

# The Ambler

## Amble's Community Newspaper

Issue 108 Dec/Jan 2018

### Joe switches on the Christmas lights



Good Young citizen of the year Joe Denny officially switched on Amble's Christmas lights. More photos on back page.

### What's new at the Marina?



More investment in a popular tourist venue. See page 2

### Son of a gun: another famous Ambler



Inventor, gunsmith and dog show organiser W.R. Pape. Page 15

### Shops vs cafés



How should our high street evolve? Page 21

## Green light given to nearly 1000 new homes

Within the space of three months, 951 new houses have been given the green light to proceed.

Three large housing developments have been approved on the edge of town, together with a smaller development on the site of the former St. Cuthbert's school.

- Up to 500 houses will be built off Acklington Road, on land west of James Calvert Spence College.
- 166 houses have been approved on land west of Moor House farm on the A1068.
- Another development of up to 272 houses has been approved on land east of Percy Drive.
- A further 13 dwellings have been granted planning permission on the former St. Cuthbert's School site.

### Opportunities and concerns

The new developments equates to a 30% increase in the number of houses in the town, bringing opportunities as well as concerns.

County Councillor Jeff Watson said "The truth is that there is little that can be done to stop housing developments that meet Government criteria, all we can do is try to ensure that the plans and infrastructure match up to the needs of the Town.

"I think we have been more successful lately in presenting and negotiating our needs and the new administration is listening to our local representations."

We talked to a resident (who didn't wish to be named) who gave us his view of the increasing number of people to the town.

"The people I meet out walking are invariably retired. They've sold their house in places like Watford, Leicester, Derby, for half a million, and moved here. They all say



County Councillor Jeff Watson at the site of the Percy Drive development

quality of life, busy roads, and immigration made them move," he said.

"This will put a massive burden on our area's health care. But it is also a relatively wealthy generation who are spending locally, and this will create a lot of jobs for youngsters and carers.

"It also seems that housing in the old town is being snapped up for holiday lets. The locals

"Houses in Ambler are going for £140k. So you can see the opportunity"

seem to be migrating to new Persimmon houses! Some terraced houses in Ambler are going for £140,000. So you can see the opportunity.

"But it doesn't help young families. We need more social housing otherwise the younger generation will be stuck on private rentals or at home with parents."

County Councillor Terry Clark voiced his concern that the new housing will attract second home owners. He said "This

large scale build will not house future generations within our community. With only a small percentage being affordable, this is hardly building homes for local people who need it.

"To address the housing needs in Ambler, we needed to start building public social housing, starter homes for young couples, single people, and bungalows for our older generations along with investment for the towns infrastructure."

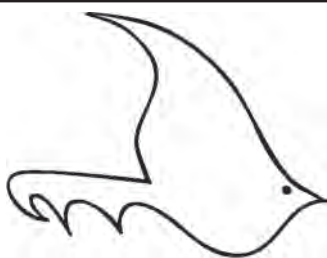
### Roads, schools and GPs

Concern that Ambler's infrastructure will struggle to cope with such a large increase in its population, has been acknowledged by planners.

A link road will be built between the Acklington Rd and Hauxley View developments, bringing traffic from Acklington Rd to the A1068 south of the current 'fish' roundabout, in order to mitigate further congestion.

And funding via Section 106 money, will also be allocated to Ambler's schools and GPs.

Anna Williams



## The Ambler

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



Follow us on Facebook  
Follow us on Pinterest

### Editorial Team:

Vivienne Dalgliesh - Cath Findlay  
Norma Hinson - Andrew Mounsey  
Bartle Rippon

Editor: Anna Williams

### Thanks to:

Mark Beswick & The Artogرافي Crew  
Judith Hardisty

### Distribution:

Dawn, Taylor, Martin and Rachel

### Printing:

Azure Printers, Pegswood

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

Thanks to all our contributors,  
sponsors and advertisers:

Community Foundation  
Coquet Fund

Inner Wheel Club of  
Amble and Warkworth

Rotary Club of  
Amble and Warkworth



The Ambler is a project of  
Amble Development Trust

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

Printed on paper from sustainable  
forestry in the UK

## Season's greetings



We hope you enjoy this festive edition of your community newspaper. As usual we have more great stories of local people and events - never forget, this is *your* paper, so keep the information coming. Don't use the excuse that your spelling is not very good: we have an excellent editing team! (*Excellent but not infallible* - Ed)

Houses and roads are still a big topic of discussion around town. All of the plans for houses submitted to the county council have now been passed, increasing the number of houses in the town by roughly 30%. So it is understandable that residents are becoming anxious. However, there are views expressed that this will lead to better roads and better facilities. We also need to remember that it is the number of people (rather than houses) that make a difference.

And parking continues to be a major issue, with two petitions currently on the go, teeth

gnashed at the idea of using part of the Braid, and frustration expressed when more parking spaces are suddenly found in other Northumberland towns. After four years of talking with our business club, town council and development trust, come on NCC, please let's get this sorted.

It's disappointing to hear people complain there is nothing for young folk in the town. It's not true. A while ago the town council produced a leaflet listing all the activities on offer for young people. Look at the Artogرافي pages, produced by young people who have included promotions for local businesses. On page 6 is news of a youth group starting up for younger folk. There is a notice on page 22 of workshops for young people, and a new football group is reported on page 23.

The Ambler team sends best wishes to all our readers for a merry Christmas, and a healthy and happy New Year.

## Uplifting news for Amble Marina!



The new boat  
hoist at Amble  
Marina

Photo  
(c) Karl Brunton

Amble Marina has successfully completed the construction of a new dock and boat hoist securing its future and providing an essential service for its 250 plus annual berth holders and visiting boats.

Boats need to be lifted out of the water for essential maintenance and repairs and the new dock and hoist enables the Marina to lift boats up to 40 tonnes.

Marina customers have previously relied on local lift out facilities but with the future of these facilities under threat the company had to face the very real possibility that customers would relocate to other marinas. This would present significant risk to the future of the Marina and have wider ranging consequences - for the fishermen who need these services and for the local businesses that are supported by marina customers.

Managing Director Karl Brunton said: "We found ourselves facing a very difficult situation but we are committed to our customers, business and region.

"This development required the biggest investment we have made in our 25 years and was the most technically challenging due to the geology of the site. We are delighted we have successfully completed the project - it is excellent news for the Marina, our customers and for Amble and is fundamental to the longevity and

success of the business."

CMP Thames, the main contractor, had the experience and expertise required to complete the project from start to finish and the project was completed on time and to budget. The Marine Management Organisation granted a license to build in summer 2016 and inspected the work throughout the course of the project ensuring compliance and that necessarily rigorous standards were met.

The new dock and hoist has a pontoon on each side giving worry free access to any vessel ready for lifting or launching. "Our annual customer satisfaction survey overwhelmingly showed support for the build and this new development ensures we can continue to provide the highest quality service." Karl Brunton said.

Future plans include offering a full range of services to customers in order to assist them with their boat maintenance and repair. The Marina aims to have a number of specialist contractors working on-site who offer the high level of knowledge and skill customers require.

This development ensures that Amble Marina can welcome ever increasing numbers of customers and visitors from across the UK and overseas who enjoy cruising the spectacular east coast and exploring the many attractions that Northumberland has to offer.



## Tribute to an Amble lass



Helen with one of her poetry books

**H**elen Simpson was born and bred in Amble and remained an 'Amble lass' all her life.

One of eight children, her family lived in Turner Street and Ivy Street. She attended Amble Modern School until she was 15. Her first jobs were in local shops, the bingo hall and later a pub before becoming a post lady.

She looked after the Masonic Lodge, and was also chef at the Bede Street Club, producing buffets and catering for weddings.

She was blessed with daughters Yvonne and Wendy and grandchildren Jo, Emma and Stephanie. She loved sharing their achievements.

Helen and Colin married in 1985 and lived in Acklington Street and Bede Street before moving to Andrew Drive.

She had a creative mind and was skilled with her hands. She loved to dabble with painting and her home displayed many of her watercolours. She often used

prints of her paintings on family cards.

Helen was a prolific knitter and knew her way around a sewing machine, a skill she used for clothes and costumes. She was a talented poet and produced three books of poetry for charity.

### Variety Club founder

She spent a lot of time and energy creating a 'sense of community'. She founded the Variety Club and presented pantomimes and shows in the Parish Hall encouraging youngsters into drama. She wrote the scripts and together with her dear friend Hilda Henderson made the costumes arranged the music; sorted the staging and supervised the rehearsals. She was inspired by all that her grandmother had achieved in a former generation.

She was very sure of herself, always positive, and looking on the bright side. Home and family were her priority but she was generous with her time and always wanted to change the world.

Sadly, she suffered a thrombosis but was able to get about on her mobility scooter. She loved visiting the harbour and the links, and would meet up with her sisters and friends to have a good chat.

In September she was diagnosed with lung cancer, but managed to find the strength to organise her affairs. She died in Cramlington Hospital on October 18 with her family around her.

Her contribution to the life of Amble will be remembered and she will be greatly missed.

*Yvonne Davies*

## Help The Ambler

**T**he Ambler Community Newspaper has been chosen for the next round of the Co-op Local Community Fund. The funding will run until 27 October 2018.

How it works:

Every time a member shops at the Co-op, 1% of what they spend on selected own-brand products and services goes to the Co-op Local Community Fund.

The Ambler and other causes in our community will also receive an equal share of the money raised from sales of carrier bags. Members will be able to choose The Ambler and give their 1% to support the local community newspaper.

So the more you shop at the Co-op, the more we benefit.

Previous beneficiaries have been: Amble Code Club, Amble Youth Project, Amble Cadets, St Mark's Church and Community Sports Development (Boys' Club).

This year the two local beneficiaries will be The Ambler and Hauxley Wildlife Discovery Centre.

If you know of a group who you think would also benefit, you can nominate them for the next round of the Co-op Local Community Fund.

To help direct funding to The Ambler, go to: [www.coop.co.uk/membership/local-community-fund](http://www.coop.co.uk/membership/local-community-fund) to select your cause. You need to enter your membership number to make your wishes known.

If you are not already a member of the Co-op, you can join here: [www.coop.co.uk/membership](http://www.coop.co.uk/membership)

We thank the Co-op and the people of Amble for this opportunity.

## Tamsin wins World Championship again!

**C**ongratulations once again to Tamsin Green, who has retained her title at the 2017 kayak surfing World Championships, held in Portrush, Northern Ireland.

Tamsin, who teaches IT at James Calvert Spence College, took her World Championship title in the long boat category. She has now won the short boat title three times and long boat category twice. This time she retains the long boat title she won in Spain 2015.

"It felt good," she said.

"I was genuinely very pleased retaining my title. The conditions were crazy; we had 15ft waves on the first day and the tail end of a hurricane. We even had the RNLI on standby. By the end of the week it was 2ft and very calm conditions."

Competing against individuals and national teams from all over the world, Tamsin also helped the England team to a closely fought second place. "You've got to have belief. It was so close between the first two places. I think if we'd just had more belief, I think we'd have won it."

The surf kayaking championships are held bi-annually, and Tamsin's achievement is remarkable by any standards.

"I put it down to bloody



Tamsin Green, World Champion kayak surfer

mindedness," she laughed. "I am competitive, but mostly with myself. And I'm really pleased to say that the women's competition is now as good as the men's. Since the World's in 2011 the bar has been totally raised. Before then, it was, 'oh the conditions are calm, let's put the girls' teams out'. But in 2011 we had the opportunity to surf properly. It was a game changer. We're as good as the boys now!"

Tamsin's husband Dan is also a fiercely competitive surf kayaker and took part in the men's short boat and long boat categories, coming 17th and 15th respectively this year.

He said "It was great to compete so close to home in the

UK. The waves were fun and it was great to see the whole surf kayaking community enjoying the *craic*."

There is no public funding for the sport, so Tamsin and Dan have to pay for everything themselves. This was expensive enough travelling to Northern Ireland, but the 2019 championships will be held in Peru. Will they attend?

"I think, if you win, you should go back and defend your title. The opportunities for kayak surfing in Peru are amazing."

Think that's a 'yes' then

Fancy having a go at surf kayaking? Contact Coquet Shorebase Trust or Coquet Canoe Club on 01665 710367

# Remembering the fallen



Hundreds of people attended the Remembrance Sunday service on 12 November. Despite a bitterly cold wind and the PA equipment unfortunately developing a fault, crowds packed the town square, determined to show their respects. As in previous years, the event was a solemn and poignant tribute to those who gave their lives in wars and conflict.

The first wreath was laid on behalf of the Queen by Air Vice Marshall Hurrell commemorating among others the 30th anniversary of the Falklands War. Further wreaths were laid by representatives of the Government, councils, armed services, community groups and individuals. The national anthem was sung at the end. An ecumenical service followed in St. Cuthbert's Parish Church and all the local clergy played their part.



Top: Veterans saluting at the war memorial. *Photo by Andrew Mounsey.*  
Centre: Wreath layers assembled in the Town Square. *Photo by Vivienne Dalglish*  
Below: Brambles nursery children paid their respects at a special service on Friday 10 November. *Photo by Bartle Rippon*



## Age of insecurity:



It is always a good time to look for the positives in life. We can find them around us and farther afield.

Let's start with our NHS, the most cherished of all our public services.

At the risk of repeating myself, I'm happy to reiterate the fact that there was no NHS when I was young. Recently I had two appointments for eye treatment. One at Cramlington, Manor Walks for an injection for macular degeneration, and one at the RVI for cataract surgery, for the same eye. I needed a very early rise for 7.00am transport to Newcastle, but it's all free. A friend is in Coquet Ward, Alnwick, following hip surgery and another friend is going for surgery on a minor skin condition.

Care in the community has been discussed at length in recent times. There is always a place for care organised by the authorities, but we all know that there are many people who help others because they want to help them. A very recent idea involves paying householders to provide a bed and breakfast service for people who can be discharged from hospital before they are ready to cope at home. I'm not sure how well this will work, but the idea could have legs.

Locally, we see new businesses, lots of visitors and enthusiasm for a lot of things going on in Amble. We can see the work of the amazing bunch of stalwarts who have served us so well over the years. They've never let us down yet and we all love the celebrations that herald the turning on of the lights. Perhaps our new housing developments could help to solve accommodation problems for local people, young and more mature. A good proportion of affordable housing, with the funding required, would help to make things better for many people.

I see communications as a bit of a mixed bag. When I send an email, a very limited skill in my case, it's brief, factual, with a few typos. We all hear comments from visitors that they like Amble because people are willing to talk. Apparently there was a lot of digital communication pre Brexit. A recent survey produced an interesting conclusion. People who left school before the age of 16 voted two to one in favour of leave, whereas those who stayed in full time education longer voted remain in the same proportion. It's so easy to make snap judgements on issues like this. We all know that the level of education of any of us depends on a lot more than what happened at school, or how long we stayed there.

Not long until Christmas. Our weather has been fairly temperate so far, although some of Mother Nature's omens seem to indicate cold weather ahead.

We know there are problems all over the world and that our news media never fails to emphasise them. I keep my fingers crossed, hoping for the best for us and everybody else.

Here's to GOODWILL!

*Harry McQuillan*



# You can bank on us, save money with Nicola and book your holidays with Cally



Continuing their efforts to save you money, Amble's Queen Street Post Office introduce their new Customer Relationship Manager, Nicola Lillico.

Nicola joined the team in September, and is very much enjoying her new position.

"I didn't realise just how much the Post Office does! We can help people save money in so many areas, house and car insurance, home phone and broadband packages and even mortgages," said Nicola.

For customers interested in looking to make savings, Nicola can guide them through the



Above: Postmaster Bryan Hewson and Customer Relations Manager Nicola Lillico

**Amble Post Office**  
43 Queen Street 01665  
713195. Open six days per  
week, 9am - 6pm  
*We don't just sell stamps!*

huge range of services on offer through the Post Office.

"This week we saved one man £200 on his car insurance," she said.

Postmaster Bryan Hewson

reminds people that they can also conduct both personal and business banking for all Banks not only Barclays.

"We're open 9am to 6pm six days a week, Monday

to Saturday for customers convenience too.

"We have three voice activated ATMs in branch where it's a lot safer than standing in the street."

## Cally can help you get away from it all



Above: Cally Patterson of Amble Traveltext Holidays

- Amble Traveltext Travel Agency is an ATOL protected Independent Travel Agency

- Traveltext is a trading name of the Online Travel Group ("OTG"). OTG is an Accredited Body Member of Hays Travel Ltd, ATOL 5534.

- The agency is based in 43 Queen St, Amble

- Single parent holidays
- Wedding packages
- UK and worldwide holidays
- Disability holidays (with Jet2 Holidays)
- Caravan holidays
- Coach holidays
- Cruises

[www.facebook.com/ambletraveltext](https://www.facebook.com/ambletraveltext)

WHETHER it's to wander along a sun soaked beach, fringed with palm trees, or a child-friendly fun-packed holiday closer to home, Cally Patterson can help you find your perfect getaway.

She set up Amble Traveltext

in Bryan's retail side of the post office in June and hasn't looked back.

"It's taken off really well," says Cally. "We can offer a truly personal and professional service, and we try to cater for everyone's needs; from

families, to single independent travellers.

"We can also arrange wedding packages, disability holidays and single parent holidays."

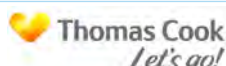
Call in Monday to Saturday 9 till 6, or visit on Facebook.

Phone: 01665 517353 or 01332 920171

Email: [Amble@traveltext.co.uk](mailto:Amble@traveltext.co.uk)

Traveltext Holidays is situated in 43 Queen Street Amble.

ATOL Protected.



The TravelText brand and the services offered by TravelText Limited are not affiliated, associated with or endorsed by Post Office Limited in any way.



## Bringing out the creative spirit

If ever there was proof that a creative spirit is worth nurturing, it is Shelagh Watson, who has created a beautiful sign for Funkyneedlework in the Old Fourways Centre on Bridge Street.

Retired Special Needs teacher Shelagh told The Ambler: "I love making things, and I've been doing glass work for about 30 years. When my daughter told me about Josie Dunne's quilting classes at Funkyneedlework, I decided to join. I used to do

quilting many years ago, and I'm really enjoying it."

And when Josie remarked she would like another sign to draw attention to the needlework business for people travelling down Church Street, Shelagh offered to make one in glass. "I sourced some glass from Iona Glass in Amble. It's called flash glass, it's two-colour glass and if you sandblast it, you get the two different colours showing," she said.

The new sign for Funkyneedlework depicts scissors, thread, pins and other sewing accessories and has been placed on the Bridge Street door where the sunlight shines through the multi coloured glass



Above: Shelagh Watson with the beautiful hand crafted glass sign

and reflects off the silver leading.

Josie said: "I am so grateful to Shelagh for the sign. It's lovely. Her glass working skills are rivalled only by her quilt

making skills! It's wonderful to be surrounded by such creative people. Amble seems to bring out the creative spirit in people!"  
*Anna Williams*



**THE PAINT POT**

*'Painting more for less'*

For smaller painting jobs  
avoiding the big prices

**Ring Bren: 07947 433144**  
brendanfarrowsmith57@gmail.com

## New youth group starting in January

A new youth group aimed at 8-12 year olds is starting in the New Year. The free after-school club will be held in JCSC's sports hall every Friday evening, from 6.30pm to 7.30pm, starting on 13 January 2018.

Lara Millar of Amble Youth Project explained that the sessions will consist of structured free time, and group chats, games and challenges. "We want to help build self esteem and motivation in a caring and supporting atmosphere. There will be an emphasis on healthy and safe living."

In November, Amble Youth Project raised £1,500 at a charity meal at Zecca, and are planning other fundraising activities in the future. They are also looking for volunteers and want to set up a fundraising team.

For more details on the new Friday youth group or Amble Youth Project, contact Lara: 07713884861 or see their Facebook page 'Amble Youth Project appeals': [www.facebook.com/AmbleYouthProjectGetInvolved](http://www.facebook.com/AmbleYouthProjectGetInvolved)

## Christmas @ The Sun Hotel

### Party Nights!!

Every Friday and Saturday in December, treat your friends, staff or family to one of our fantastic party nights! £25.95pp includes a 3 course dinner & disco!

Contact Directly to secure your table!

### Christmas Day!!

Celebrate the big day in our beautiful dining room, we'll do all the hard work!

We have a hearty 4 course menu with A Glass of Prosecco or Chef's Mulled Wine on Arrival  
£65.95pp or £35 for under 12's

Give us a ring or email for more information!

### New Years Eve!!

Something a little different this year, at the No.6 Steak House we are offering a stunning 6 course tasting menu! Then dance the new year in till late with our resident DJ!

£59.95pp  
Menus available on our Facebook page!

6 Castle Terrace, Warkworth, NE65 0UP, [thesunhotelwarkworth@gmail.com](mailto:thesunhotelwarkworth@gmail.com), 01665711259



# WHAT YOU SAY...

## A road to new housing?

I was pleased to see that Jeff Watson is agreeing with me, regarding traffic to and from the planned housing estate beside the high school (JCSC).

In issue 107 of The Ambler, in his councillor's report, he says that he proposed that approval be given for the 500 houses on condition that the developer should construct a "full size road from Acklington Road to the far side of the development".

This would make it easier to link that road to the A1068, thus avoiding problems at the Masons Arms corner. His proposal was accepted.

I described my idea for dealing with traffic problems, in issue 103 suggesting that Acklington Road be connected to the A1068 opposite Hauxley road end.

I believed that the planned route of the Amble by-pass could have been used, and we wouldn't need to wait for any link road.

However Councillor Watson's proposal is a start. Let's hope that future budget cuts at county level will not hamper these plans.

*Ian Hinson*

*Eastgarth Avenue, Amble*



### Amble Town

SINGER songwriter, Brian English, has produced a new video to illustrate and promote his song, "Amble Town". He already has thousands of views on his Facebook page. Take a look, at [www.facebook.com/brian.english.50](http://www.facebook.com/brian.english.50)



Mr Smith loves gardening... could you accompany him on a visit to his favourite garden centre?

## Caring comes in many forms and Age UK Northumberland has Home Care and Support vacancies to suit all

Due to service expansion, we currently have full and part-time opportunities for caring and professional people to work in our services in Amble and the surrounding area. Drivers are preferred but not essential.

**Salary:** £7.80 per hour plus mileage, travel time & holidays

**Hours:** Full and part-time hours available - flexible

### Vacancies

Enabling and Befriending - Housekeeping - Shopping - Care Personal Support

For further information or to apply please contact:

t: 01670 784 800

e: [info@ageuk-northumberland.org.uk](mailto:info@ageuk-northumberland.org.uk)

[www.ageuk.org/northumberland](http://www.ageuk.org/northumberland)



## Appeal for photos of Variety Club

My Mum Helen (nee Burge, formerly known as Little) was born in Amble and lived here all of her life. Many would know her from her various jobs in the community, including post lady and as chef for many years for the Masonic Lodge. Helen was well known in the town and admired for her community spirit. She also had a great sense of fun. She was very creative with her mind and her hands and founded Amble Variety club which staged many variety shows and pantomimes. She wrote poems about her observations of life in Amble and sold three booklets during the 1990's giving the proceeds to charity. Last year, her poems were combined into one volume, "My Thoughts in Amble".

Her next project was going to be to make requests for photographs of the Amble Variety Club events in order that she could have a collection to share with everyone; unfortunately she was unable to fulfil this idea as she was diagnosed with cancer.

I would be privileged to be able to do this on her behalf and would like to make an appeal to anyone who has photographs, videos or press cuttings to contact me at [yvonne@garretstudio.co.uk](mailto:yvonne@garretstudio.co.uk).

*Yvonne Davies via email*

## Business Matters

A new column from Amble-based Small Business PR specialist Claire Shiels

Businesses which rely heavily on tourist trade will inevitably suffer outside the season. However, it's worth remembering that a customer is a customer, regardless of where they live. They liked what they saw enough the first time to buy your product or use your service, so it's in your best interests to keep them hooked.

Whether you're a restaurant or a shop, how are you ensuring that you keep in touch with every single one of your customers? If possible, I'd recommend you have a website. Whether you choose to add an additional revenue stream by selling products online is up to you - but it costs very little and can help to support the business when footfall has significantly decreased.

For every single customer that comes through the door, make sure you're able to stay in touch by asking for their email address on a pre-printed card. (Make sure there's a box on there for them to tick if they're happy to be contacted by email). You might want to add a sweetener by entering the card into a regular prize draw. Those customers happy to stay in touch should be treated to a variety of benefits including discounts, events and exclusive

info on new stock. You could even send them an e-Christmas card! Invite them to your group or page on social media, send them regular e-newsletters.... marketing promotions can cost absolutely nothing - all it takes is time.

Your marketplace has changed. Successful businesses now rely on technology rather than pure footfall. You're in the very fortunate position of having a customer base that is global and you should be courting every single customer the same way, whether they live in Amble or New York.

Never before has your business been able to shout about its successes and offerings right across the world, in a matter of minutes. Just make sure you're making the most of every opportunity so that when the tourist season ends and the darkness draws in, you're still able to maintain business revenue.

*Claire*

You can follow Claire's tips for small businesses on her Facebook Group: [facebook.com/groups/SmallbusinessPRtips/](https://facebook.com/groups/SmallbusinessPRtips/)



## Help at hand

Age UK are providing help to people with cancer or with long term health conditions, who need help, practically or physically.

In March 2015 an initiative with Macmillan Cancer Support was set up providing cancer advocacy support. This is a free and confidential service which anyone living in Northumberland over the age of 50 with a cancer diagnosis can access.

The service matches people with an 'advocate' who will work to provide a 'second' voice to help you access information, make your voice heard and your choices supported. Help can take the form of accompanying a client to a hospital appointment, identifying benefits and allowances they may be entitled to, finding out information about housing options or providing support when dealing with community care services.

This assistance is there for everyone, even those with friends and family. With greater control, the idea is to improve quality of life. As Macmillan say "Cancer is the toughest fight most of us will ever face. But no one



Age UK are offering help for cancer patients, and help and advice for people with long term health conditions

should go through it alone".

If you are interested in learning more about our project, whether as a service user or potentially as a volunteer please contact us at [macmillan@ageuk-northumberland.org.uk](mailto:macmillan@ageuk-northumberland.org.uk) or call 01670 784800

### Long Term Health project

Age UK's other new project offers people who are inactive or have a long term health condition that is impacting upon their enjoyment of life.

This is a tailored programme of holistic health improvement. Information and advice

will be given on how to help manage health conditions through exercise and lifestyle activities, weight management, diet and healthy eating. Specially designed exercises will help to improve muscle strength, endurance, breathing, flexibility, balance and ultimately help you better manage your health condition.

You may not have exercised before but don't worry, you're making the right move by thinking about getting more active. The programme is free to anyone who wants to achieve the best quality of life and learn how to do more to

live better. The programme will be delivered in Trinity Methodist Church Hall, Amble. Anyone living with one or more long term condition (s) such as those listed could be eligible: Arthritis, Diabetes, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Heart Disease, High Blood Pressure.

If you or someone you know are interested in the programme and would like more information please contact:

Anne Robinson, Health and Wellbeing Manager 01670 784837 Email [anne.robinson@ageuk-northumberland.org.uk](mailto:anne.robinson@ageuk-northumberland.org.uk)

## Coquet Medical Group: GPs fire-fighting, rather than innovating

The NHS is under considerable pressure and no more so than in General Practice.

Coquet Medical Group serves over 11,300 patients across the Amble, Warkworth and Broomhill areas and as a Training Practice makes every effort to provide high quality, safe, caring and effective patient care.

Every month we conduct thousands of face to face consultations as well as home visits, telephone calls and associated activities with tasks, letters, results and referrals.

We do this on a fixed budget of less than £146 per patient per year. Most patients attend their GPs six times a year, but some attend over 40 times a year.

At present there is a major shortage of GPs. This is because the career is very stressful, dealing with complex ill patients in a very limited time. Typically a GP gets just 10 minutes for each consultation, because of the huge demand. GPs have seen an 11% drop in income since 2008. 80% of GPs across the country feel their workload is unmanageable or excessive. Only 8% of NHS spending goes on General Practice: so it is hugely underfunded.

Coquet Medical Group has invested considerable time and



Amble Health Centre

effort in identifying patients likely to develop serious medical problems (such as those with a high risk of diabetes) but with slightly more funding we could do so much more to improve the health of our patients.

The chronic lack of GPs results in fewer GPs struggling with more and more work. This in turn contributes to difficulties with booking appointments, increased time-consuming complaints and GPs fire-fighting rather than innovating. The end result is frustrating for you and incredibly stressful and tiring for GPs and practice staff.

We recently examined our nurse appointments and the rate of people not attending. We refer to these as Did Not Attend patients (DNAs). We found that every month we have been losing nearly a whole week of nurse

time due to patients failing to attend their nurse appointments.

The majority of GP appointments are now released on the day. This has significantly reduced the DNA rate for GPs, who can focus on patients who are unwell. It will hopefully come as some reassurance to those who struggle to get an appointment that every morning and every afternoon we have a designated "Duty GP." Once the appointments released on the day have been booked anyone wanting an appointment will be offered a telephone appointment with this Duty GP, who will then be able to review your problem and decide on the next step, for example arranging tests, or being seen by a GP or nurse. When possible the Duty GP will book you in with someone who has seen you before.

We are trying our very best to provide high quality, safe care, targeted at the people who genuinely need medical help the most, in a timely manner.

### What you can do to help:

- Understand the immense pressure General Practice is under.
- Use the service responsibly.
- Let us know if you are unable to attend an appointment
- Make every effort not to book in for multiple problems: the GP has only 10 minutes per patient.
- Make any request for a possible house call before 10am when possible.

If you want to do more, write or email your local MP (details below) and ask them to request that General Practice is immediately given 11% of the NHS budget rather than the 8% it currently gets. This would make a huge difference in our ability to offer appointments and services and recruit extra staff, even if they are not GPs.

### Coquet Medical Group

Contact details for our local MP  
Anne-Marie Trevelyan.  
Tel. 01289 385150  
[www.teamtrevelyan.co.uk/contact](http://www.teamtrevelyan.co.uk/contact)  
or [annemarie.trevelyan.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:annemarie.trevelyan.mp@parliament.uk)



# Local students star in 'Suss the Bus'

Students from James Calvert Spence College have taken part in a project to raise awareness of what to expect when using school transport for the first time.

The year eight students had a great time learning all about how a film is made with professional filmmaker Jenny Wotherspoon.

The students 'star' in a short film, 'Suss the Bus in Northumberland', made through a partnership between Schools Go Smarter and Northumberland County Council's school transport team. It shows the journey to school and how students are expected to behave while using the school bus.

Every day there are over 10,000 students using school transport across Northumberland and this film has been used to help and reassure the pupils who were using school transport for the first time this September.

Councillor Glen Sanderson said: "Using a school bus for the first time can be a bit of a scary experience for young people.



This film is extremely helpful in giving pupils the information and support that they need to start travelling by bus, helping them to grow in confidence.

"For those students who live some way away from school travelling by bus is a sustainable form of transport, which reduces air pollution as well helping to reduce congestion and therefore improve safety at school gates."

The new film addresses safety while travelling on school transport, which is a key concern for parents. Students are also reminded that any antisocial behaviour such as fighting or vandalism is not acceptable and could have serious repercussions, especially if the driver becomes distracted.

Schools Go Smarter encourages pupils and their

parents to travel sustainably to school by walking, bicycling, scooting or using school transport for daily journeys to school.

The film can be viewed on the Home to School Transport section of Northumberland County Council's website.

More information about Schools Go Smarter can be found at [www.gosmarter.co.uk](http://www.gosmarter.co.uk)



## Christmas and New Year at the Bede Street



Check out our website: [thebedestreetclub.co.uk](http://thebedestreetclub.co.uk)  
Facebook page: [facebook.com/amblebede.streetclub](https://facebook.com/amblebede.streetclub)

<p><b>Fri 15 Dec - 8.30pm</b> Special event for Breast Cancer Research featuring the fabulous <b>Howard Baker Band</b> Entry at the door £2.50 Please support</p> <p><b>Thurs 21 Dec - 7.45pm</b> Christmas Bingo</p> <p><b>Fri 22 Dec - 7.45pm</b> Bingo</p> <p><b>Sat 23 Dec - 8.30pm</b> A Christmas Extravaganza with Top Local Band <b>The Range</b></p> <p><b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b> 6.30pm - 11.00pm</p>	<p><b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> 11am - 1.00pm (Evening closed)</p> <p><b>BOXING DAY</b> 6pm - 12am Disco 7.30pm Bingo &amp; Random Draw</p> <p><b>Wed 27 Dec - 7.45pm</b> Newcastle v Man City Open Mic &amp; Buskers night</p> <p><b>NEW YEAR'S EVE</b> Free Juke Box &amp; Pool 7.30pm Bingo &amp; Random Draw</p> <p><b>NEW YEAR'S DAY</b> 5.30pm Disco</p>
--	--

Competitive priced drinks including:

- John Smiths (£2.80)
- Real Ale (£2.90)
- Fosters (£3.05)
- Moretti (£3.75)



A range of top quality wines available by the 70cl bottle (£9.60).  
Prosecco (£12.00).  
Free room hire.  
Multi screen TVs for all top sports events

No membership required. Venue open to all.  
16 Bede Street Amble 01665 710213

## Sullivan Associates

CHARTERED BUILDING SURVEYORS

Offering professional property advice throughout Northumberland

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

**Tel: 01665 513010**  
**Email: [info@sullivan-associates.co.uk](mailto:info@sullivan-associates.co.uk)**

**Fourways 2 6 Dilston Terrace Amble Northumberland NE65 0DT**

# LA FAMIGLIA

BY THE OLD BOAT HOUSE

*Our festive menu features our take on some Christmas classics, as well as some of the fresh seafood and local produce we're renowned for.*

*Sunday: 12noon - 4pm Monday: Closed*  
*Tuesday to Thursday: 10am - 8pm*  
*Friday and Saturday: 12noon - 9pm*

 [www.facebook.com/lafamigliaamble](https://www.facebook.com/lafamigliaamble)

**80 QUEEN STREET, AMBLE 01665 711862**



**coquet cosmetics**

Pod 2  
Amble  
Harbour  
Village

Cosmetics, Skincare, Bath &  
Body and Accessories

Book a Nail Appointment now  
by popping in the pod, sending  
us a Facebook message or  
texting 07464269245

Facebook | Twitter | Instagram  
www.coquetcosmetics-uk.com

**The Laundry Co.**

Opening hours:  
Monday to Saturday  
9am – 2.30pm  
3.30pm – 5pm

High quality laundry and  
ironing service.  
Dry cleaning.

2 Ladbroke St  
Amble NE65 0AS  
0798 301 1401  
thelaundryco2@gmail.com

**THE MAD JAM WOMAN**

PRESERVES  
RELISHES  
HOT SAUCES  
DIPS  
CHRISTMAS PACKS



Old Fourways Centre  
Bridge St, Amble NE65 0DR  
07766 857680

Also available at the Seafood Centre

**WWW.MADJAMWOMAN.CO.UK**

Looking  
for a  
Christmas  
present?  
New book  
available  
from  
Amble  
Town  
Council  
£2



## CORRECTION

In the last edition of The Ambler (Issue 107: Kirsten serves up a slice of heaven, p10) we did not make it clear that K's Little Kakey is Kirsten Blackmore's own business and separate from her mother's cake making business. We apologise for any confusion.

## Mocha Mondo is full of beans!!

It's been just over two years since Mocha Mondo Coffee came to Amble Harbour Village and started supplying seriously good coffee to the people and visitors in Amble.

The business has developed in the retail Pod, and has now expanded into another unit focussing on mail order (Roasted and Posted), and wholesale.

The new roastery at Unit 6D, Coquet Enterprise Park, is primarily for roasting and distribution of mail order and wholesale orders, but you are always welcome to pop in to

buy coffee beans fresh from the roaster and we can serve you a cup of coffee too!

Mocha Mondo's 'Roasted and Posted' mail order business offers a choice of 12 single origin, freshly roasted coffee beans. This range includes two African origin beans, both suppliers being part of the impressive International Women's Coffee Alliance (IWCA), who are producing excellent quality green coffee beans.

They have some great gifts for coffee lovers this Christmas

that include medium and full roasted bean options as well as packs that include Mocha Mondo's delicious 'bean to bar' handmade chocolate. They have even got a coffee soap!! (But don't worry, it is made with all natural ingredients and won't actually make you smell of coffee!)

And if you simply can't decide which fantastic coffee gift to go for, they do vouchers too - see [www.mochamondo.co.uk](http://www.mochamondo.co.uk) for the full list of gifts and accessories, or pop into the pod for a browse.

## New laundry service hopes to clean up

Lorraine Kurti opened The Laundry Co back in the summer, to provide a high quality laundry and ironing service for people in the Amble area - and beyond.

The Laundry Co is situated on the corner of Ladbroke Street, near to the Harbour Co-op. They provide self-service or serviced washes, as well as ironing, and they cover holiday homes and businesses.

They can even drop your laundry off, if you live within 10 miles of Amble. Same day washing and drying is also possible - call in and see Lorraine for details and prices.



And now they even offer a dry cleaning service.

At the moment there is a winter offer on duvet cleaning;

with one duvet wash, they will also clean a second for half price. Discounts are also available for regular customers.

The Laundry Co is open Monday to Saturday 9am-1.30pm and 3.30pm-5pm. Ring Lorraine on 07983011401 or email her: [thelaundryco2@gmail.com](mailto:thelaundryco2@gmail.com)

"It's taken a while to get everything in place, but I'm really enjoying it," said Lorraine. "Running my own business is new to me, but I thought 'this is what Amble needs'. We've been going for about four months now and the business is starting to thrive."

## New business networking group in town

A new business networking group is meeting in Amble once a month, and local businesses are invited to take part. Held in Fourways2, The Weekly Business @ Northumberland has only recently started in the town, after the success of their other networking groups in the county.

Co-organiser Karen Watmough said "It's about connecting Amble businesses, forging relationships and supporting each other's businesses to grow."

The Weekly Business @ Northumberland is a social enterprise and was set up by Charlie Kenny in 2012, as a way of bringing local business owners together on a regular basis.

Charlie said: "We have such a high percentage of 'home-office' managers and 'micros' operating throughout our immediate area, some without any access to

peer group development and so the first few meetings quickly developed into the regular 'weekly business' in Alnmouth, soon followed by dates in Berwick, Felton and Alnwick.

"Our goal is simple ... that is to help each other grow the business in a structured environment, offering support in a non-prohibitive manner.

Anyone wishing to attend on a regular basis has the opportunity of being the only representative of their particular trade or service."

The next meetings will be held on 7 December and 11 January. 12.30-2pm Top Floor Fourways2, Amble NE65 0DT <http://weeklybusiness-northumberland.co.uk/>



Above: The Weekly Business @ Northumberland's Amble group



- Handmade single origin chocolate
- Luxury iced milkshakes



NEW!  
Mail order  
coffee beans  
and chocolate  
**'Roasted  
& Posted'**

Seriously good coffee.

*Speciality coffee beans roasted daily on site.*

Pod 15 Amble Harbour Village

[www.mochamondo.com](http://www.mochamondo.com) [mochamondo@gmail.com](mailto:mochamondo@gmail.com)

## A Touch of Love

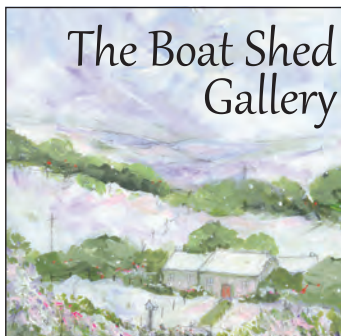
*Pod 13 Amble Harbour Village*

Beautiful and unusual  
gifts for all occasions.  
Special touches for the home,  
garden & events.

A Touch  
of Love

made  
with love...

## The Boat Shed Gallery



POD4, AMBLE HARBOUR VILLAGE

Winter village, Northumberland painting  
available as a limited edition print.

Christmas cards, prints, candles and  
decorations and lots more.

# The 'P' Pod



New  
stock for  
Xmas

Perfect  
for  
presents!

## Pod 6, Amble Harbour Village

*Tuesdays - Fridays: 11am - 3pm*

*Saturdays & Sundays: 10am - 4pm*

*Closed Mondays*

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

A lovely Coastal Jewellery Studio  
at Amble Harbour Shopping Village,

Nautical and  
Sea-themed  
designs  
available in

- Earrings,
- Necklaces,
- Charm Bracelets and
- Rings



A stunning range  
of Sea Glass  
pieces,  
all set in  
Sterling Silver

Winter opening times:  
**Saturday & Sunday  
11 - 3pm**

Beautiful natural semi-precious gemstones



Pod 3, Amble Harbour Village

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

## cottages in NORTHUMBERLAND



Looking to earn extra income from your holiday cottage?

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

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



For a friendly chat call us on: 0191 231 3020

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

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



WHAT'S ON ?

IT'S EXCITING

- Community Cafe open Monday - Saturday
- Meals on wheels for Amble, Hadston, Broomhill and Widdrginton
- BINGO every Monday !!
- Handyman Services
- Study Programme for 16-18yr olds, next information day 8th January
- IT Suite free access
- FREE CSCS Card course for unemployed people
- Whole range of employment training & support
- Careers Advisors every Tuesday
- Silver Surfers every Wednesday
- Young People's cookery Thursdays
- Young Peoples Youth Club, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
- Regular Coach Trips get in touch or like our facebook page
- Art Classes, Knit and Natter and Beetle Drive all available weekly.
- We have a whole range of rooms that can be booked
- FREE WIFI

Scott Dickinson and all the Staff at Hadston House would like to wish  
everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Visit our website [www.hadstonhouse.co.uk](http://www.hadstonhouse.co.uk)

Email us [Rose@hadstonhouse.co.uk](mailto:Rose@hadstonhouse.co.uk)





## Christmas for your Pets

Did you know that nine out of ten pet owners buy their furry companion a Christmas present? Or that more than half of pets will get a Christmas stocking?

If you love treating your pets, then look no further for a handy guide to find the perfect gift for them this holiday!

There are loads of good pet treats you can buy, or you could try making your own with a recipe from the internet. Be careful about feeding them any human food as it can be really bad for them, especially things like chocolate. These can be poisonous and make them ill.

Lawrences in Amble also stocks a good supply of pet treats, toys and even advent calendars suitable for your furry friends.

You can also get your pets some great presents! From Urban Pooch down at the pods you can get loads

of dog leads, collars, coats and other dog toys.

But if you want something for your other animals there are loads of things on the internet or around locally if you look hard enough.

For example: you can get lots of food bowls, pet beds, treat jars, etc that are personalised with your pet's name on, or you can get your cats some fun catnip toys to play with.

When buying things for your pets, always make sure they're animal friendly and safe for your pet to use.

Try and stick to specialised pet toys and treats with no small parts that they could accidentally swallow or choke on, and always take any allergies into mind too.

Remember it's great to treat your pets for Christmas, but you have to make sure they're safe and healthy too!

By Lily



## All about a pug

It was one week before Christmas, and all Katie really wanted was a pug. But her mam and dad said no because they are a lot of money and there are vet's bills too. Even though she understood it was no good, Katie couldn't stop going into the local pet shop to see if there were any pugs which really needed a home. There were none at all. Then it was getting late so Katie went home and went to bed to dream all about pugs.

The next day Katie again went to the pet shop straight after school. The owner came up to her and said "I see you every day after school and at the week end". And Katie

explained how she loved pugs so much, but they couldn't afford one. The next day after school Katie again went to the pet shop. The owner told her that there had been a pug, but a lady had been in earlier and took it home. Katie was sad but she said "Yes, of course it will have a good home." So she left and went home.

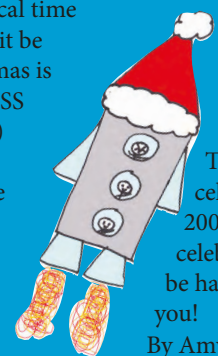
When Katie got home, she opened the door and got a big shock! Waiting inside the house was a pug! Katie was so happy, she named it Daisy and she looked after it for the rest of its life.

By Louise

## Celebrating Christmas in space

Christmas is the most magical time on Earth! So why shouldn't it be celebrated in space? Christmas is celebrated annually on the ISS (international space station) although it's not always on Christmas Day. It can be the 6th, 7th or 19th January.

On Christmas Eve 2013, astronauts made a rare spacewalk to fix the



cooling system, which was only the second Christmas Eve spacewalk in history!

The first Christmas to be celebrated on the ISS was in 2000. So the next time you celebrate Christmas, it may be happening 100 km above you!

By Amy

## Cruelty free Christmas dinner

Christmas is a great time and one of the many highlights is always Christmas dinner. Even though I'm vegetarian I always enjoy Christmas dinner.

I decided to give up meat about two years ago when I was about 8, because I think it is cruel to kill animals.

To have a cruelty free Christmas dinner, you don't have to change much. Turkey can be replaced with veggie "chicken and bacon lattice", vegetarian stuffing, Brussel sprouts (yuk) Then more vegetables! eg mange tout, mashed Swede, mashed potato, Yorkshire puddings, carrots, parsnip - all with loads of veggie gravy.

By Ava

## Ethan's 2017 sports roundup

In football: Neymar is now worth £200million. Newcastle was promoted back to the Premier League

the Great North Run for the fourth time.

In Formula 1: Lewis Hamilton came fourth in the Brazillian Grand Prix, but he won the World Championship again.

In cycling: English cyclist Chris Froome won the Tour de France for the fourth time.

By Ethan

In athletics: Usain Bolt retired after his last race when he pulled his ankle. Mo Farah won



## Ask Ava

'Aren't all advent calendars just a waste of money?' - Anonymous of Amble

NO! Even though some advent calendars are very pricey they aren't a waste of time. Everyone should get one or you could do a DIY.

Even if some people go overboard and get super expensive make-up calendars, that doesn't mean you have to. Shops like Sweets and Treats, 42 Queen Street and Young's the newsagent on Newburgh St will most likely sell cheap calendars, and places like B&M and Home Bargains sell them too.

If you don't even have enough for that all you need to do is grab some paper and then add tabs with pictures underneath. It may not have chocolate but it means Christmas is soon!

By Ava

(See Amble Food Bank's idea of a Reverse Advent Calendar on p15, Ed)

## Binky and the New Years Resolution

It was the 31st of December and Binky and all his friends were gathered at the small town hall, decorated in different shades of scarlet and crimson especially for the turning of a new year.

However Binky wasn't feeling the joyful atmosphere. Sure the food was good, Bazzle and Blossom were in a good mood, even Cedric wasn't being that annoying, it was just the bit he knew would come next that he wasn't looking forward to. The New Year's resolutions. They were pointless! Who even stuck to any resolutions they made?

"Are you ready for resolution making? I think we'll do it in about 5 minutes or so," said Binky's mum with a smile. Binky shuffled his feet. "I don't know. I

might go for a walk."  
"You sure?"

Binky nodded, already halfway to the door. As soon as he got out, he rolled his eyes, starting to walk towards the bamboo forest. His mum was a huge fan of the whole 'new year's resolution' thing, making a promise to be a better person. Binky, not so much.

He walked through the bamboo forest, eventually getting to a small bench.

As he watched the fireworks go off in the distance, he thought about all the things that had happened to him over the past year: finding the baby bat, making a new friend, even travelling in a time machine! It had been amazing.

## Favourite toys from the past 30 years

Are you getting bored with your toys? Or do you not know what to ask for, for Christmas? Well here are some toys that your older siblings or parents might have had...

1980s

Teddy Ruxpin It may seem creepy today, but in the 80s this story-telling bear was all the rage.

Atari The first major video game system ever invented



1990s

Barbie The well-known doll that is still improving even to this day. Barbie has gone through many phases such as 'astronaut and space scientist'.

Tamagotchi This handheld game is your own little digital pet that was popular in the 90s to the early 2000s.

2000s

Beanie babies are small stuffed bears with big eyes. These toys are still popular and bought for children even today.

Monster high dolls these dolls are inspired by monster movies, sci-fi horror and other creatures. these dolls (especially in the movies) are made to show that we should embrace the fact that we are all different.

Emma-Jane Gregory



Happy Christmas to all our readers from:  
Bethany, Lily, Ava, George-Anne, Emma-Jane, Amy,  
Ethan & Louise.

See us also on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Artograpfi](http://www.facebook.com/Artograpfi)



## Don't let anyone burst your balloon!

Recently, Dennis who we met in the summer as a volunteer with the RSPB, came in to talk about life goals. He showed us part of a French short film called "Le Ballon Rouge" which means "The Red Balloon". The film was made in 1956 by Albert Lamorisse. It was about a boy who found a balloon that seemed to behave and think independently. The adults in the film didn't want the balloon to think by itself and tried to stop it.

We interpreted this as there will always be people wanting you to fit into today's society. We discussed it and decided that you should ignore them. It's your life and you should live it the way you want to! We

then asked Dennis some questions and advice about life goals and bullying:

Q: How do you help someone being bullied?

A: You should tell an adult, even if they don't want you to. Telling an adult is the best thing to do.

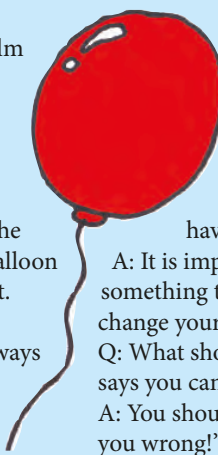
Q: Why is it important to have a life goal?

A: It is important so you have something to aim for. It is okay to change your life goal, it isn't set in stone.

Q: What should you say to someone who says you can't do it?

A: You should say: "I'm going to prove you wrong!"

By Amy





## Corner

### Captain Coquet's

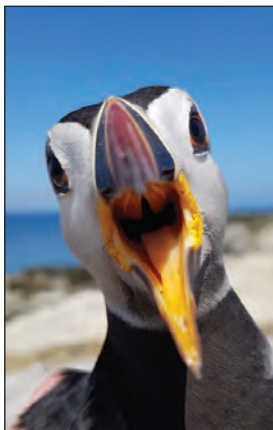
The breeding season has come to an end on Coquet, and the final numbers are in. The dry spring and good fish supply has brought good news all around - with the exception of the Eider ducks who struggled.

Several records were broken, with more Kittiwakes than ever before breeding on the low cliffs. The first pair nested on the island in 1991, and this year this number has grown to 448 pairs.

The other cliff dwellers - the Fulmar - also had a super year, doubling their population to 84 pairs. Another all-time high. The record breaking didn't stop there - with the Black-headed gulls peaking at 5494 nests (46 more than 2016)

2017 wasn't a census year for puffins, but they looked to be in good number and fine fettle!

The puffin pictured above was particularly feisty after making a novice mistake of getting stuck in the night hide wood pile (we think it was trying to find a new burrow). After letting him out - there was just



time for this quick close up before he headed back out to sea.

#### Terns

The terns had a fantastic year on the island, under the watchful eyes of the wardens. Well over 1,000 Sandwich terns nested including adults from Holland. In-fact the exchange with

Dutch birds became particularly evident with a bird colour ringed 1T5. This individual visited Coquet and then returned to Holland within a few days! It was then seen a few days later in Scarborough.

The Common and Arctic terns also did well, and a record breaking 1,579 Arctic tern nests were counted. Arctic terns also had the highest productivity (chicks fledged per pair) on record. The Common tern population increased and sits near the top of all time highs, as does their productivity. The season drew to a close quickly, which is a good sign as a lingering season means lots of re-lays and later nests.

Roseate terns had a super year.

The population reached 111, an equal highest on record with 2015. As well as this, all the hard habitat work paid off with the highest productivity on record! That means more rosy chicks than ever before fledged this year (166). Having this many chicks fledge and join the meta-population is a real step in the right direction and exceeded the productivity on Rockabill in Ireland (the European stronghold).

#### Current Island work

Work is underway to repair the damage done by the seabirds over the summer (undermining paths, removing guano from solar panels, restore the roseate terraces), and tackle removing a lot of vegetation they have let grow up around them (it's not wise to try and mow it while they are nesting).

To help keep up with the growing roseate tern population, and in hope that all of this year's chicks return one day, we have constructed a new terrace. This terrace will give

us space for another 100 boxes, as well as helping protect the existing north terrace from being buried by the cheeky puffins as they excavate their burrows.

#### Box Camera

One of the roseate nest boxes was equipped with a miniature camera so that we could peek into the day to day life of a pair of roseate terns in their home. The live footage was transmitted over the internet to a dedicated website for the world to see.

We found the first eggs on 28

May - and the chicks were confirmed on 18 June. They have both done very well this year, and even made a friend from next door - even if the parents didn't always approve. The A chick now has ring AANN and the B has AAVC - this will help us keep track of them and into the future. We saw them fledged

to the beach and departing for Africa. We will miss them!

Paul Morrison  
Photos by Wez Davies



Repair work on the island

JOIN NOW FOR LESS THAN £1 A DAY

- ✓ Indoor heated swimming pool
- ✓ Sauna and steam room
- ✓ A fully qualified team on hand
- ✓ Fitness classes
- ✓ State of the art gym facilities
- ✓ Low cost packages to suit you

...plus much much more



The general public is always welcome so call our friendly team for more information today



☎ 01665 710 727

🌐 [www.parkleisure.co.uk](http://www.parkleisure.co.uk)

✉ [ambleleisure@parkleisure.co.uk/amblelinks](mailto:ambleleisure@parkleisure.co.uk/amblelinks)

Amble Health & Leisure Club, Links Road, Amble, Northumberland, NE65 0SD

## Cromie Pharmacy



### Are you flu safe? Get the jab!

**Flu can be a serious illness  
... are you at risk?**



*"a HEALTHY  
AND HAPPY  
CHRISTMAS  
TO ALL"*

Getting a flu jab can protect you all winter. It's free if you are over 65, pregnant, or have a long-term health condition such as severe asthma, diabetes, a chest, heart liver or kidney complaint or lowered immunity.

**You need to get the flu jab every year. The flu jab is quick, safe and free. To book your jab, visit **Cromie Pharmacy**.**

This is an NHS funded service

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



# Hands up for this famous son of Amble

Hands up who's heard of William Rochester Pape? Ok, me neither, but that's probably because I know nothing about shotguns. If I did, I might know that the aforementioned fellow was a big cheese in the nineteenth century shotgun world, having developed and patented the choke boring system. (No? Well, bear with me...) Not only that, but he's also credited with holding the first official dog show in Britain.

Also, and here's why this is all so exciting, this inventor, gunsmith and dog breeder was born in Amble, in 1832. His parents were Dorothy and James,

who ran a grocery, butcher's and game dealer business here. They also seem to have run a fishing business from what must have been their family home, Coquet Lodge in Warkworth.

In the early 1840s the Pape family moved to Newcastle, where eventually young William took over the business, which then included selling guns. Between 1860 and 1889, Pape expanded the company, selling and manufacturing guns and employing several staff. By 1937 William R Pape and his family had run businesses in Alnwick, Newcastle and Sunderland.

In 1959, 32 years before

Crufts' first dog show, and 14 years before the Kennel Club came into being, Pape organised and judged the first official dog show in Britain. It was held at the Corn Exchange in Newcastle. There were two classes; pointers and setters, and the competition was open only to males - and that included the dogs! (Good grief, Victorians, what were they like?) The Kennel club was founded in 1873, and their documentation on pedigree breeds and results dates back to Pape's 1859 show. Throughout his life, Pape continued to breed and train gundogs at the family home at Coquet Lodge.

Pape was born in the age of flintlock muzzleloaders, and despite no evidence of an apprenticeship, he made his first shotgun in 1857. He went on to develop the choke boring system, which The Field Magazine explains as "the constriction at the muzzle end of the gun that tightens the pattern of pellets." Seemingly the origins of choke boring are now disputed, but our William patented his system in 1866 and won prizes and a diploma of merit.

Pape's inventive nature continued in the 1890s, when



The Pape name features on this building on the corner of Collingwood St and Pink Lane in Newcastle.

*Photos courtesy Dave Howarth*

he also filed patents for window cleaners and draught excluders. The Pape name was held in high esteem due to the good quality of their guns.

After his wife died, William moved back to Coquet Lodge, where he appears to have lived for the next 20 years. In 1923, he was run over and killed, and is buried in Newcastle.

*Anna Williams*

*Thanks to Dave Howarth, Google, Amble in Old Photographs, www.doublegunshop.com/forum, the Golden Retriever Club of Northumbria, the Kennel Club, and Justin Cooper.*



Above: W.R. Pape's initials adorn this nineteenth century shotgun

## Reverse advent calendar would help Amble Food Bank

The Amble Food Bank would like to introduce the Reverse Advent Calendar.

The idea is instead of opening a calendar door and collecting a treat, we thought we could ask the kind people of Amble and surrounding area to collect an extra item(s) to their daily/weekly shop and drop them in a collection point in

Amble. These are both Co-ops and the Blue Bell public house on Albert Street. For larger donations, or monetary donations, please contact the email below

We thank the community of Amble and surrounding areas for supporting those in need not only at Christmas but throughout the year.

Amble Food Bank would like to thank Morrisons of Alnwick for their donations throughout the year, also both Co-ops and The Blue Bell public house in Amble for having collecting baskets on their premises. We also thank the Amble Women's Institute and the schools, churches and others for their food and monetary donations

over the past year. We finally thank the community of Amble and surrounding areas for their continued generous donations and hope this will continue next year by all mentioned above.

Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year

*Bill, Victoria, Ken, Ben and Elizabeth*

*Email: amblefoodbank@aol.com*

## Hauxley Parish Council



### Councillor Vacancies

Hauxley Parish Council are looking for two new candidates to serve as Parish Councillors.

- Are you interested in local current affairs?

- Do you wish to serve your Community?
  - Could you provide a voice for residents?
- We would like to hear from you.

For further information on qualifying criteria or an informal chat please contact the new Parish Clerk Jade Reynolds, See contact details below.

### Parking plea

Residents and members of Hauxley Parish Council have requested again that all residents and members of the public adhere to the parking restrictions to help alleviate the persistent issues with car parking and access in the parish. Parking within the parish will continue to be monitored.

Residents are invited to write to the Clerk if they would like to raise any issues at the bi-monthly parish meetings.

### Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council is 6.30pm on Monday 8 January 2018 in the Village Hall, Low Hauxley.

Hauxley Parish Council wish all residents a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Contact details: Parish Clerk: Mrs J Reynolds

Address: 14 Oswald St, Amble, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE65 0EG Tel: 07786 255 649

Email: hauxleyipc@hotmail.co.uk

Website: [www.theambler.co.uk/category/news/politics/hauxley-parish-council](http://www.theambler.co.uk/category/news/politics/hauxley-parish-council)



# REPORTS FROM OUR *County Councillors*

Excellent news on the much needed Amble hotel. A 30 bedroom inn including a bar, restaurant, external terrace and car parking, a real boost for Amble's tourism and helping to attract additional visitors to Northumberland.

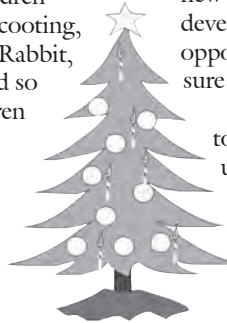
I secured funding for a number of carved features for Amble's first school's new path installed around the perimeter of the school playing field. This path is a fantastic idea to increase levels of exercise amongst the children and their families, walking, running, biking and scooting, the installation of carved characters such as Peter Rabbit, Paddington, Gruffalo, the three Bears, Dobby, and so on will therefore act as an attraction for the children to use it, and therefore increase exercise.

I look forward in having a run (walk) around the path in the near future.

*Cllr Terry Clark*

*Terry.Clark@northumberland.gov.uk*

*mob 07779 983768*



Amble has been dominated by planning applications over the last few months and they have all been passed!

The truth is that there is little that can be done to stop housing developments that meet government criteria. All we can do is try to ensure that the plans and infrastructure match up to the needs of the town.

I think we have been more successful lately in presenting and negotiating our needs. The newly planned link road around Amble from the A1068 to Acklington Road is a good example of this and reflects the new spirit of co-operation. Negotiations are under way for funds from the developers to improve our health facilities as well as education, sporting opportunities and affordable housing and I am heavily involved in making sure that this money is well spent on the things that residents want.

Car parking is another problem and the problem will grow as the town continues to grow. Some people don't want to see change but unfortunately in this modern environment change is inevitable and the only choice we have is do we fight it or welcome it and try to make the most of it. I firmly believe in the latter option.

Have a good Christmas. Ho Ho Ho

*Jeff Watson*

*Available on 07802385367 jeffrey.watson@northumberland.gov.uk*

## Volunteer buddies still needed in Northumberland

Northumberland CVA are continuing to look for new Volunteer Buddies. After training they will offer one to one support to individuals with multiple barriers.

CEO Anne Lyall said "We are looking for Volunteer Buddies who will support an individual to undertake volunteering and

also possibly to travel to and from the volunteering location.

"Buddies themselves can gain new skills and meet new people, as well as having the satisfaction of taking on a new challenge and supporting others who are less confident.

"Anyone wishing to be a Volunteer Buddy must be able to

explain things clearly and have empathy and understanding.

"They need to be willing to commit to a minimum of one half day per week plus training prior to becoming a buddy. Out of pocket expenses will be paid and a DBS check will be required."

This project is part of

Bridge, a bigger, county-wide, multi-agency project, working in partnership with Northumberland County Council

If you'd like to find out more about becoming a Volunteer Buddy, please call Lisa Wackett at Northumberland CVA on 01670 858688.

## Generous donations to Amble War Memorial

### *Impromptu collection*

The Barnsley Branch of the Light Dragoons Regimental Association held an impromptu collection over a regimental weekend 6-7 October and at their annual Balaclava dinner held during the weekend.

They have generously donated the monies raised to the Amble War Memorial restoration fund totalling £218.39, which may seem a little strange, but there is a history.

The land was given in memory of the two sons of Edward Maule Lawson-Smith and the memorial dedication panel marks this sacrifice.

The older of the sons, Lieutenant Thomas Edward Lawson-Smith, a 13th Hussar, was killed in action on 1st November 1914 aged 25. The 13th Hussars merged with the 18th Hussars and became the 13/18th Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own)

in 1922 and in 1992 they went on to merge with the 15/19th Kings Royal Hussars to become the Light Dragoons.

In recognition of the effort put in by their 15/19th comrade Peter Proctor-Cannon in raising funds towards the repair fund to remember Amble's fallen and the memory of the brothers, they felt it was only right and proper to support their comrade and remember Lt Lawson-Smith 13th Hussar and his brother Lt John Lawson-Smith of the West Yorkshire Regiment killed in action 20 October 1914 aged 22.

VIRET IN AETERNUM  
It flourishes forever

MEREBIMUR We shall be worthy

This generosity reflects the Regimental Mottos in that their comradeship has flourished and will do so forever and they are worthy.

### *Sponsored walk round Hauxley nature reserve*



The Interact Club of Coquet and Aln (Junior Branch of Amble and Warkworth Rotary) recently raised funds from a sponsored walk around Hauxley Nature Reserve.

The total raised was £303 and was supported by the Rotary and Inner Wheel Clubs. From this the Interact Club members presented Amble Mayor, Jane Dargue, with a cheque for £125 to go towards the Amble War Memorial Clock repair fund.

In addition, the club has agreed to spend a further £120 on 50 shoe boxes for the Rotary Shoe Box Project. This will become a whole school project for James Calvert Spence College. Pictured presenting the cheque are (L to R) Emma Turner, Lily Parks, Mayor Jane Dargue, Erin Dodds, Niamh Sheils and Emily Grimsey.

Welcome back to dark evenings and cold mornings, thank goodness Christmas is just around the corner!

So on the point of Christmas and the shopping that goes with it, hearing the comments about the changing nature of retail on Queen Street – are you planning on shopping local this year?!

We know it's easy to sit in an armchair and order your goods, then have them delivered to your door. But that does nothing to aid and retain a vibrant high street. We have been fortunate in having all premises occupied on Queen Street for some time but times change as do trading/shopping methods. There is little point in moaning about the number of cafes, hairdressers or nail bars if you aren't supporting what we already have. These are products or services that you cannot order online, so the next time you are about to press order, think about whether you could get it locally because often goods can be bought for the same or even cheaper than online, especially when you factor in delivery costs – food for thought and an opportunity to show support for Amble!

## Parking issues

Parking is another subject that has brought about many comments. The possible use of part of the Braid has stirred many emotions. So I would like to set the record straight on some of the sites people keep raising as options, given we have been meeting for four years and those attending the meetings

having a reasonable knowledge of the town, land ownership and restrictions it is almost certain that wherever anyone suggests has already been thought of.

First: land behind Tesco including the bungalow and garage site – this is privately owned and while we believe it to be up for sale it has not been advertised.

Secondly: North Bank – yes ideal but there are issues with access which adds to the cost of purchasing and developing for a free car park that will not provide a return on investment and again still in the ownership of a private company.

Industrial Estate: This is an option but if the estate is developed and retailers are brought to the site how does that support Queen Street? We have been meeting to discuss town centre parking to help these businesses not drive them to another location.

The Braid: The plan submitted to the Secretary of State does not show the location discussed by the group. For the one that has been publicly shown, I can see why people are up in arms. But the Braid is big enough to accommodate walkers, cyclists and car parking if the correct area is chosen.

Our discussions have been about deregistering an area of land and transferring the same size to be registered as village green. Therefore the Village Green status covers the same area in size.

The argument about it being used by many locals is questionable, when did you last see it used other than by those

using it to exercise their dogs?

This discussion goes on and the decision will be made by the Secretary of State rather than by ourselves.

During our meetings we have been mindful of the sensitivities of each site and tried to find a solution that best suits the requirements of the town, community and businesses. It's all very well being protective of a location but there is also a need to take a holistic view of the overall impact and consideration for the needs of others.

## Welfare issues

The pavilion work is complete with works being carried out including plastering, painting, electrical and plumbing works, new kitchen and furniture, doors, windows, extraction and boiler. The welfare itself has new drainage, lights, swings, bins and numerous repairs to existing equipment.

Additional trees have been ordered and other works are continuing.

## Lobster hatchery

ITV recently filmed one of our lobster releases, after picking up on the new legislation prohibiting the landing of berried hens (expectant mother lobsters). This has had obvious implications for the hatchery as we need the mother hens in the maternity unit to shed their eggs, so we can grow them on to be released at sea. Fortunately our partner NiFCA recognised the problem and working with the MMO have come up with a method of derogation that will allow named fishers to bring the hens to the quayside for collection. Our thanks go to all those who support us.

At last many will have noticed that work to the hotel site has commenced which is good for the jobs market.

And finally we hope you enjoyed the torchlight procession and we wish you all a very merry Christmas and happy and prosperous new year.

*From all at Amble Development*

*Trust*

julia@ambledevelopmenttrust.org.uk



# Funeralcare

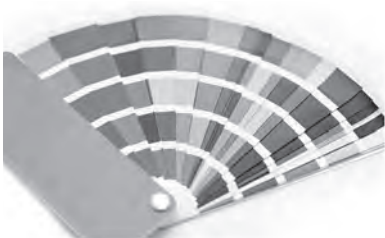
Our caring staff are here  
to listen and advise you,  
24 hours a day, 7 days a week



Coquetdale Cottage, Queen Street, Amble  
Tel: 01665 710437

## Penny's

*Interior painting and decorating services*



- Painting and decorating.
- Colour design and coordination
- Interior design

Contact Penny: **07805024671**





# Amble Town

# COUNCIL

All meetings at 6pm unless stated otherwise  
Town: 14 Dec. 11 Jan. 8 Feb.  
Amenities: 30 Nov. 25 Jan.

## SEASONS GREETINGS TO ALL

### STAFF CHANGES

AT THE END of October Ms Elaine Brown left our employment to take up a new role as Deputy Town Clerk at Newbiggin Town Council. We have now appointed Ms Vicki Smith as Town Clerk and Ms Helen Shepherd will join us as Administration Officer. As the work of the Council continues to expand, to enable better efficiency, we hope you will understand why we have amended the office opening hours and would ask that, if possible, personal visits and telephone calls are made during those times. Staff will however monitor emails during normal office hours of 9.30am to 4.30pm. Appointments can be made to meet with staff.

### NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

RECENTLY members of Amble, Hauxley and Warkworth Councils met to discuss the possibility of joining together and working on a joint neighbourhood plan. While there are good points such as once accepted it becomes a legal document which must be recognised in planning terms, there are also considerations such as cost and the amount of time and work required. More detailed information will go out to local groups and organisations in the new year followed by a public meeting to determine whether this is something the communities want to pursue. Finance needs to be in place but it can only be achieved with lots of committed volunteers from all aspects of life, business and work. Please take some time to read about what a neighbourhood plan is and what is involved. Come along to the meeting and voice your thoughts whether for or against so we know that it is the communities who have made the decision about the next step.

### COUNCILLOR'S CORNER

I HAVE ALWAYS been a great believer in volunteering; in using the skills I have gathered through, my career, hobbies and interests over the years.



I have been a volunteer on Amble Town Council for over 6 years, having twice been re-elected to central ward during this time. I have an interest in the theatre and arts and have been a volunteer steward at Alnwick playhouse for 15 years.

My working life was in children's services and continuing this interest I am a trustee at Amble Youth Project. This organisation is a charity, relying on grants and donations to continue offering opportunities and supporting Amble young people.

If you are looking for something to do to fill some time, there are many local organisations that would welcome your help.

I see it as me giving something back to my community while making me feel good. Try it.

*Cllr. Kate Morrison*

### BUDGET

WE ARE NOW preparing our budget for the next financial year. We need to inform NCC of the figure by mid-January 2018 so they can work out the cost per household to include it in the annual Council Tax calculation. We have to consider our running costs as well as thinking ahead for longer term items. We also have to consider what might be needed in the community up to March 2019- no easy task. The town is expanding and developing and we need to try and envisage what the community will look like in the future and what we can realistically do to get better facilities and services. However we do need some community input so please contact your Councillors and put forward your ideas. Some things will be achievable, some will need help, including finance from other organisations or grant funding; unfortunately some hopes and dreams may be beyond our resources but we will try our best.

### WAR MEMORIAL FUNDING

WE ARE GRATEFUL to those individuals and organisations who have given donations or organised fund raising for the above. Some do so as a desire to help to restore something wonderful, others because they have a special connection to the town or indeed the memorial itself. We invite all those who have been involved in these ways to write or email the Council as we would like to have a record of the fund raising to hold for future generations to see how our community joined together to complete this project.

### FLORAL DISPLAYS

RECENTLY a group of students at JCSC Acklington Road decided to look after the Coal Truck floral display at the school entrance. It is now looking very bright and cheerful with its new plants in place. There are a number of small floral areas in the town which are the Council's responsibility but we are always pleased when individuals or groups ask to help out. So if there is one near where you live and you fancy doing a bit of weeding now and again to keep it looking nice, then please let us know.

### CHURCH STREET BUS SHELTER

REPAIRS to the roof and guttering of the shelter have been done. We had been informed about youths climbing on the roof so we have placed 'spikes' along the edges. Please be aware that they are in place, are the type acceptable under Health and Safety and insurance, and have warning notices there too.

### EXPANSION

WORK HAS STARTED on the hotel development at Coquet Enterprise Park. It will be next year before completion but it will bring much needed employment to the town. We hope that seeing this project go ahead will encourage other businesses to look favourably on the town and thus bring more employment opportunities here.

There are plenty of rumours about a supermarket and retail units but we will have to wait and see what happens. NCC officers assure us that expanding the customer base by having more houses means that companies see more potential in an area. Housing applications have been passed which will over time increase the town's population considerably. It is encouraging that NCC have listened to the concerns expressed by the community regarding the pressure on the infrastructure and have included conditions that allocate money towards such areas as health, education and recreation.

### EAST WARD:

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

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

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

### WEST WARD:

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

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

Tracey Hinton,  
13 George Street,  
Amble NE65 0RZ

### CENTRAL WARD:

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

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

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

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

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

Office hours: 10.30am-12noon & 1.30-3p.m. Monday to Friday Vicki Smith, Town Clerk Minutes available to view in Office or online

# Expertise Wills and Wealth



## DO YOU WANT TO PROTECT YOUR FAMILY'S ASSETS?

Protect from 3rd Party Challenges & Divorce and Business Failure, Sideways Disinheritance

## Free Advice on Tax Planning on Care Costs

## Lasting Powers of Attorney (changed 2007)

Make sure you have them in place whilst you're fit and healthy

## NEED HELP WITH PROBATE? Fixed Fee from £1000

## Write A Will from £99 or Free Will Reviews

Ring Enid: 07772 182 130 • 01670 855 768  
for a **FREE CONSULTATION** in your home



Email: [enid.eww@sky.com](mailto:enid.eww@sky.com)  
Barrister Intermediary and  
Member of the Legal Services Guild



# CALLIE BELLA MUA

MAKEUP ARTIST

FOR ALL OCCASIONS

CHRISTMAS PARTIES, XMAS EVE  
NYE, WEDDINGS, PROM,  
SPECIAL OCCASIONS ETC!

FULL FACE FROM £25!

NORTH EAST

[www.calliebellamua.com](http://www.calliebellamua.com)  
[calliemartin@outlook.com](mailto:calliemartin@outlook.com)  
[@calliebellamua](https://www.instagram.com/calliebellamua)

## Lifeboat to the rescue

Amble RNLI's all-weather lifeboat 'Elizabeth and Leonard' launched on the evening of 16 Oct to help a person on board a 25ft yacht. The volunteer crew launched in a south-westerly gale and two metre swell.



The yacht was located four miles north east of Amble, and two RNLI lifeboat crewmen were transferred onto the vessel. Once aboard, they treated a man who had sustained an injury to his hand. The vessel was placed under tow, and she was brought into Amble and berthed in the Marina.



together...

amble dental practice

we can make you smile



## Amble Dental Practice

*Making Your Smiles Whiter and Brighter*

We're a small friendly caring practice. A healthy smile is what we're passionate about.

We'd love to see you, to talk about your dental health and how the Denplan Care payment plans can make it easy to budget for your private dental care.

Contact us to arrange an appointment or for more information you can find us at:

**45 High Street, Amble, Morpeth,  
Northumberland, NE65 0LE**

**Telephone: 01665 710678**

 [facebook.com/AmbleDentalPractice](https://www.facebook.com/AmbleDentalPractice)

*All the team at Amble Dental Practice would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*





# Changing the face of Northumberland

- investing in residential and commercial property
- building new homes for sale and rent
- developing high quality industrial and commercial workspace
- implementing major projects across Northumberland
- attracting investment and promoting business growth

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



# Imagine a gathering and growing space



The derelict building will become an arts centre

Here in Amble a building is about to be transformed into a pioneering dementia friendly arts centre for the whole community.

Thanks to a philanthropic investment, phase one of the new Dry Water Arts Centre is about to begin and is due for completion in the spring of 2018.

The centre is being set up by professional artists and educators Frances Anderson and Paula Turner of Dry Water Arts. The renovation work will be

done by local Amble company Smailes Construction who are enthusiastic supporters of our dementia positive vision.

Dry Water Arts have a long standing reputation as a company that blends creativity, innovation and community. This has been recognised by the Dementia Innovation Hub based at Newcastle University and the National Lottery, Santander and European Foundations Initiative for Dementia

Paula Turner, co-Director of Dry Water was awarded

a Churchill International Fellowship in 2013 in recognition of her work and research in this area

Frances Anderson said: "Our dementia friendly arts centre will be an integrated, welcoming space for the whole community, with an exciting programme of creative classes and workshops. We are delighted to be able to start phase one which will provide us with a community space, kitchen and toilet facilities and a great artist's studio space.

"Our vision is for the centre to be a hub for exciting social and creative activities for the whole community, and we offer sincere thanks to all our friends and supporters who have imagined alongside us, to make this possible."

People living with dementia and their carers have been involved in the process of both the design of the building and shaping the future activities and events at the centre. One of the members of the design group said: "Being able to have a voice and to be part of the community in a meaningful

way is really important to me. I have a diagnosis of dementia which means I need support but I still want to do the things that interest me and that give me pleasure alongside my friends and my family. This centre will give everyone in the community this opportunity."

The Dry Water Arts Centre has the support from many local and regional organisations who welcome the initiative. Helen Mills CEO Age UK Northumberland said "Age UK Northumberland supports the development of the Dry Water Arts Centre and the pioneering work that is planned with people around rediscovering identity, meaning and life affirming activities through participatory arts'.

Dry Water hope that the new space will be one where the whole community can gather and grow. Anyone wishing to join the mailing list so they can be kept informed about developments, events, activities and opportunities should go to [www.drywater.org](http://www.drywater.org) and sign up to the newsletter.

## Shops vs cafés: the changing face of our high street

Our high street is changing right before our eyes. In the last few years alone, we've seen more food related ventures opening, but also the closure of some of the more traditional shops: household goods and clothes.

A plan to change a clothes shop into another eatery drew a torrent of comments on our Facebook page, mostly in the vein of 'not another café!'

In the same week, a report commissioned by BBC Radio4's You and Yours programme stated that in the last five years, around 1000 shops had closed in the twelve original Portas Pilot towns. These were towns who received a share of £1.2million from the government to help rejuvenate their high streets.

Mary Portas herself said "We're spending our money on eating out, socialising and wellbeing. Therefore we should be building the right places and spaces for the future to cater for how people want to live."

So Amble is not alone. Hairdressers, beauty and health therapists, tea rooms, restaurants, pubs are all still on

offer, and, if you notice, these are services which can't be bought on the internet.

"I am concerned Amble is going to turn into Tynemouth's high street, all wine bars, restaurants and the odd gift shop," said Ann Burke, chair of Amble Business Club. "Or shopping habits have changed so much in a relatively short time. It's a mixture of the internet and family trips away for shopping."

Richard Wardman, co-owner of 42 Queen Street agreed. "We've definitely noticed a difference in people's spending habits. People are much more savvy about spending their money. But it's tourists and people who've just moved to the area who really appreciate the street. They'll say how full of independent shops it is. People who've come from the Midlands and down South really value what we've got."

So it seems many people value the independent shops in Amble, but do they use them enough?

"Shopping is now more of a leisure activity," said Julia Aston, director of Amble Development



Forester's clothes shop may be replaced by another eaterie

Trust. "Getting your nails or hair done, or stopping for something to eat, these are all things you can't get off the internet. And unless people use the businesses they've got now, that change will continue. It wasn't that long ago the night time economy in Amble was just fish and chips or the pubs. With the standard of restaurants we have now, that is also changing."

Andrew Gooding, manager of the Northumberland Seafood and Hatchery said "I think visitors come to Amble for a look around; they're not

necessarily looking to buy things. They have a wander around, and stop for a coffee and something to eat. How many locals work in Amble? Because I think people tend to buy things where they work."

Paul Forester, owner of Foresters clothes shop on Queen Street told The Ambler that although the shop may close, they were launching an online shop selling school uniform: [northumbriaschoolwear.co.uk](http://northumbriaschoolwear.co.uk)

"People have got to embrace change," he said.

Anna Williams



## WEA: Notable Northumbrians

An 11 weeks course by Andy Griffin. He will look at people and events that shaped our region, considering influential personalities from Harry Hotspur to Lord Armstrong and Emily Wilding Davison to Josephine Butler

Thursday mornings 10am-12. Starts January 11 2018

In Trinity Methodist Church Hall, Percy Street

Further information from Hilga Peacock 711156

Norma Hinson 01665 710583



## Amble Variety Show 2

Saturday, May 12 2018 at 7.30pm

In St. Mark's United Reformed Church, Amble.

This will be Amble's big effort to raise money for Christian Aid, now that there are fewer street collections, so come along and have some fun while at the same time supporting this worthwhile cause. ALL donations on the night will go to Christian Aid.

**Anyone wishing to take part MUST contact me by the end of December 2017 please.**

*Sue Swanston (01665 711177)*

## Open Fishing competition

The Amble Open is on Sunday 7th January, fishing from 9.30am to 2.30pm. £12 all categories. High water 7.05am, low water 1.10pm. Pre book tickets at Amble Angling Centre or registration on the day. This can also be done at the Radcliffe Club, Charles Street, from 7.30am.

Weigh in and presentation to be held at the Radcliffe club.

This is the biggest club shore competition in the country, attracting over 500 anglers every year.

## Litter counters needed

Litter on the beach is a growing problem across the globe but is the problem getting worse here in Northumberland? A year-long litter-surveying project aims to find out how big a problem beach litter is and where it all comes from but they need volunteers to help count it all.

A grant from the Local Environmental Action Fund (LEAF) at the Community Foundation has enabled the Northumberland Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Partnership to recruit and train volunteers to carry out a year-long beach litter survey on all of the beaches in the Area. Surveyors will be out in all seasons, counting every single piece of litter on their section of the beach.

Iain Robson, Access and Natural Environment Officer at the AONB Partnership said "This survey is a repeat of a beach litter project we did in 2007. This should give us an accurate picture of whether there is more or less litter on the beach than there was ten years ago.

"We will also find out if certain items have increased or decreased. For example, we would expect to find fewer plastic bags since the carrier-bag tax but we might find more plastic bottles as their use has increased."



## Photo group coffee morning

On Friday 8 December 10am—11.30am at the Methodist Church Hall, Percy Street, Amble. Proceeds to be shared with the Amble Youth Project. Homemade cakes, tombola, raffle, bric-a-brac. Problems with your camera? Not sure how to use Photoshop? Want to take better photos? We can help you with friendly expert advice on any photo related problem

Display of local pictures available for purchase.

## Local History Society

East Coquet Local History Society

January 18: "Curiosities", Talk by Barry Mead

February 15: Talk by Graeme Young (please note this is a change to the planned programme)

Meetings at St. Mark's URC Hall, at 7.30pm

## Royal British Legion

A very Happy Christmas & New Year to everyone.

Thank you all very much for your support during our 2017 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 24 January 2018 at 7pm

Speaker Stephen Moore M.A.

Presentation: Peenemunde V1 & V2 Rocket Test Site on the Baltic.

## RNLI coffee mornings

Amble Lifeboat Fundraisers welcome everyone to join us for our Christmas Coffee Morning on Sunday 17 December 2017 upstairs in the boathouse from 10am to 1pm. Enjoy lots of lovely home-made sweet and savoury bakes, good company and support a fantastic cause. (There will be no coffee morning in January.)

### Date for your diary:

Amble Lifeboat Fundraisers are holding their Annual General Meeting upstairs in the Lifeboat Station on Wednesday 10 January 2018 at 6pm.

New volunteers will be made very welcome. Please come along and find out more or you can email [jill.faulconbridge@gmail.com](mailto:jill.faulconbridge@gmail.com)

## Christmas Ceilidh

Our Christmas Northumbrian Ceilidh in the Warkworth Memorial Hall on 16 December at 19:30: brings you dances, songs and recitations.

Don't worry if you've never been to a Ceilidh before, our caller will guide you through the dances. Music is provided by the "Reel Northumbria Ceilidh Band"

We don't have a bar, so please bring your own drinks, glasses and refreshments. £5 on the door.

For further details see <http://northumbriafolk.org.uk/warkworth.html> or contact Pete/Kate on 01665 711388.



## Carol Concert

Alnwick and District Choral Society

CAROL CONCERT

Sunday 17th December at 3pm in St. Paul's Church, Alnwick

Admission £12 to include Mulled Wine and Mince Pies

Students free

## Creative digital media workshops

Would you like to write and record a song on your ipad? Or use your smartphone to create a digital story? Would you like to know how to buy and sell on ebay, or even learn the basics of programming? Maybe you'd just like to know some of the best apps for you and your kids. A series of workshops will be held in Amble next Spring, focusing on many areas of creative digital media. These free workshops will be designed for children and adults, and held in Fourways2, Amble. For more information and to register your interest in taking part, email [anna@ambledevelopmenttrust.org.uk](mailto:anna@ambledevelopmenttrust.org.uk)

## Rotarians hard at work

Rotarians have been hard at work recently with gardening projects. Their first task was to help the Warkworth-in-Bloom team to tidy up the Millenium Garden in the village.



Next a team from Rotary and Inner Wheel (see pic above) planted 5,000 purple Crocus bulbs on Rotary Way to remind everyone of Rotary's continuing efforts to rid the world of polio. The colour purple is significant in that children in places such as Pakistan and Afghanistan have their little fingers dipped in purple dye to show that they have received the Polio Oral Vaccine.

## Christmas collection routes

The Rotary annual Christmas collection schedule is as shown below. Note that each session commences at 5.30pm and finishes by 8pm unless indicated differently.

Thu 7 Dec	Amble West
Fri 8 Dec	Amble Central
Mon 11 Dec	Widdrington East
Tue 12 Dec	Amble East
Wed 13 Dec	Widdrington West
Thu 14 Dec	Amble South
Fri 15 Dec	Warkworth South
Sat 16 Dec	Queen Street, Amble 9.30am – 12.30pm
Mon 18 Dec	Amble Wynd and Warkworth North
Tue 19 Dec	Catch-Up areas in Amble & Warkworth



## New football clubs formed

Tiny Woods Academy are proud to launch Amble East End Juniors and Amble East End Walking Football Club as part of our 5th anniversary celebrations coming up in 2018.

Amble East End Juniors are looking to introduce children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to Grassroots Football, ready to be part of a newly formed Amble East End Juniors. Training is every Monday and Wednesday at James Calvert Spence College, 5pm to 6pm both nights. Children who sign up, will have a first free training session and will receive a training kit.

Amble East End Walking Football Club, have launched Over 40s and Over 50s squads, which will participate in regular friendlies and tournaments against various teams across the North East. Come along to Walking Football sessions at James Calvert Spence College, every Tuesday night from 6pm to 7pm.

Any more information required, please contact me, Josh Rutherford, or visit Amble East End Juniors and Amble East End Walking Football Club on social media. We are on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

We would like to thank the Radcliffe Club in Amble for allowing the two clubs to host social evenings and events. Also the clubs would like to thank James Dixon from linesbehind.com for designing the clubs' badges.

Tiny Woods Academy, Amble East End Juniors and Amble East End Walking Football Club wish Ambler Readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Josh Rutherford, 07714862292

## Warkworth Golf Club

In 1927 the first Ryder Cup match was played between Great Britain and the USA. It now has a local rival with the first playing of the Warkworth Golf Club Ryder Cup between teams selected by the Chairman and the Captain. Two teams of 16 played 9 holes better-ball match play in the morning and then after soup 9 holes singles match play. The result was a win for the Captain by 15 points to 9. Ken Bailey presented a superb trophy that is a replica of the 'other' Ryder Cup.

At the end of the year it is traditional to look back on the highlights of the past year. The opening of the replacement Killie Bridge has to be mentioned but top for golf must be the performance of the Club's North Northumberland matchplay team. Under the leadership of John Glass the team gained its second successive promotion and next year will compete with top clubs in division 1. A fine run in the Glendale Cup saw the team beat, amongst others, 2016 league champions Bamburgh on the way to the final where they were narrowly beaten by Alnmouth. The Club's best golfer, Ross Young, won the

Captain's Grand Prix and new member Sean Taylor won the trophy for the best nett golfer of the year. Men's Champion was Ross Young and Betty Black took the ladies' crown. Club Captain Graham Sawley introduced a number of interesting and innovative events and Lady Captain



Club Chairman John Gray holding the trophy. (photo courtesy of D Tabiner).

Christine Douglas also had a successful year.

As ever the course, under the management of greenkeeper Alan Dalby, received much praise, not least from the Northumberland Executive when we were proud to host the semi-finals of the County Foursomes, the final of the Cecil Leitch Cup and the annual Lady Veterans Captain v Chairman match. We were pleased to welcome Jamie York as apprentice greenkeeper who will work with Alan while taking his greenkeeping qualifications.

We welcomed a number of new members but there is room for more. If interested go to our website [www.warkworthgolfclub.co.uk](http://www.warkworthgolfclub.co.uk) or contact the secretary on [secretary@warkworthgolfclub.co.uk](mailto:secretary@warkworthgolfclub.co.uk) for details.

TELEPHONE ORDERS WELCOME

**01665 710 442**

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

\*\*\*\*\* NORTHUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL

1 BROOMHILL STREET AMBLE NORTHUMBRIA NE65 0AN



# Torchlight Procession: the best yet



Above l-r; Mayor Jane Dargue and Joe Denny switching on the lights; children with their handmade lanterns; Amble Rowing Club's pirate galleon

Organisers of the annual torchlight procession called this year's event 'the best yet', after thousands of people turned out to take part and witness the parade and Christmas lights switch-on.

Amble Events Committee organiser Julia Aston said, "It went extremely well. There was a lot of support from those who participated, and the community who turned out on a really cold night. It was the best yet. Thank you to everyone, but a special

thank you to Sarah (Dunne) who stepped in relatively late to organise the lantern workshops, which were really popular."

Stalls, street food and children's amusements were in the town square, while Santa dropped in to the Seafood Centre to meet some of the children. Carols were sung under the tree in the Queen Street garden and then Good Young Citizen Joe Denny switched on the Christmas lights.

This year saw several

new groups take part in the procession, all joining in the pantomime-themed festive spirit. Amble Coastal Rowing Club had even transformed their skiff into Captain Hook's pirate galleon - a triumph. Well done people!

Scores of beautiful handmade lanterns were carried by children and parents, while pantomime and assorted characters danced and paraded down the street.

Local band The Range ended the procession on their 'coke wagon' and carried on rocking

out Christmas songs right around town.

In the square, the community were entertained by Warkworth Drama Group's 'Camelot the Panto' troupe, tribal dancing from Tribe Zuza, partying from Radcliffe Club's characters, and Bart's Christmas singalong.

"The Torchlight Procession is one of everybody's favourite events, it puts a smile on everyone's face," said Julia. "We hope to see you all again next year."



Above l-r; Amble coastguards; Pirates Smee and Captain Hook; 'unicorn girl' and her Dad

Below: l-r Sophie (5), Rhys (8), Santa, Courtney (7) Chloe (13) Katelyn (11) and Jack (2) on Mum Marie's knee; JCSC's Peter Pan banner

Photos by Andrew Mounsey and Anna Williams. See the video on our YouTube and Facebook page.

