- ✓Facials ✓Manicures ✓Pedicures
- ✓Eye lash/brow tinting ✓Waxing

Home visits available for foot health care

For an appointment contact  
**Julie Hewitt (Dip CFHP, MPS Pract)**  
30 West Acres, Alnwick NE66 2QA  
Tel: 01665 602634 Mob: 07859 907961



## Around the world

In March the Year 2 Puffins Class at Amble Links school welcomed Jill Weatherburn from Quorn Foods to join them for a day of cookery at the end of their 'Around The World Topic'.

Jill worked with all of the children to prepare and cook a range of dishes from around the world including tacos from Mexico (with homemade guacamole), Bunny Chow from Africa, Thai green curry and Spanish paella.

The food that was produced smelled and tasted absolutely delicious.

We were really impressed with the children who tasted (and mostly enjoyed) a range of foods that they have never tried before. We look forward to welcoming Jill back again soon!

*Paul Heeley, Amble Links School*



## What election?

Some people have told us they are confused by tales of local government elections. There is no council election here.

We can elect our Police Commissioner (who speaks to the police on our behalf) on May 5th; and we get the chance to say if we want to leave, or remain in the European Union, on June 23rd.

Listening to reasons for and against being in the EU can be confusing, but reading page 4 of this issue might help.

Candidates for police commissioner have been nominated by political parties, which can be helpful if you think that one party expresses your ideas. Otherwise we will probably have received leaflets through the post.

*Norma Hinson*

## New electronic system provides easier access to County Council

'Total Mobile' a new electronic system is being rolled out by the county council. It is the pre-cursor to the physical move by the council back into market towns. It will enable the council to develop drop-in centres in its market towns where the public can meet staff, and workers can drop in and download facilities to keep vital information updated daily.

Grant Davey, Leader of Northumberland County Council said: "Despite the fact we are England's sparsest council we've had our sparsity funding removed by government along with an 82% cut in our revenue grant.

"That's money to safeguard jobs and services being slashed over the next four years along with the rural services grant running out over the next two years.

'Total Mobile' will enable more staff to

work locally and make better use of their time by saving long journeys between offices, they will simply drop in to their 'local office' and download their work.

There will also be a video conferencing system allowing regular contact and quicker decision making between the workforce and managers.

Across the council Google is being rolled-out which means staff can access work in different locations and from devices like phones and tablets.

Already teams ranging from social services through to Northumberland Fire and Rescue Service are using the new technology to allow them to work more efficiently away from the office.

Councillor Davey added: "This new system will allow local people to interact

with the council at locations near to them, rather than all staff working out of a centralised hub in Morpeth.

"We are committed to servicing people's needs locally and I can't understand why anyone would want it any other way.

"Travelling to our current headquarters in Morpeth can be a difficult journey for people as it is some distance from the town centre.

"What we want is for residents to be able to pop in to local offices when they're out at the shops, similar to when services were delivered by district councils.

"We're working to introduce 'Total Mobile' in all our market towns and I'd like to reassure the people of Morpeth, who seem to have been left out of this debate, that we will open a service centre for them in the town centre.

## Do you need help to stop smoking?

Northumberland Stop Smoking Service has started a brand new clinic in Amble, which is held every Wednesday from 9am-11am at Cromies Pharmacy, Percy Street and will be run by a Stop Smoking advisor.

The service, which is provided by Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, now has over 100 advisors offering support across the county.

Brenda Warner, manager of the Northumberland Stop Smoking Service, said: "We know it's not easy to quit but there's lots of free support available. Our new recruits have more than doubled our capacity to help people to quit and we're now able to offer support at new venues, including Amble."

Northumberland Stop Smoking Service provides one-to-one appointments across the county. Some out-of-hours appointments

are available for those people who find it difficult to attend during the day. They also offer specialist support to pregnant women and their partners who want to quit smoking.

Evidence shows people are four times more likely to quit for good if they have support from the NHS stop smoking service. New recruit, Sarah Eardley, urged people to get in contact to find out more about quitting smoking. She says: "We work with people to develop their own individual quit plan which can include medications and support to deal with cravings and withdrawal."

To receive information and support on stopping smoking, people can contact Northumberland Stop Smoking Services by calling 01670 813135 or visit [www.northumbria.nhs.uk/stopsmoking](http://www.northumbria.nhs.uk/stopsmoking)







Photo by Celia Fery



Photo by Celia Fery



Photo by Anna Williams



Photo by Andrew Mounsey



Photo by Andrew Mounsey

Above: Clockwise from top: The Countess meeting Harbour Village owners, sharing a laugh with Amble RNLI + fundraisers, meeting trustees + members of Coquet Storebase Trust. Unveiling the plaque at Paddlers Park. Below: The Countess and Duchess with the Culinary Institute of Northumbria.



Photo by Celia Fery



## WE LIKE TO PLAY: ANIMAL JAM

Have you ever played Animal Jam? Animal Jam is a game where you are an animal and you get to talk to friends, play games, edit your den and buy things. Everyday there is a daily bonus. There are also quests, where you have to fight phantoms, deliver letters or even find things.

Animal Jam is free and you can get it on any computer. When you play games you can earn gems (you can use gems to buy things i.e. clothes, furniture and lots more!). Some good games are: Best Dressed, The Claw (you can win plushies), Overflow and some others. The best part about Animal Jam is probably the trading because you can trade bad things for good things!

PLAY ANIMAL JAM!

By Ava



## Wattpad.com

Wattpad is a writing community in which users are able to post articles, stories, fan fiction, and poems, either through the website or the mobile app; available for all devices.

On Wattpad, you can start a story with any

title, any description and any content. If you are doing a fanfiction of, say, Percy Jackson and the Olympians or Harry Potter (or both), you would have to put a disclaimer (e.g. 'I own nothing!') or your story would be taken down.

You can put as many chapters/parts as you want. These can be as long or short as you wish

I asked some users what they thought about the website.

"Three words: best experience ever." Sarah Nicole, America, 13.

"It's great because people can write their own stories and not have to worry about using correct grammar, metaphors, similes, spelling and other things like we get told to do in school. We can just do it for the enjoyment of ourselves and others."

readingtolive512  
I can guarantee you will love Wattpad. By George-Anne Carnegie

## SHOULD PLAYING TAG BE BANNED?

In some schools in America tag has been banned because of dangerousness. Other games such as dodgeball and bulldog have also been banned. Here in Britain some people have said that playing rugby in schools should be banned.

I've been talking to Emma-Jane, George-Anne, Hope, Bethany, LilyT and Lily W about whether they think contact sports and tag should be banned we talked about whether hockey, rugby and tennis should also be banned because they can also be dangerous for young people.

Emma-Jane says, "Yes, all contact sports should be banned."

George-Anne says, "I think whoever banned it is silly. If you are going to ban tag because it is dangerous, you might as well ban everything that is even possibly dangerous. You would have to ban life.

If all contact sports were banned most boys would sit in a corner wondering what to do."

Hope says, "You shouldn't ban tennis or trampolining because I like them."

Lily T says, "If people want to play them they can take their chances."

Lily W says, "Football should be banned because my grandma's window was broken."

Bethany says, "Yes, too many people are getting hurt."

I am not sure because if you banned everything dangerous there would be no earth.

What do you think?  
By Ava



## BINKY AND THE PUFFIN ADVENTURE

Binky was bored. It was the last half-term holiday before the summer and it seemed to be taking forever. After a while, he settled on going for a walk on the beach.

Binky walked along the sand and looked around for something to do. Eventually, he saw an interesting looking boat sitting on the shore and went over to it. For fun, Binky climbed aboard and pretended he was sailing it. Closing his eyes, he could almost feel the waves washing him about and the cool sea spray on his face. When Binky looked up again he found he was in the sea!

How had he gotten there?

In all directions he could only see sea; there was no land on the horizon. Binky started to panic, what was he going to do? The water looked far too deep for swimming and the boat had no paddles. Plus the sky had started to darken ominously- it looked like they were in for a summer storm!

As the boat started to tip and the waves grew and grew, Binky became very sea sick. He began to see things, like a black and white bird with a multi coloured beak flapping towards him. No- there really was a bird. A puffin in fact, and it looked just like the one Binky had helped about a year back!

"Hello!" called the puffin, "Need a little help?"

In a matter of seconds, the little puffling had towed Binky and his boat to shore. When there, Binky hugged and thanked his old friend. Now that the puffin was with others of his kind he had a name- Mobo!

As Binky said goodbye and walked home, he smiled to himself. It looked like summer had become more exciting after all.  
By Lily



## HIGH SHERIFF AWARDS

On the 24th of March Lily T and I represented Artograffi at a packed ceremony to pick up an award certificate from the High Sheriff of Northumberland. Three clubs from Amble got awards along with many, many other people from the county.

Young people's groups were given money from the High Sheriff of Northumberland to carry on with their great work.

The three Amble groups were Artograffi, Amble Youth Project and Tiny Woods Academy

First there was a dance group named 'Bad Apples' and they were really good. We had to wait until our names were called, then we went on the stage to get our certificate.

We shook hands with the High Sheriff who was called Lucy, and Si King, one of the Hairy Bikers.

At the end there was FOOD. Then at the very end there was sword dancing and a pipe band.

By Hope.

## Check out our awesome videos

Check out our awesome videos on the Official Artograffi Facebook Page and YouTube channel. If you are worried about SATs check out our SATs video (see picture, right) and, if you just want a laugh, check out our 'Artograffi Sweetie Testing Video'.

We also made a video about The James Cook yacht which takes young people out on adventures.

Youtube Channel name: AnnaAtTheAmler1

Facebook page: Facebook.com/Artograffi By Emma-Jane Gregory



## SUPER SUMMER STUFF TO DO!

Getting bored as it comes to the start of the summer? Nothing to do except annoy your family? Well look no further for super stuff to do! We have plenty of ideas to keep you occupied.

- Set up an adventure trail around your house or garden, siblings and friends can go around it to find the treasure!
- Set up a shop in your house selling stuff you found, made or don't want anymore. Sell it just for pennies- perhaps you could make an art gallery or a cuddly toy pet shop.
- Set up a snail race on some flat ground; draw a course with chalk then put leaves at the end as a prize!
- Give your friend or sibling a makeover! Add make up and give them a great new look, you could even organise a spa!
- Make a newspaper about your family/life. Put in loads of cool details about what's going on in your life and draw pictures too!

By Lily

## Why we should not feed bread to ducks

Ducks have been feeding on not only bread, but also things that have fallen in the water. Experts have said that the bread is bad for them.

People are being asked to stop feeding ducks bread. Although we love feeding them we have to stop, otherwise they will be overweight and may sink to the bottom of the ocean or rivers. And we don't want that to happen, do we?

We asked Paul Morrison RSPB Coquet Island Warden if he agreed. He told us:

"This is absolutely true for sea ducks like

eiders. Eiders' natural food is shellfish, especially muscles. Eiders are dependent upon this food type for the normal

development of feather structure and wings. Feeding sea ducks bread results in these birds having reduced egg development and a condition known as 'aeroplane wing' where the wings develop incorrectly."

Paul said he approached the baker at the Harbour Village and asked them to stop selling



bags of stale bread as duck food, which they kindly withdrew, for these reasons.

Peter Birch, from the Canal and River Trust, said, "We're really pleased with the public response to our campaign so far and the way people are changing their duck feeding habits. However there's still work to be done and still too much bread is being dumped in the waterways.

"It only takes a few simple changes such as swapping bread for healthy food that is closer to a duck's natural diet - like oats, corn or peas."

Mr Birch also said that people should try not to all go to the same duck-feeding spots, and try to not overfeed the ducks with too much food.

By Emma-Jane

## FATHER'S DAY

Father's Day is on the 19th of June. In 1910 the first Father's Day was celebrated

The idea of celebrating fathers was originally introduced in the United States. Father's day celebrates fatherhood, parental bonds and the influence of fathers in society.

I asked some of Artograffi for some ideas for Father's Day presents, or how to spoil him. Here's what they said:

- You could give your dad:
- A bike related item,
  - A tool of some sort,
  - A bottle of beer,
  - A sport related item,
  - Chocolate,
  - Clothing,

- A comic book,
  - Breakfast in bed,
  - A card,
  - Relaxation time,
  - Food!!!!!!!
  - And other things he'll like!
- By Ava



**We don't just do prescriptions.....**  
*here are some of the NHS funded services  
 we offer at our pharmacy which are free  
 to our patients:*

- **Stop Smoking Clinic**
- **Emergency Contraception**
- **Minor Ailments Advice  
 (Pharmacy First)**
- **Medicines Use Reviews**
- **New Medicine Service**
- **Medicines Waste Disposal**

**And above all..... free healthcare  
 advice, with no appointment needed**

*Call and speak to a member of our  
 pharmacy team for advice regarding your  
 medication and health.*

**158 Percy St, Amble 01665 710 896**

## cottages in

**NORTHUMBERLAND**



**Looking to earn extra income from your holiday cottage?**

Due to an increase in demand, we are looking for properties in your area that we can market on your behalf.

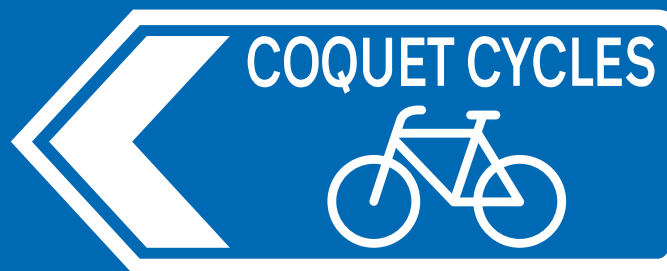
We can offer you:

- \* **Competitive commission rates**
- \* **Full management service**
- \* **Professional photography**
- \* **24/7 booking service**

For a friendly chat call us on: **0191 231 3020**

or email: [enquiries@cottagesinnorthumberland.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cottagesinnorthumberland.co.uk)

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



- **MOBILE CYCLE REPAIRS** • **CYCLE HIRE**
- **CYCLE SALES** • **BREAKDOWN RECOVERY**

**07599 350 000** [www.coquetcycles.co.uk](http://www.coquetcycles.co.uk)



*together...*

*a m b l e d e n t a l p r a c t i c e*

*we can make you smile*



Over the last year we have been very busy here at the practice launching our own dental plan

### **"The Healthy Smile Plan"**

Only **£19.50** per month to keep your mouth healthy.

- Ⓢ No upfront costs
- Ⓢ No surprises
- Ⓢ Hassle free healthy dentistry
- Ⓢ Early and late night appointments available
- Ⓢ Covers all the care you need to keep your mouth healthy

To find out more about our Healthy Smile Plan

Tel: **01665 710678** to make a free no obligation appointment.

## Rev Diane Westmoreland bids farewell to Amble



After eight years as vicar of St Cuthbert's Church, Rev Diane Westmoreland is moving on to a new Parish.

Rev Diane as she was affectionately known by hundreds of local schoolchildren, is taking up a new post in Boroughbridge, North Yorkshire.

Originally from Tadcaster, Diane was ordained in 1998. Before moving to Amble in 2008, she and her husband lived in York, and found the move to the Friendliest Port a refreshing change.

"It was so different to walk into a local shop and be greeted in such a friendly manner," said Diane. "I loved how people still greeted each other in the street. It was very different from

my time in York when some shopkeepers hardly looked at you when they gave you your change."

Diane's own friendly nature was reflected in her request for the schoolchildren to call her Rev Diane.

"I found a real welcome and friendship in the First Schools and Brambles. I didn't want to be known as Reverend Westmoreland by such young children. It's wonderful to walk around town and hear a young voice call out: 'Hello Rev Diane'. One or two people in the congregation still call me Vicar, but most people have always called me Diane."

Asked what she felt stood out from her time at St Cuthbert's,

Diane has no hesitation: "I think my biggest achievement in Amble has been to help the parish church understand itself as the church for the parish, serving the community.

"One thing that symbolises that is the fact that now the church is unlocked during the day. So many people have commented on this and we know people now use the church during the day. When I came here, it was locked. It took a bit of persuading.

"Amble has changed since I've lived here. People said it was rough at night and there was a lot of vandalism. I couldn't see much evidence of bad behaviour. As an incomer, I thought 'it looks pretty peaceful to me!'

The church has been unlocked for more than six years now. We have glass on the inside doors to make it look less intimidating for people to come in. I think you have to have a more trusting mindset."

Instigating change has been the hardest part of Diane's time at St Cuthbert's, but she points out that the church has changed in many ways since it was built in 1870.

"If you look at the history of St Cuthbert's, it's one of continual change since the Victorian age," she says. "There was no electric lighting or heating, there was no chancel or screen. It looked very different. The choir stalls came from the chapel of the Good Shepherd in Radcliffe, which was bombed in WW2. They were put in in 1942. I've just played my part in developing the church."

Diane has very much enjoyed her time at St Cuthbert's. She will particularly miss the sea, and walking along the beach at Hauxley.

"It's been a wonderful experience living by the sea. That has been a great blessing. It will be a wrench to leave the people, the community and the life and friends I've made in Amble."

We wish her the very best in her new ministry in North Yorkshire.

*Anna Williams*

## Miss Murdy celebrates her 100th birthday

Miss Gladys Murdy is well known among Amble residents because she has been with us for a long time, formerly living in Warkworth, working in Amble and volunteering in the local community with Cubs and Scouts.

At a party on Friday February 26 at the Summerhill Retirement Home in Alnwick she celebrated her 100th birthday with friends, family and colleagues and received her telegram from the Queen.

When asked for her secret to long life she replied, "By keeping people in order. I have spent my life doing that."

We know that to be true and we have all benefitted from her efforts. She was for many years clerk to Amble Town Council and Warkworth Parish Council, and both these institutions marked the occasion with gifts.

Amble Town Council gave her a framed picture of Prospect Place and a book, 'In memory of the fallen' which commemorates local people who served their country in the early 1900s. Warkworth Parish Council gave her a large bouquet of flowers.

Others paid their respects, Robert Arkless, said he learnt a lot from her in his early days as a fledgling councillor.

She talked of 'my council' and meant it. Tommy Hogg, whose father Robert Hogg was Miss Murdy's boss at Carse and Goodger, spoke fondly of her. He said, "She has been in our life in one way or another over the years.

"She is a true character and what she didn't know about Amble wasn't worth knowing."

*Vivienne Dalglish*



photo by Northumberland Gazette



# Local wildlife at risk from pollution and global warming

The Farne Islands are a group of islands lying off the Northumberland coast, midway between the fishing village of Seahouses and the great fortification of Bamburgh Castle.

This National Nature reserve is a protected area for over 100,000 seabirds, and hosts a huge variety of species: Guillemot, Razorbill, Puffin, Kittiwake, Shag, Cormorants and lots of other visiting birds like Gannets and Roseate terns. The Farne Islands is also home to one of the largest English colonies of grey seals (almost 4000 grey seals). Indeed, about 40% of the world population of grey seals can be found in Britain, and over 90% of British grey seals breed in Scotland.

Grey seals (*Halichoerus grypus*) feed on a wide variety of fish, taken at depths down to 70m (230 ft) or more. Sand eels (*Ammodytes* spp) are important in its diet in many localities.

Cod, whiting, flatfish and herring are also important locally. However, it is clear that the grey seal will eat whatever is available, including octopus.

The average daily food requirement is estimated to be 5kg (11lb), though the seal does not feed every day and it fasts during the breeding season.

Grey seals take less than 1% of the total stock biomass (all the fish) in the North Sea.

There is no significant competition for food between seabirds and seals around the Farne Islands, but these species can get in each other's way. It is possible that some seals can affect top soils and burrows where puffins breed, but that's not a large problem at present.

Cetacean sightings off the islands are becoming more frequent too with sightings of bottle-nose dolphins, white-beaked dolphin and even common dolphin.



Contrary to what is happening for seabirds currently, seals and dolphins in the UK are not classified as "Threatened" but sadly, there are factors that adversely affect them.

This includes pollution in many forms: the sound pollution from boats or wind farms; the ocean pollution with the

contribution of toxins, PCBs, heavy metals, and plastics and finally, discarded fishing equipment (ropes and nets).

Global warming does not appear to be a problem for grey seals so far but it can affect dolphins in the long term.

Indeed, there seems to be a temperature partition between white beaked dolphins living in water less than 13°C, and common dolphins, more frequently seen in water greater than 13°C. If the global temperature of oceans is set to keep increasing, that could be a real problem for white beaked dolphins.

The Farne Islands and surrounding seas are a internationally important wildlife reserve. It is therefore essential to ensure the longevity of marine species that live there and protect this Northumberland treasure.

*Célia Ferry*

*Célia is a Marine Biology student from La Rochelle, France. She is spending a year in Amble.*



Above: Grey Seal. Top: White beaked dolphin. Photos by Ben Burville

## Living healthily in midlife

A new campaign has been launched to help adults avoid future diseases caused by modern day life.

The campaign is called 'One You', and targets habits and behaviours - such as eating unhealthy food, drinking more alcohol than is recommended, smoking and inactivity which causes 40% of deaths in England.

'One You' aims to encourage middle aged adults to take control of their health to enjoy significant benefits. In Northumberland:

- 1 in 6 adults smoke
- 7 in 10 adults are overweight or obese
- 1 in 3 adults are not physically active

Currently 15 million Britons are living with a long-term health condition, yet studies show living healthily in middle age can double your chances of being healthy when you are 70.

The new campaign from Public Health England will help adults in Northumberland to move more, eat well, drink less and be smoke free. One You will also provide information on how people can reduce their stress levels and sleep better.

It is encouraging adults to start by taking a new online health quiz, called 'How Are You'. This innovative quiz provides personalised recommendations based on your

results and directs people to advice to help them take action where it's most needed.

Over half of 40-60 year olds taking the 'How Are You' quiz said they were likely to change their lifestyle to improve their health because of the feedback it gave them.

Professor Kevin Fenton, National Director of Public Health England said: "For the first time, Public Health England is launching a campaign that talks to adults directly about all of the things they can do to improve their health. We want everyone across the country to know that it is never too late to get your health back on track."

Search 'One You' online to find the quiz.

## Promoting Northumbrian food

A new scheme, celebrating and promoting food and drink produced entirely in Northumberland, has recently been officially launched. 'Produced in Northumberland' is a joint initiative between Northumberland County Council, Active Northumberland and Northumberland Tourism, which recognises producers and businesses that use and promote food and drink made in the county.

The economic impact of food tourism in the county is worth nearly £276m a year and it is hoped the scheme will help to add value

to the visitors' overall experience as food and drink is such an important and memorable part of their visit.

Producers will have to prove to visiting Trading Standards and Environmental Health staff that the food and drink is made in Northumberland. For butchers, checks will also be carried out on the origin of the animals from which their meat comes.

B&Bs and other hospitality businesses will have to demonstrate that a certain number of main foods being used on their menus is produced in Northumberland.

Businesses will then be able to display their official "Produced in Northumberland" certificate in their shop, restaurant or B&B, use the logo on their labels, websites and literature and they will also feature in a bespoke website.

20 businesses have signed up to the scheme and the ultimate aim is national recognition of the unique regional distinctiveness of



the county's food and drink.

Councillor Dave Ledger, Deputy Leader of Northumberland County Council said:

"By being a truly verified and audited scheme this will raise people's confidence in the origin of our food and drink.

"We hope that by encouraging local businesses to use Northumberland produce it will help reduce food miles, lead to increased production and sales within the local economy and ultimately create more jobs in an area that relies heavily on tourism."

Councillor Val Tyler, Cabinet Member for Arts, Leisure and Culture added: "We have a fantastic range of quality ingredients produced and available across our county and we want as many people as possible to try them."

Jude Leitch, Director of Northumberland Tourism said: "We know that visitors to Northumberland are looking for authentic experiences that can only be found here."

Businesses interested in finding out more about the scheme can contact ken.henderson@northumberland.gov.uk or dgoodwill-evans@activenorthumberland.org.uk



## REPORTS FROM OUR

### Cause for celebration

Celebrations to mark the official opening of the Harbour Village, the new Shorebase and Paddlers Park are a chance to reflect on what can be achieved by good partnership working. Amble Town Council and Northumberland County Council made substantial contributions as did the Development Trust; but community groups made a real difference too. As a child I played down at the Paddlers and hope that the developments will bring just as much pleasure to future generations. I was a founder member of the Shorebase Trust over 25 years ago and the new base is way beyond what we could have imagined then. Each of these developments helps to make Amble a better place to live and more attractive to tourists who are such an important part of our local economy. They have happened because we have proved that we can come together to make a difference for the town.

### Traffic and parking issues

Issues about traffic and parking are a problem right across my patch but problems are acute in busier areas. Work continues with regular meetings between local Councillors and officers. I know the pace of change is frustrating but if the solutions were easy they would have happened by now. The inconsiderate behaviour of a minority of drivers doesn't help. Amble is a victim of its own success, we have many more visitors, the population is expanding and there are far more cars on the road. Careless parking or driving can have a huge impact on traffic flow and cars have been damaged. Improvements are needed, but each of us has a responsibility.

robert.arckless99@northumberland.gov.uk  
Telephone: 01665 711938

## County Councillors

By the time you are reading this edition of the Ambler, the Paddlers and the Harbour Village will have been officially opened bringing to a conclusion a lot of effort and work from volunteers and employees of Amble Town Council, Amble Development Trust, the County Council and others. These two developments will bring extra employment and prosperity to the town and increase its attractiveness to employers and visitors.

It is really pleasing to see the town's organisations working so well together to improve the environment for us all and it will be such a pleasure to watch our young children enjoy the long awaited Paddlers play area this summer.

Our environment is so important to all of us living here but we are still plagued by the odd irresponsible person who litters our streets and doesn't clean up after exercising their pets. The only way to deal with this problem in my opinion is to actually prosecute those people who continually carry out this antisocial behaviour. I hope other like minded residents will try to discourage offenders. The Dog Wardens have been asked to be extra vigilant in the Amble area.

The planning application for new housing in the Gloster Hill area is still in the process of coming to the Planning Committee after what I thought was a very fair site visit. The application is likely to be heard in May/June

Available to you on 07802385367

Or email

Jeffrey.watson@northumberland.gov.uk

Jeff Watson





## Flooding grants available

**H**auxley Parish Council has been contacted by the Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Team at Northumberland County Council about the recent flooding across the County.

As well as collating and reporting information to DCLG and DEFRA the Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Team are also responsible for administering the Property Level Resilience Grant. This is a £5000 grant available to flooded properties to install resilience or resistance measures for their property. Further information on this can be found online at <http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/campaigns/flood-support.aspx>. There are a number of schemes available.

Anyone with information on flooded properties is requested to contact the Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Team, even if they do not wish to apply for any grant as this will help improve reporting records. A log of near misses is also being recorded.

## Hauxley Chapel

Sunday May 1 Rev. Jim Magee.

Sunday May 8 Area Service, Stakeford Methodist Church. 4pm

Sunday May 15 Miss Val Mace. Pentecost.

Sunday May 22 Mr Sam Palin, Trinity Sunday.

Sunday May 31 Rev. Lynda Coulthard, Holy Communion.



## Go wild for thirty days and see the improvement in your life

**P**eople who do something 'wild' every day for a month change their attitude to nature and report improvements in their physical and mental wellbeing, according to new research which places nature connection at the heart of a happy and healthy life.

More than 18,500 people across the UK took part in The Wildlife Trusts' 30 Days Wild challenge, committing around 300,000 Random Acts of Wildness from letting their lawns grow wild, dancing in the rain and making nature cocktails while families created wild works of art, went star-gazing and created homes for wildlife in their gardens.

Three members of Northumberland Wildlife Trust, Katherine, Tony and 8 year old Fred Williams from Alnwick didn't expect that building 'wild time' into their routine for the whole of June would make a huge difference to them, but it did.

Taking part got them outdoors every day, but also helped them make time to do something together every day. Sometimes they got out in the wild for the whole day.

They took day-long walks through all weathers, walked barefoot through the fields on a 'long cut' home from school, and did a night hike, from 8pm to midnight.

Katherine, a self-employed fundraising consultant said: "30 Days Wild brought us new experiences and new adventures. We explored the garden, fields, rock pools, sky, trees, meadows, river and more. We walked, hiked, looked, sketched, cooked, photographed, planted, whittled and tasted in the wild.

An impact study, by The University of Derby, of 30 Days Wild, in June 2015 reveals that those who joined in experienced increased happiness, health, and positive environmental behaviours, such as feeding the

birds or growing flowers for pollinators like bees.

Dr Miles Richardson, Head of Psychology at the University of Derby, conducted the study.

He says: "Two months after taking part in 30 Days Wild, the number of people reporting their health as excellent increased by over 30%. And that improvement in health was influenced by the improvements in happiness and connection with nature."

Thirty Days Wild returns in June 2016, and Northumberland Wildlife Trust is now asking everyone do something wild every day from 1 - 30 June.

Whether that is taking time out to simply smell a wildflower, listening to birdsong, exploring a local wild place or leaving a part of the garden to grow wild for a month.

It's all about making nature part of your life for 30 days - and it's free! Find out more at [www.wildlifetrusts.org/30DaysWild](http://www.wildlifetrusts.org/30DaysWild).

## Dusting the dunes

**A**s part of the national Clean for the Queen celebrations Northumberland Wildlife Trust issued a call for volunteers to join in a very special conservation effort - a massive clean-up along Druridge Bay, aptly nicknamed 'Dusting the Dunes.'

Staff were overwhelmed by the response with teams

of volunteers from the Trust, Quorum Business Park, Northumbrian Water, members of the public and Northumberland Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (NIFCA) turning up to collect a total of 135 bags (455.75kg) of rubbish and 20 lobster pots from five of its

reserves along the bay: Cresswell, Cresswell Pond, Druridge Pools, East Chevington and Hauxley.

The Trust would like to say a special thank you to The Drift Café, Cresswell, for providing participants at the event with free tea and coffee, and for donating 20% of its food profits on the day to the Trust.

The Trust and its supporters are committed to keeping Druridge Bay looking its best, regularly collecting hundreds of kilograms of rubbish along the coastline.

Litter that is dropped at the beach can trap or hurt wild animals, as well as injuring dogs when they run along the dunes.

Welcome to Trust Life, spring is in the air and the sun is shining (honestly). Having just celebrated Easter and over indulged with the chocolate its back to work and new plans.

By now we will have played host to HRH the Countess of Wessex who visited four locations in the town on April 20.

The Countess visited the new Shorebase Trust premises to meet trustees, volunteers and disabled users. She then visited Pride of Northumbria to meet Chair of the Business Club Ann Burke and handed out certificates to trainees who have completed their training. She continued on to the Harbour Village to meet business owners and RNLI fundraisers, before unveiling a plaque in the Seafood Centre. Her final destination was Paddlers Park, where she officially opened the new facilities.

Following on from the Amble visit, the Countess was to travel to Blyth then over to Hexham. So all in all it was a pretty hectic trip to Northumberland.

It's a shame we couldn't let you all know sooner but the visit was only confirmed after the last Ambler was delivered, so apologies if you missed it but hearty thanks to everyone who turned out and gave the Countess a really friendly Amble welcome.

Thank you to those who offered suggestions for the Great British High St funding. Signage has come high on the list especially from the Business Club, so we are currently investigating options. Another idea

was painting the shutters on Queen Street. I don't know how practical this would be or how far the money would go, but if the business owners are interested this option can be looked at as well.

Amble was exceptionally busy over the Easter holiday period and we hope businesses reaped the benefits of increased footfall. Obviously parking is still an issue, however, recent meetings give hope that a possible solution might be realised; time will tell.

Work on the housing above Pride of Northumbria is progressing and should be complete in July. So far we have had one site visit; scaling ladders to reach an accessible door to a first floor property was interesting. The development will provide two one-bedroom flats and two two-bedroom flats. Criteria for applications have been drawn up and will be available soon for anyone interested in renting.

Meanwhile we hope to commence work on the Welfare in the coming weeks. Once started and depending on weather, the work should take approximately four to five weeks to complete.

The Harbour Village entertained visitors with cookery demonstrations, fish sales and displays, as well as celebrating its first birthday on bank holiday Monday with cake and balloons. Let us hope we are all here to celebrate the 21st birthday with a big bash.

The Seafood Centre has just finished its six week pilot of the Creel Club Fish Box scheme, which was generally well received.

There were one or two small problems to resolve, but that was the nature of the exercise. We are now looking to roll the scheme out to hubs at Moorhouse Farm, Blagdon and possibly Wooler in the near future.

And finally before I go, I am going to get on to my litter soapbox! I realise that those of you who read this article are unlikely to be the source or culprits of the copious amounts of litter that regale our streets, so who are they? How does the litter appear but no-one sees anyone dropping it! It's annoying that people are so lazy they cannot be bothered to find a litter bin, or care about the way our streets look, when we live in such a beautiful part of the country, have wonderful beaches and a high street that won a national competition.

Why aren't some people capable of looking after it? If you do drop litter, my message to you is: 'if you want to live in a dustbin please do it somewhere else! Have some consideration for those of us who don't and respect for the town you live in.'

The responsibility to keep our town clean and tidy is as much ours as the local authority's, why should it be the job of others to clean up behind you?

Sorry, I'm off now.

*Julia and all trust staff  
juliaambledevelopmenttrust.org.uk*

## Questions asked about mobile masts for Northumberland

Northumberland County Council is demanding an explanation as to why a scheme to boost mobile phone coverage in the county has fallen spectacularly short.

They have asked the area's MPs to investigate the project that was supposed to deliver better mobile phone coverage for 20 communities in the county.

A company called Arqiva were commissioned by the Department for Culture Media and Sport and Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) to deliver the project, which was allocated £150million nationally to install mobile phone infrastructure.

Northumberland County Council has been told by Arqiva that it will only deliver two of the 20 sites proposed for Northumberland.

Councillor Dave Ledger, deputy leader of Northumberland County Council said: "To say we are disappointed with this project is an understatement and a letter is being sent to all Northumberland MPs. stressing this disappointment.

"We understood that there were 20 masts proposed for Northumberland at the start of the programme, all of which had

support from the three main mobile phone operators.

"As well as the two that Arqiva have said that they will deliver, we are aware that a further three masts achieved full planning approval but are not being taken forward. No explanation has been provided for this.

"It seems ridiculous that in the 21st century we are going to be left with huge areas which have frankly pathetic mobile phone coverage. We know from frustrated residents and even our own staff how difficult a lack of good reception can be.

"We are calling on our MPs to look into this on behalf of Northumberland residents, to find out the current position regarding where the funding was spent or directed to, and what is planned for the future."

The two masts that Arqiva have said they will complete are on land near Hagwood Farm near Hexham and land by Ewesley Farm Cottage, Ewesley.

The sites that have gained planning permission, but they say they are unable to progress, are near Gilsland, Scots Gap and Norham.



I- r: Paul Rigby and Ashley Sim cut the Harbour Village's first birthday cake. Paul and Ashley own 'P-Pod' and were the first people to sign a lease for one of the 15 retail units at Amble Harbour Village.





# Amble Town

# COUNCIL

Meetings 6pm unless stated otherwise

Council: 12th May (Annual + Town), 9th June, 14th July

Amenities Committee: 26th May, 28th July

Litter Pick: 25th May

## STOP PRESS: Initial roof survey of War Memorial

Drainage channels blocked by footballs and tennis ball. Also noted - damage to panels by air gun pellets.

Please show respect and stop this now.

## WW1 COMMEMORATION EVENT

THIS YEAR the commemoration of the Somme will be remembered in the Town Square on Friday 1st July at 7.30am- the time when the whistle sounded for men to 'go over the top'.

This is acknowledged as one of the bloodiest times where thousands of lives were lost; wreaths will be laid at both memorials to acknowledge those who did not return. Look out also for details of the Candlelit vigil to be held. There will be exhibitions on

2nd July in the Parish Hall from 11am until 4pm about Amble over the last 100 years.

You can view research from 'In Memory of the Fallen', look at photographs of the changes to Amble over the years, see Memories of Amble Football teams, the History of Coquet Shorebase Trust, the work of the Lifeboat and Amble Army Cadets.

Put this in your diary now- be sure you don't miss this fascinating look at your town.

## GARDEN AND CIVIC AWARDS

TIME TO START clearing out weeds and debris and nurturing new plants as you gear up to the Garden Awards which take place in July with judging from the end of June. Remember that this year we have added a Civic Award category where, in June, you can nominate an individual or an organisation who voluntarily carries out work in the community which benefits others.

## COUNCILLORS CORNER

DESPITE THE MEASURES put in place by ATC working with ADT, NCC and other community groups, there are a very small number of people in the community who seem to take great delight in littering the town with cigarette ends and a few who obscenely allow their dogs to leave their mess in public places.

Cigarette ends are litter. Picking up your dog mess and putting it in bags is commendable but to then hang it on a tree or leave in a pile in grassy areas is disgusting!

So to those few, you know who you are, please try and help the many who really care for Amble.

For those who wish to make amends or just to help, there is a litter pick on 25th May at 1700 starting in the Town Square.

Cllr. Craig Weir

## HISTORY TRAIL

SHORTLY THE NOTICEBOARDS will have amended versions of the History Trail; there will be new leaflets and way markers along the trails to enable those without a leaflet to follow them. We also hope to install four information boards along the route to expand on the area's history.

People have commented that the leaflet 'wets the appetite' and more is needed so Council is producing a booklet, 'Reflections', with extra photographs, information and anecdotes. Wanting more people to enjoy our wonderful town's history, we are selling it at a minimal cost of £2. Look out for it soon in local venues and at the Council Office.

## PADDLERS PARK

WHILE WRITING THIS, we are preparing for the opening of the above. Hopefully the sun will shine to welcome our Royal visitor to see all the new items. We are tremendously honoured to have the Countess and the Duchess, but we also look forward to the Fun Day to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's 90th birthday when the whole community can enjoy the area.

Sadly paddling pools could not be retained due to high maintenance costs and daily supervision required under health and safety rules. However knowing the hours of pleasure water play brings, we compromised with a water feature which will be operational from May until early September. We have been granted some extra money from NCC and will add a few more things soon.

There are other ideas for future expansion as more funds become available; meanwhile we hope all the family will have many years of pleasure and respect what is there.

## SEASONAL WORKER

WE HAVE CONTRACTED with NCC to have an extra operative working in the town until September. We share concerns about the state of the town especially over weekends when there are a larger number of visitors.

We needed someone to check Paddlers Park once the water play is in use and so used this opportunity to explore a wider role with NCC to benefit the whole community.

By doing this we will have the toilets open longer Friday to Monday and checked mid- afternoon, extra litter bin emptying where needed, litter 'hot spots' checked and manpower available to help throughout the town in a variety of ways.

## COUNCILLOR VACANCY

BY THE TIME you read this, due to Councillor Robinson's vacancy, either an election will have been called or Council will be co-opting to fill the place. It is essential we have full, active membership to carry out the Council's duties for as Amble progresses, so does the Council work increase.

Although volunteers, we all willingly give our time to work together for our town; we look forward to welcoming a new member to the team.

We send our thanks for the time Councillor Robinson spent with us and the work he undertook; we wish him well for the future.

### EAST WARD:

Robert Arckless,  
37 Anne Crescent,  
Amble NE65 0QZ  
Tel: 01665 711938

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

Craig Weir (Chair/Mayor)  
76 Priory Park,  
Amble NE65 0HY  
Tel: 01665 712342

### WEST WARD:

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

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

Katrina Cassidy,  
18 The Close, Amble.  
NE65 0HZ

### CENTRAL WARD:

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

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

VACANCY

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

## Northumberland Wildlife Trust fun

### Saturday 7 May

Ladybird Spotting, Hauxley Nature Reserve 10:00am – 12:00pm  
Join us for a walk around the Hauxley reserve and along the coastal path to try to spot some of our native species. £3 per person. This is a Dynamic Druridge event.

Hauxley Open Weekend, Hauxley Nature Reserve 10:00am – 4:00pm

Our public open weekend allows you the opportunity to see the progress we are making on our innovative new visitor centre and other site improvements. We will endeavour to open footpaths to allow access to hides where possible. Free event but donations welcome. This is a Dynamic Druridge event.

### Sunday 8 May

In Focus, Hauxley Nature Reserve 10:00am – 4:00pm

An opportunity to try out a range of binoculars, telescopes and other optical equipment at our popular Hauxley Nature Reserve. Free but donations welcome.

Hauxley Open Weekend, Hauxley Nature Reserve 10:00am – 4:00pm

Guide in the Hide, Druridge Pools, Northumberland, Sat May 11 11:00am – 1:00pm

A volunteer/staff member will be on hand to point out birds and other wildlife on the site. No dogs allowed. This is a free event as part of the Dynamic Druridge project but donations are gratefully received.

### Sunday 12 May

Hauxley Open Weekend 10:00am – 4:00pm

In Focus, Hauxley Nature Reserve 10:00am – 4:00pm

An opportunity to try out a range of binoculars, telescopes and other optical equipment.

### Saturday 4 June

MARINELife: Course on identifying whales, dolphins and seabirds, Cresswell Village Hall, 10:00am – 4:30pm

Join MARINELife and Northumberland Wildlife Trust for a full day's course to learn how to observe and identify whales, dolphins and seabird species that can be seen from shore and at sea around the UK coast. The course costs £50 (£45 for NWT members and volunteers), contact Tricia Dendle to book places on [bookings@marine-life.org.uk](mailto:bookings@marine-life.org.uk) Part of our Living Seas marine conservation project.

### Saturday 11 June

Hauxley Open Weekend, 10:00am – 4:00pm

## Amble Photographic Group

If you are interested in photography why not join us.

We meet weekly on Fridays in Trinity Church Hall Amble at 9.30 am until 12 noon.

We have a varied programme including interesting speakers, competitions and other club activities

Come along and spend a morning with us. Enjoy a free visit and a cup of coffee.

## Boxfit and keep fit

For young people aged 11+ years

Wednesday evenings from Wednesday 13 April 2016

Amble Community Sports Development Trust,  
Percy Street, (formerly Amble Boys' Club)

5:00pm - 6:00pm

Only £1 per session... and the first 2 are free!

All gloves and ropes are provided - Parents are welcome to stay

For more information please contact John Kelly by email:

[johnkellyx@aol.com](mailto:johnkellyx@aol.com) or by telephone: 078504 22169

## Rotary Club notes

Readers may be aware that a recent road traffic incident resulted in serious damage to the stone trough at the top of Beal Bank. Warkworth in Bloom stalwart, Jackie Galilee, asked if the Rotary Club could help and very quickly they accepted the task as part of their service to the community – Rotary's motto being "Service before Self".

Pictured clearing the trough are (L to R) Rotarians Fred Calvert, Paul Creighton and Mike Frisch. The club was delighted that Martin Gelling from G&G Gardening Services, agreed to repair the trough and Martin (left) is pictured with Rotarian Mike Frisch at the start of the job of re-building the trough. Martin described the job as a complicated jig-saw puzzle trying to work out which stone went where.



### NEW COMMITTEES

At a recent club meeting a new committee structure was agreed for the Rotary year 2016-17 which begins on 1 July. The new committees and their chairmen will be :

Projects : Dave Shoemaker; Fund-Raising : Derek Conway ; and Social/Entertainment : Tim Mason. President for the new year will be Rotarian Stephen Kerry who is currently the club's Secretary. Fred Calvert will become the new Secretary and John Geggie will continue as Treasurer and in addition will become the Senior Vice President.

### RECENT SPEAKERS

Members enjoyed some excellent speakers in recent weeks. These have included : Colin Buxton on "Air Warfare in 1914 – 1918" ; Rotarian Richard Brearley on "The Art of Coarse Acting" ; Richard Jackson on "Dubai" and Geoff Litterick who spoke about "Water Aid" which is one of the charities which the club's International Committee is supporting this year.



Rotary Club President Dave Shoemaker is pictured presenting a cheque for £800 to Lifeboat Coxswain John Connell for the Shannon Lifeboat Appeal.

The money was part of the Rotary Club's Christmas collection.

For more information on Amble and Warkworth Rotary club see [www.ambleandwarkworthrotary.org](http://www.ambleandwarkworthrotary.org)



## Brinkburn guitar quintet

Concert by the Brinkburn Guitar Quintet on Thursday 5 May, at Bailiffgate Museum, Alnwick 7:30 pm (Doors open 7:00 pm) Admission £8 Featuring the Boccherini Guitar Quintet in D major - 'The Fandango';

Vivaldi Guitar Concerto for String Quartet and Guitar arranged for string quartet by Denis Grieve; guitar solos from the 19th and 20th Century on reproduction period instruments; and String Quartets with a Latin Theme.

Tickets available online at [www.baliffgatemuseum.co.uk](http://www.baliffgatemuseum.co.uk) or from Baliffgate museum 01665 605847

## Warkworth Golf Club

As we moved into April the daffodils planted by the Senior Section began to bloom and golfer's minds turned to the new season with high expectations! Lots of trophies to be won! Perhaps a hole in one!

Work continued on the re-building of the 'Killie Bridge' and now all the timber has been cut to size. Concrete was poured for the foundations and it should be completed by the end of April. Work on the bridge will have to take a back-seat in May as Alan Dalby and Ian concentrate on the course – including re-building some of the winter tees. In the clubhouse the Senior Section have renovated the mens' locker room with new fittings, paint-work etc.

In 2015 we received national recognition as the course featured on the Sky.com website and we were one of five clubs in Northumberland to be fully reviewed by Golf Empire.

A good chance for non-members to play our superb greens (Sky comment, not mine!) is to enter one of our open competitions. The annual mixed greensomes is on Sunday June 19th, and in September we have the Ladies' Texas Scramble on Sunday 4th, the Seniors on Thursday 8th and an Individual (ladies and gents) on Thursday 15th. Entry forms are on our website or you can go to Golf Empire and look under the Warkworth Golf Club entry.

Nationally golf playing is in decline but unlike many other clubs Warkworth has started to grow. However, we cannot rest on our laurels from May 1st we have an attractive offer with full membership to December 31st for just £230 (which includes golfer's third party liability protection whilst playing worldwide).

Anyone who wants to try us out before committing should contact The Secretary on [secretary@warkworthgolfclub.co.uk](mailto:secretary@warkworthgolfclub.co.uk) or 01665 710707. Visit [www.warkworthgolfcourse.co.uk](http://www.warkworthgolfcourse.co.uk) for full membership details, necessary forms and lots more about the club.

## Variety Show for Christian Aid

Coquet Churches Together are raising money for Christian Aid in St. Mark's URC, Wellwood Street. The variety show is taking place in the church on **Friday, May 13th at 7.30pm**

Free entry: donations will be collected for Christian Aid. Refreshments and raffle

## Northumbrian Ceilidh nights



On the 8th March we celebrated our first year of Northumbrian Ceilidhs at Warkworth Memorial Hall. 50 of us danced, played and sang through the evening.

We are very fortunate in having a wonderful live band for these events. On this occasion The Reel Northumbria Ceilidh Band were missing Peter Hollins, its regular Melodeon player. However Vic Gammon and Mark (a student from Newcastle University Folk Degree) stepped in to the breach ably supporting our regular musicians Sandra Kerr and Peter Bromley.

Elaine Carter was there to coax us through the various dances and between dances we were blessed with some fine singing, musicianship and cake.

The Ceilidhs are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, with forthcoming dates of 12th April, 10th May and the 14th June. All welcome, no experience necessary. We have no bar so please bring your own refreshments and glasses.

Further details at <http://northumbriafolk.org.uk/warkworth.html>, or ring Peter/Kate on 01665 711388 email [peter.burnham@gmail.com](mailto:peter.burnham@gmail.com).

## Get afloat with the Shorebase Trust

Make this the year YOU get afloat on our wonderful estuary or the Lake at Druridge Bay Country Park. Whether you want quiet recreational paddling or exciting white water or whizzing along on a windsurfer, there is something for everyone.

You can:

- Come to one of our 'Come and try it' days:

**Sunday 15 May** at the Lake for the RYA Push the Boat Out event. Just drop in between 10am and 4pm and have a go or just chat about doing more.

**Saturday 28 May** at the Lake for the BCU Go Canoeing event. Just drop in between 10am and 4pm and try one of our range of canoes and kayaks. £3 a go. (you may get a bit wet).

**Saturday 4 June** at the Little Shore for the Puffin Festival Go Canoeing event. Drop in between 12 noon and 4pm and try one of our range of canoes and kayaks. £3 a go. (you may get a bit wet).

- Come on a guided tour of the Estuary and paddle up to Warkworth with the rising tide. History, wildlife and a different view of the river. No previous experience needed and we use sit-on-top kayaks or open canoes.

- Hire a sit-on-top kayak on the Lake - get up close to the birds.
- Visit one of our affiliated clubs and try

sailing, windsurfing or canoeing - if you like it, the joining fees are small and all the clothing and equipment can be used for a small session fee. The clubs have RYA or BCU trained instructors who will keep you on the right track and help you learn the sport. The Canoe Club meets at the Shorebase on Sundays at 10am, the Windsurfing Club at the Lake on Saturdays at 10am, and the Sailing Club at the Lake on Sundays at 10am.

- Do an intensive training course - eg a 2 day Sailing course for complete beginners.
- You can do a 2 day course on Powerboat handling - for the RYA Level 2 certificate which is the basic 'driving licence' for small powerboats.
- And specially for the youngsters: Coquet Canoe Club Youth section Sundays at Amble 10 - 1pm  
Coquet Canoe Club Satellite Club for ages 14 - 25 on Wednesdays 6 - 9pm  
Coquet Windsurfing Club T15 at the Lake on Wednesdays 5 - 7.30pm  
Coquet Sailing Club Cadets at the Lake on Thursdays 4.30 - 7pm

More information on our webpage: [www.coquetshorebase.org.uk](http://www.coquetshorebase.org.uk), or email [info@coquetshorebase.org.uk](mailto:info@coquetshorebase.org.uk)  
Or just drop in at the Shorebase, on the Braid if you are passing! 01665 710367. All welcome

## Rotarians help Tiny Woods Academy



The Tiny Woods Football Academy in Amble is £870 better off thanks to two cheques which were presented recently by Rotarian Dave Shoemaker on behalf of The Rotary Club of Amble and Warkworth and the Rotary District. The local club's cheque was for £500, part of the annual Christmas collection, and the Rotary District cheque was for £370.

The Academy is the home to junior football in Amble for boys and girls of all abilities from aged 4 to 13 years and is run by Coach Josh Rutherford who is both qualified and licensed by the FA. He is CRB checked and holds emergency aid and safeguarding qualifications. He works with Newcastle United's Foundation.

Pictured left, with members of the Academy, presenting the cheques is Rotarian Dave Shoemaker, President of the Rotary Club of Amble and Warkworth.

Receiving the cheques were Ethan Sales (right) and Liam Short (left). Also in the photo are Rotarian Mike Frisch (back left), Chairman of the Community Service Committee and Academy Coach Josh Rutherford.

## Family fun night in aid of Brambles

Family fun night with JPS in aid of Brambles Childcare Centre, May 20th at Radcliffe Club Amble. Tickets £2.50 per person. Available from Brambles and the Radcliffe Club.

Snacks available. Raffle and domino cards with great prizes to be won. It promises to be a great night for all ages



## Spring concert

THE MAGIC OF THE MUSICALS

Beaconsfield Operatic Society  
Trinity Methodist Church  
Percy Street, Amble  
Friday 6th May at 7.30pm  
Tickets £4 available N&F Young

## Amble winners

Left: Three young people's groups from Amble were recently presented with certificates in recognition of great and valuable services to the community, by the High Sheriff of Northumberland.

I-r: Representatives of Amble Youth Project, Tiny Woods Academy and Artograffi



**NORTHUMBERLAND**  
COUNTY COUNCIL

**County Councillor Robert Arkless**

*will be holding surgeries on*

Friday 27 May and 24 July  
at 6pm - 6.45pm in Hauxley Village Hall  
and

Saturdays 28 May and 24 June  
from 10am-11am in Amble Library

*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





# Puffin Festival fun: the events so far...

For times and more information on these activities, please check [www.amblepuffinfest.co.uk](http://www.amblepuffinfest.co.uk)  
You can find us on Twitter @AmblePuffinFest and Facebook: [www.facebook.com/AmblePuffinFestival](http://www.facebook.com/AmblePuffinFestival). More activities will be announced in the run up to the Festival. During the Festival, there will be daily updates in the Town Square, TIC, Harbour Village and on the puffin boards around town.  
*Events and times may be subject to change.*

28 May -  
4 June 2016

## Saturday 28 May

*Kites on the Braid* including Teddy bear parachute jump.  
*Fair in the Square*. Craft fair and children's amusements. In the Town Sq.  
*Surfing taster sessions*. Various venues. Contact Jon: 07944398115  
*Harry's Ramble around Amble*. Historical guided walk.  
*Riverside Falconry*. In the Town Sq.  
*Seafood sales* at Seafood Centre.  
*Football based activity* at Welfare with Tiny Woods Football Academy  
*Northumberland Puffin Kayak fishing competition*. Booking essential (see their FB page).  
*Weigh-in* at Seafood Centre.  
*Blessing of the Fleet*. Service by Fishermen's Mission North Shields. At Radcliffe Quay (Harbour Village)  
*Family Film*. U certificate. At St Cuthbert's Hall, Dovecote St.  
*Amble's Proud Football History Exhibition*. At St Cuthbert's Hall, Dovecote St. Followed by screening of footage of 1966 World Cup.

## Sunday 29 May

*Kites on the Braid* including Teddy bear parachute jump  
*Fair in the Square*. Craft fair and children's amusements. Blacksmith Stephen Lunn's interactive workshops. In the Town Sq.  
*Harry's Ramble around Amble*. Historical guided walk.  
*Surfing taster sessions*. Various venues. Contact Jon: 07944398115  
*Find out about the Freemasons*. Amble Masonic hall. Gloster Terr.  
*Football memorabilia exhibition*. At St Cuthbert's Hall, Dovecote St.

## Monday 30 May

*Kites on the Braid* including Teddy bear parachute jump.  
*Fair in the Square*. Craft fair and children's amusements. Blacksmith Stephen Lunn's interactive workshops. In the Town Sq.  
*Harry's Ramble around Amble*. Historical guided walk.  
*Riverside Falconry*. In the Town Sq.  
*Surfing taster sessions*. Various venues. Contact Jon: 07944398115  
*Find out about the Freemasons*. Amble Masonic hall. Gloster Terr.  
*Kick Start Sports*. On the Braid.  
*Rainbow Pottery Painting*. At 42 Queen Street  
*Radcliffe Club Family Fun Day*. At Radcliffe Club, Charles Rd.  
*Birds & Flowers of the Dunes*. Afternoon guided walk with Atholl Swanston.  
*EVENING EVENT: Flights of Fancy*. An evening of poetry, silly stories and song with local poet Ian Williams and local musician and songwriter, Philip Stuckey. Venue: Masonic Hall. \*

## Tuesday 31 May

*Estuary paddles*. With Coquet Shorebase Trust on the Braid.  
*Fair in the Square*. Craft fair and children's amusements. In the Town Sq.  
*Electric bike taster sessions*. In the Town Sq.  
*Harry's Ramble around Amble*. Historical guided walk.  
*Riverside Falconry*. In the Town Sq.  
*Puffintastic crafts*. At the Seafood Centre.  
*Ned and Nelly the donkeys*. Around Town Centre.  
*Surfing taster sessions*. Various venues. Contact Jon: 07944398115  
*Find out about the Freemasons*. Amble Masonic hall. Gloster Terrace.  
*Rainbow Pottery Painting*. At 42 Queen Street  
*Birds & Flowers of the Coquet Estuary*. Afternoon guided walk  
*The New Curiosity Shop*. A 'script in hand' reading from James Calvert Spence community writing group. Includes Q&A afterwards. At Masonic hall.  
*Photography workshop*. Venue: The Harbour Gallery, Quayside, Amble.  
*EVENING TALK WITH SLIDES: Sea birds and wildlife on Coquet Island*. Plus live streaming of the birds on Coquet Island. 19.00 - 20.30. A talk by Paul Morrison, RSPB Coquet Island Warden. Venue: Fourways 2, 6 Dilston Terrace, Amble. \*

## Wednesday 1 June

*Harry's Ramble around Amble*. Historical guided walk.  
*Kirkley Hall climbing wall*. In the Town Square.  
*Estuary paddles*. With Coquet Shorebase Trust on the Braid.  
*Surfing taster sessions*. Various venues. Contact Jon: 07944398115  
*Children's Storytelling* with Stephen Finlay. At Old Fourways Centre, Bridge St.  
*Find out about the Freemasons*. Amble Masonic hall Gloster Terr.  
*Hostelries of Amble*. Guided walk. Meet at the front of The Wellwood. Over 18yrs only.  
*Ned and Nelly the donkeys*. Around Town Centre.  
*Rainbow Pottery Painting*. At 42 Queen Street  
*Art & Crafts at Amble Youth Project*. Dilston Terrace. For children aged 8 - 12yrs.  
*EVENING TALK WITH SLIDES: "The images of rock"* 19.00 -20.30. World renowned rock music photographer Steve Emberton talks about his time in the eighties with famous British and American rock stars. Venue: Amble Masonic Hall. \*

## Thursday 2 June

*Harry's Ramble around Amble*. Historical guided walk.  
*Kirkley Hall climbing wall*. In the Town Square.  
*Puffintastic crafts*. Puffin-themed crafts with Sheila Cartwright. At the Seafood Centre  
*Children's Storytelling* with Stephen Finlay. At Old Fourways Centre, Bridge St.  
*Ned and Nelly the donkeys*. Around Town Centre.  
*Surfing taster sessions*. Various venues. Contact Jon: 07944398115  
*Find out about the Freemasons*. Amble Masonic hall, Gloster Terr.  
*Estuary paddles*. With Coquet Shorebase Trust on the Braid.  
*Seafood sales* at the Seafood Centre.  
*Bird watching at Hauxley Nature Reserve*. With Tim Mason. Meet at entrance to Hauxley Nature Reserve. Booking essential as only 8 places available.\*  
*Photography workshop* at The Harbour Gallery, Quayside, Amble.  
*EVENING TALK WITH SLIDES: Amble in Old Photographs* with Bartle Rippon. Venue: Amble Masonic Hall. \*

## Friday 3 June

*Harry's Ramble around Amble*. Historical guided walk.  
*Find out about the Freemasons*. Amble Masonic hall, Gloster Terr.  
*Spellbound - Stories and activities* at Amble Library.  
*Riverside Falconry*. In the Town Sq.  
*Circus workshop* in Town Sq.  
*Surfing taster sessions*. Various venues. Contact Jon: 07944398115  
*Seafood sales* at the Seafood Centre.  
*Estuary paddles*. With Coquet Shorebase Trust on the Braid.  
*Old Amble & The Railway*. Afternoon guided walk with Bartle Rippon.  
*EVENING TALK WITH SLIDES: An Archaeological excavation* of a prehistoric settlement found at St. Georges Hospital, Morpeth. Archaeologist Rupert Lotherington will bring along a few artefacts found there, and talk about the dig. Venue: Amble Masonic Hall. \*

## Saturday 4 June

*Food Fair in the Square*. Artisan foods from Northumberland and beyond. In the Town Sq.  
*Great Puffin Festival baking competition*. In the Town Square.  
*Seafood sales* at the Seafood Centre.  
*Harry's Ramble around*

*Amble*. Historical guided walk.  
*Riverside Falconry*. At Little Shore.  
*Surfing taster sessions*. Various venues. Contact Jon: 07944398115  
*Circus workshop*. At Little Shore.  
*Come and try watersports with Coquet Shorebase Trust*. At Little Shore.  
*PARROT Dog Show* venue & time TBC  
*The Colony music festival*. At the Little Shore.  
*Skiff sprint racing*. At Little Shore.  
*Cookery demonstrations*. At Amble Harbour Village. TBC  
*Old Amble & The Railway*. Afternoon guided walk with Bartle Rippon, leaves the Town Square at 1400.

## EVERYDAY

To see the puffins, and thousands of other seabirds, take a Puffin Cruise from the Harbour (weather permitting). Booking essential. Ring 01665 711975 or 07752 861914. [www.puffincruises.co.uk](http://www.puffincruises.co.uk)  
• Watch out for appearances from Tommy Noddy the giant Puffin  
• 'Arty Visits Amble' book sale - available from Amble Town Council Offices, Queen Street Post Office, 42 Queen Street, Spurreli Boutique Ice Cream and various other outlets. Email [helmick72@sky.com](mailto:helmick72@sky.com) or ring 07751 229739.  
• Pete the Puffin trail. Where is Pete the Puffin today? In shop windows throughout the town!  
• Children's puffin artwork displays in various shop windows  
• Fishermen's ganseys display at Amble Harbour Village  
• The Puffins of Coquet Island information board and postcards at Amble Harbour Village  
Guided walks leave from the Town Sq.  
Tickets for events marked \* are available from N & F Young (8 Queen St), Amble Development Trust and Amble Town Council (Fourways2, Dilston Terr)  
Tickets for talks are also available on the door.

