

# *The Ambler*

## Amble's Community Newspaper

Issue 99 July/August 2016

### Cheers! Puffin Festival ends on a high

Another successful Puffin festival filled the town again this year, with good responses from the public, despite poor weather in the middle of the week meaning some events had to be cancelled.

Kate Morrison, part of the organising team, said: "Each year I have seen more involvement from businesses and the community as a whole, getting behind the idea of what the town council and community groups are trying to achieve for Amble's future prosperity.

"Disappointment this year was the change in the weather when some events had to be cancelled. However, the children's activities taking place inside still went ahead and I saw some interesting handmade puffins around the town. I was very pleased at how all the evening talks and events were



attended by residents and the many visitors. There is still room

to get even more people coming forward to help make next year

even more successful. Volunteers are always welcome!"

Organiser Elaine Brown was pleased with the food festival and Colony music festival on the final Saturday.

"We couldn't have wished for a better ending to an enjoyable week. Facebook users commented on the success of several stalls, which had actually sold out and others praised the variety of artisan traders and their products.

"The music festival was again very popular. We'd like to thank Mick Robertson for pulling together the line-up and overseeing the event on the day."

## Prestigious national award for Amble restaurant, as they open new venture



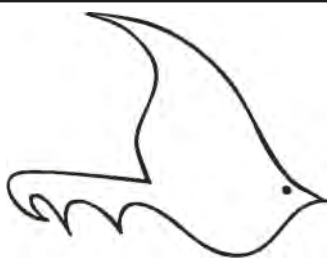
Footballing legend Jack Charlton officially opened the new Fish Shack, the latest venture by the Old Boathouse group. l-r: local joiner and lobster fisherman Davey Buddle, who created the quirky building, Martin Charlton and Ruth Charlton of the Old Boathouse. The shack can be found next to the pier on Amble Quayside.

The town has been recognised nationally once more, thanks to The Old Boathouse, which was awarded top prize in Fishing News' Coastal Fish Restaurant of the Year. Restaurants from all over the country were nominated, shortlisted and voted by the public.

The category for seafood restaurant was sponsored by glossy magazine, Coast. Alex Fisher, editor of Coast Magazine told The Ambler: "We were so impressed with the number of nominations and votes for the Sustainable Seafood Restaurant of the Year Award. Many fantastic restaurants were nominated, but well done to The Old Boathouse in Amble."

Martin Charlton, owner and chef of the Old Boathouse, said "I felt really humbled, considering the quality of the competition. I know one of the Cornish chefs and hold him in high esteem. We got nearly a quarter of the total votes, so thank you all those who recognised Amble and the Old Boathouse."

In April, Jack Charlton, ex footballer and keen fisherman, cut the ribbon to the Fish Shack at the Little Shore. The shack, an extension of the restaurant, is now serving snacks of fish and shellfish. Martin, his wife Ruth and all the staff do work very hard. "We've had our ups and downs, but customers must like what we do, so we're pleased."



## The Ambler

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## Acts of kindness in the friendliest port

I don't know if it's too much social media, together with divisive views and downright bad news, or a general build up of bad manners and irritability, but recent months have seemed to turn many people to intense disagreement with each other, either politically (I'm looking at you, EU referendum), or out and out violence (a hard stare in the direction of Euro 2016). And as for the weather...

So it is consoling to see that, actually, good neighbourliness, community spirit and optimism for the future do still exist, and here at The Ambler we are proud to continue our tradition of showcasing some of the best of human nature.

See below for the wonderful news about Amble RNLI's Shannon Appeal, and the Kerton family's award. And random acts of kindness are being promoted on Mauretania Day (See p3).

Plans for the future include more food offers (see page 3, 4 and 10) and a major development at the boat yard, which is bad news for the Amble Boat Company workers, but better news for Spurreli Boutique Ice cream (page 4).

It was a shock to learn that the Dovecote Centre is to close and two children's groups are desperate to find new premises (see page 8). Sad too is the current lack of a venue for adult learning classes.

When Northumberland College closed at the old Fourways, in August 2006, the town was reassured that an alternative venue was being sought. Words used by the college then, were almost identical to those given by the council now. Education is the best route to a better and cohesive future, so let's hope we don't lose this important resource.

**STOP PRESS >>** Amble Lifeboat Fundraisers have announced their Shannon Appeal has hit its target. A spokeswoman said "We are thrilled at this wonderful news and want to thank everyone who has donated, fundraised and helped us reach the £200,000 target for such an important cause."

## Kerton family thank community for their award

A fundraising family from Hauxley has been presented with the "Most Inspiring Volunteers" award from the Huntington's Disease Association.

The Kerton family have been fundraising for Huntington's Disease for many years, and were astonished to be voted winners at the recent charity awards ceremony held in Liverpool.

Ellis Kerton, her father Stewart and grandfather Edwin received the award for their fundraising and awareness-raising activities, including taking part in charity races, including the Great North Run for the last five years.

The win was as a result of the number of votes the family received on social media.

"When we got there and started getting to know the other people there, I thought there's no way we would win," said Ellis. "We were up against seven other competitors. When it was announced, it was insane. I thought 'oh my god!'"

Edwin (known to his friends as Ebb) Kerton, whose wife Nicki had the disease for 20 years and died last year, said "I felt very humble. Also bittersweet. We are raising money for a cause that affects us all.

"It was fantastic to meet the others and I felt unworthy. So many others try so hard to raise funds and awareness. Everyone should have got an award."

Hannah Longworth, Community Fundraiser and Social Media Lead for the Huntington's Disease Association said "In addition to their annual Great North Run challenge, the family organise local events to raise extra funds and most importantly awareness.

"The Kertons' passion, spirit and dedication to supporting the HDA is astounding. We can't thank them enough for all they have done. They truly are deserving winners.



Ellis Kerton with the award

Ellis hopes to take part in the Robin Hood Marathon and the Great North Run in September. "It seems appropriate to run the GNR; my granda Ebb and grandma Nicki took part in the very first one in 1981."

Huntingdon's disease is hereditary and support networks for those affected is vitally important.

The family wanted to thank everyone who supported their fundraising day in Angie's Tavern in April.

Ebb was also grateful for all the votes cast by friends and family.

"It was the community that won it for us. We're so grateful to everyone who voted for us. Without the community behind us, we've got nothing. It's a credit to the community."

Anna Williams



## New deli kitchen on Coble Quay

Watch out for a new deli-kitchen, due to open soon as part of the Coble Quay developments. The exciting project will feature a delicatessen and a restaurant that will be run by Jonny and Julie Bird of Sea and Soil fame.

Chef Jonny told The Ambler: "The food will include light meals, open sandwiches, bagels and some specials. It won't be a full-on restaurant like Sea and Soil, but we see it having a similar relaxed vibe. In the evening it will have a wine bar with British and European tapas."

Julie explained the thoughts behind the new venture. "Many people who've been here say, 'Wouldn't it be nice if there was somewhere to go as a couple to have a drink and something light to eat. It will be interesting to see how it goes.'"

The couple are keen to stress that the new project will complement existing offers in the town.

"We want to fill a gap we see as missing," said Jonny. "We'll be working with Charlie (Allonbert) who has the Cheese Pod at the Harbour Village. He's come on board and his ideas will influence the deli, and ours the restaurant."

With the prospect of up to 15 new jobs, including apprenticeships, for local people, hopes are high that the new deli-kitchen will open at the start of August.

"We're excited," said Jonny. "It's going to be quite big – about 40 people inside and an outside space as well. Hopefully it'll be good for the area."

Julie said "Amble has developed in so



Johnny Bird giving a cookery demonstration at the Puffin Festival

many ways. It's one of these towns that adapts to what's happening in the area, and in the world. I think the High Street will be different in a few years' time. It will be interesting to see over the next five years how Amble will change."

Anna Williams

## Celebrating Mauretania day with random acts of kindness



Many people know Amble as the Friendliest Port and the story behind this soubriquet has led to a celebration event at Amble Harbour Village, with classic cars, a brass band and a distinctive 1930s theme to the day.

On Wednesday 3rd July 1935, when RMS Mauretania was heading on her final voyage to the docks at Rosyth to be broken up, she sailed past Amble.

At 10.25am, the clerk to Amble Urban Council sent the captain of the Mauretania a message of greeting:

*"Amble to Mauretania. Greetings from Amble, last port in England, to still the finest ship on the seas".*

Back came the reply:

*"Mauretania to Urban Council, Amble, to the last and kindest port in England, greetings and thanks. Mauretania."*

Decades of retelling this story means 'kindest' has now turned into 'friendliest'.

To celebrate this special day and Amble's reputation as 'the kindest port' Amble Harbour Village will be transformed back to

the 1930s on Sunday 3rd July. The village will be decorated in bunting, there will be classic cars on display, 1930s themed music, a brass band and jive dancing, and some random acts of kindness throughout the day, including giving away a £5 Harbour Village Voucher every hour from 10am until 3pm!

All the pods will be open from 10am to

4pm and there will be plenty of vintage tea and cake for sale.

See p22 for more info. Sarah Dunne and Helen Spark Harbour Village Coordinators



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## Through the Lens photography competition winners

### WATER Adult

- 1st Carol McKay  
2nd Penny Horseman  
3rd Richard Poyer

Highly commended; Joan Robinson (2), Dennis Hall, Richard Poyer, Jim Kirkpatrick, Joanne Payne, Helen Holmes, Clare Douglas, Mack Hetherington, Ann Baston (2), David Riches & Barbara Metzclaff.

### Children 10 & under

- 1st Ceara Douglas  
2nd Madeleine Newport

Highly Commended; Finlay Douglas (2) and Roisin Horseman

### Young 11 to 18

- 1st Lewis Bond  
2nd Martha Embleton

Highly Commended; Lewis Bond, Spencer Newport(2), Martha Embleton, Hope Vernon and Niamh Douglas

### MOVEMENT Adult

- 1st Carol McKay  
2nd Amy Baston  
3rd Richard Poyer

Highly Commended; Valerie Atkinson, Brian Flanighan, Barbara Graham, Carol McKay, Ann Baston and Richard Poyer

### Children 10 & under

- 1st Finlay Douglas  
2nd Madeleine Newport

### Young 11 to 18

- 1st Hope Vernon  
2nd Martha Embleton

### COMMUNITY PRIZE PEOPLE'S CHOICE

Amble Outreach Group Amy Baston

*Peter Cordingley*

## Street food Grill Topia launched



Amble-chef James Forsyth has launched a "street-food" outlet as a way to bring continental-style cuisine to the popular coastal resort. The business, known as Amble Grill Topia, is located in the Amble harbour area, aimed at attracting local people as well as the tourist trade between the harbour and main shopping area.

The venture was extensively researched last year by James and the positive feed-back encouraged him to prepare the outlet over the winter months for its official summer 2016 launch. As well as his own meals, James will be creating authentic Thai dishes as part of the menu range, with the assistance of Thai born Anna Ireland.

James has international catering experience having worked in Thailand and New Zealand and is bringing a fresh culinary approach to the coastal-landscape

He said: "Amble has a vibrant tourist trade and I am looking forward to offering visitors a taste-sensation."

"We also carry the Made in Northumberland stamp as our high quality beef, lamb and pork is supplied

through The Amble Butchers. Fresh fish is supplied by local fishermen and I will be using locally sourced produce when in season."

James has worked in numerous restaurants across the region and was named as one of Rick Stein's Food Heroes for his culinary accomplishments and he has also been a recipient of the prestigious Great Taste Awards.

Providing a new street-food concept will enhance the choices available to tourists according to James.

"Amble is becoming a renowned hub for culinary tastes which has helped lift the profile of the town and surrounding area and we aim to add to the increasing variety.

"Amble Grill Topia can also be hired for weddings, outdoor functions, charity events and parties and we recently provided the catering for a surfing beach party organised by Jon Nolan of Northside Surf School, Amble and a wedding at Guyzance Hall for popular local chef Johnny at Sea and Soil."

You can contact James via his or the 'Amble Grill Topia' Facebook page, or [amblegrilltopia@yahoo.com](mailto:amblegrilltopia@yahoo.com)

## Amble boat yard will close but Spurreli plans to expand

There is mixed news at the harbour as traditional industry makes way for new development.

Fans of Spurreli ice cream will likely be excited to hear of plans to expand their award-winning eatery, into a two-storey building on a site adjacent to the one it occupies now. And plans are also afoot to create new housing, holiday lets and retail pods, on the site of the current boat yard.

Nick Spurr, owner of the boat yard explained his vision for the harbourside site.

"The decision has been made to close Amble Boat Company and develop the whole site," he told The Ambler.

"But it's not a decision that has been taken lightly. I've spent my whole life in the marine industry and I'm very focused on trying to retain a marine facility in the town. I am talking to Warkworth Harbour Commissioners and the Marina to see if it is possible to retain some boat repair facility on the old Shorebase Trust site."



The loss of nine jobs at the boatyard is a blow to the town, a fact of which Nick is acutely aware. "I don't want Amble, having given us a livelihood for the last 25 years, to then lose a facility that's been there about 100 years," he said.

Nick described the plans to transform the boat yard site, with the big blue building replaced by a mix of apartments, holiday lets, retail pods and a restaurant. "Coble

Quays Development has been working in consultation with planners for about six months, but we are still working on a final presentation," he said.

In the meantime, planning approval has been given for the fourth apartment block at Coble Quay, and work on this should begin in September, with a completion date a year later.

In plans still to be submitted, Spurreli Boutique Ice Cream wants to expand to allow more seating capacity, including a glazed balcony and roof terrace with patio heaters on the first floor.

"We want to retain the same character, but make it bigger and nice and open. Upstairs we will also provide a relaxed licensed bar and a clean, fresh lounge area. We hope to create a pleasant evening venue and the whole development should create many new jobs."

*Anna Williams*



## Living a full life

Seeing a 93-year-old man walking pretty slowly with a four wheeled walker gives no indication of the active and varied life he has lived.

James M Johnston (known to nearly everybody as Johnny) was born in 1922 in the Scottish borders. His father was a farm worker, working on a number of farms during the childhood of his five children. Village schools were the source of formal education, but I can't help feeling that real learning came from active living and the challenges of farm life in those days.

Johnny always knew that he wanted a life away from the drudgery of farm work, so he became a boy soldier at the age of 14.

During the next twenty odd years he was in turn, a piper, a pipe major, a paratrooper, a parachute instructor, a PTIC (physical training instructor), a member of a tank crew, and a tank driving instructor.

Johnny's service life took him to various UK postings, to the D-Day landings as a Pathfinder, on through France and Germany,

to the Far East, the Middle East and on to Germany.

Coming out of the Army, as so many NCOs did, with the end of national service in the late 1950s, he joined the WDC (War Department Constabulary, now the MOD Police.) work kept him busy, but so did his enthusiasm for football refereeing and running. I only saw him ref once, and predictably there was only one man in charge of the game, making good and fair decisions.

Johnny had always been fit, hence his selection as a para, so he took to running like a duck to water. He has run all over the world in a range of events from 5,000 and 10,000 metres to marathons, with a good sprinkling of cross country races (probably his favourite and mine!) The bronze medal he won in veterans' athletics events in Melbourne must be a highlight.

The map in their garage is testimony to the travels of Johnny and his wife of 67 years, Vera. I know that Vera has been

a very important part of the logistics team, besides working as a nurse for many years, including a spell in a military hospital.

It seemed right that Vera and Johnny came to live here in Amble, Vera's home town. They've lived here for 30 years, longer than they've lived anywhere else, having a full and widely travelled retirement.

Johnny's range of military and sporting medals and

trophies now includes the Legion D'Honneur, given to D-Day veterans by the French government in a recent and very moving presentation ceremony at RAF Eltrington in Yorkshire. It's more than 72 years since Johnny landed as a Pathfinder, and then made his way through Europe with a "borrowed" American carbine, with its complement of ammunition. How's that for a full life?

*Harry McQuillen*



Johnny Johnston and his daughter Barbara Bugg at the ceremony where he was awarded the Legion d'Honneur

## Giving you quicker access to your doctor

We know that getting to see a doctor has been frustrating and difficult at times so we are changing the way that we work to enable you to get help from us more easily, as the demand for GP appointments continues to increase.

Now you will not have to rely on calling early or persuading our receptionist that your case is urgent in order to get seen on the day of your choice.

Around the country it has been found that the closer people book to the date that they want to be seen, the less likely are they to fail to attend. This means that less time is wasted and the doctor can see you sooner.

It will no longer be necessary therefore, for you to book appointments in advance.

Practices all around the country have started working like this and they have found that where they offer this service, patients are much happier with the service that they get.

### HOW IT WORKS:

We will only pre-book 20% of our available appointments. This has been supported by capacity and demand analyses carried out in practices.

All of our other appointments will be released on the day so that when you contact the surgery to ask for an appointment, you should be offered an appointment on the same day.

We will still have an on-call duty doctor each day to enable anyone who is acutely unwell to speak to a doctor and, if needed, be seen in an "emergency appointment".

If you just want advice or some other type of help from the doctor and this can be done via the telephone, then you will be able to request a telephone consultation appointment.

Thank you for your co-operation and we welcome your feedback.

*Coquet Medical Group*

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# WHAT YOU SAY...

## Keep dogs out of the water feature

Third trip to paddlers park, lovely, kids love it. Unfortunately third time people have had dogs in the water feature when there are clear signs saying to keep dogs out.

*Carl Donaldson via Facebook*

## Dog ban discriminates disabled

Having read all the Facebook comments regarding the Little Shore and subsequent dog bans, I see posts stating that the other beaches should be used for those disabled dog owners to exercise their dogs. Has anyone considered how the disabled are to access these beaches? The disabled are being discriminated against.

May I request that a meeting be held with Amble Town Council as a start to discuss this matter? This if need be has to go higher than our own local authorities. It is clear that the decision made by WHC to impose the ban clearly overlooked or chose to overlook the impact upon the community as a whole. I have also noticed that WHC choses to charge disabled badge holders for the use of parking facilities.

*Rob Hewitson via Facebook*

## Praise for Harry, Bob and Jordan

Me and the wife and the kids would like to thank Harry [McQuillen] on his very informative walk / talk [during the Puffin Festival].

It was an absolute pleasure to listen to this man, his enthusiasm for Amble is great and I hope when I get to his age I'm half as fit as he is...

Harry you are a star and once again thank you for a wonderful walk and talk.

We also popped into the Masonic Hall and it was a pleasure to meet Bob and Jordan, and the son loved the fact he was allowed to sit in the Masters chair. Thank you gentlemen and I will see you both in the future.

*John Gordon via Facebook*

## Flying Scotsman passes by

Up bright and early again and headed just up the road to Acklington platform to capture a couple of images of the Flying Scotsman as it made its return journey from Edinburgh to York this morning.

*Andrew Mounsey  
Photography via  
Facebook*



## Lyra wins the Puffin Trail

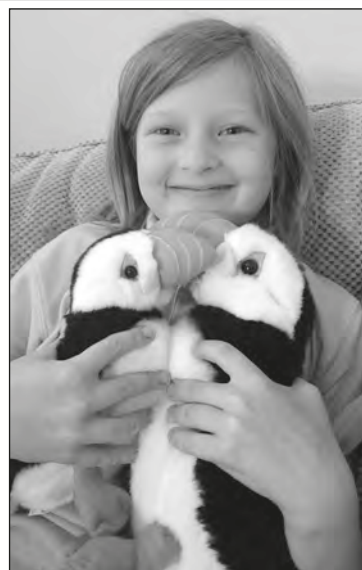
My daughter Lyra Burst won the Puffin Trail that was held during Puffin week. Puffins are Lyra's favourite animal and she loves visiting Coquet Island to see them.

We all had great fun tracking down Pete the Puffin and discovering what he had been doing. Lyra is looking forward to trying some of the activities that Pete was doing in the future.

Surfing is first on her list.

Lyra was very excited to hear that she had won the trail and was over the moon to receive her prize, she has named the two puffin toys Primrose and Poppy.

My parents who live in Amble thought you would appreciate a picture of Lyra with her puffins.



Puffin Trail winner Lyra Burst

*Rhiannon Morgan, via email*

## What will happen to Dovecote Centre's classes?

I have heard that the Dovecote Centre is to close this year. Please do you know if this information is correct and if so whether adult education classes and other activities will still be available in Amble.

Many thanks

*Jean Baird, Amble*

Ed: We have spoken to the council's adult learning service but they had no information on any new venue. We will keep trying! See also p8.

## Variety show success

Amble's Variety Show on May 13 in St. Mark's Church was a huge success. The Church was so packed, extra chairs had to be found for the throng.

The performers were all brilliant: we had singers (soloists and groups), piano and fiddle players, poets, story-tellers, puppets, and a tribute to the late Victoria Wood.

Everyone was able to get in for free, but when we asked for donations for Christian Aid a total of £1000 was raised and we are overwhelmed by the generosity of those who attended and performed. Thank you all so much.

*Sue Swanston, Amble*

## Poem: Here comes summer

Soon trees and plants will be in bloom  
Gone are winter cold days and frosts  
No need to huddle around the fire at home  
Get out in the sunshine and roam.

Most people you greet on the street  
always have a smile in this fine weather  
You say good morning to someone  
You could travel for miles  
*Norman Clay, Amble*

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.



## Live bird feed shows all summer

Care showing live footage of birds throughout the summer, allowing members of the public the chance to see and hear the island's feathered population in real time.

The two cameras are positioned on the roseate tern terraces, as part of a project aimed at improving the conservation prospects of roseate terns, which are the UK's rarest nesting seabirds. Coquet Island is home to 90% of the roseate tern population in the UK.

RSPB Coquet Island's head warden Paul Morrison showed the live footage at his talk at this year's puffin festival, together with 360 degree virtual reality headsets with footage from Coquet Island.

At a week-long event at the BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Arts in Gateshead there was a big screen link to the live footage, as well as various art projects in the contemporary art gallery and in local schools.

Paul has been appointed 'UK Ambassador for roseate terns' –

which means he will be visiting several areas in the UK to explain how the Coquet Island team manage the birds and give advice where needed.

"I've recently been to Wales and I explained how we work; the tern terraces, nest boxes etc. We've got 111 roseate terns now, which is the first time there's been more than 100 in 40 years. The lowest point was 18 in 2000. That's when we built the terraces. We had 34 the first year. Now over 50% of roseate terns are born on Coquet Island. They go to Ghana to overwinter, but they only breed here."

And to illustrate the importance of the project, he brought the number into sharp focus. "There are more roseate terns on Coquet Island than in the whole of France."

The EU funded a £2M project that will last for 5 years and is shared between RSPB Coquet Island, Anglesey Wildlife Trust and BirdWatch Ireland.

Of the event which ran at the BALTIC during the spring half term, assistant warden Wez



See Coquet Island's puffins and roseate terns in real time via the webcam

Davies described some of the events: "Our old night hide was installed for people to look at and experience what it might be like. The live stream was a large projection and the cinema room played Coquet Island films.

There were island artefacts to touch and smell, as well as the virtual reality puffin headsets."

Artwork produced by local children was displayed on the internet, while at BALTIC itself, artists helped children to make

model seabirds. They were able to learn about migration by drawing on giant world maps around the gallery and made a massive nest to have their photo taken in and learn about 'homes for nature'.

"After the event, the live feed will stay up for everybody until the rosies head off to winter," said Wez.

Google "RSPB Coquet Island bird cam" to find the link to the live footage.

## Welcome to new businesses on Queen Street

Dolly's and Daisy's is a new tea room and gift shop, owned by a mother and daughter team from Tynemouth. Tracey Brooks runs Dolly's, the gift shop, while her daughter Sophie Garside runs Daisy's tea room.

"My mother already sold gifts in Tynemouth," said Sophie. "We decided to get a shop together and we were looking

in Morpeth, but it fell through. My sister lives at Widdrington Station and we had a ride up to Amble. We saw this shop and thought 'That's it' "

Afternoon tea is the main focus of Daisy's, with sandwiches, scones and cakes sold all day.

Brothers Yusuf and TJ Sabanici have just opened

06 Marmaris Turkish Barbers and are open seven days a week (half day on Sunday).

"We've worked all over Northumberland," said Yusuf, "but we chose Amble, because there are no Turkish barbers around here. They are mostly based nearer Newcastle."

As well as offering haircuts and styling, beard trims and hot

towel shaves, the brothers also offer hot waxing, face masks and head and neck massages. Not to mention ear flaming (look it up) which Yusuf assured me is an excellent and effective way to remove unwanted ear hair!

And look out for Toys and Trinkets due to open in the former Classic Shoes shop. *Anna Williams*

## Campaign for superfast broadband throughout Northumberland

The Queen's Speech saw the annual pageantry descend on the Palace of Westminster, but the real interest is in the list of upcoming Government Bills. For me, the one which will have the biggest impact on Northumberland is the Digital Economy Bill, which will introduce a 'universal service obligation' for broadband.

By next year, 95% of homes in the UK will be able to access superfast broadband, but here in rural Northumberland, we often struggle to get a half-decent connection, which affects businesses, schools and families.

The reason I have campaigned for a universal service obligation for broadband, is that I believe it should be on the same footing as telephony. This means that fast broadband will be available on request, putting broadband connections on a par with the obligation to provide a telephone

line. Just as there is for telephone lines, there will need to be a cap on the cost that the universal service provider or providers can be reasonably expected to pay. That is the element which will prove important in areas such as ours.

I will be scrutinising this bill very carefully to ensure that it will indeed enable the vast majority of homes in Northumberland to access broadband of a decent speed. This consultation will be used to decide the financial commitment required to support rural communities in accessing the 10Mbps broadband service.

Many parts of north Northumberland are now able to access superfast broadband where BT has upgraded its cabinets, although I am acutely aware that the nature of the system is such that residents more than a mile from the cabinet will not see the maximum

level of improvement.

However it is very important that people check via the iNorthumberland website (<http://www.inorthumberland.org.uk/>) if it is in theory available via the exchange, as present statistics indicate that only 30-35% of those who are able to take up superfast broadband contracts have done so.

With the fast-moving pace of digital development to business and medicine, I want to ensure as many homes as possible convert to superfast contracts so BT's commitment to reinvest Government subsidy into the fibre network can be achieved as soon as possible.

*Anne-Marie Trevelyan, M.P.*



## Dovecote Centre in shock closure

Northumberland County Council have announced that the Dovecote Centre will close from 25 July.

The building was home to adult learning classes, keep fit classes, Busy Bees Nursery and Dovecote toddler group.

Tracey Dixon of Busy Bees nursery told The Ambler they had no prior warning of the closure "It was an awful shock," she said. "We are looking for premises, so if anyone can help us we would be grateful."

A spokesperson for Northumberland County Council said: "The adult learning service has found that it will be able to offer courses in the Amble area, in local venues, without the need to fund the cost of a full time centre.

"The move will help to ensure that the service is

sustainable into the future, and to keep course prices down. These are challenging financial times for the council, and the service has also lost over £500,000 through the ending of Government grants for community learning.

"We have given notice to the toddler group and other building users, and explained that this has not been an easy decision.

"The council is reviewing the use of all buildings - and we have already identified opportunities to generate over £33million in capital income, contribute significantly to economic growth and regeneration and make annual savings in running costs of £3.4million by selling off surplus buildings and ensuring all remaining properties are fit for purpose."

The Dovecote Centre is owned by the Diocese of Newcastle and has been leased to Northumberland County Council for decades.

A spokesman said: "The Diocese of Newcastle has only just been advised of the closure of the Dovecote Centre by Northumberland County Council, and will be reviewing the future of this former school building shortly."

When asked, the council's adult learning service had no information on any future venue for classes, but said they would let us know as soon as they could.

If you can help Busy Bees, who need premises for 15 hours per week, 3 hours per day, morning or afternoon, please contact Tracey Dixon on 0772 8622221 [traceydixon121@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:traceydixon121@yahoo.co.uk)

## Improve your lifestyle talk by author raises money for Shannon appeal

Anne-Lise Miller, a Naturopathic practitioner gave a lecture in 'Sea and Soil' to a small enthusiastic audience interested in maintaining a healthy lifestyle, understanding how to help our bodies thrive through healthy eating and exercise.

Anne-Lise whose mantra is "don't delegate health, it's yours" also explained the benefits to health of Colonic Hydrotherapy and Detoxification.

Organiser Hazel Small said "I wanted to highlight digestive/colonic health and influences which can help or hinder it. Anne-Lise, my tutor and adviser from many years, came along to give an overview of the digestive system and point out in general how optimizing your health through maintaining a healthy gut can help prevent many mental and physical diseases.

She also offered a book signing of her newly published book 'Too Young to Grow Old' which gives very insightful information about keeping your gut healthy and improving your overall health.

The book is in bite sized chunks so it's not overwhelming for those with little knowledge on the subject and there are useful recipes and tips for healthier eating.

Local singer Brian English entertained the guests whilst wine and canapés were served.



Anne-Lise Miller and Hazel Small

These were delightfully prepared by Jonny Bird. There were wheat free, dairy free and vegetarian options to cater for different tastes and dietary requests.

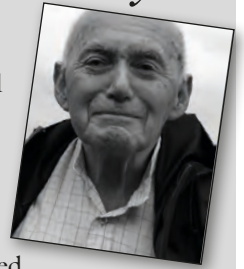
Finally, the afternoon was rounded off with an auction of goodies to raise funds for the Amble Lifeboat as it is a charity Hazel personally likes to support.

Donations for the raffle came from Hazel, Park Leisure, Ashley Sims from The 'P' Pod and Karen from Edie Pebbles (both at the Harbour Village), Emma Manners Independent Consultant with ARBONNE, Amanda Barrell Tai Chi Instructor at In Sync. £212 was raised.

Another event is planned for September, venue to be confirmed.

## Age of insecurity

I've never felt that my general title for my ramblings was so appropriate. Insecurity is the order of the day.



Today, I listened to a broadcast address by Angelina Jolie-Pitt to a large audience of interested people. Her topic was migration and the plight of so many migrants of all ages and backgrounds. We hear daily reference to demands by Turkey for their people to be allowed to travel freely in the EU or at least in most of the EU.

Next, we hear about Donald Trump, a presidential hopeful, who arouses howls of protest and laughter in equal measure.

The fact that this is the warmest year on record (or was it last year?) may have a connection to the devastating fires in Alberta and to climate change in general. So many conflicts, natural disasters and diseases, with other causes of tension and insecurity!

Our own EU referendum and discussions about it seem to generate more heat than light. Of course, economic forecasts rarely seem to come to valid conclusions. Perhaps, like most political careers, they are doomed to failure.

I didn't intend to comment on the referendum or give a judgement. I must now confess that I'll abstain, and not vote at all. My reason is simple: as an octogenarian on the 'Downhill Run of Life', I'm sure that the result will be of lesser consequence for me than for the three generations that follow me. I believe that it should be their decision. Through all the fact and fiction of the EU debate, the decision probably depends on gut feeling. Perhaps it's a bit like marriage: we feel that we know what's right.

Our great old town seems to be doing OK. People visit Amble, like it and come back.

By the time we read the next edition of The Ambler, the Great Result will be out. Will it make much difference to most of us? We'll still live in houses (some of us), eat food, and do the things we can do.

And, as I always say, things will work out better if we do them TOGETHER.

Harry McQuillen



## Tackling under-age drinking

A new partnership has been set up in Alnwick and Amble to help tackle under-age drinking and warn young people about the dangers of alcohol.

The Alnwick Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) brings together a range of partners including local retailers and licensees, councillors, police, health services, housing providers and schools to tackle the problem of underage drinking and associated anti-social behaviour. The partnership aims to:

- Reduce youth-related anti-social behaviour associated with alcohol consumption
- Improve the health of young people so they are aware of the consequences associated with drinking alcohol and to support agencies who work with young people to do this.
- Improve general understanding of safe drinking limits and the law relating to the sale of alcohol to young people.
- Develop a responsible retailing ethos and effective partnership approach.

Work is already ongoing, but by a number of different organisations, and by bringing it under a CAP organisers can tap into more funding and resource opportunities.

Alnwick CAP is the 105th CAP nationwide and is being coordinated under the Safer Northumberland partnership by Community Safety Officer Judith Davis.

Derek Lewis, the national Chair of CAP added: "I'm delighted at the launch of a Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) in Alnwick.

"Community Alcohol Partnerships are a tried and tested way of driving down underage drinking and creating better, safer and friendlier neighbourhoods."

Anyone wishing to report underage drinking, the sale of alcohol to young people or any other related issues should contact their neighbourhood police team on 101.

*Judith Davis*



Above: Judith Davis with Alan Simpson the area CAP officer

## Love Northumberland, hate litter

As the weather gets warmer and beach barbecues and picnics become increasingly popular, the council are encouraging visitors to act responsibly to make sure all litter is either binned or taken home, leaving the beaches unspoilt and safe.

This initiative is part of the 'Love Northumberland, Hate Litter' campaign, Northumberland County Council's drive to clean up the county.

By adopting the three 'e's approach, 'education, engagement and enforcement', the campaign aims to raise awareness of the problems associated with littering and works proactively with schools and business to mark positive action.

Lending their support to the campaign, pupils from Seahouses Middle school took part in a litter pick on St Aidan's beach, organised by the National Trust.

Amongst the many items the children removed from the beach were plastic bottles and bags which can take over 450 years to biodegrade; hundreds of cotton buds which entered the ocean after being flushed

down toilets; and small plastic pellets, often consumed by marine wildlife, known to environmentalists as "mermaids' tears."

Jane Lancaster, Coastal Ranger for the National Trust, who manage over 12 miles of Northumberland's coastline, said: "We welcome the council's campaign against litter and appreciate every item of rubbish that is collected by schoolchildren, local residents and visitors. I would especially like to thank class 5c from Seahouses Middle School for all their support.

Litter poses a significant risk to wildlife especially in areas such as the Farne Islands which provide breeding grounds for many rare species of birds

and animals and it is our duty to limit the impact we have on our environment as much as possible."

The effects of littering include harm to the environment, a threat to public health, and the huge cost to the tax payer of cleaning up public spaces. It is also unsightly and has a negative impact on the tourism industry.

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## Amble Links School continues to be good

Amble Links School has been issued with their latest Ofsted report, which makes good reading for staff and parents.

The schools inspector visited Amble Links in April and reported that the leadership team has maintained a good quality of education since the last inspection in 2011.

Parents appreciated that the staff were approachable and the school had a strong culture of inclusivity.

The school is making better use of up-to-date information and computer technology enhances teaching and learning opportunities. The proportion of children reaching expected standards at the end of the reception year has steadily improved and sits above the national figure, and this is often from starting at a lower standard. The proportion of key stage 1 pupils reaching expected standards is also in line with the national average. Pupils in key stage 2 are making good progress and are effectively prepared for the next stage in their education.

Pupils say they enjoy coming to school

and learning and are well looked after. They express pride in their own and others' achievements, which helps develop learning skills and foster positive relationships, preparing them well for later life.

Protecting children and keeping them safe is central to the day-to-day work of the school.

Levels of attendance and punctuality are improving. Home, school and other agencies work in partnership to resolve concerns. Children understand the different forms that bullying can take and how this can affect others.

Work to improve boys' interest and abilities in writing has been tackled by making writing more attractive and meaningful to them, tailoring topics and offering exciting writing challenges.

All staff agree that the school is well managed.

New reading material offers key stage 2 pupils opportunities to develop higher-level analytical skills and daily 'know, understand and apply' challenges demand greater depth of learning.

Governors are a regular presence in the school. They consistently challenge the school to make further improvements.

The majority of parents speak very highly of the school and its leaders. Parents agree that pupils in the school are well behaved and that their children feel safe. The opportunity to visit the school's reward assemblies, each Friday, is greatly valued. A few parents disagree with the amount of homework pupils receive. However, others express positive views saying the homework is helpful in allowing them the opportunity to contribute to their child's learning, especially through the online systems the school offers.

Ofsted suggests that the next steps for the school should be further support for recently established leaders to develop the knowledge and skills needed to have rapid and substantial impact on improvement; staff use the recently developed assessment system with consistency and rigour to accurately track the progress and attainment of pupils; and that the teaching of reading improves to enable more pupils to reach the highest possible standards.

## Girlguiding in Amble and Warkworth

There are now Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Senior Section units running locally.

Rainbows are for girls aged 5-7, Brownies for 7-10 and Guides 10-14, Senior Section is for those up to 26.

Girlguiding offers a space for girls to be themselves, have fun, build friendships, gain valuable life skills and make a positive difference to their lives and communities.

This term the Rainbows have been working their Alice in Wonderland Challenge Badge by designing and painting teapots, playing card games and learning a dance.

Brownies made pizza in an outdoor oven and had a visit from the Community Police team to teach them how to make an emergency phone call.

Amble Guides went to Druridge Bay for a Capture the Flag wide game, one of the activities, along with archery, on the Victor Challenge badge they completed.

If your daughter would like to join, please register your interest at [www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus).



Girls having a great time at a Thinking Day event in Morpeth

## New film promotes the council's plans

A new film explaining the council's Market Towns' Initiative is now available online. To help ensure the public know the reasons behind the authority's plans for its nine major towns, including relocating County Hall to Ashington, a short film has been created.

It explains the rationale behind the plans, how savings are being made and the benefits to the people of Northumberland.

Across Northumberland the council has identified opportunities to generate over £33million in capital income, contribute significantly to economic growth and regeneration and make annual savings in running costs of £3.4million by selling off its surplus buildings and ensuring all its remaining properties are fit for the 21st Century.

The move to locate facilities together under one roof wherever possible in towns will make it easier for residents to access key frontline services in their local area.

Grant Davey, Leader of Northumberland County Council, said: "Making sure everyone has a good understanding of the reasons behind our market towns initiative is vital. After all it will be the public who will reap the benefits of services being located together in our market towns in fresh, modern facilities".

"This short film explains the reasons behind the decisions we've taken and our future plans – all in the space of two-and-a-half minutes."

To view the film, visit [www.northumberland.gov.uk/future](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/future)





I-r top row: Tribe Zuza, Scotty's circus skills, Above: Tommy Noddy and friends, learning about nature at the RSPB stall, Tommy and the sisters. Right: Caribbean Crew at the Food Festival. More on p14, 24 and our website. Photos by Bartle Rippon, Andrew Mounsey Photography and Anna Williams



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# PADDLERS PARK INVESTIGATED

A lot of money (about £180,000) has been spent on new equipment and layout at the Paddlers, so we decided to go and check it out. Here is our report

AVA

## Activity

Air walker (runny swingy thingy) **AWESOME!**

Double Rower

Balancing thing

Water structure

Plate spin

Teacup

Hopscotch

Overall opinion:

I really like the new paddlers park, especially the runny swingy thingy.

## Opinion

Hard

Easy

Great

Difficult

Fun

OK



## Euro 2016 football tournament

Dates: 10 June

- 10 July

We are

supporting

ENGLAND of

course, but

we also are doing a fun game

where we all drew a different team

from a hat. Whoever gets the

winning team wins a prize.



Bethany : Belgium + England

Lily T : Russia + Northern Ireland

Ava : Ukraine + Italy

Lily W: Portugal + Sweden

Emma : Albania + Wales

Louise : Poland + Austria

Anna : Spain+ Romania

Mark : Germany + Rep. Ireland

By Bethany Sales

## Check out our latest video!

On a rainy day we went to Amble Harbour Village pods and interviewed some of the people who own pods.

We interviewed

Val from Lady

Milly, Dawn

from Kenspeckle,

Laura from

Coquet

Cosmetics,

Martin from

Mocha Mondo

coffee and a lady

from the Boat

Shed Gallery.

Kenspeckle gave

us coal (not real

coal, chocolate coal!) It was really fun despite the weather. You

can see it on Artograffi's Facebook page. By Ava



Artograffi visit Amble Harbour Village Pods

In the middle of a rainstorm, the young journalists visit Amble Harbour Village retail pods and talk to some of the owners. Filmed by Artograffi and Mark...

YOUTUBE.COM



LILY

## Activity

Air Walker

Double Rower

Water Feature

Tunnel

Bars (parallel)

Bars

Table tennis

General design

Overall opinion:

Fun and a great tourist attraction, the design is

really holiday beach themed and is super pretty

## Opinion

Amazeballs!! Best Ever!!

Cool but clonky

Fun and pretty

Rubbish, all muddy

Fun and simple

Fun and simple

Cool and quirky

Pretty and holiday-like

GEORGE-ANNE

## Activity

Air Walker

Water Guide

Swing

Parkour

Overall opinion:

A.M.A.Z.I.N.G. Favourite: Parkour

## Opinion

Disorientating

Fun

Fun

Chicago 1970's good

LOUISE

## Activity

Double Rower

Water feature:

Parallel bars:

Overall Opinion:

My favourite was the water feature.

## Opinion

Rough and bumpy and I could

feel my muscles

I enjoyed it. You have to pull

the pump to get the water out

Hard!

BETHANY

## Activity

Air walker

Double Rower

Water features:

Bars:

Swings:

Hopscotch:

Pretty graphics:

## Opinion

Fun but tiring

Very hard not fun

Very attractive and fun

Good for flips

Very fun and enjoyable

Fun and bright

Cool bright and good for small

children

Overall opinion

My favourite piece of equipment was the foot thing

as two people can go on it and you can talk it is also

very fun. Although I was a bit disappointed with

how much was there but still very fun.

## The Olympics!

The Olympics is being held on the 5th -21st of August at Rio. It is a huge sporting competition where sportsmen from around the world compete, but the true meaning of the games is unity and peace.



Artograffi have been talking to Laura Weightman, a runner who is training for this years' games. Last games she ran the 1500m final and came 11th! We asked her some questions:

*We heard you were training abroad; where are you at the minute?*

**I have been on a few training camps this year to build up to the summer season. I spent 4 weeks in Kenya at altitude in January, I then went to Portugal in April for 10 days warm weather training and then my final training camp was in Font Romeu, France, this was another altitude training camp. These camps help me prepare for the season getting some good quality training done.**

*When will you hear if you have qualified for the 2016 Olympics?*

**To qualify for Rio I have to finish in the top 2 at the British championships the last weekend in June. I have already run the qualifying time which is 4:07.00. In my first race of the season in America at the Eugene diamond league I ran 4:03.04.**

*What is it like coming all the way from a small club like Morpeth harriers to an Olympic final?*

**It's amazing to look back and think my running journey began as a young 12 year old running for Morpeth harriers. I am proud to still represent**

**Morpeth and compete for the team in races through the winter.**

*What is it like being in the Olympics?*

**Competing at the Olympic Games is an incredible experience, London 2012 was a dream come true. It's an honour to represent your country and I hope I can do everyone proud again in August.**

We wish her and all of Britain's other sportspeople the best of luck!

By Lily T



Laura in training

## Turn about Pegasus

Turn About Pegasus is a group project held at Hetton Steads for the surrounding schools, e.g. St Paul's Middle School. The project includes:

- Learning new skills like teamwork, non-verbal communication etc.
- Learning to listen, increase self confidence and try new things.

Pegasus was started by Tracie Faa-Thompson. Miss Tracey Young identifies children in need of learning new skills about themselves and others and sets up the trips to go to Hetton Steads, near Wooler.

There are two Shetland ponies, Gypsy Vanners and grey Arabian

horses.

On week one we had to learn, by ourselves, how to put a halter on and groom the horses, getting to know them. We struggled... but were determined. On the second week, we tried putting halters on the horses... again... mainly a major fail... however by week three we had mastered it!

One session we took the horses for a walk about a mile north west. Madonna, a mischievous Shetland, shook his head against the two guiding him. He scared the girl, causing her to walk behind the horses, crying. By the end of the

programme she was completely calm and able to cope with all the horses. A big bonus.

On the fourth week we made an obstacle course, which we ran ourselves too. On the fifth week we raced the two Shetland ponies after we tested it ourselves! It was great fun and everyone loved it.

The children doing Turn About Pegasus aren't allowed to ride the horses but they are allowed to direct the horses, feed the horses carrots, groom the horses to say 'thank you' and talk to the horses - We were upset when we had to say goodbye! By George-Anne







Photos by Bartle Rippon, Andrew Mounsey Photography, Anna Williams and Radcliffe Club

## Puffin Festival fun



Top l-r: At the PARRT dog show, Lilydee Bell won Best Young Handler, Riverside Falconry, Puffintastic crafts Above: Coastal Rowing Club's skiff racing, Tommy Noddy and friends. Below: having a splashing time at Radcliffe Club's funday. See also p1, 11, 24 and our website.



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## Colourful beach huts line the Little Shore



Pupils from Amble First Schools were invited to name and select the colours of the eight new beach huts being built at the Little Shore. Four of the huts will be short term lets, while the other four will be long term (one year).

1. Buckets & Spades: white with a green door (Amble Links First School)
2. Pier View: blue with a green door (Amble First School)
3. Sea Shell: peach with a yellow door (Amble Links First School)
4. Beachcomber: pale pink with a lilac door (Amble First School)
5. Lobster Pot: blue with a lilac door (Amble Links First School)
6. Sunlight: yellow with pink door (Amble First School)
7. Sunny Days: green with an orange door (Amble Links First School)
8. Sandhaven: turquoise with a green door (Amble First School)

Rental prices for the small huts range from £20 per day, £50 per weekend and £120 for a week, to £150 per year. A deposit is required. To book, contact the Harbour Office 01665 710306.

## Dog ban causes controversy

Warkworth Harbour Commissioners have recently announced a ban on dogs on the Little Shore beach and dunes, although they are still allowed on the grass.

A WHC spokesman explained why they had taken the decision: "It was in response to a significant number of complaints of so much dog poo in the dunes and beach, but dogs are still free to walk on the green and pier."

But the decision has caused a great deal of conversation on social media, with many unhappy that the announcement was initially made on Facebook.

But the Harbour Commissioners defended the decision and blamed irresponsible dog owners for failing to pick up after their pets.

"The harbour authority's prime role is the management of the harbour and that does include some recreational areas," said a spokesman.

"It is only right that families should be able to come down and enjoy the beach. The responsible dog owners (including some members of WHC) have been penalised, because of irresponsible owners."

*Anna Williams*

SP: Warkworth Harbour Amble haven't responded to the questions on the original post. I'm paying no attention until someone lays out how it was decided and how it is enforceable. I clean up after my dog so I don't see why I can't use the beach :)

AT: What a shame. We've been coming twice a year for 20 years, staying at Ladbroke St. Our 2 dogs love to go on the beach.

JPT: I agree some people never pick up after their dogs when they take their dogs out after dark so no one can see them.

SI: What about CCTV to spot the offending dog owners. Much better than banning dogs.

## Work underway on A1 underpass

Work has begun on creating a new underpass on the A1 at Morpeth which will form a key part of the junction between the road and the new Morpeth Northern Bypass. The works will mean drivers will be using a new section of road for the first time.

It marks the latest stage in the £30m Morpeth Northern Bypass scheme which will cut congestion in Morpeth and reduce travel time and costs between the A1 and the South East Northumberland.

Both northbound and southbound A1 traffic will be diverted from the existing carriageway to use newly constructed lengths of road running along each side of the A1 which will eventually become the slip roads for the new junction.

Northbound drivers will filter off the A1 between the River Wansbeck and the A697 slip road and travel along the new section of road.

The southbound diversion will be in place for several months and will allow excavation of the A1 embankment and the creation of an underpass beneath the road which will ultimately allow traffic to join and leave the new bypass at its western end.

Councillor Ian Swithenbank, Cabinet member for Local Services, said: "This new diversion marks the start of one of the next major stages of this impressive engineering project. This method of construction using the future slip roads whilst we construct the bridge will allow the works to be carried out much more quickly and safely than other methods and also minimise traffic delays".

The 2.4 mile bypass is scheduled for completion in March 2017.

More information on the Morpeth Northern Bypass can be found at [www.morpethnorthernbypass.org](http://www.morpethnorthernbypass.org) and road users can stay up to date with closures for works by following the project on Twitter at @MorpethBypass.

## Rotary in the flower beds



Members of the Rotary Club during a tidying session of the flower beds around Amble Town Square. This was part of their continuing Community Project work which has involved fence-painting at Brambles Child Care Centre, repairing a damaged trough at the entrance to Warkworth and helping Warkworth in Bloom spruce up a flower bed.

The new Rotary year begins on July 1 and at the Rotary meeting on June 28, Rotarian Dave Shoemaker handed over the Presidency to Rotarian Stephen Kerry. In his valedictory address Dave congratulated all members of the club on another highly successful year, which has seen the club take part in a number of projects for the community as well as raising in excess of £5,000 for local charities and good causes.

A number of changes have taken place including moving the weekly meetings to The Hermitage Inn in Warkworth. Committees have also changed with three new committees

being formed, namely: Projects: Fund-Raising and Social/Entertainment which replace the former Community, International and Club committees. The new team is as follows: President: Stephen Kerry Senior Vice President and Treasurer: John Geggie Secretary: Fred Calvert Chairmen of committees: Projects: Paul Creighton Fund-Raising: Derek Conway Social / Entertainment: Tim Mason For further information on your local Rotary Club see: [www.ambleandwarkworthrotary.org](http://www.ambleandwarkworthrotary.org)



## Brambles' superhero kids



We have been very busy fundraising at Bramble. On Friday May 13 we took part in Metro Radio's Cash for Kids Superhero Day.

This involved the children and staff dressing up, making and selling cakes and lots of

superhero activity. It was a great day and we were even interviewed live on Metro Radio!

Friday May 20 saw our Family Fun Night at the Radcliffe Club. There was a raffle, domino cards, disco and

lots of games for the children to enjoy, all raising funds for much needed resources and activities at Brambles.

We would like to say a big thank you to the Radcliffe Club for letting us hold the event there and to JPS Discos for providing the brilliant entertainment.

We have also had great support from the Rotary Club of Amble and Warkworth. Over a period of three weeks a group of their volunteers came and painted the whole of our exterior fence and tidied up the surrounding area.

We are so grateful for their help and they only asked for coffee and cake in return! This in turn, has enabled us to start work on an exciting new project which, with the support of other community groups and local businesses, will see a side of the fence decorated with our children's artwork. Watch this space for more details.

There are also some exciting new sessions launching at Brambles in the next few months. Time Out for Two Year Olds is a three hour session on Friday afternoons from 1-4pm and costing only £10.

This is to introduce them to a nursery environment, allow social interaction opportunities and give mum and dad a few hours break! Places are limited and must be booked in advance although there is no commitment to attend every week.

Also watch out for our Summer Sizzler sessions over the summer holidays which will be two hour sessions for first school aged children and will be jam packed with fun activities.

For further information on this, or to discuss any childcare needs, please call 01665 710453 or pop in for a chat.

*Ailsa Dellbridge  
Brambles Childcare Centre*

## Beware of telephone scams

Northumberland County Council is urging residents to be on their guard following complaints about scam phone calls offering large sums of cash.

The warning follows a recent complaint from a resident who received a scam phone

call claiming to be offering a government grant of £8,000.

The resident was told that in order to receive the grant they must pay £210 via a money transfer site and then provide the caller with the details to release the money. The offer is in fact a

scam and once the code had been handed over – the money would have been lost.

The phone call appeared to be linked to a telephone survey the resident had completed about their TV viewing habits.

Councillor David

Ledger, Deputy Leader of Northumberland County Council, said: "If you receive a phone call that you're concerned about, don't be afraid to terminate the call and seek advice from Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0345 4040506."

## Fishermen's Mission: highlighting the dangers of fishing

The Fishermen's Mission is a national charity that works solely to provide support for fishermen and their families. They have been speaking out about the dangers of fishing.

In the past four weeks nine fishermen have died at sea, and of that number, two have yet to be found.

"We simply want people to be aware of how dangerous fishing is and the human cost that is paid for the fish we take for granted.

"Despite this shocking figure there is very little coverage in the media. News is reported in a small way but there is no bringing together of the facts to reveal the full story.

"It is rare for us to speak up in this way but such are our concerns that we feel morally bound to voice our fears".

The mission are concerned



The Fishermen's Mission performed a Blessing of the Fleet ceremony at the Puffin Festival

for the thousands of families around the UK coastline who, over the years, have lost someone to the sea and, of

those, many have never been found and brought home.

For these families it means years of standing still and a life

lived without closure.

"Here are some of the facts that we find so shocking," says the charity spokesperson.

"If you work as a fisherman from 16 to 65 then you have a 1 in 14 chance of dying at work.

The fatality rate on UK Fishing Vessels is 60 per 100,000, in Agriculture it is 9.1 and in Construction 2.3. Looking at 2016 there has been to date 1 death for every 910 fishermen.

These figures speak for themselves. We witness firsthand the pain and the trauma. We would like the deaths and injuries to our fishermen to be given the profile that informs the public of the high price of fishing and the human costs involved."

You can find out more about the Fishermen's mission at: [www.fishermensmission.org.uk](http://www.fishermensmission.org.uk)

## Advice for struggling authors

When it comes to unpublished, struggling writers, there are two types. There are those who finish a novel, rewrite it when it's rejected, and then repeat this process for many years. Then there are those who write a book, collect rejection slips, and then give up and write another.

If you're in the first category and you've been writing for more than a few years, you're wasting your time. Even the best writers were not good enough when they first started, but they improved by writing more books, trying new styles. You won't improve as a writer if you stick with the same book and just keep making changes. You improve by writing more, and if you're

always working on the same project then you're not writing, you're editing.

If you're struggling to make any progress, take baby steps. There's no need to go all out. If you can't move from short stories to novels, write a novella. If you're struggling to get noticed by an agent, try freelancing. Because if you can prove that you are professional and prolific, an agent will be less inclined to ignore your query.

And don't rely too much on the list of agents in the Writers' and Artists' Yearbook. You're not the only author going through that list and ticking them off. Thousands of others do the same thing every day, which means each and every one of those agents

gets more submissions than they know what to do with. And just because they're in the book, doesn't make them better than any other agent out there. In most cases the agent is just the bridge between you and the publisher, and if your work is good enough, any agent will be able to secure a lucrative deal.

Just remember that a reputable agent will never charge you a fee and should have some experience in publishing. Because if they don't, then it doesn't matter if they are legit or not, because they won't have the contacts and the knowledge they need to get you a deal.

*David Jester*

## JCSC happenings

The students in JCSCs community writing group (funded by our Arts Council Bid) read the first draft of their play at the Puffin Festival. This was a script in hand reading followed by a Q&A session to take feedback. The play is based on the stories they have gathered from meeting members of the local community and some work with the local history society. It's called 'The New Curiosity Shop'

Good news stories from students:

The Duke of Edinburgh students in Years 9 and 10 have started their expeditions and already have experienced one overnight camp. They all did very well, especially as for many of them it was their first time under canvas and waking up with ice on the tent was a real test of endurance!



Performing 'The New Curiosity Shop' at the Puffin Festival.  
Photo by Andrew Mounsey Photography

Additionally some of the Y10 DofE students have recently completed a 12 week course in Criminology and have stayed behind for an hour every Monday night to fulfil the 'skill' element of the award. They have been made to do a lot of work for it

but their engagement with the subject and thought-provoking questions have shown their dedication to the award.

Finally our Year 13 students left school on May 27, returning for revision and their A level examinations. They are all planning their next step but as a final farewell we are holding a Presentation Reception in school and every student in Year 13 will be given a book, specifically selected by a member of teaching staff, and inscribed by them with a message of good luck.

The staff really enjoy watching the young people grow from children into adults and it is always bitter sweet to see them leave.

They would like to thank the local businesses and individuals in the area who have sponsored the purchase of the books.

## REPORTS FROM OUR

Because we can

Northumberland County Council's revenue funding from central government will reduce by 84% over the period 2010 – 2020. That means a shift towards higher council tax. It also means working in new ways to defend services we all cherish. Parish and Town Councils will play a much bigger role in providing local services. I am delighted that Amble Town Council is funding a worker who will be based in Amble. This partnership agreement with the County Council is being copied all over Northumberland.

In recent years, despite the cuts, there have been significant improvements in play facilities, at the Welfare and Paddlers Park thanks to local councils and the Development Trust.

Community groups have played an important part – Pride in Amble and the volunteers working at the Town Square for example.

We can be proud of that and should offer support however we can.

One way we can help is by challenging, and reporting, unacceptable behaviour. There is no excuse for wanton vandalism. I was told recently that a young girl destroyed a tree on one of our new estates. When asked why she said "because I can..."

That is sad. I have raised this episode with the County Council and I hope that by working in partnership we can show that kind of behaviour will be challenged. Our community is stronger and better than this. I hope new technology can be used where appropriate to replace CCTV. The biggest challenge is to change attitudes and to build on everything that is good in Amble... because we can.

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

## County Councillors

At a recent Town Council meeting a new mayor was elected, Councillor Jane Dargue is to hold the post for at least the next year but I can't let the occasion go past without remarking about how much difference our departing Mayor, Craig Weir, made to the recent undoubted success story of Amble. Now Craig would be the first person to say that it takes a team to do things properly and that he has had excellent help over the last few years, but a team is only as good as its leader and Craig has been a truly remarkable Mayor. The town has changed more in the last four years than it did in the previous 14 and although there are still some issues that some individuals may have, I think no one can disagree that the town as a whole has made great strides forward during his time of office. Well done Craig!

In my last report I mentioned the dog waste issue and said that it was an ongoing problem, I see that the Harbour Commissionaires have taken steps to try to prevent this on their land and although it is regrettable that they have issued a no dogs ruling on the Little Shore, perhaps it is understandable.

The Gloster Hill planning application rumbles on and has been delayed at least until June.

For information, you may wonder what the newly cut areas of grass on the verge between Warkworth and Amble are for, well they have been cut and adopted by the local Rotary club with financial help from various bodies including Warkworth P.C. and Amble T.C. in time they will become wild flower areas that should enhance the area for us all. I applaud the initiative!

Jeff Watson available on 07802385367  
And by email jeffrey.watson@northumberland.gov.uk





## Hauxley Parish Council

### Parking information

Hauxley Parish Council has received many communications relating to parking issues in both Low and High Hauxley. It is becoming a major problem for residents and causing a great deal of disruption for some.

In an effort to alleviate these problems we would respectfully request the following: Residents are kindly asked to make use of where there is provision at their own properties for parking of vehicles.

Residents and visitors to Low and High Hauxley are reminded not to park on footpaths. The footpath is provided primarily for use by pedestrians of all ages and abilities and access is needed at all times to all properties by emergency services, fire brigade, ambulances, couriers, Royal Mail, utility companies and builder's merchants.

Residents and visitors to Hauxley are kindly asked not to park cars that prevent access to garages and gardens or create an obstruction in any way.

Visitors to Low Hauxley are also reminded that there is a free car park at Low Hauxley within short distance from the village and the beach.

*We appreciate your support.*  
Hauxley Parish Council

### Hauxley Parish Councillor details.

Iwan Thomas:  
10 The Fairway, High Hauxley, NE65 0JW  
Telephone: 01665 712481  
bigcatsafari@gmail.com

Ken Graham:  
22 Hauxley Links, Low Hauxley NE65 0JR  
Telephone: 01665 712143  
Email: ken\_graham40@hotmail.com

Rita Callender  
16 Hauxley Links, Low Hauxley, NE65 0JR  
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Email: rcallender61@gmail.com

John Lightfoot,  
Glendale House, Radcliffe, NE650JF  
Tel:- 01665712838  
Email – blueagall@yahoo.co.uk

Wendy Appleby  
Stable Manor High Hauxley  
Tel - 01665 712743  
Email: wendy@rgreenandpartners.co.uk

Dave Cook  
5 Hauxley Links, Low Hauxley, NE65 0JR  
Tel - 07706418479  
Email - davejcook2000@googlemail.com

Parish Clerk: Vicki Smith  
c/o 11 Acklington Road, Amble, NE650NF  
Telephone: 07875445495  
Email: Hauxleyipc@hotmail.co.uk

## Wellwood Arms competes in Channel 4's Four in a Bed

**C**ongratulations to Julian Tagger and Jan Latimer of The Wellwood Arms, who featured in the recent Channel 4 TV series Four In a Bed. The pair competed against three other couples who run B&Bs to see who was



The Wellwood-Ambleside @AmbleWellwood - Jun 10

Brilliant experience enjoyed it immensely shame about the other 3 BnB 'ers playing the game!!

voted best. Sadly they were voted last, and Julian remarked

that much game playing had been employed by the other couples, but they had enjoyed taking part.

## Mysterious sump holes not caused by mine workings say coal authority



**A** series of sump holes which appeared along Druridge Bay beaches at the beginning of May, were not caused by underground mine workings, according to the Coal Authority.

Reports of quicksand and a bubbling hole at Togston Carrs (see photo above) were widely posted on social media.

A spokesperson for the Coal Authority said: "In May, we received a report of a 'sinkhole' on the beach at Low Hauxley. Our initial site visit and desktop investigations have not shown that this is related to coal mining subsidence.

However, we are continuing to use our expertise to work with Northumberland County Council to determine its cause."

Graham Mitcheson, Country Parks and Site Officer at Druridge Bay Country Park told The Ambler: "The cause seems to be an unnaturally high water table, forcing water up through fault lines in the bedrock in several areas along the coast."

"This appears to be fresh water and not contaminated by mine water," he said. "The sump holes remain although they appear to have reduced in size and depth." Warning signs remain in place.

## Calling all marine detectives

**O**ur UK seas are home to several species of cetaceans, the group of marine creatures which includes whales, dolphins and porpoises and if anybody has ever fancied becoming a marine detective, here is the chance to do so!

Northumberland Wildlife Trust, in association with other local conservation charities ORCA, Sea Watch Foundation, MARINELife and the North Sea Wildlife Trusts, is calling on members of the public to join it in a weekend of whale and dolphin spotting this July as part of its Big Watch Weekend, on Saturday 30 & Sunday 31 July.

At a two day training event held at the beginning of July, volunteers will learn how to spot, and identify, different whales and dolphins around the North Sea coastline - all that is required is your time;

then, working together as a team, they will become part of a network that will record sightings of various species of dolphin and whales across the 'Big Watch Weekend' and it's all absolutely free!

July is usually one of the best months to see a range of marine mammals off the North coastline.

There will be many viewing spots along the coastline with experienced volunteers on hand.

Anybody interested in getting involved in Big Watch Weekend, absolutely free of charge should email: aurelie.bohan@northwt.org.uk or telephone: (0191) 2846884 to secure their place on one of the training sessions to be held at the Great North Museum: Hancock on Monday 11 July, 6.30pm - 8.00pm and Tuesday 19 July, 6.30pm - 8.00pm.

Welcome to Trust Life after another relatively successful Puffin Festival. The event started well with a lovely sunny Saturday, but unfortunately the weather changed to the point where we had to cancel the craft stall for Tuesday, due to high winds. However while some activities were outdoors, they were possibly for the more hardy, with walks and water based activities. Others were held indoors, so were able to go ahead despite the wind and rain (and feeling more like winter than summer).

Bart Rippon our intrepid volunteer from Australia has been out and about taking photos and doing talks and walks, notably one on the hostels of Amble - current and lost, which was well attended but no liquid refreshments were consumed; well very little I'm told!

Following on from the royal visit, we have received a lovely letter of thanks for the warm welcome offered to HRH by the Amble community.

## Litter

Once again Amble can report another busy bank holiday, but what a shame to be let down by Northumberland County

Council, whose operatives failed to make an appearance to empty overflowing bins and open up the toilets.

Amble Town Council have taken on a seasonal worker who is supposed to carry out additional duties to those carried out by NCC, which in theory, should mean the town is very clean and tidy, but in truth, he ended up doing the tasks which should have been done by NCC.

It really isn't acceptable, as these are statutory duties that have to be carried out and are already paid for to NCC through council tax and business rates. So the next time you feel a complaint coming on, do it on the County Council website.

If we are to market Northumberland as a tourist destination, we have to get the basics right, and as a community surely we are entitled to litter bins emptied.

In the last Trust Life I complained about litter lying around the streets, this complaint is different; good people have tried to put rubbish in receptacles, but if they are already full and overflowing, or birds decide chips are better than worms (!) everything ends up on the ground blowing everywhere, which of course makes it even harder to collect.

## New flats

Work on the housing above Pride of Northumbria is progressing and should be complete in July. Applications and qualifying criteria are available from the Trust office for anyone interested in renting one of the flats.

The Harbour Village will be hosting an event on 3rd July to celebrate 81 years since the Mauretania passed Amble and endowed us with the name of the 'kindest' port. While this has been changed slightly to the friendliest port, it is still something to celebrate. So to mark the date we are asking our community to carry out random acts of kindness - and you never know, you may well be rewarded with an act yourself, and of course come along and be entertained.

The Seafood Centre now has hubs operating at Moorhouse Farm and Blagdon, so sales are picking up and word is spreading about the range of fabulous fresh fish our fishermen land along our coastline.

And finally everything is in place to make the one way system official. That's one problem sorted, hopefully we can make further progress on parking.

That's it for now, enjoy the summer.

*Julia and all Trust staff.*

## Gladys celebrates 102 and a new great grandchild

Many congratulations to Gladys Steele, who celebrated her 102nd birthday at the end of April with a lovely party - and news of a new addition to the family.

"Amble Mayor Craig Weir and his wife Maggie attended the party and he presented Gladys with a card, chocolates and flowers.

"We had a singer who was brilliant, the room was full of staff, residents and Gladys's family and friends. We all had such a good day," said Dolphin View's Personal Activities Leader Jodie Taylor.

After the entertainment



Gladys pictured with her son Geoff, and her cake.

Gladys cut her cake and the buffet was opened. Guests enjoyed a glass of wine, while Gladys opted for a cup of tea.

The celebrations continued with some exciting news for Gladys.

"While the party was going on there was a phone call to say Gladys was a great grandmother again. A great grandson had just been born, which made her birthday extra special," said Jodie.

Gladys now has four great grandchildren: twin girls, Larna and Zoe who live in Warkworth, and two half Japanese great grandsons, Jinne and new baby Nukuto, who live in London.

Gladys said "It's marvellous to be a great grandmother again"

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# Amble Town COUNCIL

Meetings 6pm unless stated otherwise

Town: 14th July; 11th August; 8th Sept at 6p.m.

Amenities: 28th July, 25th August at 6p.m.

## CIVIC REGALIA

THE PRESENT Mayoral Chain is unique in that it was purchased by public subscription. Faces of the links are inscribed with the name of the Mayors since 1974 when Amble Town Council was formed. Each one was individually bought and the purchaser's name engraved on the reverse side. Every purchaser could write about themselves, their family or group in the accompanying Commemorative book so that those in the future could look back on this small part of the town's history. The regalia is worn on civic occasions to show everyone how important our town is to us all.

When the current year's name is added, there will only be room for one more, so the council has priced new links. It would be wonderful if the community bond could be kept, with these again being purchased by public subscription at £180 per link to include inscribing the purchaser details. There is only room for seven links which will be offered on a first come basis.

There are many occasions to which the Mayor is invited to represent the town. Sometimes he/she is not available so the Deputy Mayor takes their place. Unfortunately we have no civic regalia for the Deputy Mayor so other attendees are unaware that Amble is being represented. We have therefore priced a simple town crest pendant on a ribbon for the Deputy Mayor costing around £500. We are inviting public subscriptions of £50 towards this. While there are no links to inscribe, there would be the opportunity to complete a page in the Commemorative book. If you are interested, please contact the Clerk as soon as possible.

## COUNCILLORS CORNER

IN MAY I had the privilege to be elected as Mayor. One of my first duties has been to welcome a new face to the council, Cllr Martin Horn. I was asked recently: 'So what does the Mayor of Amble do?'

There is no short answer to this question. My first weeks have seen me presenting school-leavers with awards and in contrast, trundling around the town on a rainy evening picking up litter ahead of the Puffin Festival.

In between this, a multitude of tasks including day to day matters; overseeing responsibilities for such as cemeteries and allotments, parking issues, town events, planning – the list goes on.

One thing I do know is that I have had an exemplary role model in our out-going Mayor and I will work hard to continue this high standard for a town that I am incredibly proud of.

*Cllr Jane Dargue*

## MAURETANIA DAY

COUNCIL'S 'ACT OF KINDNESS' on Wednesday 6th July: we invite you all to come along to the office, on the top floor of Fourways Two, for a free coffee or tea and a scone or cake. Some Councillors will be there between 10am and noon. We look forward to meeting lots of people and discussing your ideas of how you see Amble developing in the future.

## LITTER

LITTER, LITTER EVERYWHERE and not a bin in sight! Only in Amble's case there were plenty of bins - all full to overflowing! That was the scene last Bank Holiday weekend. We shared your concerns especially after holding discussions about previous times and being assured by NCC that operatives would be working. However even with plans in place and the best of intentions, we were left with the mess.

We have employed a person to work over the weekend to enhance the NCC service, which currently only covers morning toilet opening and cleaning and emptying of the litter bins on Queen Street and Leazes Street. Should we remove bins and make people take rubbish home? That was not successful last time!

Where there is a specific litter problem we hope NCC will address this with any businesses involved. We will keep trying to alleviate the problem. Meanwhile, everyone can help by taking their litter home.

## GARDEN & COMMUNITY AWARDS

DURING JUNE, nominations are accepted for the above to be judged in early July. We are fortunate to usually have a representative from Alnwick Gardens to judge our gardens. The high standard of our local gardeners is always commented on. The Allotment Holders Society Committee decide the winners of the Allotments and also the Most Improved. This year's new award for an individual or group who shows commitment to helping our community will be judged by a panel of three councillors.

When you receive this, there may still be a time left to put forward your nominations: details on the council website. The Awards night will be held mid-July when those shortlisted will be invited to attend for refreshments and the presentations.

## MEMORIES OF AMBLE

SATURDAY 2ND JULY- Parish Hall, Dovecote Street- 11am – 3.30pm.: As part of the Centenary Commemorations of WW1, an exhibition will be held. We have widened the scope to not only commemorate those who took part in the Battles of the Somme but also to showcase the Amble of that time and some of the changes and development since.

As well as the research which went into the publication of 'In Memory of the Fallen' and a showcase of memorabilia including medals, there will be photographs presented by Amble Social History Group; memories of Amble's great Footballing Teams; the history of Coquet Shorebase Trust; work done by Amble's Army Cadet Force. We hope to have input from the Royal National Lifeboat Institution and the Coastguards. We are still talking to others including JCSC who, during Puffin Festival, produced a wonderful working draft of their script for the play they are producing from their conversations with residents in the town. Pop in for a cuppa and a browse around - such a variety that there's something for all.

### EAST WARD:

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

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

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

### WEST WARD:

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

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

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

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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

## Commemorating the Battle of the Somme

In August 1914 hundreds of men from Warkworth, Amble and Acklington districts aged between 18 and 41 responded to Kitchener's call to arms at the outset of the Great War. For these men, and their families from our close knit communities, their lives would never be the same.

The Pals Battalions of the Tyneside Irish and Tyneside Scottish Regiments of the Northumberland Fusiliers were decimated on the first day of their first major engagement at the Battle of the Somme on 1 July 1916.

20,000 soldiers of the British commonwealth were killed on this day of the battle alone with 38,230 recorded as wounded or missing.

The Thiepval Memorial at the Somme, France lists the names of soldiers with no known grave. It now has a purpose built museum to record the personal data of each soldier who is named on the memorial.

### Newcastle

For this centenary year the Royal British Legion is holding special commemoration ceremonies. There will be an all-day vigil in Newcastle Cathedral on Friday, 1 July 2016 starting at 7.28am (the time the battle commenced) with a large screen film of the 'Battle of the Somme' showing events as they happened. On Saturday, 2 July 2016 at 2pm there will be a Somme commemoration ceremony at the Renwick War Memorial in the Haymarket, Newcastle.

### Locally

Warkworth & Amble District RBL Branch will be holding a short commemoration service at the War Memorial at 11am on Friday 1 July and lay a wreath. Saturday 2 July: a special 'Battle of the Somme' exhibition to commemorate the lives of soldiers from Warkworth and Acklington at Warkworth War Memorial Hall, 10am - 5pm.

The Riders Branch of the Royal British Legion will be holding an all-night vigil in Amble Town Square to commemorate all the soldiers from the area. They will start with a service of dedication at 7.15am on Friday, 1 July which will see a candle lit at 7.28am. This will burn until 11am on Saturday 2 July concluding with a remembrance service and the extinguishing of the flame following a minute's silence.

The public are invited to attend all these events and can purchase candles or crosses to pay their own respects. All proceeds raised will go to supporting the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

### Branch Meetings

Next branch meeting is Wednesday, 7 Sept 2016 at 7pm. Speaker June Watson. Talk: The Sanderson Family of Eastfield Hall, Warkworth (who lost two sons in WW1).

## Pin Cushion Workshops

**Wed 6 July** Improvers Crochet Bear 6-8pm £15

[www.mad-hattie.co.uk/news/crochet-for-improvers-amigurumi-bear](http://www.mad-hattie.co.uk/news/crochet-for-improvers-amigurumi-bear)

**Sat July 23** Make an apron (using a paper pattern for the first time) 10am - 4pm £40

## Amble photo group

If you are interested in photography, getting out and enjoy taking photographs, why not join us? Come along and share a morning. Enjoy a free visit, coffee and biscuit.

We have a varied programme with interesting speakers, club competitions and activities. We meet throughout the year excluding August on Friday mornings 9-30 am-12 noon, in Trinity Church Hall Amble. *Dianne McKenna Secretary.*

## The Countess of Wessex's visit and Paddlers Park funday



Youngsters enjoying the new equipment at the Paddlers Park funday at the end of April. See also Artograffi's report, centre pages.



The Ambler was delighted to receive several very well written reports on the Countess of Wessex's visit to Amble, from pupils in Year 4 at Amble First School. Well done to everybody. Here's is an extract from Lyla Smith's report.

On Wednesday 20th of April everybody at Amble first School went down to the Paddlers. We left at 10:30 to get there in time.

When we got there we were very early so everybody was sunbathing. It was a very hot day with no clouds at all. Our teacher (Mrs Forsey) said that we could go and check out the Paddlers so off we went. The water was amazing. You could open little water gates, water pumps and watch it go down the hill into the drain. There was also a table tennis set with three spare balls. You could play two vs two. Puffins were painted on the ground, along with hop scotch, stars, shapes and swirly lines. If you climbed to the top of one of the rocks you could see the lovely blue sea with white bubbles everywhere. Then I saw Coquet Island!

Mrs Brown gave out flags to wave at Sophie the Countess of Wessex, the Duchess of Northumberland and the Mayor of Amble.

There was a big crowd near the water pump so I went to check it out. It was Sophie, the Countess of Wessex! She was wearing a lovely white skirt and jacket with silver buttons. Her beautiful golden hair was all clipped up. Mrs Forsey told us all to go up on the grassy hill to wave our flags. It was a steep hill which meant a steep walk. It felt like we were walking up Mount Everest! Everybody was waving and cheering to all of the important people. In the future I think the Paddlers Park is going to be extraordinary!

*By Lyla Smith, Year 4, Amble First School*



## Acts of kindness on Mauretania Day

**Sunday 3 July**

Amble Harbour Village will be celebrating the title 'The Kindest Port', given to Amble in 1935 by the 'Finest Ship', RMS Mauretania, on her last voyage. We'll be giving away a £5 Harbour Village Voucher every hour from 10am until 3pm. We have a £20 Harbour Village voucher to award a deserving person! Nominate them by 5pm on Fri 1 July and tell us what they've done. We'll announce the winner on Sunday 3rd July at 12 noon.

10am - pods and seafood centre open.

11am - 12pm Dancing for Charity giving a 1 hour modern swing jive dance demonstration

12pm - 12.40pm & 2pm - 2.40pm Jayess Newbiggin Brass Band 40 min performance

3pm St. Cuthberts Parish Church cafe church. Informal worship and a cup of coffee.

4pm - Close

See article on page 3

## Bowls Open Triples competition



Saturday 4 June saw the 2016 Amble Bowling Club open triples competition.

Pictured above are the winners, John Calder, Margaret Calder and Terry Wilson with the sponsors, trophy donor and president of the club after a very enjoyable and successful day.

*George Dixon*

*Amble Bowling Club*

## Joy of Jive

Classes of Modern Jive are continuing at 7.30 pm in Felton Village Hall beginning on Thursday 9th June. Entrance fee of £5.

They will continue every other Thursday evening from then on. More events to be announced in future so watch their Facebook page joyof jive or email joyofjive@gmail.com for details

Beginners are welcome and partners are not necessary. This is a social and warm crowd who would be delighted to see you.

## Warkworth Golf Club

An important milestone for the Killie Bridge on 18th May with the pouring of the concrete for the foundations. A team of volunteers led by Club Chairman John Gray and green keepers Alan Dalby and Ian Bruce toiled manfully to ensure the four loads went in and the securing bolts for the bridge

superstructure were inserted. The wood for the structure has been cut and the next phase will be the construction of the A-frame legs.

At the time of writing the Club's teams are going well. In the Mail on Sunday Classic, from an original entry of over 2,000 clubs, Warkworth is down to

the last 128. In the Daily Mail Foursomes the Club pair of Mel Patterson and Garry Scott has progressed to round four where they have been drawn against Beamish Park.

The match play team is still involved in the Glendale Cup and there have been some good performances in the Saturday

Field Days, notably from Alastair MacKay at Magdalene Fields and Dave Fish at Dunstanburgh.

Entries are still being taken for the Mixed Open in June and the Seniors Open in September. Forms available from the Club website [www.warkworthclub.co.uk](http://www.warkworthclub.co.uk) or the Club entry on Golf Empire.

## Lifeboat events

Once again it is that time of year when ALF is asking for your help. Harbour Day will be held on August 28 (Bank Holiday Sunday).

We need donations of Books, Toys, Bric-a-Brac, Tombola Prizes (No clothes) to sell on the day. Please hand in any donations to Premier Stores.

Can you bake? If you feel you are able to bake cakes/ scones/ biscuits it would be greatly appreciated.

Please hand these in to the Lifeboat Station on Saturday August 27, where members of the ALF Committee will be busy preparing for Sunday.

Can you spare a few hours to help with a stall on Harbour Day? If so, please contact Katrina on 07824 701011 or Eleanor on 01665 713479.

Our next Coffee Mornings will be Sunday July 17 between 10am and 1pm

Harbour Day Sunday August 28 between 10am and 3.30pm

Sunday September 18 between 10am and 1pm

Once again our sincere thanks for your support - we wouldn't be where we are without it.

*Amble Lifeboat Fundraisers*

## Story tent at Warkworth Show

I would like to encourage entries to my various writing classes and to attract participants to perform their work. There will be a storytelling chair and some costumed performers too!

Adult classes:

Class 328 - a poem of not more than 20 lines entitled: 'Sea, sand & sky'

Class 329 - using no more than 200 words, present a picture describing somewhere which is special to you

Junior classes:

Classes 574-579 school years 1 to 6th

form: write a short poem including the words: 'I like'

Class 580 - write a piece of not more than 200 words describing 'My Top Ten - and why'

All writing entries must be submitted with an entry form by Saturday 13th August. They can be handed in at The Greenhouse in Warkworth.

Entry forms are in the show schedule, out now, or online at

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

Contact Beryl Holmes on book.

[holmes@gmail.com](mailto:holmes@gmail.com) or 01665 712077

## Druridge Bay 10k



Congratulations to Carl Taylor, Catriona Macdonald and Morpeth Harriers at this year's Druridge Bay 10K. Male and overall winner: Carl Taylor; Female winner: Catriona Macdonald; Men's team winner: Morpeth Harriers; Ladies team winner: Morpeth Harriers. Under 16 male: Samuel Machete; Under 16 female: Hayley Dobinson; Vet male: Philip Hemsley; Vet female: Lynne Cornell.

## Local lad wins Scottish Open Windsurfing Championship

A young member of Amble's Coquet Shorebase Trust Windsurfing Club won the Scottish Open Windsurfing Championship at Largs at the beginning of June. Philip Heywood, aged 14, from Rothbury beat off all other competitors, on his new-to-him Raceboard and a 9.5m rig, to take the title. This was his first time in the event.

The two day event started slowly with very little wind, but it picked up by the time the first race had begun. Changes of wind direction on the second day, kept the race officer busy, making adjustments and laying new courses.

Three members of Coquet

Shorebase Trust sailed on Raceboards, Pip Heywood, Tom Dryden and headcoach Ali Claydon, taking first, third and fourth places.

At Druridge Bay Country Park new members have been taking to the water and enjoying this sport for the first time, under coach Gus Takiguchi's instruction.

Veteran, Dave Dobson, took first place at NEWS's third event of the season on Kielder Water, with good wind and open water. Second was Gus Takiguchi, 3rd Tom Dryden, 4th Pip Heywood, 5th Thomas Sambrook, 6th Ali Claydon, 7th Bruce Scott, 8th Neil Raistrick, 9th Jim Scullion and 10th Susan Benbow.

Young Sophie Dryden did the Coquet Shorebase Windsurfers proud with her very first race in the RYA Team 15 event (aged 15 and under).

The team 15 results were - 1st Pugney Pirates, 2nd Kielder Kestrels, 3rd North Lincs Invaders, 4th Derwent Devils and 5th Coquet Crushers.

A warm welcome awaits anyone (all ages and abilities) wanting to take up windsurfing, sailing, canoeing, kayaking, powerboat courses, or have fun raft building, all at Coquet Shorebase Trust. Ring Coquet Shorebase Trust for details of sessions and instruction.

Tel: 01665 710367  
01665 710367 or see



Pip Heywood

[www.coquetshorebase.org.uk](http://www.coquetshorebase.org.uk).  
Ask us about activities accessible to people with disabilities.

## Tiny Woods Academy football tournament and summer camps



Tiny Woods Academy hosted a football tournament at Amble Welfare as part of the Amble Puffin Festival Celebrations – and it was hailed

a huge success once again by children and parents.

Amble Links First School, Amble First School, Warkworth C of E First School, Broomhill

First School and Red Row First School all accepted the Academy's invitation to take part in the first Puffin Festival Tournament.

Organiser and FA Licensed coach Josh Rutherford said 'Well done to all the children who participated. They had lots of fun and the standard of the football was brilliant'.

Victory Shield winners were Red Row First School beating Amble Links First School in the entertaining final and Broomhill First School retained the Champions Shield again by beating Amble First School in a thrilling final.

We would like to thank Amble Town Council and Amble Development Trust for their support and backing to

host the event!

### Tiny Woods Academy Summer Schedule 2016

Friday 10 June: Euro 2016 Day  
Friday 1 July: Tiny Woods Academy Birthday Tournament  
Friday 8 July: Tiny Woods Academy Charity Match

Monday 25 July to Friday 29 July: Summer Camp 1

Monday 8 August to Friday 12 August: Summer Camp 2

Monday 22 August to Friday 26 August: Summer Camp 3

Friday 2 September: Tiny Woods Academy Goalkeeping Masterclass

Josh Rutherford



**NORTHUMBERLAND**  
COUNTY COUNCIL

### County Councillor Robert Arkless

*will be holding surgeries on*

Saturdays 25 June & 30 July  
from 10am-11am in Amble Library  
and

Friday 29 July  
at 6pm - 6.45pm in Hauxley Village Hall

*All Constituents Welcome*



TELEPHONE ORDERS WELCOME

01665 710 442

MONDAY TO SATURDAY: 11.30AM-9.00PM SUNDAYS: 11.30AM-2.30PM

\*\*\*\*\* NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

1 BROOMHILL STREET AMBLE NORTHUMBERLAND NE65 0AN





## Puffin Festival fun



Above l-r: Sampling local chef's cookery demonstration; dancing at the Colony. Below left: Bestselling author Jenny Colgan and her family. The puffin festival committee replaced Jenny's daughter's lost toy puffin, so Jenny kindly gave a talk on her children's book character Neil the Puffin.



Above right: Amble's Women's Workshop group at their funday. Below l-r: Amble Coastal Rowing club, Colony headliners Come Together, Tommy Noddy attempts the Kick Start obstacle course



Below l-r: Amble Women's Institute members, lots of fun at the Colony music festival. More photos on p1, 11, 14 and [www.theambler.co.uk](http://www.theambler.co.uk)



Photos by Bart Rippon, Andrew Mounsey Photography and Anna Williams

