

# The Ambler

## Amble's Community Newspaper

Issue 111 July/August 2018

### Vera's in the Friendliest Port

You'll likely have already seen TV crews in Amble for the new series of Vera, starring Brenda Blethyn.

Filming around the Braid, quayside and harbour area began on 14 June and will last until 25 June. The episode will feature as part of series nine.

### A1068 closed for three days



The A1068 Radcliffe to Amble will be closed for three days from 9-11 July. Northumberland County Council will be digging trial pits.

Diversions will direct traffic through North Togston and along Acklington Rd.

### Knitted poppies needed

To mark the centenary of the end of WW1, a community group led by the URC Church is planning to decorate the Memorial Gardens with a cascade of poppies.

To make this display truly memorable, more knitters are needed.

Patterns for making the poppies will soon be available from the Town Council offices or use your own pattern.

Please send all finished Poppies to St Mark's URC Church or ring 01665 712342.

## Memorial to harbour tragedy



photo: Andrew Mounsey

I-r front: Standard bearer, Joe Thomas; Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Northumberland, Group Captain Tim Willbond; Rev John Mc Dermott; Wing Commander Tim Brown; standard bearer, David Gilbert.

On a blustery Sunday at the beginning of June, a memorial service was held to commemorate a tragedy in Amble harbour, when three RAF crew members died.

The accident took place on 29 September 1969, when RAF Search and Rescue craft Pinnacle 1386 overturned while approaching Amble harbour in severe weather.

Amble lifeboats, together with HM Coastguard and the Search and Rescue squadron from RAF Acklington spent hours attempting to rescue the crew of the stricken vessel. Local divers also joined in to help free the men.

One crew member survived after Royal Navy divers managed to create a hole in the upturned hull, from which he managed to escape.

On board RAF Pinnacle 1386, there was a crew of six, Davy Gray and other locals had got to know them as they had had to moor alongside the dredger while they dealt with

mechanical problems.

Unfortunately three of the crew could not be saved as they were trapped in the upturned hull and rescuers could not get to them.

The lost crewmen were the only RAF Marine Branch servicemen to die while on active sea duty in the post war era.

At the ceremony, Wing Commander Tim Brown RAF unveiled the splendid memorial designed by Scott Memorials of Co. Durham.

It took two years to raise the £7,000 funding amongst the RAF, relatives and friends and other sources including Amble Town Council.

The memorial stands to show gratitude to the local Amble rescue services and individuals and also local RAF and Naval units who took part in the rescue.

Among the notable guests were Mrs. Katherine Brown and family, widow of Flt. Lt. Bell, Mrs. Pamela Ivil and family, widow of Cpl Ivil and most of

the surviving crew.

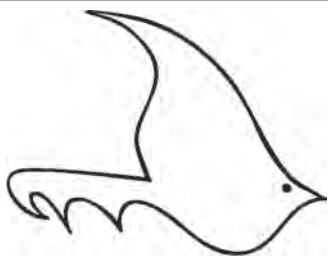
There were also serving officers of the Royal Air Force, the Royal Navy and Amble Lifeboat, members of the Air Sea Rescue and Marine Craft Sections Club, many who served on similar launches in bases around the UK.

Master of ceremonies was Ex SAC Motor Boat Crewman Markam Jones. He regaled the assembled crowd with a poem called the Jesus Boot Brigade, which illustrated the history of the Marine Branch. The Jesus Boot Brigade was their nickname.

The service was conducted by Revd. John McDermott, Vicar of Amble. A musical tribute of a specially commissioned piece was played on the violin by Mary Smith, and family members laid floral tributes.

It was well attended and was followed by a reception in the Lifeboat House.

Anna Williams and Vivienne Dalglish



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## Amblers in action

Well this is another  
jam-packed edition.  
Folks just won't keep still  
here in the Friendliest Port.  
This issue is a veritable  
compendium of plans, events,  
acts of generosity, voluntary  
work and community spirit.

The town seems even  
busier than usual. New  
shops and restaurants have  
opened up, holidaymakers are  
enjoying the atmosphere, and  
locals are just getting used to  
negotiating what seems to be  
a steady stream of roadworks  
and TV crews.

The town is curious  
about an impending  
supermarket (see p3 and 15).  
Northumberland County  
Council are to be applauded in encouraging  
more retail - and much needed jobs to the town,  
but edge of town developments are notoriously  
polarising, and Amble is rightly proud of its  
independent high street shops. After all we won  
Coastal High Street of the year in 2015. We need  
to ensure any edge of town retail development  
does not end up costing jobs in the centre.

Congratulations to Spurreli who win awards  
these days without even knowing they are on  
the shortlist! (See p7). To keep our town centre  
vibrant, we need fabulous independent businesses  
like this, which bring people in all year round.



Tom Greenfield, Amble's  
representative at the World Cup

Speaking of independents,  
congratulations too, to our local  
'Produced in Northumberland'  
members, whose food and  
drink were featured in a recent  
promotional visit to the Houses  
of Parliament. (See p3). The MPs  
and government officials were  
reportedly very impressed by the  
standard and quality of what they  
saw. Let's hope the initiative, again  
from Northumberland County  
Council, pays off.

And well done to Roland's  
Butchers, who have drastically  
reduced their use of plastic. (See  
p8). This is due to someone acting  
on her beliefs, suggesting a course  
of action, and everyone following  
through. How wonderful is that?

And again (there's a theme here  
isn't there) this is the beauty of independent  
businesses; they can respond to their customers  
and their community far quicker than big  
companies.

Anyway, I believe there's a big football  
tournament on, (yes, bigger even than the Puffin  
Festival Walking football tournament - see p9,) and  
what do you know, but a man from Amble  
took part! Read how Tom Greenfield was part of  
the World Cup on p5.

Is there no stopping the good people of the  
Friendliest Port? Probably not. Have a great  
summer.

## New civic head honoured to take up post

County Councillor Jeff  
Watson has been officially  
appointed to his role as  
Northumberland County  
Council's civic head.

Cllr Watson, who represents  
Amble West with Warkworth,  
takes up the one year post,  
where he will represent the  
County Council in a ceremonial  
role at various civic and  
community events.

"I was unanimously elected,  
and so I'm delighted," he told  
The Ambler.

"It is the first time a  
councillor from Warkworth,  
Amble and Acklington ward has  
ever been elected civic head. It  
is quite an honour."

Jeff will represent  
Northumberland County  
Council at various events in the  
coming year, and a busy diary  
lies ahead. Jeff's consort will be  
his wife June, but during her  
absence his daughter Louise  
Rowlandson will take her place.

"This year we've got the  
Great Northumberland Event,  
The RAF's centenary, and the  
commemoration of 100 years



Jeff Watson, Northumberland's new civic head, with his daughter  
Louise Rowlandson

since the end of WW1."

Jeff's chosen charity is the  
Royal British Legion and any  
money raised for them will be  
distributed in the Northumbria  
region.

I will try my best to  
represent and visit all the areas  
in the county. It's going to be a  
busy year," he said.

Anna Williams



## Edge of town retail development moves to the next stage

Plans for a new supermarket and up to 35,000 sq ft of additional retail units on the former Northumberland Foods Factory site in Amble have been brought forward by Northumberland County Council's regeneration company.

The proposals, which were approved by the regeneration company board in May, include an option to sell a 3.58 acre part of the site to a major supermarket operator subject to the scheme being given planning permission later this year.

Construction on the various projects would then start in early 2019 with the aim being that the supermarket would be open by the summer of that year.

The news follows a decision to construct a hotel on part of the wider site which will be

operated by the Inn Collection Group. That project is due for completion later this year.

Speaking about the proposals chairman Cllr Richard Wearmouth said, "Amble is growing fast and most definitely is a town on the up. This scheme will help to ensure that one of its key development sites, which has been empty for the best part of a decade is returned to commercial use providing employment to the town once more."

"In making this investment we remain conscious of the need for this scheme to complement the existing offering on the high street which has boomed in recent years. The council are continuing to explore options for additional car parking to make sure that the town centre will continue to thrive. We hope to



The new development consists of a supermarket, retail units and a large car park, and will be situated on the old Cheviot Foods (Jus Roll) site on Amble's Industrial Estate.

have an update for traders and residents soon."

Jeff Watson, the councillor for Amble West and Warkworth, welcomed the news saying, "The progress made by Amble in recent years has been tremendous

and this scheme has the potential to build on that success. Amble has been crying out for a supermarket for some time and with the significant additional housing being built that need will only become greater still."

## Amble food producers feature in trip to Houses of Parliament



Martin Charlton (left) with Hugh Gaffney MP (right) and one of his aides  
Photo: NCC communications

Food and drink producers from Northumberland travelled to a special promotional event in the Houses of Parliament in June.

Amble producers featured heavily; The Old Boat House's owner/chef Martin Charlton travelled to the event, and there was produce and information from Northumberland Seafood

Centre's Creel Club, Pride of Northumbria, the Mad Jam Woman and Mocha Mondo.

MPs and government ministers visited the event and were able to sample the produce and find out about the fantastic local businesses and top quality produce that is being promoted under the Produced In

Northumberland brand.

Martin Charlton said "We set out to promote the best Northumberland has to offer - and we certainly did that!"

It was very well attended - it was amazing - we had hundreds through the doors in the Houses of Parliament.

We were blown away with the interest in both our produce and our county. And that was what it was all about - promoting and raising awareness about Northumberland."

He praised the organisers and the MPs of all parties who came to support the event.

"All credit to the council and the producers in Northumberland team for taking the initiative," he said.

Peter Jackson, Leader of Northumberland County Council said the MPs had been impressed by the produce on show. "I'm sure this will really spark off

and demonstrate to the whole world, never mind the country, just how great the produce of Northumberland is."

Jake Berry, Northern Powerhouse Minister said "I think it's so important we bring the producers and businesses of Northumberland here to Parliament."

He spoke about the importance of upcoming devolution for the North of the Tyne, and the opportunities in the Borderlands deal which will encourage co-operation between businesses on both sides of the border.

Sadly the event had to be curtailed halfway through, as Guy Opperman MP for Hexham announced that the Prime Minister needed the room, so they were all asked to leave early.

Anna Williams



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*by Amanda Barrell*

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# LA FAMIGLIA

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*Tuesday to Thursday: 10am - 8pm*

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## Puffin festival prizewinners



The Puffin Festival aims to bring the whole community together, and young people have contributed to the fun each year, by producing wonderful puffin art which adorns the shop windows in Queen Street.

This year was no exception and the artwork from youngsters from Amble Links and Amble First school was delightful.

A puffin trail, organised by Amble Business Club took place in Queen street and the Harbour Village.

Left: Maddie Nyberg Winner of the Puffin Trail. More photos on back page and our website.



TOMMY NODDY flew in from Coquet Island to Amble and visited Amble First School Friday assembly to present prizes to the winners of the painting competition that have been displayed in various shop windows in Amble during the puffin festival.

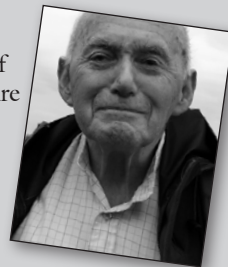
The winner from each class was selected by the shops. Above: Reception class - Dougie Taylor, year 1 - Ellie Armit, year 2 - Ebony Ranscombe, year 3 - Libby Mitchison, year 4 - Ella Hollinshead.



Above: Amble Links first school winners. Reception - Nina Baxter, year 1 - Faith Elliot, year 2 - Mason Crook, year 3 - Theo-jay Barclay, year 4 - Harry Dawson.

## Age of insecurity:

Health care is important for all of us. It informs quite a lot of newspaper comment. Our healthcare structures have changed at lot during my life time. Interesting, sometimes quirky things appear in the media. Apparently, the spittle of certain ticks can be used to help the treatment of Alzheimer's, M.S. and forms of arthritis. The ticks apparently produce a secretion which can be the basis for an anti-inflammatory product; could be a breakthrough? But it would be a lot better and cheaper if we all looked after our own health.



Human beings, in my opinion, were designed to limit their consumption and exercise sensibly. Any of my contemporaries will tell you that I was known as 'Fatty McQuillen, later changed to slim as a bit of a joke!

Recently someone shrank the waistbands of all my trousers, until my usual regime resolved the situation.

My secret is not commercially sensitive, and I don't do diets- breakfast is porridge, invariably porridge. One large mug of oats, two mugs of water, a pinch of salt, one chopped apple, one chopped banana. Additives – a spoonful of iron tonic, one cod liver oil capsule, one multivitamin and several kelp tablets. My drink is a squeezed lemon in a glass filled with tap water. Cups of tea and coffee abound during the day, as do glasses of tap water.

Lunch is a sandwich for which decent wholemeal bread is the basis. My main meal is the easiest of all, using my ancient steamer, the perfect receptacle for my six or eight veg and a bit of meat, fish or quorn that accompanies them. It takes about 25 minutes to cook, with green veg in for only the last five minutes. Of course, my daily bottle of Guinness porter add to my range of nutrients.

Another must is exercise. Walk as much as you can, as I have done since my knee clicked in 1987 and I had to stop running. Housework and gardening are great for gentle movement, with due regard to back and knees.

The bit between the ears needs work too! The way you make it work depends on your interests. Crosswords, puzzles, news, use of technology (but not at 3 am) or anything else you like to do – they all help to agitate the little grey cells.

Another main feature of everybody's life should be people. We live in an age of loneliness, but it doesn't take much imagination to see who needs company. We're all short of time, or we think we are.

I repeat my oft-stated view that the reason there are so many people in this wonderful world of ours that is that people have done things together. So many of us are living longer, presenting difficulties that were unknown when I was a child. I don't expect a comprehensive answer to that one. It appears that rising crime could be linking to air pollution that LED street lighting could contribute to increased rates of breast or prostate cancer. Then we have the demonization of diesel.

Recently I bought gel insoles to cushion my fairly fragile feet. A blister appeared on my foot a couple of hours later. At that point I became aware that I'd put the insoles in my shoes the wrong way up. Am I losing it? A very interesting TV programme mentioned widespread use of Ritalin and Calpol on many of our children. Am I wrong in thinking that health issues are an obsession of the old (who usually have problems!) rather than the young (who haven't.)

Harry McQuillen



# Owner and skipper fined for fisheries offences

In a recent prosecution at North Tyneside Magistrate Court, the owner and skipper of the commercial fishing vessel 'Northern Pride' BK64 received financial penalties for failing to comply with two Northumberland Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (NIFCA) Byelaws.

Acting on intelligence received, Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Officers (IFCOs) inspected two sets of Passive Fishing Gear near Coquet Island. On close inspection both sets of gear were found to be 'Unmarked', contrary to NIFCA Byelaw 5, "Marking of Fishing Gear and Keep Boxes" and once the Officers had the two sets of gear on board Patrol Vessel St Aidan to complete their inspection, it became apparent that a second offence had been committed contrary to NIFCA Byelaw 4 "Crustacea and Molluscs Permitting and Pot Limitation".

Andrew Oliver explained to the court the important work of IFCA's and in this case for the shellfish fishery. Fishing by pots, creels, traps or cages is one of the most common methods of fishery in the Northumberland district. Fishing is carried out under the authority of a permit issued by NIFCA.

Under the provisions of byelaw 4, tags should be attached to each individual pot, creel, trap or cage. These tags are issued by the NIFCA in accordance with the vessel's permit to fish and, therefore, if pots, creels,



NIFCA's patrol vessel St Aidan helped bring two fishing offenders to court

traps or cages are utilised without a tag, it could mean that excess gear is being used over and above that which is permitted.

Gear is marked in accordance with byelaw 5 to ensure it is visible and to prevent the gear being a hazard to other sea users.

In passing sentence on both the Owner Douglas Lennox of Blyth and Skipper Steven Marson of North Seaton, who both pleaded guilty to both offences, the magistrates imposed a Band F fine which is the highest band of fine the magistrates can impose, reflecting the court's serious view of this offending and Mr. Lennox and Mr. Marson

were each fined a total of £1,618 including NIFCA's costs of investigation, legal costs and victim surcharge.

NIFCA Chief Officer Alastair Browne said, "the court clearly took these breaches of NIFCA Byelaws seriously by imposing substantial financial penalties not only to the skipper but also the owner. The officers and members of the NIFCA are determined to maintain the sustainability of the stocks in the district by enforcing where necessary not only National Legislation but also local Byelaws to protect the shellfish stocks both for the present and future generations".



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## From Amble to Russia with love



Tom Greenfield was one of the kite flying team who formed the football shape in the World Cup opening ceremony

Those who watched the introductory video to the opening ceremony of the World Cup in Russia may have noticed kites flying above the Russian skyline forming a giant football. Tom Greenfield who lives in Amble was one of the talented team of kiteflyers brought together from all over the world to fly 4 line revolution kites in formation to create the giant football in the sky.

Tom spent a week in Moscow rehearsing and filming, in challenging wind conditions, flying on a pontoon in the river in front of the Luzhniki stadium.

A quad line is different to other kites in that it can be controlled by the flier and flown in formation to music. The football shape made by the team in Moscow was an extremely hard shape to achieve in low wind conditions, and involved many hours of practice, with each flier having to be extremely precise.

Tom has been flying kites for many years and is a member of the world famous quad line kite team The Decorators, who perform at festivals and events all over the world. He is also UK quad line pairs champion, flying as part of Team Amalgamation. He can often be seen practicing on the Braid or on the beaches around Amble and Druridge Bay.

Frances Anderson

# WHAT YOU SAY...

## Thanks to Scouting volunteers

Scouting set me on a path to becoming an astronaut. Where will it take you?

Volunteers' Week was 1 – 7 June and I would like to pay tribute to each and every one of the amazing volunteers who support the Scouts in Amble. Every day of the week these volunteers are helping young people develop skills for life.

Scouting started me on an incredible journey. As a Cub Scout, I never thought that one day I would be looking at our beautiful planet from space. Thanks to the generosity and commitment of my Scout leaders, the opportunities and encouragement I received helped to open up new horizons, and gave me confidence to pursue my aspirations.



Scouting helps young people develop those kind of skills you're not going to find in a classroom. It gets people outdoors, working together, learning teamwork, communication, and really building character. Our volunteers are role models for these young people.

Across Amble, scouts are also taking on some of the biggest issues in our communities through our 'A Million Hands' initiative. They are supporting people living with dementia or disability, they are working to develop greater understanding of mental wellbeing and leading the fight for access to clean water and sanitation around the world.

To anyone thinking of volunteering, I would say that any time you can give is truly invaluable. You'll have fun, learn new skills and be part of something truly amazing.

*Tim Peake*

*Scout Ambassador*

020 8433 7211

[scouts.org.uk](http://scouts.org.uk)

## Christian Aid Variety Show a great success

Coquet Churches Together put on a Variety Show in May, to raise money for Christian Aid. The street collections that used to take place have yielded less over time, and this show was staged to try to raise as much money as possible, compensate.

As you may have seen from the photographs on The Ambler's Facebook page, the evening went very well. St Mark's Church was packed to the gunnels and the programme was definitely varied. We raised £1232.87 which is truly magnificent.

I would like to publicly thank Eric who did all the lighting, sound, music, and technical stuff; Ebb and Roy for making the FAB puppet theatre.

All those who took part (you were all brilliant); those who helped with refreshments (many cups of tea were poured and drunk) and the raffle; and all you wonderful people who turned up on the night and gave so generously.

See you all again in 2020!

A visitor from Nottingham, staying in Amble with a friend, commented "This is really special. So much talent in Amble!

"It was hilarious to hear church people singing with gusto: 'bend me over backwards on the hostess trolley'".

(This comment referred to Victoria Woods' song, Let's Do It)

*Sue Swanston*

*Coquet Churches Together*

## Thank you for helping our young people



Amble Youth Project held their Volunteer Appreciation Evening at The Bede on the evening of Thursday 7th June 2018 where The High Sheriff of Northumberland, Mr Michael Orde, Civic Head of Northumberland County Council, Mr Jeff Watson and Amble Town Mayor Mr Craig Weir were in attendance.

Also there were all volunteers, Trustees and local businesses that have supported us, without whose help we would not be able to provide for our young people in the Community. A big thank you to you all.

*Tracey Hinton*

*Project Manager;*

*Amble Youth Project*

## Puffin Festival thanks

I want to express my appreciation to the many individuals, businesses and organisations who contributed to the success of this year's Puffin Festival held during the weekend of 26th-28th May.

Many thanks to the events committee for the organisation of the event and the volunteers who helped make this possible, to our sponsors for their continued support and

to the participants, supporters and visitors.

We would welcome feedback on which bits of the event you enjoyed the most, any events you would like to possibly see in the future and anything we could improve on.

Once again thank you to everyone's continued support.

*Yours sincerely*

*Ian Moyle, Events Committee Chairman*

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

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



# Spurreli beats Fortnum & Mason to top spot



Above: Nick and Katie Spurr

<p><b>SPURRELI'S ICE CREAM, MORPETH</b> A family-owned Italian-style gelateria, serving up superb ices including the Great Taste Award-winning pistachio made with Sicilian nuts. A short detour on a drive north to Alnwick Castle. The Old Chandlery, 12 Coquet St, Amble, Morpeth NE65 0DJ; spurreli.com</p>	<p>flavours including Scottish tablet and Irn Bru. There's a branch in Morningside, too. Open until 10pm daily. 32-38 High St, Musselburgh, Edinburgh EH21 7AG; s-luca.co.uk</p>		<p>few miles from the pretty green parlour. Now the festival is over, you shouldn't have to queue for flavours like gooseberry and Lebanese coffee. 9 High Town, Hay-on-Wye, Herefordshire, HR3 5AE; shepherdsicecream.co.uk</p>
<p><b>SAN LUCA, EDINBURGH</b> An institution, in the same family since it opened in 1908. There are café-style dishes on offer, but ice cream is the star, with</p>	<p><b>SHEPHERD'S ICES, HAY-ON-WYE</b> In the centre of Britain's book-buyer's paradise, you can find sheep's milk ice cream made by Juliet Noble on her farm just a</p>	<p><b>THE PARLOUR AT FORTNUM &amp; MASON</b> Going for ice cream at Fortnum &amp; Mason's is a perfect outing for</p>	

Spurreli Boutique Ice Cream parlour has come first in a list of Britain's Best Ice Cream Parlours in the Daily Telegraph. The eight contenders included ice cream parlours in Edinburgh, Bristol and Hay-on-Wye as well as Fortnum & Mason, and were featured in the Telegraph's edition on Sat 9 June.

Katie Spurr, Co-owner of Spurreli told The Ambler: "We're really delighted. We didn't know anything about it, until people came in and were telling us they'd seen it in the paper."

## Business Matters

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

The Evening Chronicle recently published an article on Amble with the headline: "How one Northumberland town reversed decline to find a new future".

It touched upon our town's somewhat chequered past – a place where once men in every family tended to be a miner or a fisherman; its only nod to tourism being the seaside and the caravan park, where everyone from Newcastle seemed to have a "van" during the summer.

Moving forward a couple of decades and the word "investment" – the life source of any regeneration project – becomes the focus.

The sad fact is, a dying local economy is just that. It is unable to sustain itself and so, to ensure the continuation of a dying town, inward investment must be sought.

Only with this investment could we have identified and developed a profitable, alternative industry once the mines and fishing disappeared and it is thanks to dedicated individuals and the tireless work of the Amble Development Trust that has ensured that we have not only survived but are thriving.

Have we become a victim of our own success? Many would argue yes, given the thousands of new homes being built, a struggling infrastructure,

holiday homes galore and the inability for any residents within a ten minute walk of the harbour to get their car out at the weekend during summer months.

But what's the alternative? Say we hadn't promoted tourism. Say we hadn't built any more houses. Say there was no talk of a supermarket, hotel or new restaurants opening up. What would have happened then?

With no principal industry to speak of, parents of working age and their children would likely be unemployed or would have to move away leaving a sad, economically deprived and depressed town. No waiting staff jobs, no chef career progression, no building work.

Smaller shops would inevitably struggle anyway with the advent of online shopping, regardless of whether we had a tourist population or not. That's not progression, that's death.

So, despite the struggle to accept change and the inconveniences we face as Amble goes through teething problems which always occur during rapid growth, we need to thank our lucky stars that the tourist trade has rescued us and given us a future.

On a lighter note, I'm so excited to be attending an "entrepreneurs' retreat" in leafy Herefordshire for a few days



later this month. It's a small gathering of very successful businesswomen from around the world (and little ol' me) discussing various aspects of scaling up your business including branding, finances, GDPR and, most importantly, how to be successful whilst juggling your career, parenthood and all those other responsibilities which threaten to sink us at every turn.

Also attending to give their words of wisdom is BBC journalist and presenter Kate Silverton; and super entrepreneur and founder of the Ultimo bra, Baroness Michelle Mone.

I'll be taking the opportunity to pick their considerable brains and will be taking lots of photos, so if you're a business owner, make sure you follow my escapades on my business Facebook page.

Claire  
[www.csm-comms.co.uk](http://www.csm-comms.co.uk)

## Celebrating local women's art and music

An Amble-based arts organisation has been awarded a Heritage Lottery Fund, to celebrate the cultural and creative role of women in the area.

The project is entitled Woman Made and will explore music and arts initiatives in the area in the 1940s.

The project is being run by Dry Water Arts, an Amble based not-for-profit company dedicated to bringing people together to share stories and experiences and to celebrate their communities.

The project began in May with a series of participatory workshops and social events open to all. (See p22).

Director Frances Anderson said: "This project has a particular interest for me because in 1941 my great aunt, Helen Frances Anderson was employed as a 'Music Traveller' in the North East.

"The Music Travellers were mostly women and were involved in spreading art and music to various regions of Britain to raise civilian morale during World War 2.

"My aunt retained a deep affection for the North East and she has left some wonderful accounts of touring around the North East in her Morris Minor with, amongst others, Kathleen Ferrier.

"She was committed to the sharing and enjoying of the arts within the community and understood the importance of bringing people together. I am clearly following in her footsteps with my work with Dry Water Arts and share her passion for the importance of community and celebration."

The project will enable woman of all ages to celebrate their creativity and contribution to their communities. It will tell the often hidden or overlooked social, cultural and political stories of women in our region, and provide exciting training and volunteering opportunities.

For more information, or to register your interest in future workshops, contact Frances Anderson at Dry Water Arts on 07711669294 [info@drywaterarts.org](mailto:info@drywaterarts.org) or see their Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/drywaterarts/](http://www.facebook.com/drywaterarts/)

## Roland's reducing use of plastic

When a call goes out from the community asking for local businesses to reduce their use of plastic, it's heartening to know they hear us.

Roland's butchers on Amble's Queen Street have responded to the growing number of voices alarmed at the over-use of plastic in our everyday lives. They now sell most of their products wrapped in paper, rather than the single use plastic wrapping and bags we are all used to.

Julie Baxter, retail supervisor for Roland's told *The Ambler*: "I hate seeing so much plastic everywhere. I suggested to Jeff [Roland] that we try to use much less plastic in the shop, and he was in agreement. So now we're using greaseproof paper and we wrap everything up in paper. It's just like the old days!"

Co-worker Wendy Donaldson agreed. "It's just like when I first started here as a Saturday girl, we wrapped everything in paper then. Now it's what's needed; it's the way forward."

Mince and liver are about the only things which still need to be sold wrapped in plastic, but even that issue can be resolved if you bring your own packaging.

"People are loving the idea," said Julie. "They are so pleased we are doing something for the environment. Some people are so keen they even bring their own Tupperware containers!"

And she was encouraging for other businesses to join the movement. "If we as a small town can reduce the amount of plastic, other places could follow suit."

*Anna Williams*



Above: Julie Baxter shows the new paper packaging at Roland's Butcher

### Reader's Tip

Concerned about Plastic? Back to the Bar!  
Solid soap saves on plastic bottles, and it's cheaper.

*Sheila Pearson*

## The volunteers who light up Amble

It's summer. Time for barbecues, beaches, holidays- and getting ready to put up Christmas lights around Amble. So, if you happen to spot people in hi-viz jackets with that logo, up ladders in the next few months, don't panic and check the calendar.

All along Queen Street there are brackets to support Christmas displays, connection points and switches and hundreds of metres of wiring. All need to be checked and maintained, and it's a much more pleasant and easy job when the sun is shining and the wind isn't blowing.

All of this work is done by a band of volunteers. These include the people who build and maintain the lighting display, put them up later in the year and take them down again; and a wider group who are responsible for all the administration and fund-raising that supports the project.

Of course, it's possible to buy commercially produced Christmas lights and displays, and most towns probably do just that. They look festive and often quite impressive, if sometimes a little bland. They also look very much like the ones in other places. And of course, they're expensive.

The lights in Amble couldn't be more different. For a start,

they're all made by hand in a workshop only a stone's throw from where they are displayed.

They're all designed to fit into a particular location, usually over a local shop, pub or café.



This means that not only does each one have to be the right size and shape to fit into a section of wall amongst all the signs, cables and brackets, it often has been designed with a theme linked to its location.

Have a closer look next year. The overhead lights which span the street are also designed to fit in a specific place. They too vary in length, height and fixing points to suit the quirks of Queen Street and surrounding areas.

Although the business of

putting up and taking down the lights is done over a few weeks either side of Christmas, the other work goes on throughout the year. Recent developments in low-voltage LED lighting offer not only reduced electricity bills and more reliable displays; much more elaborate displays can now be built. These typically involve several circuits which can be switched on independently, allowing crackers to explode and tea to pour.

The team are gradually replacing all the older displays. This gives an opportunity to introduce new designs. The aim is to produce something which is at once visually appealing, festive, appropriate to its location- and achievable. Sometimes easier said than done!

Once the design is agreed the outline can be drawn on a sheet of hardboard. Then a steel mesh is cut to the correct size and shape for the site and fixed to the board. Next, a length of white LED rope light is cut from the reel and the process of attaching it begins. It's awkward stuff and doesn't really want to bend around sharp corners. It has to be coaxed with heat and clamped with cable ties: use too much force and the internal connectors break. Sharp corners are impossible, so elaborate loops and crossings-over have to be used instead of sharp

angles. The lights are also only visible face on, so the rope can't be twisted. To ensure that all is well at every stage, the lights are kept illuminated throughout the process.

When all the rope light is secured and checked, unwanted areas of light have to be blanked out with black tape and the rest painted with translucent paint. To get special effects, several other sections of rope light have to be added, each one controlled by electronic switchgear. Finally, a transformer can be wired in; then everyone takes a deep breath.

Every time a new display is made its location has to be updated. Hence the volunteers up ladders at any time of year, checking the security of fixing points and making alterations where necessary. The team includes an electrician who is kept busy with a bespoke system of cables, timers and plug-in points all along the main street and beyond. It's hard to spot all this infrastructure unless you know it's there; it all blends in so well. The volunteers bring a wealth of experience and ingenuity to the project, but are always looking for new ideas.

If you would like to become involved with Amble Christmas Lights, in any way, please contact me (Trevor Colbourne) on 711453 for further information.



## Puffin Festival walking football tournament success

Amble's 2018 annual Puffin Festival saw newly formed Amble East End Walking Football Club host a brand new Over 50s Tournament.

Clubs travelled from as far as Catterick and Teesside to be part of the tournament. Amble East End is fast developing quite a reputation for itself as more than equal competition for its opponents; even in the short time it has been formed.

The hosts were able to enter two teams – each looking to enjoy the atmosphere, and to continue to grow as a group in preparation for entry into the Blue Flames league for 2018/19 season.

The sun shone, the shop was

fully armed with refreshments, trophies and medals were polished. It promised to be a great occasion. And the day did not disappoint!

Many clubs, all more experienced, turned out in all their glory, their intentions being to become the first ever tournament winners. With over four hours of continuous play, of 20 minute matches, and a brief visit from "Tommy Noddy the Puffin" himself, East End found itself through to the semi-finals. Another win saw them as surprise finalists. After a close game, and very little to separate the two sides, Amble East End found themselves celebrating a 1-0 victory against

Middlesbrough. They had done it! Who'd have thought?! It was back to The Radcliffe Club for refreshments and the award ceremony.

**Shield Winners:**

Amble East End

**Plate Winners:**

Grangetown

**Cup Winners:** Newcastle

United Foundation

**Cup Runners-up:**

Amble East End

The Club's own Striker, Del Brooks picked up the Golden boot award for Top scorer, as well as Player of the Tournament!

The Club pays testament to the commitment, time, and support of every individual

who plays a voluntary part in the journey of Amble East End Walking Football Club.

Special thanks must go to supporters of this event, without whom this tournament could not have happened: Amble Town Council, Amble Puffin Festival Committee, The Radcliffe Club, Styles by Helena, The Bengal Spice Tandoori, James Calvert Spence College, all participant Clubs, and to the Amble East End Club members who helped on the day.

The Club meets on Tuesdays, year-round, at James Calvert Spence College, 6-7pm. New Players (Over 40s) always welcome.

*Josh Rutherford*



## Free post-16 student travel gets the green light

Free post-16 transport for students across Northumberland has been reintroduced after the council scrapped travel charges.

The county council's cabinet gave the green light to remove charges for the start of the new school year in September.

Since 2014 students have been required to pay for their own travel where local bus and rail services are available. For students who could not access viable public transport, subject to eligibility, arrangements were

made for them to travel on school buses/taxis contracted by the Council at a cost of £600 a year per student.

The current administration vowed to abolish these charges for students meeting the eligibility criteria, with a one-off £50 fee being introduced to help cover costs.

Deputy Council Leader Wayne Daley, who is also cabinet member for children's services, said: "One of our priorities when we formed this administration was to

abolish this charge which we felt was unfair and divisive. We're delighted to be able to reintroduce free post 16 transport for many youngsters. Delivering a good quality sustainable education in Northumberland is vital and part of that is about ensuring students can travel easily and cheaply to where they need to study.

"We feel this was an incredibly unfair tax on rural families and we're delighted to have scrapped it."

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# Island swim inspired by historic ladies' achievements

The sky was grey and the sea was cold. Despite better than average temperatures for Northumberland in May, it was hardly the Med. Enter two intrepid women with a mission to re-create a historical swim, and explore the possibility of reinstating it as a local event. The Coquet Island swim challenge was ON!

Frances Anderson and Jane Hardy are fascinating women, both with a love of wild swimming. Frances is a solo Channel swimmer, who's also swum the Straits of Gibraltar.

Jane only learned to swim ten years ago at the age of 31, joining in with her son's lessons; she now has a taste for marathon and ice swimming. As she says "I'm making up for lost time!"



Frances Anderson and Jane Hardy

The adventure required a great deal of planning and co-ordination, and was timed to take place just before the Puffin Festival.

Vic Brown from Coquet Shorebase Trust was consulted on her vast knowledge of tides and currents, and Paul Morrison from RSPB Coquet Island gave permission for the swim to begin at the Coquet Island jetty.

"When Jane approached

us about their plans, we did a comprehensive risk assessment, and worked out the best time for the tides," Vic told The Ambler. "We had every confidence in their ability to do the swim; it would just be a case of assessing the sea conditions on the day, before making a final decision to go ahead. We were very impressed with their approach to safety, and it was great that it all worked out perfectly."

The Coquet Island swim was inspired by the achievements of local women swimmers from Amble Swimming Club in the 1900s; Rene Hall and Bella Bailey, the first women to swim to the island, and in 1923 Georgina Rollo, who swam out of Amble harbour, round the island and back, beating everyone else to win the Amble club championship race.

"We were very impressed with the phenomenal achievements of the female swimmers at a time when swimming was seen as a pursuit for men and boys," said Frances.

"I'm involved in a heritage project at the moment and the historical swimming ties in with that. We would love to get something like that going again. Open water swimming is massive now. We obviously needed to test it out, but we'll definitely be looking at doing something again next year."

Jane agreed: "The sea temperature was pretty cold, it was 8 degrees, which is only a bit higher than when I do ice swimming. It took us 42 minutes, which isn't bad in that temperature. The swim is totally doable, but it might need to be an invitation-only event."



Above: Jane and Frances' swim from Coquet Island helped to launch the Puffin Festival

Below: leaving Coquet Island. The swim took 42 minutes in 8 degree sea temperature



As experienced open water swimmers they didn't wear wetsuits; a badge of honour for people who take this extreme sport seriously. The pair stressed that swimming from Coquet Island is not something to be undertaken without prior permission and a great deal of preparation. They were immensely grateful to everyone who helped them.

Did they enjoy the experience? The answers were mixed.

"Not especially. It was cold for me," said Frances, "because I was just getting over a chest infection and I still felt a bit poorly."

Jane grinned. "It was good for me, because she's a faster swimmer than me and I am used to the cold water. I thought she'd be miles ahead, but we kept together all the way."

Anna Williams

## Frances and Jane would like to thank:

"Vic Brown and Coquet Shorebase for boats and fabulous crew Paul Morrison and the other wardens on Coquet Island John Lester - swim safety/lifeguard Martin Horn - Giant Puffin meeting and greeting Puffin Swim - for providing puffin tow floats and hats Dorothy Mills - looking after kit and helping us off with wet clothes and warming up hugs Bartle Rippon - photographer from The Ambler Julia Aston at Amble Development Trust - for fabulous information about Georgina Rollo and swim. Amble Coastguards - for standing by just in case and for wearing high viz jackets so we could see where to swim to! The Old Storehouse - for providing us with free tea and coffee to warm up. ... and thanks to everyone who came down to witness our arrival and cheer us on."

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## Writing career begins here!



The Amble and Warkworth Rotary Club recently ran a writing competition: write a 500 word story titled 'a different perspective'. I entered a story based around a girl with anorexia from the point of view of her reflection. I won in the Northumberland area and got £50 and a trophy. I also came joint third in the country. It was great to win the award but not so great with having to stand up in front of everyone. I'm trying to continue my writing by going to Artograffi and trying to write a book.

By Lily

## How to get fit ...and fast!

Some people may know about Druridge Bay parkrun on a Saturday morning. It will help people to get fit. I absolutely love it. It helps me keep fast. It is 5 kilometres and it starts at 9:00 AM. If you want to get fit do this.

It is the ideal place for people to get fit. If you think it is too long you can walk, but if you want you can get timed which means you will not have time for a break unless you are fast.

By Ethan

## Rossini's Restaurant Review

Recently our beloved Zecca was unexpectedly closed, for reasons still unknown, and now it has been replaced by Rossini's. I recently went to Rossini's and would like to tell you about my experience.

We were seated quickly, then had our menu delivered to us. After about 10 minutes our drink orders were taken, they quickly arrived and not long after we ordered our starters and meals.

There was then disappointing 30 minute wait for our starters. I had potato skins and they were tasty. After that another long wait and our mains came out. I had a half Caprina pizza, half salad. The pizza was delicious however even though I asked for without onions I had to pick them off myself. The salad had minimal sauce but other than that was nice.

All in all the food was nice but the service needs work (however they were very apologetic).

Hopefully any troubles were first-week glitches: I have high hopes for Rossini's in the future.

By Ava

## Recently on YouTube...

YouTube is a place where people can post videos about almost anything and viewers can keep up to date with our favourite YouTubers. Even they can look back and see important milestones they have achieved.

Some YouTubers even make it to TV such as Jay Swinger who was all over the news after cementing his head in a microwave and getting stuck having to call an ambulance to get out - fortunately unharmed.

YouTube star Tana Mongeau has launched her own convention called Tanacon where fans can go to meet some of their favourite YouTubers. Some YouTubers such as Joe Sugg are starting to collaborate with Royals and celebrities. He made a collaboration with Prince Charles on how to thatch roofs.

Lots of the beauty gurus are getting noticed so much more by makeup brands, such as Nikita who has recently brought out a range at Morphe, and James Charles who was CoverGirl's first male spokesperson.

By Bethany

## FIFA WORLD CUP 2018

The FIFA World Cup starts on the 14th of June till the 15th of July. The host country is Russia. England's first game is against Tunisia on 18 June, then they play Panama on 24 June, and Belgium on 28 June.

If you want to find more about the games, look up on the internet to find the bets of who people think will win or dates and times of the games or even find out some news about some of the world cup teams.

I really hope England win since now they have one of the highest goalscorers of the premier league Harry Kane. Hopefully Germany don't win since they won the last time.

By Ethan

## Alec and Emily's Rescue Centre: The Bullying Problem

Alec and Emily were heading down for their first day of official volunteering today and both of them were very excited.

Since last week, all they'd done was chat about how they were going to help all the animals and read up on what the different creatures ate. And now that it was really happening, they were both ecstatic, but Emily couldn't help but notice something was a little off with Alec.

"What's up Alec? You seem a little... sad." She frowned, "And how did you get that bruise on your cheek?"

Alec shook his head. "It's nothing."

"Is it those boys at school again?" she asked, "You need to tell a teacher, otherwise they'll never stop being horrible."

"It's fine," he snapped. Emily was about to continue but they were interrupted by the volunteer they'd met last week- they'd found out her name was Sue- coming out to meet them.

"Hi guys! Ready to help some animals?" she said happily. The twins nodded vigorously.

Sue set them off immediately feeding some of the dogs and cats. Alec immediately became attached to a golden Labrador with stitches up the side of his body. He frowned.

"What happened to him, Sue?"

"That's Maxie, our clever little pup. He was getting horribly abused by his owners the poor little thing. Then one day he was kicked out and somehow- I have absolutely no clue how- he managed to find his way here." Sue smiled, "I guess he was looking for help."

Alec nodded, petting Maxie. He didn't understand how someone could be mean to such a lovely dog, but he did understand how Maxie had gone to the Rescue centre for help. Maybe if this dog could do it... Alec might be able to work up the courage to ask for help too.

As they went home after a few more hours of fun but hard work, Emily said: "You really do need to tell a teacher about those bullies at school."

"I know." Alec said, to Emily's surprise, "I'll go tell someone tomorrow."

By Lily



By Ava

## Artograffi's photograffi



By Ethan



## HOW COMPUTERS ARE AMAZING BUT ALSO TERRIFYING

We've all seen films where computers take over the world, but soon this could become a reality. Maybe not Ultron level but it's still a scary thought.

There have been stories all over the news about technology invading people's privacy but a nearly-equal amount of computers saving lives. Computers act only what they are programmed to do, and some programmers have the ability to change the world!

It starts getting dangerous when computers learn to think for themselves. At the moment, it's hard to know whether to be towards or against computers - so here are some of the facts:

**Pro:** Computers are helping many children with autism with communication skills

**Con:** Amazon Echo recently recorded a married couple's conversation and sent it to the man's colleague. Amazon say Echo thought it heard commands like "record" and "Alexander Fakenamerson" (not his real name) so sent it to them.

**Pro:** The internet can be used to raise awareness for charities and global issues.

**Con:** If computers become self-aware they could destroy us all

By Amy

## Dennis's adventures in Japan

Recently our friend Dennis (The Bird Guy) went to Japan to sightsee and learn about their culture. He was especially excited for their cherry blossom trees (called 'Sakura' by the Japanese) and the traditional picnic ('Hanami' - meaning valuing life and fresh starts). Unfortunately the cherry blossoms were not in bloom in the areas he visited, so he could not take part.

Rather than staying at one hotel he bought a 2 week train pass, meaning he could travel around Japan seeing lots. When he came back we asked him a few questions about his trip:

### What was your favourite food?

I enjoyed eating the Japanese sushi which is different to the sushi we get here. I especially enjoyed the salmon sushi- being salmon, rice wrapped in vine leaves. This is served with chopsticks and I loved using these, it felt cultural. It came with different sides (including wasabi, soy sauce, ginger, etc.). I enjoyed the bento boxes that you can get on trains. With the bento boxes you got chopsticks and moist towels to clean yourself with. All the trains were very clean.

### Were there many people begging or sleeping on the streets?

I didn't really see people sleeping rough or



Dennis sent Artograffi this postcard while he was in Japan

begging. Many people had their own stalls selling things to make money but none were official shops- more homemade things. Nobody I could see was sleeping on the streets. I was out day and night but there didn't seem to be any sleeping rough.

### Do you think Studio Ghibli films accurately represent Japanese culture?

I think the films represent Miyazaki's particular view of Japan. They also show the traditional aspect of Japan as the films are quite mythical. Studio Ghibli films promote values of how the Japanese want people to behave.

Dennis had fun in Japan and hopes to go back soon.

By Ava





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ABOVE: Nesting in the outer edge of the gabion in front of the café window at Hauxley Discovery Centre, this happy couple of tree sparrows have raised their first brood of chicks, which have entertained visitors to the café as they fly in and out of the gabion basket every couple of minutes.

The Wildlife Discovery Centre has received one RICS Award, three RIBA Awards and a Certificate of Excellence from Trip Advisor, this desirable area will hopefully be welcoming them back later this year.



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# REPORTS FROM OUR

# County Councillors

First let me say how honoured I am to have been elected the civic chair of Northumberland County Council, this should enable me to raise the profile of Amble and its hinterland.

I am delighted that the County Council through their development arm have at last announced that a Supermarket is going to be built on the Industrial Estate. I have been aware of plans to do this for some time but have been unable to share them with the public until they were finalised. Too

many times in the past promises have been made about developments in Amble which have not materialised but I can state categorically this time they will!

It will be a medium size supermarket and will have several additional retail units yet to be finalised, inevitably it will bring more business to the town



and supply much needed jobs. There will be a large car park which may well help to relieve traffic congestion in Amble and I sincerely hope that our shops on Queen Street recognise the change this will make to the trading patterns in the town and plan accordingly.

The opening of the Supermarket is planned for Summer 2019 and as previously stated the new hotel is planned for later this year.

I am working on other major projects for the town to

help cope with the influx of housing planned and approved, several other bodies are engaged along with me to try to ensure adequate parking, road infrastructure and educational facilities. I can say that things are beginning to look more positive....but no promises until I am certain they will happen.

As ever I am available on [Jeffrey.watson@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Jeffrey.watson@northumberland.gov.uk)

And by phone: 07802385367

My first year as a councillor has been an eye - opener, challenging and incredibly fulfilling, I had no idea how much there was to do, it has not been easy balancing work, family, and council, but always interesting, I have met some fantastic people on this journey and learnt so much about the work of local government along with fellow town, parish and local area committee council members this has made me incredibly proud of my home town Amble and parishes in Broomhill and Hauxley and the great county of Northumberland, proud to have a say in shaping the future of the area that I am bringing my family up in.

The first six months was very important getting into my role learning the ropes from attending training sessions and seminars at County Hall to attending committee meetings to full council in the chamber playing my vital role in local democracy and serving the people of Amble.

First, can I acknowledge the importance of working together

with town and parish councils, building this relationship is the key we have with the local community working together in partnership for the good of all.

Second, many thanks to all, it has been very encouraging engaging with people attending my surgeries held in Amble Broomhill and Hauxley, listening to your views, ideas and issues. I will continue to hold a regular surgery throughout the year.

Thirdly, some people seem to think that once you become a councillor this becomes your sole job which is certainly not true. I still work full time for Northumberland Estate as a painter decorator, signwriter going into my 36th year. During the working day people can still contact me. My phone is always on where ever I am working in the wilds of Northumberland. Leave a message, contact number or drop me an email, residents



will also be welcome to call at my home address and drop into my surgery. I will certainly help to the best of my ability.

## Issues raised over the last year.

- The large scale building of new dwellings in Amble and surrounding areas.
- The great concern about facilities and infrastructure within the town particularly within our health care, doctors, dentists, and the capacity within our schools, together with parking problems within the town especially in the holiday season when the town has on occasions become gridlocked.
- Housing issues / housing needs; Accommodation for elderly residents and young families; Affordable rented accommodation anti-social behaviour, asbestos.
- Road / Highways; Speeding issues around estates, off road motorbikes; Residents crossing busy roads particular - High Street, Newburgh Street, Church Street; speed calming measures, residential parking, obstructions.

- Footpaths; People slipping and tripping - a number of footpaths that are in appalling conditions; This is an ongoing issue.
- Street lighting replacement.
- Missing drain covers; toby covers; gully pots.
- Waste bins.
- Confidential matters with residents.
- Attending estate walkabout with Home for Northumberland / Community police / residents.
- Small schemes contribution towards CCTV system in Amble; New wildlife sculpture; Amble Links School; Installation new solar panels Northumberland seafood centre; Erection of new street lighting column Anderson Crescent garage area; New footpath Middleton Street; Waste bin/sign Links Road Hauxley

And finally It was a great privilege paying respect at last year's Remembrance Sunday, an honour remembering those who sacrificed themselves in two world wars and other conflicts to secure and protect our freedom.

*Cllr Terry Clark.*  
[Terry.Clark@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Terry.Clark@northumberland.gov.uk)

## Hauxley Parish Council



- Hauxley Residents flying the County Flag on Northumberland day: 1-r: Brian Wilkinson, Bruce Stott, Bruce Hardy
- The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 9 July at 6:30pm in the Village Hall, Low Hauxley



- Thank you to everyone who came to the litter pick, your help was much appreciated.
- Residents are invited to write to the Clerk, Jade Reynolds if they would like to raise any issues at the bi-monthly meetings

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](mailto:hauxleyipc@hotmail.co.uk)

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



## Rising to the challenge



Harbour Lights on stage at the Sage Gateshead. Picture courtesy JMA-Photography

Northumberland has a scattered population and small choirs in rural communities are sometimes limited by their small numbers and limited range of voices, so they don't get the opportunity to perform to a wider audience on a big stage.

Coming together with other local choirs, professional musicians and a professional soloist at Hall One, in the Sage Gateshead, under the wings of producer Michael Lock and

musical directors Peter Brown and Caroline Fentiman made this possible.

Choir leader Sarah Gray said "Harbour Lights rose to the considerable challenge of learning two complex pieces of music, 'Magnificat' by John Rutter and 'Ahoy! Sing for the Mary Rose' by Alexander L'Estrange, to take part in this project and we acquitted ourselves very well. The singing from the combined amateur

choirs of Alnwick, Amble, Howick and Wooler was beautiful and more importantly we had a really good time. As choir director I felt tremendously proud of all of us!"

Chairman of the choir, lady tenor Carol Bird said, "We had a brilliant day. It was a long day, with rehearsals morning and afternoon, and then the performance in the evening to an audience of about 500. Singing at such a fantastic venue with so

many others and such excellent musicians was an inspiring event. We worked very hard to learn the music, but it was certainly worth it in the end!

"It was a wonderful uplifting experience that took us out of our comfort zone and showed us what we could achieve if we believed in ourselves. Sarah our director helped us to do just that" said a founder member soprano Sarah Mitchell.

"I loved the whole experience. It was joyous!" said Allison McPhilips, soprano.

"A satisfying reward for months of hard work by all concerned," said Kate Burnham, alto.

"I found the project very challenging but the performance at The Sage with an orchestra was exhilarating." Steve Reeve, bass.

Harbour Lights are now encouraging people to join in, even if they have no musical background and can't read music; with Sarah's teaching that is not a barrier.

Their next performance will be at the Pods on Mauretania Day Sunday 1 July.  
*Vivienne Dalglish*

## Cycling scheme inspires well-being and leisure cycling

Luxury holiday home company, Park Leisure, is encouraging homeowners to get out and on the saddle with a complimentary cycling safety scheme.

Surrounded by miles of stunning coastline and country lanes, the popular Amble Links park is the perfect starting point for a number of beautiful rides. Feedback from many of its homeowners revealed that they didn't dare embrace them due to their fear of getting back on a bike or introducing little ones to two wheels.

Quick to respond the premium holiday home park introduced an intensive cycling proficiency scheme, delivered by qualified instructors inviting people of all ages to embrace cycling and learn safety and maintenance skills.

The eight-hour classes focussed on balance, control and safety, instilling vital messages to stop, look and manoeuvre carefully whilst riding both on the holiday home park and surrounding roads.

By the end of the first training day, participants were

equipped with all of the essential knowledge required to carry out a bike check and by day two, take confidently to the road.

Father of three Luke Norbury, who took part in the course alongside his children – Meriel, aged 11, Raphael, aged 9, and Loveday, aged 6, said: "For many of us going on a bike ride with the family can be a daunting experience.

"Although I'm an experienced cyclist I worry if the kids cycle too far away or look a bit wobbly.

"This course has really helped us all, the kids are much more aware of what's around them and have picked up some great new skills."

General Manager of Amble Links and organiser of the scheme Philip Smith said: "This activity has been invaluable; the feedback from owners has been fantastic, confirming there was a real need for the scheme.

"We've already noticed a significant increase in the number of people taking off on rides and cycling safely through the park."

No strangers to cycling



Above: Meriel Norbury, aged 11, Raphael Norbury, aged 9, and Cycle Experience instructor, Clive Eve

themselves, Park Leisure directors have completed a number of cycling challenges in the name of charity over the last 10 years.

2016 saw the team take on 'The 1000 Mile Challenge' – a 1000 mile ride across the UK over 12 days, in support of Walking With The Wounded, whilst last year saw the

exhausting '777 Challenge', which consisted of a 700 mile cycle through seven countries across Europe, in just seven days, in support of Cancer Research UK and Candlelighters. Through their dedication, the team managed to raise almost £200,000 for these charities over the last two years.

And as we draw to a close on another Puffin Festival we can reflect on the activities over the weekend; what was successful, what can we improve on or change completely. Sensible and constructive answers appreciated.

I cannot talk about the Puffin Festival without thanking everyone who took part, helped or participated in any way. It does take a bit of organising and wouldn't be the success (we are being told it was) without everyone joining in and helping wherever and however they can – a massive thank you to you all.

I'm sure I can speak on behalf of the events committee when saying having use of the TIC to store everything was a massive help, saving a lot of fetching and carrying each morning and night. Not the best use of the building by any means but very helpful for the committee on this occasion.

What it did highlight (if proof were needed) was how many people call in to ask for information, directions and advice on local services. From 8am onwards there was a steady stream of enquiries each day. It certainly endorsed the fact to us that such a service is needed in the town and we should thank the businesses who have given up valuable retail space to stock tourism literature.

The town is currently the focus of a few media production companies, with BBC Countryfile, BBC World Service and ITV's Vera set to film in the next month or so.

Countryfile really showed Amble in a very positive light which wasn't all down to the weather. The production team were impressed with the town, regeneration plans that include conservation and sustainable crustacean stocks but most of all the people. Anita Rani very kindly cut a fab lobster cake (nothing like a fish cake) marking the official opening of the Lobster Hatchery.

BBC World Service have been in contact about making a programme that includes the history of a fishing port, so we will be helping out with that.

And of course Vera, which will have many of us glued to

the screens when aired to see if we can recognise where they were filming, which is all good publicity for Amble.

On a slightly grumpy note, I return to the Welfare and funding. I'm hearing that people are still asking what happened to the money we were promised from Persimmon, so once again for clarity; over 10 years ago when ADT took ownership of the Welfare park, we were promised a sum of money through a Section 106 agreement (where a developer puts something into the community they are working in) to refurbish the park.

Plans of what that money would cover were drawn up, but the money did not come through until 2015/16 when Persimmon began work on the site. In the interim period the Trust secured money to carry out some of the work that had been identified, as well as a skateboard park that had not been in the original plan. So rather than sitting waiting we were proactive.

Once the funding from Persimmon came through we began work on the drainage for the football pitch and completion of the refurbishment of the pavilion. All told, over £375k has been spent on the area, well in excess of the original sum.

And again for the other complainers: the reason for the drainage to pitches not being done earlier was purely down to waiting for the funding from Persimmon as no-one else would fund it.

It wasn't stalled by the contractor and neither did he put his price up, he very kindly honoured his quote absorbing some increased costs himself – that's what working with a local contractor and building a relationship does for a community.

Sorry to be repetitive but the message just doesn't seem to get through to those who chose not to listen, hopefully we can now move on.

And now the sun is shining and the sky is blue, enjoy your summer!

Julia and all trust staff  
[juliaambledevelopmenttrust.org.uk](http://juliaambledevelopmenttrust.org.uk)

## Amble Lifeboats launch twice to assist yacht stranded on Coquet Island rocks



Following a request to Amble RNLI from Humber Coastguard both lifeboats launched at 5pm to assist a yacht which was stranded on the rocks at the north end of Coquet Island.

With two persons on board and an ebbing tide it was high and dry so the inshore lifeboat Mildred Holcroft transferred them to the all weather lifeboat Elizabeth and Leonard before bringing them ashore to await the flowing tide in the boathouse.

Both boats launched again at 8pm and the casualty was towed into Amble marina at 10.30pm.

Amble RNLI Coxswain David Bell commented that conditions were fine with a slight swell and the casualty was undamaged.



## 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





# Amble Town

# COUNCIL

All meetings at 6pm unless stated otherwise

Town: 12 July, 9 Aug

Amenities: 26 July Awards Evening: 10 July

<b>EAST WARD:</b>	Helen Lewis, Ian Parks, 33 Warkworth Avenue, Warkworth. NE65 0TP	Craig Weir (Chair/Mayor) 76 Priory Park, Amble NE65 0PH 07751 229 739 01665 712342	<b>WEST WARD:</b>	Jeff Watson Ian Hinson, 11 Eastgarth Avenue, Amble. NE65 0LW 01665 710583	Friarsgate 14 Magdalene Fields Warkworth NE65 0UF 07802 385367	Tracey Hinton, 13 George Street, Amble NE65 0RZ	<b>CENTRAL WARD:</b>	Jane Dargue 10 Sylvia's Close, Amble NE65 0GB 07795360513 01665 711191	Martin Horn 22 Mariners View Amble NE65 0JH 01665 712836
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## PEACE SCULPTURE

PLANS ARE advanced for this new monument to be placed in the Memorial Gardens as a lasting tribute to all those who have served in conflicts, defending freedom, in the hope of bringing peace to us all. The work is being carried out by internationally recognised award winning blacksmith Stephen Lunn. Financial contributions have been promised by both of our County Councillors. The intertwining arch with poppies and doves will have lettering twisted on metal 'ribbons'. We would like our community to join in part of the design work- we invite you all to register your vote for either the phrases or the individual words to be inscribed. It is hoped this will be dedicated during the Remembrance Day service this year.

## ACTIVE AMBLE

WE NOW have the report from NCC which gives some indication of how we can try to make our town more walking and cycle friendly to encourage an active community. While there are some forward thinking, expensive to implement ideas, there are also some cheaper practical ideas which we are hoping to progress over the next few months. We are also looking forward to having a map of the local rights of way and paths regularly used by the community so that we can look at improving them to be safer for all.

## COUNCILLOR'S CORNER

IF YOU see some characters looking in your garden they may not be the dodgy scrapmen. It's Amble Garden Awards time again. Councillors will be shortlisting the best displays in their ward and a staff member from Alnwick Gardens will judge during the first week of July. This is the third year I have been involved. There are some incredible gardens ranging from the largest to the tiny with a lot of pride and hard work on display. There were also some which were obviously once beautiful gardens, but let down as our visit was not expected. I won't mention specific cases and save the blushes of the owners and hope the timing is better for them this year. Prize giving is on Tuesday 10 July- so get out into your gardens and keep an eye on your post. Let's hope the rain gods are on our side.

*Cllr Martin Horn*

## TOWN AWARDS

JUST enough time left to send your nominations for all categories of the Garden Awards.

Please also make nominations for the Adult and Junior Civic Awards. Details available on the website or from the Council office.

### EARMARKED FUNDS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2018

#### COMMUNITY

SCHOOL PRIZE FUND towards next batch	£400
SEATING refurbishment/replacement	£2000
LITTER BINS refurbishment/replacement	£2639
BUS SHELTERS refurbishment/replacement	£24,103
(including funds from Persimmon development £19,300.75)	
TOWN PROJECTS towards projects/enhancements/ peace memorial	£16500
COMMUNITY/ENVIRONMENTAL public meetings/ environment works etc.	£4473
MATCHED FUNDS towards projects attracting grants	£1300
PHILIP DRIVE PLAY AREA residue of hand over money	£115
ALLOTMENT FUND boundaries, walkways, maintenance	£4186
RECREATION maintenance/future replacement	£12000
EVENTS COMMITTEE funds held within ATC	£3957
PUBLIC DONATIONS TO WAR MEMORIAL REPAIRS	£10592

#### COUNCIL

COMPUTERS & I.T. new and replacement hard/soft ware	£7200
NOTICEBOARDS repairs/replacement	£1000
QUALITY STATUS registration fee	£500
WEBSITE & COMMUNITY COMMUNICATION	£704
ELECTION COSTS for elections/ by election	£8512
OFFICE EXPENSES consumables/ furniture etc.	£2300

#### ASSET MANAGEMENT

##### CEMETERIES

EAST CEMETERY MAINTENANCE walls/ boards etc.	£9000
MACHINERY service/new/replacement	£2150
MEMORIAL SAFETY checks and stabilisation	£1145
WEST CEMETERY PREMISES maintenance	£3000
WEST CEMETERY MAINTENANCE walls/drive/fence/trees etc.	£8000
WEST CEMETERY DEVELOPMENT signage/mapping/new	£20000
CEMETERY REGISTERS legal requirement	£340

##### TOWN

MEMORIAL CLOCK maintenance/service	£1470
MEMORIALS upkeep/repairs	£7855
WYND WALL repairs	£2715

#### STAFFING & COMMITMENTS

TRAINING staff & councillors	£3600
LOYALTY FUND retirement gift/ civic & community	£3647
LEGAL/ REGULATORY PROCEDURES advice etc.	£9000
CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS	£45200
CONTINGENCY emergency cover	£10000
GENERAL FUND	£10000
<b>EQUALS TOTAL BANK BALANCE</b>	<b>£239,603</b>

PLEASE CALL IF YOU WISH TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TO VIEW THE AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31/04/2018

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](https://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

## Floating saves lives

The Royal National Lifeboat Institution has announced seven people claimed 'floating' helped save their life in 2017, after the charity advocated this as a key survival skill.

Coastal fatality figures show 22 people lost their lives on the east coast in 2017 compared with 31 in 2016. Over half did not intend to enter the water.

As the RNLI's national drowning prevention campaign Respect the Water enters its fifth year, the charity is urging anyone who finds themselves in trouble in cold water to stay calm and 'float'.

Nick Ayers, RNLI Community Safety Partner, says "Losing someone to drowning is a shattering experience, so I am very pleased several people said the RNLI's Respect the Water 'float' advice helped them survive in a dangerous situation in the water last year. We are hopeful that our safety campaigning and education work will contribute to a reduction in coastal deaths, but we cannot get complacent. It's vital we all keep sharing lifesaving advice. One drowning, is one too many.

"A worrying statistic is that male deaths made up 91% of the fatalities at the north east coast in 2017, with many of

them ending up in the water unexpectedly. It clearly highlights much more must be done to help men keep themselves safe around the coast."

This year the charity is calling on the public to practice the 'float' survival skill – a simple skill that could mean the difference between life and death – and to share this lifesaving knowledge with others.

Evan Chrisp, aged 16, and from the north east was one of the seven people who said 'floating' helped save their life in 2017.

Evan says, "I was jumping over waves with friends and got swept out to sea. I tried to fight the water and swim hard, but I quickly realised this wasn't working and I was in serious danger. I remembered the RNLI's advice to float on my back and this helped me catch my breath and calm down before then trying to swim to safety.

"Thankfully I made it to a nearby yacht. My Dad had watched me get in to trouble from the shore and had called 999 for the Coastguard. Ultimately I think the RNLI's advice to float saved my life."

If you get into trouble in cold water, the RNLI's advice is to float on your back for a short



time to regain control of your breathing.

Mike Tipton MBE, Professor of Human and Applied Physiology at the University of Portsmouth, and world leading expert in cold water shock explains, "The instinctive human reaction on immersion in cold water is a potential killer as this can cause panic and thrashing around, increasing the chances of breathing in water. This also lets trapped air escape from clothing, reducing buoyancy.

"Although it's counter intuitive, the best immediate course of action is to fight your instinct and float on your back.

"Once you've gained control of your breathing you can swim to safety, call for help, or continue to float until help arrives. Floating is not always something people are confident they can do, but most people can

float; in fact recent practical trials with the RNLI suggest people find it easier than they expect.

"The recommended floating position to keep your airway clear is to lean back, extend your arms and legs, and keep movement to a minimum, as air trapped in your clothing will help you float."

The RNLI have produced a video explaining the key steps to floating. You can see it at: [RNLI.org/RespectTheWater](http://RNLI.org/RespectTheWater)

The best way to enjoy the water safely is to choose a lifeguarded beach and swim between the red and yellow flags – the area most closely monitored by the lifeguards.

If you see someone else in danger in the water at the coast, fight your instinct to go in and try to rescue them yourself, instead call 999 or 112 and ask for the Coastguard.

## Amble veteran now at home as Chelsea Pensioner



Above: Peter Proctor-Cannon and Chelsea Pensioner George Skipper at the Chelsea Hospital Founder's Day Parade.

When WW2 veteran George Skipper moved away from Amble to retire in London's Chelsea Hospital, his friends were delighted for him, but concerned he would settle in the bustling metropolis. But George is very much enjoying his life as a Chelsea Pensioner, and took part in Founders Day parade.

Peter Proctor-Cannon and his wife Ruth were invited to the parade and took the opportunity to drop in and say hello to George, who was delighted to see them.

Peter said "We saw George and gave him a letter from Amble Town Council, and some copies of The Ambler, because he loves to catch up on what's going on in Amble. He was over the moon.

The Founder's Day parade is an annual event. Over 300 Pensioners take part in the parade. The elderly and infirm

do a sitting parade. At the event, everyone wears oak leaves to commemorate Charles II when he hid in an oak tree from the Roundheads in 1651. Charles II went on to found the Chelsea Hospital in 1682.

Ruth said "He's looking frailer and older – well he is in his mid 90s, but he was very happy to see us. He's one of the oldest there although there are over 50 WW2 veterans, so he's got plenty of comrades around. And he's got a scooter so he can go out and about."

"We thoroughly enjoyed the day," said Peter. "It was quite an honour to be invited. There were over 300 guests, the parade was taken by Prince Michael of Kent, who met all the Pensioners individually, including George. It lasted over an hour and there were refreshments afterwards. It was all very enjoyable."

Anna Williams



## Amble Sword: the revival of the tradition

A hundred years ago Amble had a tradition of sword dancing. This year a man called Tony Urwin was determined that it should return. Tony moved back to Northumberland having spent the previous 30 years in Kent; over half of which he had spent as a member of Bishop Gundulf's Morris as a Longsword Dancer. He brought with him a set of longswords, lent to him by Gundulf's, with the aim and ambition of reviving the tradition and bringing sword dancing back to Amble.

In the UK there are two traditions of Sword Dancing, Longsword and Rapper, both of which are known as Hilt and Point dances ie you hold on to both ends of the sword. The old Amble side (led by the Flanighan family) danced the Rapper tradition, which was common in most pit villages in the early 20th century. Rapper sword dancing is a slick, fast-moving dance form with 5 dancers linked in a ring with a sword handle in their right hand and the next dancer's handle in their left. The Longsword dance is related to the Rapper Sword Dance but the character is fundamentally different as it uses rigid metal or wooden swords with a single handle and a sword-like point at the other end. The dance is basically 6 or 8 dancers in

a circle, each holding the end of his neighbour's sword. They perform circling and intertwining "figures" without breaking the circle or letting go of the swords, except at the climax of the dance when the swords are interlocked to form the "lock" which is then held aloft.

Tony's aim was to start a side teaching them the slightly easier alternative of dancing Longsword and moving on to the more complex Rapper dancing once the side had been established. He found a couple of musicians, Jamie Robb and Sandra Kerr, in the area who were keen to play if the side got up and running. Tony then met another Morris dancer, Geoff Roberts, who also expressed interest. He was fortunate to be put in touch with a Sword dancer, Michael Dawson, who was moving back to Amble. Tony arranged to meet Michael in the Masons Arms in Amble and by sheer coincidence he discovered that people in the pub, including the bar staff, were members of the Flanighan family and could remember their grandparents talking about Amble Sword Dance. The Landlord, Nigel Wilson, was pleased to consent to the back room of the pub being used and a date of 6 February was set for the inaugural meeting and



Amble Sword performing at the Puffin Festival. Photo by Jude Samways

practice. Before that meeting took place Tony had another stroke of luck when he ran into John McDermott, Amble's sword-dancing vicar, who also said he would be interested and would come along.

On 6 February approximately 12 people turned up and most of these still form the core of the side. Amble Sword are still welcoming new members whether they be dancers or musicians. Meetings are every

Tuesday evening at 7.30 in the Masons, although there will be a break during August.

The aim, right from the start, was to have a dance ready for the Amble Puffin Festival, and so on Monday 28 May 2018 at 1230 in the Town Square, Amble Sword danced the Amble Longsword Dance, bringing back the tradition to the town for the first time since 1931.

*Chris Herzberg*

## Hauxley Funday

This year Hauxley Fun Day is on Bank Holiday Monday 27 August starting at 11am in the Village Square at Low Hauxley.

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

After testing your muscles on the Feat of Strength, stay for lunch at the delicious BBQ, followed by a scrumptious ice cream for dessert. Catch a glimpse of what the future holds with our fortune teller, vent some steam at the plate smashing stand, or win yourself a coconut at the coconut shy! And don't forget to bring your pets for the pet show. It's a great day out for all the family, so put the date in your diary and don't forget to tell your friends!

## Church summer fair

St Cuthbert's Church Summer Fair Saturday 4 August in the Parish Hall, Dovecote Street, Amble at 2pm until 4pm Bric a Brac DVDs, CDs, tombola, children's table, home baking, raffle, bottle pull, accessories, refreshments

## Boat fishing competition

A competition of fishing from boats will be held on Saturday 7 July. This is the 13th year that the Boat Competition has been held in memory of Bob White. Most of the funds raised will go to St Oswald's Hospice at Gosforth with the rest going to the RNLI.

Last year 134 people took part and £3,500 was raised for charity. 'It would be great if we could raise even more money this year' said Norma Urwin from Amble Angling Centre, who along with Elaine Scott organises the competition.

Registration will take place from 6.30 am at Amble Angling Centre. All entries cost £10. Kayaks are welcome too. Anglers must arrange their own boat places and juniors have to be accompanied by an adult.

The presentation of prizes will take place at The Schooner after the weigh-in at Amble Harbour between 4 and 5.30 pm.

It promises to be a great day out. All prize donations gratefully received. Contact Norma at the Angling Centre 01665 711200.

## Radcliffe Club events

6 July Family Fun Night free entry prize bingo £1 ticket 6-9pm  
13 July Bruno Mars/Olly Murs tribute £5 Ticket doors open 7pm  
3/10/17 August Family Fun Night free entry prize bingo £1 Ticket 6-9pm

## Tricky venue for NE windsurfers

The first of this seasons NEWS events (North East Windsurfers) took place at Druridge Bay Country Park. Competitors are careful not to let the size of the lake fool them. This is an immensely tricky venue to race on. Winds come at unexpected angles due to sea breezes over the dunes, the surrounding trees and rising ground.

Over the weekend the sky was clear, with light but shifty gusts on the Saturday, and a stronger more steady wind on the Sunday. Pip Heywood, aged 16, put on an impressive show of consistency coming first in each of the six races over the two days. Ali Claydon, Head Coach of the Coquet Windsurfing Club, and former national champion, took second place, and first lady, while Andy Holmes' determination really paid off giving him third place. This was the first of nine 2018 NEWS events to be held across the North East region.

Results: 1st Pip Heywood, 2nd Ali Claydon, 3rd Andy Holmes.

Competent windsurfers are welcome to join in the NEWS racing, and windsurfers of any abilities or age are welcome at the Coquet Windsurfing Club on Saturdays and Tuesdays. Please contact Head Coach, Ali Claydon, for details on 07751822235, or the Coquet Shorebase Trust 01665 710367.

## NTC @ The Dovecote Centre

The community of Amble welcomed Northumberland Theatre Company (NTC) with open arms when it moved into The Dovecote Centre in February 2018. NTC were previously based in Alnwick at the Playhouse for over 30 years, touring theatre to communities across Northumberland and beyond.

This year they found a new home in Amble and want to bring the tired old Victorian School building back to life. The theatre company, who currently lease the premises from the Diocese of Newcastle, has already set up its office, wardrobe department and workshop, and created a performance space in the old school hall.

NTC will be rehearsing and performing its future productions at The Dovecote Centre as part of each tour, but would like to open the doors to the building for community groups to use. The Puffin Theatre Club currently use the building on Saturday mornings for young members aged between 5 -12.

NTC are now asking local community groups/individuals how they would like to use the building and are inviting people to look round the building and join them for a meeting to discuss ideas in July.

Join us on **Monday 16 July 5.30- 7pm** for an informal meeting. Contact [admin@northumberlandtheatre.co.uk](mailto:admin@northumberlandtheatre.co.uk) 01665 713655 to register your interest.

## Rotary Notes

AMBLE and Warkworth Rotary members have been presenting cheques to local groups and individuals. See also Artograffi page



Above: Amble East Juniors: "Look what we've got !. Rotary President John Geggie presenting a cheque for £100 to Josh Rutherford to help the finances of Amble East Juniors Football Team.

Below: The Walking Football team: "Rotary President John Geggie presents a cheque for £100 to Josh Rutherford (left), coach of the Walking Football Group. John is flanked on the right by Team Manager Andrew Ryder-Somerville.



Above: Rotary President John Geggie hands over a cheque for £200 to Hippotherapy Northumberland. In the picture, taken at Town Foot Farm, Shilbottle are (L to R) Rebecca Davidson (Horse Leader), Ella Gabriel who is attached on work experience from the Duchess's High School, Alnwick.

On the horse (Jetson) is Connor Justice, and receiving the cheque is Connor's Mum Karen who is chair of Hippotherapy Northumberland.





## Celebrating native plants

The Women's Weeds project is about finding out about and celebrating native plants - planting, harvesting and using them in ways that promote women's health and well-being.

Wednesday 18 July - Meet at Hauxley Wildlife Centre at 5.00pm for a guided tour with a wild flower expert.

In September we plan a weekend at the Sill, with workshops and overnight stay at the YHA. We are also organising some early evening volunteering sessions to help on a range of practical tasks to keep the project moving forward.

To get involved and for more information, contact Carol 07711 837492 or email [info@womensworkshop.net](mailto:info@womensworkshop.net) or register on Facebook @womensworkshop.net

The Women's Workshop is on the Coquet Enterprise Park, NE65 0PE, situated between the Lionheart Car Wash and Northern Structures.

## Kite making for women and girls

Free Workshop Saturday 18 August 10.30 – 12.30pm. An open invitation to the women and girls of Amble to participate in a free creative kite making workshop with international artists Frances Anderson and Paula Turner at Dry Water Arts Centre, Amble as part of our Heritage Lottery Funded project "Woman Made" (see p7).

We will use traditional Japanese dying technique Shibori to make a colourful kite and then fly them together on the Braid (weather permitting) All ages welcome. Booking is essential. Please call or text the booking hotline: 07542 141411 or email [info@drywater.org](mailto:info@drywater.org)

## Warkworth Show dates

Saturday 18 August 10am-4pm at Warkworth Castle. Exhibits, vintage cars, bands, clowns, sword fighting, climbing wall, dog show, fun run, children's fancy dress competition. [www.warkworthshow.co.uk](http://www.warkworthshow.co.uk)

## WI 100th Anniversary

This year sees not only the 100th anniversary of women getting the vote, but also it is 100 years since Amble Women's Institute (WI) was formed. There were a few years when the WI disbanded and then reformed two years ago, but since its inception, it is a century.

To honour this dual centenary, Amble WI is planning to hold a tea party on Wednesday 25 July in the Masonic Hall at 2.30 pm.

We would love to hear from all women who were in the WI years ago, we would love to hear your stories, see your photographs and to invite you to come along on Wednesday 25 July. Please contact us at [amblewomensinstitute@gmail.com](mailto:amblewomensinstitute@gmail.com) or find us on Facebook.

## Amble WI Programme 2018-2019

Monday 9 July :Talk: 'Beekeeping in Northumberland', by the Alnwick Beekeepers

August :Summer Outing – TBC

Monday 10 September: 'Introduction to Family History Research' by Northumberland Archives

Monday 8 October:Talk: 'History of Witchcraft in the North East', by Jo Bath

Monday 12 November: Craft Session – TBC

Monday 10 December: Christmas Meal

Monday 14 January 2019: New Year Resolutions Talk – TBC

Monday 11 February 'Food Glorious Food' Details TBC

Monday 11 March Annual Meeting

Contact the Committee: [amblewomensinstitute@gmail.com](mailto:amblewomensinstitute@gmail.com)

Find us on Facebook by searching for 'Amble Womens Institute'

Listed talks etc. are subject to change

## The Colony music festival

This year the Colony music festival will take place on Saturday 7 July, at the usual location: Little Shore, Amble  
Live music 12pm - 8.30pm Jonny May 12:30 Brian English 13:10 Stoneleaf 14:00



Wagjammer 14:55  
Cold Night for Crocodiles 15:50  
Corporal Bones 16:45  
The Range 17:45  
Nightrain 19:00  
(Approx timings)  
Beer tent and funfair  
See: [www.facebook.com/amblelittleshore](http://www.facebook.com/amblelittleshore)

## Kayaking with Coquet Canoe Club

Make the most of summer and get afloat in Amble: come on a kayaking trip up the Coquet to Warkworth and back, hire a sit on top kayak or stand up paddleboard on the lake at Druridge Bay Country Park, get the bug... join Coquet Canoe Club and come paddling every week (only £6 a session to hire all the kit from wetsuits to canoes), book the kids in for holiday activities at the lake (or come to the Canoe Club Sunday morning junior sessions for £5), try sailing or windsurfing.

Coquet Shorebase Trust aims to help everyone get on the water and enjoy themselves with good company and safe tuition. It's never too late to start, and we can cater for disabilities as well.

More details: [www.coquetshorebasetrust.org.uk](http://www.coquetshorebasetrust.org.uk) or ring 01665 710367.

## Amble RNLI Fundraisers

Please come along to the RNLI station for coffee and home baking between 10.00am and 1.00pm on Sunday 15 July. There won't be a coffee morning in August as we shall be busy bees getting ready for Harbour Day on Sunday August 26.

We are looking for new committee members and/or anyone who can help out on the day. If you're interested please contact Jill on 07773181345 or [jill.faulconbridge@gmail.com](mailto:jill.faulconbridge@gmail.com). Also if anyone would like to donate items for Harbour Day and/or raffle prizes they can contact Jill or leave at the Premier Convenience Store on Queen Street.

## WWI 1918 Centenary Exhibition

British Legion exhibition Saturday, 25 August 10.30am -5pm  
Exhibition : The Memory Of War

The last battle, the Armistice, the Peace, demobilisation, and Women's Suffrage. In Warkworth War Memorial Hall. In collaboration with Warkworth and Amble District Royal British Legion and Warkworth Women's Institute.

Refreshments available and raffle in support of Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal Free admission  
Enquiries: 01665 710850 and 01665 711981

Next meeting -

Wednesday, 18 July, at 7pm, Warkworth War Memorial Hall  
Speaker: Nick Lewis: Update on the restoration of Lindisfarne Castle

## Warkworth Drama Group

Warkworth Show: The Drama Group will be taking part in the Warkworth Show - Saturday 18 August with a mini play which will be performed throughout the day's events.

The play is based on the actual siege of Warkworth in 1327, if you would like to take part keep a look out for casting events.

## Free workshops to help you improve your digital skills

A series of fun, free, digital media taster sessions and creative workshops are being held in Amble over the course of 2018, to help people improve their digital skills and encourage the use of familiar technology in more creative ways.

The workshops will generally

last around an hour, and are held on Wednesday evenings in Fourways2, Dilston Terrace, Amble.

Some sessions are perfect for the whole family, so everyone can learn and have fun together. Beginners are most welcome.

To book your place email [anna@ambledevelopmenttrust.org.uk](mailto:anna@ambledevelopmenttrust.org.uk) or ring 01665 712929. You can also get a ticket directly from Eventbrite: [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com). Search 'Amble digital media workshops' or 'Amble Development Trust' in Eventbrite's search box.

- 20 Jun 6-7pm **Handheld Cinema 01:** Filmmaking with smartphones. Local documentary filmmaker Alan Fentiman will give an intro to shooting video on your mobile. Learn about the best apps, tips and tricks for filming, editing and sharing engaging video content from the palm of your hand.
- 27 Jun 6-7pm **Handheld Cinema 02:** Continuing and developing from the workshop from 20 June
- 04 Jul 6-7pm **Adults' coding and digital making:** get to grips with basic programming concepts using Scratch and programmable Lego. Perfect intro for Mums, Dads, teachers or any interested adult. No experience necessary. All equipment provided.
- 11 Jul 7-8pm **Advice on WordPress/blogging/writing for the web:** Plus tips on raising your profile using social media. Perfect for small businesses or individuals. With Adrian Mahoney.



To book your place email [anna@ambledevelopmenttrust.org.uk](mailto:anna@ambledevelopmenttrust.org.uk) or ring 01665 712929.



## Mauretania Day celebrations

Sunday 1 July is the day we are celebrating Mauretania Day in the Harbour village. It is a 1930s themed day where you will be able to see pod holders dressed in 1930s outfits, Morgan cars and listen to the Newbiggin Jayes Brass Band.

We will also be entertained by the Harbour Lights Choir, Amble Sword and the day ending with Café Church in the Seafood Centre.

What is so special about Mauretania Day? On 3 July 1935 the passenger liner Mauretania was making its last voyage, heading to Rosyth to the breakers yard where its life was to come to an end. Sailing along the Northumberland coast and while passing Amble, a message went to the great ship from Amble Urban



Council saying, 'Still the finest ship on the seas'. The reply from Mauretania to Amble Council was 'Thank you to the last and kindest port in England'.

It is from this message that the Amble folk adopted the word kindest but over the years became changed to 'Friendliest'. Amble the Friendliest Port.

During our day we will be looking for someone who has made a kindest deed. They will receive a voucher for spending within the Harbour Village. What kindest deed have you done?

Come and enjoy the day with us at the Harbour Village and make it a special occasion.

*Bartle Rippon, Harbour Village Co-ordinator*



**Northumberland**  
Northumberland County Council

**Councillor Terry Clark**

*will be holding surgeries on*

**Saturday 11 August**

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

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

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

**All Constituents Welcome**

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



## An excellent weekend

“An excellent weekend” was the verdict for this year’s Puffin Festival, with hundreds of people passing through the Town Square each day, taking part in the activities, and soaking up the atmosphere.

One participant said: “I thought the whole Festival had a really great atmosphere this year, well done all”. Another said

“This year was the best yet”

A spokesperson from Amble Events Committee said

“Thank you to everyone who came along to the festival, took part, or helped make the festival another great weekend. Thank you so much. We hope you all enjoyed yourselves! Let us know what you liked, what you didn’t, and ideas for making the festival better next year.”



Photos by Anna Williams, Judith Hardisty, Bart Rippon and Beverley Stuckey. More on our website.

