



The Ambler

Amble's Community Newspaper

Issue 122 Apr/May 2020

Community rallies to help

In true Friendliest Port style, the community of Amble has rallied to help those who may need extra care during the coronavirus crisis.

Local businesses have offered to help, with Amble Post Office were one of the first to respond to the emergency situation. "We will be having an appointed staff member to help these in need during our office hours 9-6 and also any families who are carers and those who are required to self isolate. If you know anybody please contact our office on 01665 713195. We will also be giving out letters to our vulnerable customers offering them help."

Queen Street Convenience Store (Premier) also offered their help to any customers who are self isolating or who need help: "Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us on 01665 710394

or through messenger. We are able to take card payments over the phone and carry out doorstep drop deliveries throughout Amble and Warkworth."

Many more shops and businesses soon rallied to help. Some are now offering delivery services. Amble Pin Cushion told us they will offer collection of laundry, dry cleaning and alterations. Contact them via their website: amblepincushion.co.uk

Online help groups also sprang up: Isolation Support in Amble and Surrounding Areas, and Isolation help Northumberland became very popular on Facebook, with people offering their help.

Rachel Cook is co-ordinating volunteer help in the community. She set up the Isolation Support in Amble and surrounding Areas Facebook page and is now



Bryan Hewson and Susan Modral from Amble's Queen St Post Office.

working with the churches, the food bank and pharmacies. She told The Ambler: "I used to be a care Co - Coordinator for Age UK, so I know how many vulnerable people live around the Amble area."

The volunteer team are all DBS checked and are willing to help whoever needs assistance

during the crisis.

"No-one can predict what's going to happen, so we want to protect the elderly and vulnerable," said Rachel.

Contact Rachel and the team via the Facebook page, or by asking in the Amble pharmacies, surgeries, post office and Fourways2.

Foodbank plea



Amble Food bank are urgently asking for help during the coming weeks. The Ambler understands that they are running desperately short of food and supplies.

Please donate items such as: toilet rolls, biscuits, toothpaste, shower gel, soap, puddings, cereal, soup, tinned vegetables, chopped tomatoes, cooking oil, pasta, pasta sauce, rice, baked beans, tinned fish and meat, coffee, teabags, sugar and long life milk.

Drop off points are: The Co-ops and The Galley on Queen Street. Email amblefoodbank@aol.com

Useful contacts

Government advice:

Gov.uk: www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public

HMRC: 0800 015 9559

Universal Credit: 0800 328 5644

School closures: 0800 046 8687

Medical advice:

Coquet Medical Practice asks anyone who thinks they may have the symptoms NOT to visit the practice and to stay at home for 7 days. Practice tel: 01665 710481

Use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service if:

- you feel you cannot cope with your symptoms at home

- your condition gets worse
- your symptoms do not get better after 7 days
- Use the online 111 coronavirus service (<https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/>)
- Only call 111 if you cannot get help online.

Pharmacies:

Cromies: 01665 710 896.

Boots Amble Queen Street: 01665 710288

Health advice on Facebook:

World Health Organisation: www.facebook.com/WHO/

NHS: www.facebook.com/NHSwebsite/

Northumbria Healthcare: www.facebook.com/northumbriahealthcare/

On Twitter: @WHO @NHSuk and @PHE_uk

Mental Health:

Mind: Coronavirus and your wellbeing: www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus-and-your-wellbeing/#PlanForStayingAtHomeOrIndoors

BBC: Coronavirus How to protect your mental health: www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-51873799

Mental Health Foundation: www.mentalhealth.org.uk/publications/looking-after-your-mental-health-during-coronavirus-outbreak

Updates on UK affected areas by postcode: www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-51768274

Amble Dental Practice

going from strength to strength



We have been working hard over the last few months securing additional capacity for Amble Dental Practice.

What this means is that we have been able to expand our team of dentists.

We are delighted to introduce you to Katie and Nicola; Nicola qualified from Newcastle University in 2016 with a merit in both clinical and academic dentistry. She then gained her MFDS from Royal College of Surgeons Glasgow in 2017.

Since graduation Nicola has worked both in general practice and at Newcastle Dental Hospital exploring and working within all dental specialties.

Here she found a love of oral surgery and continued this working in the Maxillofacial Surgery unit at the RVI for a year.

Nicola is delighted to be working at Amble Dental Practice and enjoys

seeing and treating a variety of patients and providing the best quality treatment. She is currently undertaking her Diploma in Dental Sedation and other postgraduate training.

Katie qualified from Newcastle University in 2018 with a distinction in clinical dentistry. After spending her DFT year with us at Amble we realised what a good and caring clinician she was, so are delighted we have managed to keep her on at the practice.

Katie is currently studying for the second part of her MFDS qualification and is enrolled on a postgraduate restorative dentistry course to enhance her skills further. Katie is warm, friendly and approachable.

We still have our existing team of experienced and highly qualified dentists who will continue to see their usual patients but who can also

offer some more advanced aesthetic treatments like aesthetic bonding, Invisalign and other orthodontic options.

Helen provides sedation to make it a more relaxing experience, whilst Scott provides dental implants at the practice.

Above all we are passionate about prevention; preventing dental disease is the best way to keep you and your smile healthy.

Duncan Thomas said *"Getting the extra capacity at the practice was something we've been working hard to achieve, so I'm really pleased to be able to offer more availability than ever before to the expanding population of Amble"*

We now have availability with Katie and Nicola to take on new patients.

To make an appointment please contact our reception team on 01665 710678



Brambles open their own 'Morrisons' store

Brambles Child Care is so excited to share this news with you.

Morrisons Facebook page has named us the first Morrisons to open in 'town'

Our Deputy Manager Adele Younger, with the support from Morrison's Amble Community Champion has created our very own store in Brambles Childcare Centre nursery.

We had our grand opening this week and the shop has proved to be a big hit. The children have been so engaged and the learning opportunities have been endless. Next customer please.....

Pauline Donoghue

Brambles Childcare Centre



JCSC sixth form placed 5th in county for overall progress

February saw the release of official performance data for 2019 comparing schools and colleges in Northumberland and we are proud to announce that James Calvert Spence College Sixth Form ranks fifth of 31 educational establishments for overall progress and results over time for 16 to 18 provision.

The Sixth Form also ranks fourth for destinations after 16 to 18, with 89% of students progressing on to education or employment. Attainment at A-level is strong for JCSC students, with an average grade of C+ and 46.7% achieving AAB or higher in at least two facilitation subjects.

The fantastic progress and results achieved by James Calvert Spence College students is a testament to their hard work and commitment, along with the support and teaching of our Sixth Form tutors and pastoral staff.

James Moore, Head of Sixth Form said: "I am incredibly proud to see the ambition and dedication of JCSC Sixth Form students and staff reflected in the Northumberland performance data.

"We are a small and friendly sixth form that offers a variety of academic and vocational courses. The parents of students who study with us tell us that they really

appreciate the personalised and supportive approach we take to help students achieve their best outcomes.

"We look forward to welcoming a new cohort of sixth formers from Amble and further afield in September 2020, when we hope to build even further on these excellent results."

Applications to join JCSC Sixth Form in September are now open. You can register to attend by emailing the Head of Sixth Form, James Moore, jmoore01@jcsc.co.uk or by calling the school on 01665 710636.

Fay Nyberg

James Calvert Spence College

Amble Youth Project

Raising money for the homeless

Thank you to everyone who supported the coffee morning on Jan 18 at the Amble Youth Project that young people of our Saturday Youth Café organised. The young people are grateful to everyone who came and supported their fundraising efforts which primarily was to raise money to buy care items for those who are homeless in Newcastle.

They were amazed how many people came along and while they contributed to the production of the cakes to sale, they were so chuffed with how many cakes were also given for them to sell. An extra thanks to Sharon Crisp of Crispy Cakes and Cookies and Lorraine from Sweet & Flour Pod for their support

We were so proud to take them to Alnwick the following week to spend the money they had raised on care items that were recommended, as well as a few extra items that they personally wanted to buy. The enthusiasm, commitment and compassion that they all displayed was something very special to witness.

Lara Millar, Amble Youth Project



Young people raised money by baking and selling cakes

Matthew takes the helm

In January the Amble Youth Project welcomed Matthew Mahoney into the senior manager's position of the charity. Matthew will take the lead in our features in The Ambler and so fitting that he first introduces himself and a some of his hopes and plans for the charity in this edition

Matthew: I am really excited to take this position at the Amble Youth Project and I am keen to meet with our community stakeholders, schools, businesses children and young people here in Amble. Many individuals have been so welcoming and encouraging at the project and I know we have a fantastic future. Just after taking the post

I examined the great work that's already going on and I noticed that some young people are expressing themselves and are keen to make a difference in the community just like the story above. Therefore for now, Amble Youth Project is exploring young people's voice. So if you're a youth in Amble come pop by and have your voice heard.

Dan, the Champion



Daniel Mitchell

He may not be champion of the world, but Daniel Mitchell of Amble has received a national award.

The award was made by a charitable company named Turning Point, which provides, throughout the country, housing and support for people with different needs.

Those who need support might have addictions, mental health issues or learning disabilities for example. Daniel has a learning disability.

Dan lives in a house provided and organised by Turning Point, who chose him to receive a national award for personal achievement.

His personal achievement was to lose weight, so that he is

no longer on the pre-diabetic programme. He shares the house with two other men and a support worker. They make joint decisions about buying and cooking food, but Daniel made his choices of what he would eat in order to lose weight, and still eat healthily.

The awards were made in Birmingham and Dan travelled there by train with his support worker.

Another man from Northumberland, near Belford, won an award for his artistic skills. Twelve to fifteen

national awards are made annually and none of the others travelled as far as the two from Northumberland.

"It was great fun", said Dan. "I felt really proud. We stayed in a hotel and I had my own room, which was great. I bought a new outfit, including new shoes. I thought I looked smart".

The plaque he received, inscribed with the words, "We are delighted to recognise the inspirational journey of Daniel Mitchell", was presented in a gold bag.

He was impressed by both the plaque and the bag. Congratulations Daniel.

Norma Hinson

NIFCA officers attend the Open

The Amble Sea Angling Club organised another successful Open competition in January this year attracting almost 500 entrants and visitors from all over the UK, with some competitors travelling from as far afield as the north of Scotland and Norfolk.

The Open's popularity, apart from it being one of the largest and most highly respected Sea Angling competitions in the country, is down to the friendly atmosphere, great prizes and spectacular settings along the Northumberland coast from Newbiggin to Seahouses.

The cold grey winter skies and flat seas did not deter competitors, and an impressive 177 individuals weighed catch in dreaming of victory! It was a very successful day for Neil Cuttler who caught the best overall catch weight of 15lb 7oz, and Gavin Lockey whose 10lb 1½ oz cod was the talk of the day.

Nick Weir and Darren Graham, our IFCO officers were in attendance to lend a hand during the day, with helpful suggestions and guidance to fishers wherever possible.

All in all, the day was a great success for the participants and the club itself, with tall tales about the one that got away continuing well into the night.

Nick Weir
Inshore Fisheries Conservation Officer



The Amble Sea Angling Open competition is one of the most popular in the country

Harry McQuillen's

Age of insecurity



I'm somehow going to avoid mentioning our elephant in the room. Looking around I see that most of us are doing what we usually do, although we may be succumbing to the self-isolation virus.

Many of us think of times past and the problems we've seen, and perhaps we look forward to sunlit uplands.

My organisational skills show no upward trend, which is why I'm dashing off a few thoughts. It's just possible that the white heat of a deadline will produce items of great pith and moment.

I wonder if the ideas I

passed on to the youngsters I tried to teach half a century ago were prophetic. Fire, flood, tempest and plague have all made the news in recent times, reminding us all that we really do live in a global village. It's obvious that we have to co-operate, despite the interesting opinions of DJ Trump. One hopes that the forthcoming presidential election will produce an office-holder who will discard short-termism in his outlook, and contribute to world stability in an atmosphere of good sense.

Recent wet weather, and the winds that have accompanied it, have made life difficult for

many people. It could just be that the people who prophesy an apocalypse think that it's imminent. I don't see it that way.

Admittedly we're not in an era of Good News, and we've had to deal with rather a lot in the last two or three months. But most of our lives are running on their usual rails.

My routine never varies. Up about 7.30am, exercise, the domestic round, daily walk, contact with neighbours, radio and TV at the usual times, phone calls, bed at 11pm. Not a high level of excitement, but it suits me very well.

I apologise to everybody for repetition, deviation and lack of thread. For some peculiar reason I've received many plaudits for my ramblings. Is that a comment on the fact that most of us are Canny folk? There isn't anything in my life that I want to change.

It's a long time ago that I first heard of somebody being 'Right Amble'. That applies to me, and I don't think that I'll change now.

I'm convinced that originality is an illusion, and that all our thoughts are recycled.

Harry

Memories of Edith Hunter, WW2 veteran

We were sorry to hear of the death of Edith Hunter aged 98. Edith was well known to Amble residents, appearing at Remembrance Day and other commemorative events, resplendent in her uniform and medals.

Edith served in the WAAF (Women's Auxiliary Air Force) during WW2, and afterwards became a long-standing representative of the WAAF association and the local British Legion branch.

She attended the D-Day commemoration last June in the Town Square, and afterwards talked to The Ambler about her memories of D-Day: (see our website)

Edith's life

June Watson of Warkworth and Amble British Legion sent us this tribute to Edith.

Edith Hunter (formally Gray) was born in Washington, Co Durham and moved to Amble with her husband when he was transferred to the area working on the railways.

Edith was the daughter of a coal miner at the Glebe Pit, Washington, Co. Durham and signed up in 1942 for the Women's Auxiliary Air Force during World War 2.

She signed on at RAF Gloucester in November 1942 as ACW2 466779 GRAY E. A week later she was posted to RAF Morecombe for 3 weeks of square bashing.

Afterwards posted to RAF Leuchars, in Fife, Scotland she worked in the office of the Officers' Mess manning two phones and the tannoy system for the air station, plus other duties as required. It was



Edith Hunter in 2011

primarily a Coastal Command Centre guarding the naval convoys of ships in the Atlantic.

In May 1944 she was sent on attachment to RAF Tain, Ross & Cromarty, Scotland ready for

the D-Day preparations and the launch of the invasion of France.

Edith recalled being told that day "they would be working 25 hours not 24." In September 1944 Edith was posted to RAF Sillioth in Cumberland. In August 1945 Edith and the whole camp went by troop train to RAF Kinloss, near the Moray Firth, in the north east of Scotland.

She was demobbed in Birmingham, September 1945 and returned to live with her parents in Washington, Co. Durham and after a spell of six week's leave started a new job in the local cinema.

After demob Edith became a life-long supporter of the WAAF association. They had annual rallies across the UK where ex servicewomen could reunite with their comrades who served their country during the war.

Edith was a long-standing member of the branch and was always willing to represent the branch at community fund raising and commemorative events.

She always wore her coveted WAAF Association uniform with its distinctive blue tartan kilt, plus her medals and loved meeting people.

She had collected lots of photographic memories of her wartime service and the people she shared her life with on the camps. Many of her photographs are of those pilots who did not return.

Thankfully her life story is now available to the wider public through her recollections on YouTube link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wP8A972rT_M.



Edith with Wing Commander Gareth Taylor, RAF Boulmer at the poppy exhibition at Woodhorn in 2015

Due to the coronavirus situation, events may have been cancelled or postponed. Please check with organisers before attending.

Coquet Churches Together

This year, the first two weeks of April in the church calendar are Eastertide, the most important celebration of the Christian church. Comprising Passiontide and Holy Week we remember Jesus' last days in Jerusalem before his crucifixion and resurrection.

On Palm Sunday we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry and most churches distribute palm crosses during their services to represent the palm branches people waved as they welcomed Jesus into the city.

So begins Holy Week when we commemorate Jesus turning over the tables of the moneylenders in the temple precinct; Mary anointing Jesus feet with expensive perfume; Jesus washing his disciple's feet; the final meal Jesus ate with his disciples and Jesus praying in the Garden of Gethsemane before his betrayal and arrest.

On Good Friday we remember Jesus crucified and here in Amble we gather in the town square for a short service at 11.00am. Come along and join in. All are welcome there.

Holy Saturday is set aside for prayerful reflection. Some traditions hold a Tenebrae Service in the evening where gradually the candles are extinguishes and all is darkness.

Then to Easter Sunday morning when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, who Christians believe, died to conquer death and is risen and alive with us.

Jessica Isherwood St Mark's URC

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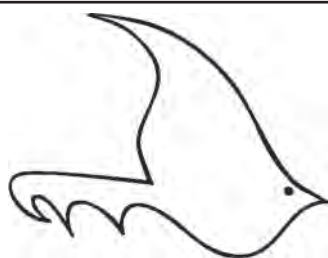
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Would you like to join
The Ambler team? We are a friendly
group who welcome contributions
and help from anyone who would
like to volunteer.

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Let's be brilliant

In times of crisis, look to
the helpers'. So goes the
saying. In a community like
Amble, we pride ourselves on
looking out for each other. So
it is no surprise that as soon as
the coronavirus situation reared
its ugly head, the community
began to mobilise.

Unsung heroes

We know there will be very
many examples of good deeds,
community spirit and kind or
selfless acts during the weeks
ahead. We don't want them to
be lost during all the scary stuff.

So we're asking you to tell
us your positive stories, sing the



Keep washing your hands!

But of course we need to
bring up an advisory warning:
Whereas there are more good
people than bad, and the best
communities do pull together
to help the most vulnerable,
there will still be unscrupulous
people out there. Please do not
give money to people or groups
you don't know.

On our front page we have
contact information for anyone
who wants to keep up with the
latest NHS and Government
information.

praises of people who have gone
beyond the call of duty and
people who should be thanked.

Either post them on our
Facebook page, or email us:
editor@theambler.co.uk

Thank you

Thank you to the NHS,
to our brilliant doctors, nurses
and medical staff, to all the
carers and volunteers, to all the
people who are just as worried
as the rest of us, but whose
jobs put them in the front line.

Thank you to the teachers
and youngsters facing exams,
who are trying to work in
unprecedented conditions.

Thank you to the local
businesses who are trying to
keep a service for the rest of us,
and trying to adapt to change;
please support them in return.
Especially do not abuse them if
they don't have what you need.

Let's be brilliant

In the meantime: look
after yourself. Look out for
your neighbours, especially
the vulnerable, donate to the
food bank if you can, enjoy the
sunshine, get some fresh air,
look at nature, look at it again,
this time more closely. Read a
book, read more books, try to
be creative, sing to your dog,
exercise your body and your
brain. Keep alert, especially be
sceptical of what you read on
social media; social media will
be infested with rumour and
fake news, but will also be an
outlet for the best cat videos.

Humans are extraordinary;
we can be terrible, but we
can also be brilliant. Let's be
brilliant.

The Ambler team

Keep in touch with the Police

Northumbria Police are
encouraging people to sign
up to their community messaging
system. This is called NP Alerts
and if you sign up then it means
you can get updates about what is

happening in your community by
email or text.

You can sign up here: [https://
beta.northumbria.police.uk/
our-services/apply-or-register/
np-alerts/](https://beta.northumbria.police.uk/our-services/apply-or-register/np-alerts/).

If you do need to speak to an
officer about a non-urgent enquiry
then they encourage you to email
them on: NorthernCEOmailbox@
northumbria.pnn.police.uk
Call 999 in an emergency.

WHAT YOU SAY...

Unfair housing developments

With the recent approval of
the Percy Drive housing
development it has led to the
same old recurring problem for
the people of Amble.

This problem being the
lacking of suitable housing
available for the people who live
within the town and within this
particular housing development
it will feature a range of three
to five bedroom properties
and a couple of six bedroom
properties.

Is this the way to provide
a fair variety of housing which
meets the needs of people on

minimum wage and older
people who really would
benefit from single story
accommodation at a reasonable
price?

We have a community
which consists of people from
all walks of life and not just
people who are able to afford
large detached properties and
the bills that come with them.

It is about time
consideration was given to
providing some flats, one/
two bedroom properties and
bungalows on smaller areas
of land and not just the token

gesture so that the larger
properties are allowed to be
built. Out of all the housing
development proposed or
ongoing within Amble, these
type of properties are in very
short supply when they are
actually in high demand.

In addition there is also a
lack of social housing which
would be of benefit to single,
young and elderly people and
for which there is also a high
demand.

*A disillusioned Amble resident
Name and address supplied*

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.

Coquet Vets opens for business

A new state-of-the-art veterinary practice has opened in Amble, with a focus on providing independent animal care, combined with traditional values. Getting to know individual vets and nurses is an important factor, and one which can be lost in larger practices.

Coquet Vets, which opened its doors for business in early March, is Amble's only independent general veterinary practice and its formation has already seen four jobs created, with plans in place for further recruitment over the next 12 months.

The new family-run business, which occupies a prominent position on Percy Drive, has been launched to provide affordable care for small animals with a strong focus on the local community, where the new owners believe there is a gap in the market.

Emily Renton, clinical director and partner of the new practice, has over 18 years' veterinary experience. She said: "We're extremely excited to start

our new venture in the friendliest seaside town in the north east.

"Having been part of the local community, and having seen many small practices become part of larger brands throughout my career, it was important to us to set up a modern, independent practice with traditional values, dedicated to providing the most cost-effective and personalised care possible to our neighbours across the Amble area.

"Investing in efficiencies and features that will be kinder to the environment will also help us to operate more sustainably from a single site, which will allow us to create more jobs and keep our fees as low as possible, while providing the quality of client service and patient care that we are passionate about."

The unique, purpose-built veterinary building, was project managed by Amble-based Sullivan Associates, while the distinctive timber-clad, curved building complete with solar panels has been constructed by local firm, D.P Builders.



Emily Renton with vet Rebecca Mackay, vet nurses Rosie Anderson and Sue Joyce, and friends Iona and Winston

There are three consulting rooms, a laboratory and dispensary, two surgical theatres, a designated dental suite, separate dog and cat kennels, isolation facilities and an imaging room for X-rays and ultrasounds.

Mrs Renton, who will be responsible for managing day-to-day operations, continued: "I'm really proud to be part of Coquet Vets where our focus will be on providing high quality, friendly and supportive veterinary care

for much-loved pets and their owners.

"We're a small and experienced team, and getting to know our patients and clients is important to us so we can provide great continuity of care, focused on the welfare of our animals."

Emily and her business partner have so far been joined by one vet and two veterinary nurses, and hope to recruit additional staff shortly.

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Shoplifters in Amble arrested

Officers in Northumberland are reinforcing their commitment to tackling rural crime after recent successes.

Following ongoing police activity, and recent concerns raised by communities, officers from Northumbria Police have carried out a number of successful initiatives and targeted operations to reduce crime in the area and continue supporting victims.

Over the past month, after persistent issues with a number of shoplifters on Queen Street, officers have arrested and charged two men and cautioned another two men as part of enquiries. One of the men was

charged with a total of fourteen offences and was issued with bail conditions to stay out of all shops in Amble until his court appearance.

Recent figures also show a reduction in motorcycle disorder and in order to maintain this, officers have issued an official warning to an individual seen to be using their vehicle in an inappropriate manner.

Officers have also been tackling issues surrounding youth disorder and as a result have taken positive action whereby children involved have been spoken to, along with their parents, and warned about their behaviour and the consequences



of their actions. This has also resulted in some of the parents of the children taking them to the retail premises targeted and made to apologise to staff.

Northumbria Police's Neighbourhood Inspector John

Swan said: "We want to reassure communities that their concerns have been heard and officers are continuing to proactively target suspects and those believed to be involved in disorder and anti-social behaviour.

"Even after recent successes we will not become complacent and we will continue to work closely with partners to reduce crime and disorder and ensure the area remains a safe place to live, work and visit."

Anyone with any concerns should visit Northumbria Police's website for information on a range of topics and guidance on how to report crimes. *See also p6 on signing up for alerts.*

Tackling climate change - what else can we do?

Tackling climate change remains an important issue. Homes and home owners will be affected as new technologies are developed.

If, like me, you've swapped to glass milk bottles, are trying not to use cling film, are

composting your peelings and are wondering what else you can do to save the planet, check out OFTEC (the trade association for the oil industry) for more ideas for tackling climate change.

Ideas include a low-carbon oil blend, made from recycled

cooking oils; more electric cars; and smarter heating systems with easier switching.

Malcolm Farrow from OFTEC commented: "The 2020s are set to be another decade of significant change. However, solutions must be

practical and realistic to ensure households don't face huge costs or disruption."

For more information and advice go to www.oftec.org

Chris Herzberg

Mad Jam Woman scoops three new prizes

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&
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The Mad Jam Woman from Amble has just scooped two Silver awards and a Commendation, in the 15th World's Original Marmalade Awards.

Sandy Higson aka The Mad Jam Woman, won one of the marmalade world's most prestigious accolades for her Ruby Grapefruit with Holy Island Gin, Lemon with Honey and Star Anise, and Lime with Ginger and Chilli in the Artisan/B&B competition, which impressed judges with its

appearance, colour, consistency, aroma and flavour.

Although the Festival sadly had to be cancelled owing to growing concerns about the Coronavirus, the competitions were a huge success and winners were announced as usual in the press and on the Dalemmain website on 14th March, following a private Award ceremony.

The Festival organisers are already making plans for a citrus celebration later in the year, and hope to be able to welcome all Award winners to Dalemmain in 2021 for a double celebration.

Mad Jam Woman Sandy Higson said she were delighted to win the award: "I am so pleased to have won this award against such strong competition from all over the world. We have been making our marmalades and preserves for 25 years and our customers have always told us that it is some of the best marmalade they've ever tasted. It's very good to have Awards to prove it! I now have a grand total of 16.

"I think the secret to our delicious marmalade is Love,



Sandy the Mad Jam Woman

care, patience and keeping the ideas fresh."

You can buy Mad Jam Woman products at The Fourways, and the Seafood Centre in Amble, and in numerous shops in Northumberland. See www.madjamwoman.com



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Amble nano brewery rated 'Best New Brewer'

Congratulations to Amble nano brewery Brewis Beer Co who have been voted Best New Brewer in Northumberland.

The accolade was bestowed by RateBeer, an online organisation where people can rate their favourite beers from around the world.

Brewis Beer began life in Warkworth and a small garage in Amble, before opening on Amble's Industrial Estate in the autumn of 2019. The family-run business consists of husband and wife Chris and Maxine Brewis, Mathew Bould and Craig Stewart.

"We are over the moon to be awarded best new brewer in Northumberland and are really excited to build on our first year in business," said Mathew Bould, Head Brewer.

"We are very excited about the future and we hope to see many of our customers in our brewery and tap room very soon" said Craig Stewart, Brewer.

Brewis Beer can be found in Unit 4 Amble Industrial Estate, and will be opening a tap room in the spring. They already sell their craft beers in Amble and Newcastle. See them on Facebook and their website:



l-r: Maxine and Chris Brewis, Mathew Bould and Craig Stewart

<https://www.brewisbeer.co.uk/>

Brewis Beer Co originated through a love of beer and the joy that is brought through sharing it with your loved ones.

As a family business, Brewis Beer Co aims to create beautifully balanced beer which can be shared and enjoyed with your friends and family.

Coffee machines for your business!

Mocha Mondo have an exciting new venture - coffee machine sales!

We will be offering a range of Jura coffee machines designed for use in small to medium businesses. The machines are simple to use and will suit any

small business from restaurants to offices serving 40-200 cups per day. They can provide either an added benefit to employees or another revenue stream for the business.

We have also expanded into Unit 6C on Coquet Enterprise

Park (next door to the Roastery), where you can come and see our Jura machines in the showroom, find out more, or chat through requirements for your business. We'd love to see or hear from you so pop in for a look around, or just send us an email at

roastedandposted@gmail.com or call us on 01665 714767.

Even if you don't have a business needing a coffee machine, why not drop in for a takeaway coffee and/or a quick tour of the Roastery too?

Martin Homer



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Victim to Victor: Callum Manning

How would YOU feel if you were called a 'sad weirdo' by your so called friends? Well, Callum Manning, a book lover, has been bullied for his hobby – reading.

Callum made an Instagram account, reviewing some of the books he had recently read.

He had started a new school in South-Shields – which is not so far away from here. He got mocked and taunted by some of his classmates for his obsession of books. The bullies made a group chat, calling the 13-year old names. They added him, letting him see exactly what they had texted about him.

When Callum's elder sister tweeted about all of the mistreatment, her message went viral. People couldn't believe how badly Callum had been treated. It attracted a LOT of very positive replies. There was a wave of online support – and Callum now has over 85,000 followers on Instagram.

The followers include authors and celebrities. Some people sent him books, many people posted words of encouragement.

So, DON'T BULLY! Also, it will most likely backfire, and the victim of your bullying could even get internet fame.
By Grace

The best type of dogs



Springer Spaniels have a life span of around 12-14 years. Their behaviour is cheerful and they're very alert. Also they are very intelligent and active. Cocker spaniels have a life span of around 11-12 years. Their behaviour is lively but gentle, friendly, kind.

Also they adapt to everything, they are loyal, intelligent and willing to please.

Sprocker spaniels are a mix between a Cocker and a Springer Spaniel. They have a life span of around about 10-14 years. Their behaviour is active and jumpy. Also they are more likely to be heather and stronger. Springer and Cocker Spaniels are the most popular spaniels, some are working gun dogs. But some people can't choose between them, so they breed Sprockers.
By Megan



OZZY'S EGG-CELLENT EASTER



Ozzy the dog was excited. Excited Ozzy meant barking

Ozzy. Barking Ozzy meant ANNOYING Ozzy. Ozzy could sense eagerness building up in the house.

One night, he went to bed, and had the strangest dream.

He was in a sunny meadow, with a cloudless sky. Sunflowers were everywhere, and the grass was taller than the dog himself. Oddly, some painted eggs lay across the ground. They smelled like chocolate, a treat only humans were allowed. Ozzy was quite a curious dog, so he took a bite, and immediately spat out the



chocolate egg. It was so SWEET!

Suddenly, there was a loud rustle in the grass, and a creamy-white rabbit appeared. It seemed impossible to describe the colour of its eyes, as they were forever changing. From bright pink, to indigo, to light blue, to pretty much any colour imaginable!

The rabbit looked like it was collecting the eggs in a basket. It stood on its haunches and loomed over Ozzy, then ran off. Thinking it was a game, Ozzy chased after the oversized bunny. It noticed him, and started to speed up.

He followed the rabbit to a tunnel, and fell straight down. After a while of falling and getting a dirty fur coat, he landed in a

small underground den. It was cosy looking, with little bits of furniture here and there. There was a single bed, with a wooden bedside table. A sofa was in the corner, decorated with fluffy pillows. A fuzzy rug was in the middle of the room, and Ozzy noticed a little door.

The door was slightly ajar, so Ozzy padded tentatively towards it. Inside, there was the bunny, storing the eggs in the small basket. Surprisingly, the eggs never seemed to fill up the picnic basket. The rabbit turned its head, and looked at Ozzy, and twitched its nose. Ozzy woke up.

He was in his bed, but there was a yellow-coloured egg placed near him. He looked at it in awe. This was a night he would never forget.
By Grace

Is Stress Good For Exams?



In Year 11, we hear a lot of stressful stuff: 'your exams are the most important things in your life', 'you should be revising at least three hours per night', 'the exams are a lot closer than you think'. For young people who have a plethora of interests and hobbies outside of school, it's worrying every time we hear that school work should be our only focus, but is this pressure actually good?

It's the opinion of many teachers that the stress from exams can be beneficial to a certain extent. If students are worried about their exam results, they're more likely to try to do well. I know that many of my teachers would agree that a lot of pupils need the constant reminder of the exams in order to motivate them to revise, and this revision will help them make progress in all of their subjects. In the long run this means better grades.

However, the pressure put on students

can have huge detrimental effects on both physical and mental health. It can cause depression, panic attacks, low self-esteem and even self-harm, and every student will feel this pressure at some point due to the huge amount of importance placed on exams by the school.

"I personally believe thinking less about our results will benefit us more." said Year 11 student, Emily Grimsey, "Stress is very bad, it puts children and young adults under even more pressure and can cause health issues."

There does appear to be some benefits to putting pressure on students, namely better results, but is it worth the detrimental mental health effects? 63% of under 20s who have committed suicide were experiencing academic pressures. Getting good grades is important, but it's not worth the amount of pressure that students are put under.

By Lily



IT'S CORONA TIME

Corona virus: it started off as a meme and now it's a global pandemic. Luckily for most of us, the disease often isn't life-threatening unless you have an underlying health problem, and the real struggle is not spreading it to vulnerable people and staying sane in isolation. Currently, everything's fine. By the time you're reading this, we're probably all in isolation.

So, if the whole country is in self-isolation by now, make sure to stay safe. Try to keep away from people (not too hard- people are rubbish), don't leave the house and wash your hands regularly. Most of all though, don't panic. Remember: these things are only temporary. Stay calm. Stay cool.

By Lily



International days to celebrate

• Shakespeare's birthday is 23 April

He would be 456 if he was alive now!

• Earth day is Wednesday 22 April

Gaylord Nelson thought of Earth day after a massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California, in 1969. You can celebrate Earth day by doing a simple clean up.

• Triplets birthday is 21 April

The best people in Artograffi the triplets obviously have the best birthday in the world.

• St. Georges day is Thursday 23 April

The anniversary of his death, which is on April 23, is seen as England's national day.

• V.E day is 8 May

V.E day stands for Victory in Europe day after the Allies won against Germany WW2 in 1945. It has been 75 years since the guns fell silent.

By William

LIL' AND AVA'S BOPPIN' TUNEZ



Lads and ladettes, children and zebras, welcome to our boppin tunez. We will be reviewing and telling you why you should definitely (100%) listen to all of these songs.

Mr Blue Sky- This is a family favourite (pretty much our anthem), mostly because it's in the fabulantastic movie Guardians of the Galaxy vol. 2. It's feel-good, sing-along-in-the-car-y and an ultimate bop, despite that annoying fake end.

Hips Don't Lie- This came out on Ava's birthday, so it was mostly her idea to put it on here- but it is a great tune to dance to. We can see this being played at a 00s party in a few years' time that we will sadly go to. Well done Shakira (I ain't lying).

Istanbul- Was Constantinople now

it's Istanbul not Constantinople. This song makes no sense but it helped us in a geography quiz once and there was a cool fight scene to it in the TV show Umbrella Academy. 10/10 would recommend.

Call Me Maybe- No explanation needed. Carly Rae Jepsen should run for Prime Minister or at least Amble Town Council. This song slaps, listen on repeat until you can't remember what real words are.

So What- We used to play this one on Just Dance. It was supposed to be easy, but we were still very bad at it. At least the song's good though. P!nk is an inspiration for gals everywhere.

And that's our five boppin tunez for this issue. If you don't listen to them, we won't be angry. Just disappointed. Stay tuned for more!

By Lily and Ava



GRACE IN SPACE!

SEE THE GRACE IN SPACE SHOW: FOLLOW US ON TIK TOK @ANNAATTHEAMBLER

Space is interesting... Space is cool... Space is.... Spacious. And here are some space facts:

Space is always expanding, and that means galaxies are always slowly moving away from each other as well – so, if we want to find other galaxies, we need to be fast! The moon and the sun control the waves by gravity – so space has an effect on the sea! Two of the heaviest things in space are neutron stars and black holes – trust me, you do not want to go near those.

A star can turn into a neutron star. A neutron star is one type of exploded star; other things stars turn into once exploded are black holes. Atoms make us, and everything around us, so if we inhale something, we are inhaling its atoms, which means if we smell something, we are inhaling the tiniest bit of it. Apparently, in early history, Mars used to have water!

I feel bad for the second man on the moon because he isn't as well-known as Neil Armstrong, the first man on the moon.

Also, even worse for the third man on the moon – he wasn't even actually on the moon, he was



very important though. He piloted the spacecraft to bring them all home!

The number of stars in space, nobody can be sure of. I'll just say there are lots. In space, we have only discovered about 4%, that includes planets, stars and galaxies that astronomers can see. There's still 96% to find, maybe there is a chance of finding aliens after all...

1.3 million Earths would fit into the Sun. When it rains, ancient bits of tiny rock could be in there...

We are all made of stardust

By Grace

Bird sculpture trail ready to take off

An Amble project to develop a national bird sculpture trail, which aims to support the creation of 30 tourism jobs, is making progress.

Amble Bord Waalk aims to create a bird-themed sculpture trail of national significance, with physical and virtual-reality models, from Druridge Bay to Warkworth, aligned with the new England Coast Path.

It will see the commissioning and design of up to 22 sculptures to be sited at key locations along the coastline from Hauxley Nature Reserve, around Amble and along the river to Warkworth.

Last year, it was announced that the project, which is being delivered by Amble Development Trust, on behalf of Amble Coastal Community Team, would receive £400,000 from the Coastal Communities Fund.

Northumberland County Council is the accountable body for the funding and at a cabinet meeting on Tuesday, March 10, members agreed to include the £240,000 project in its capital

programme for this year. There is also a separate revenue budget of £156,000.

This means that the sculptures, which are currently being commissioned through a design competition process, will be put in place during the summer.

The report to councillors stated that the trail 'will celebrate the natural assets of the local area, providing a visitor resource for the whole of Northumberland' and 'will appeal to a wide participatory audience'.

It explains that the project will seek to support more than 60 businesses and create 30



The peace sculpture by local blacksmith Steven Lunn will form part of the trail

full-time-equivalent (FTE) employment opportunities within the hospitality and retail sector.

'By extending the tourism season, the objective is to create a minimum of 0.5 jobs within businesses, creating 30 FTE positions', it notes.

It is envisaged that additional employment will be created within the art/creative industries in relation to the sculptures, while 'national exposure of work will generate interest in artists' work leading to increased ongoing sales supporting the sustainability of this sector'.

The project is also seeking to work with Sodexo, which runs HMP Northumberland, on rehabilitation skills through the maintenance of artwork.

Council leader Peter Jackson said: "Congratulations to Amble Development Trust for coming up with this exciting scheme.

"The regeneration of Amble and the surrounding area has been nothing short of astounding in recent years and this can only add to that."

*Ben O'Connell
Local Democracy Reporter*

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AMBLE LINKS
Coastal Holiday Park



Well winter has been and (hopefully) gone and while we did have some wind and rain we have fared better than most. Looking at the floods suffered by some areas the poor businesses and residents must have been devastated by the state of their properties. It certainly makes you grateful and appreciate what you have.

Assisting our fishing fleet

We have recently had some good news for staff member Andrew Gooding. Andrew is manager at the Seafood Centre and has been successful in being selected for a Winston Churchill Fellowship.

As we continue to look for new ways of assisting our fishing fleet, Andrew will be carrying out research into fish preservation and curing. However these will not be your usual methods; Andrew will be studying in South America

and Japan where coastal areas are famed for their seafood culture and promote very simple approaches to using fish as well as some complex smoking and preservation techniques developed on ancient methods in Brazil.

Japan has a renowned fish culture and has one of the highest fish consumption per capita rates in the world. Artisans in Japan are particularly adept at adding value to fish through various processing techniques such as drying and emulsifying. In essence, we want to try adding value to the local catch by using new (to us) methods of preservation.

The trip is fully funded by the Winston Churchill Foundation, and requires an extensive report to be written and made available for 'like minded' organisations to benefit from. So once again Amble could be leading the way with

new methods and techniques.

Bord Waalk

The latest update for the Bird Sculpture Trail: over 20 artists expressed an interest in the project and were invited to walk the route, which took place in February. The deadline for submissions for consideration is 27 March and the Coastal Community Team will meet with the curator to go through each one to decide on a short list to take forward to the final stage before commissioning. Once we get to this stage we hope to involve the community by way of workshops or drop in sessions.

Work on the draft app has progressed and we will be involving local groups, organisations and members of the community to try out the first test site with whatever mobile device they have. This will probably be the Peace Sculpture in the Memorial Gardens, as it will be included in

the trail.

Voices Northumberland

Sadly the town has lost a valuable service with the closure of The Bridge project operated by Voices Northumberland.

The decision to pass on their contractual element to other partners was a hard one for Carol and Julie as well as the staff working on the project, and we wish them well in their future endeavors and reassure anyone requiring the service that it is still available through remaining partners.

On a happier note, while this comes at a time when the NCC lease for the former rent office and CAB offices comes to an end, CAB have expressed a wish to remain in their offices and retain their service in the town.

Julia and Trust staff
julia@ambledevelopmenttrust.org.uk

Keep children safe from the virus

In line with government guidelines, all schools have closed until further notice.

In a recent letter to parents, Executive Head of JCSC Neil Rodgers told parents:

"You will be aware that the government has decided to close all schools in England except for the children of key workers and children classed as vulnerable for whom no alternative childcare arrangements are possible.

"The government's guidance states that we should follow these key principles:

1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.

2. If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.

3. Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.

4. Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults."

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Reports from our *County Councillors*



I contributed from my small scheme fund in revamping Philip Drive green space.

The raised bed was in such a poor state overgrown and full of unsightly weeds and horsetail, it used to be full with shrub roses which have died or been vandalised over the years, becoming a popular spot for discarded items along with the poor state of the footpaths around the green full of potholes and becoming a danger to residents with the uneven surfaces.

Moving forward with improvements through my S.M.S. towards renewing the footpaths (tarmac) also having planted within the centre of the raised bed a large flowering cherry tree with ornamental guard around, the tree having a good spread of white blossom through the spring and summer bringing this green space a pleasure to walk along.

• Know Your Speed Limit - problems with speeding within Amble again, particularly in Alnwick Way. In built up residential areas around pedestrians/children we need to drive at the appropriate speed, 20mph within most of Amble.

Alnwick Way where

Terry.Clark@northumberland.gov.uk

Persimmons Homes are working together with NCC Officers in regards to the final adoption implementing 20mph speed restrictions within this estate we should be aware and recognise the appropriate speed in built up areas, also the effects speeding vehicles have on intimidating pedestrians cyclists and residents. Slow down in all residential areas ensuring that our roads are safer and people feel safer.

• Site visit to Amble's new Morrisons comprising of 25,000ft food store with vehicle access to over 300 parking spaces within the site and retail park also introducing electric charging points, petrol station along with new retail units.

I was very impressed with the new store layout being simple to go around with a wide range of facilities and products planned to make shopping (even for me) more accessible and delightful. Consisting of an in-store market selling meats, breads, pastries, and fish, the store will also sell products locally sourced. All this retail park boosting the economy of Amble creating new jobs for local people.

Amble and surrounding areas finally has the supermarket shopping experience we have been waiting for.

As I write this report I think all our minds are concentrated on Coronavirus. It feels like a phoney war at the moment, no cases of infection as yet in our area but unfortunately all the experts say they are likely to happen in the forthcoming weeks and months.

I think we should try to get on with normal life as best we can, taking full notice of Government guidelines and suggestions.

I won't attempt to say how many clubs, businesses, restaurants etc. that will temporarily close but I do know that many people are volunteering to help the elderly and vulnerable in this difficult time. Local government and newly formed groups and businesses are working together on this issue. The County Council is planning to help those who need it and are meeting every day to make sure they keep pace with developments. I hope we all stay safe.

I was invited to a recent pre-opening visit to the new Morrisons store and petrol station, I was very impressed with what I saw. This development will vastly increase the variety and choice of goods available to residents of Amble and its surroundings without having to travel several miles to a large retail food store.

The supermarket should start trading early April and the planned further retail development (managed by Advance Northumberland who are the regeneration company established by the County Council) to proceed once the supermarket is open.



Jeffrey.Watson@northumberland.gov.uk 0780 238 5367

Golden Guide for over 50s is out again

This popular FREE guide for Northumberland is well known for information on activities, clubs and social groups across Northumberland.

This year there's a section on Social Prescribing to explain how this new approach can help

improve your wellbeing.

Readers also discover how to find expert advice on their health, home security and social care.

There's money and consumer advice on scams, plus Friendship schemes to help reduce loneliness.

New things to do include Printmaking, Bridge Club, Sewing and Sword-dancing.

Ask for a copy from... Libraries; Northumbria Healthcare Care teams; Age UK; Alzheimer's Society; Carers' Northumberland; Healthwatch; Royal Voluntary

Service; British Red Cross; Citizens Advice; Golden Age Forum and GP surgeries. It is also available online at www.goldenguide.org.uk Or ring Age UK

Northumberland on 01670 784800 and they will post one out to you free.



**HAUXLEY
PARISH
COUNCIL**

New Parish Clerk

Following her resignation, the Council formally noted thanks to Jade Reynolds for her help and support as Parish Clerk over the last two years and wished her well for the future.

The Council has now appointed a new Parish Clerk, Elaine Brown. Elaine is a qualified Clerk and was previously Clerk to the Council between 2010 and 2016.

Neighbourhood Planning

The commissioning of a Neighbourhood Planning Consultant for Hauxley Neighbourhood Plan is being put out to tender.

Tender submissions should be returned to the Parish Clerk by 30th April.

Community Governance Review

Hauxley Parish Council have strongly objected to the Amble Community Governance Review that seeks to alter the Hauxley Parish boundary by including the field adjacent to the Sewage works into the Amble Parish. Hauxley Parish Council recognise Hauxley has having a unique identity marked by the existing civil parish boundary.

New Website

The Parish Council have agreed to create

a new webpage on the Northumberland Association of Local Councils 'Parish Portal', the new webpage is expected to up and running in April and will help in compliance to the Transparency Code. The website will be available via the following link: <https://northumberlandparishes.uk/hauxley>

Future meetings

The Annual meeting of the Parish could be held at 6.30pm on Monday 11th May 2020 at the Village Hall. The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council would be held at 6.40pm on Monday 11th May 2020 at the Village Hall

Parish Clerk: Elaine Brown Tel: 07588 659 600 Email: hauxleyipc@hotmail.co.uk Website: www.theambler.co.uk/category/local-councils/hauxley-parish-council/

AMBLE CONNECT

Do you have a business- large or small- in Amble which you would like to develop?

Do you represent a charitable organisation serving the community in Amble looking for volunteers?

Are you a resident of Amble with an interest in joining a local charitable organisation or group- but not sure how you can get involved?

Are you simply trying to find a local tradesperson?

AMBLE CONNECT will offer an informal exhibition environment which would allow a number of individuals, businesses or groups to feature their specific qualities to all attendees.

A Business will be presented with the opportunity to enable access to a regular event which would allow them to promote their services to the public and other businesses

Charitable organisations will be offered a platform from which they can explain their activities and needs to Members of the local community and also to other groups and businesses.

Businesses could bring samples of products; leaflets promoting their services, or simply talk to visitors to improve their business development opportunities.

Charitable organisations will have a prime networking opportunity with a chance to increase local awareness of their work in the community and potentially attract vital new volunteers.

All members of the community will have an opportunity to meet and speak to people who can help them or whom they can help!!

**FIRST SHOWCASE CANCELLED
DUE TO CURRENT NATIONAL SITUATION.
NEW DATE WILL BE ANNOUNCED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**



Amble Town

COUNCIL

All meetings at 6pm unless stated otherwise

Town: 9th April, 14th May (+AGM), 11th June

Amenities: 28th May

EAST WARD:	Helen Lewis,	Craig Weir	WEST WARD:	Jeff Watson	David Bewley	CEN. WARD:	Jane Dargue	VACANCY
Ian Parks,	5 Meadowburn,	(Chair/Mayor)	Tracey Hinton,	14 Magdalene	11 Brinkburn	Kate Morrison,	10 Sylvia's	
33 Warkworth	Amble	76 Priory Park,	13 George	Fields	Place	3 Island View,	Close,	
Avenue,	NE65 0PH	Amble	Street,	Warkworth	Amble	Amble	Amble	
Warkworth.	07751 229 739	NE65 0HY	Amble	NE65 0UF	NE65 0BJ	NE65 0SE	NE65 0GB	
NE65 0TP		01665 712342	NE65 0RZ	07802 385367	07525713086	01665 711191	07795360513	

PUBLIC ORDER RENEWAL

This order has prohibited drinking alcohol on our streets for a number of years. Since it was introduced there have been less incidents of anti-social behaviour and assaults as well as a considerable reduction in the amount of broken glass on the pavements particularly Queen Street. Local parishes and the police are currently being asked if they wish these orders to be renewed later this year. A report will then go to NCC before being opened for the wider community's comments. This Council has emphatically pressed for renewal of the Amble order as we feel this will better protect our citizens and our town.

'COQUET MOUTH' COMMEMORATION EVENT

July 4th will be 80 years since this dredger was sunk at the entrance to the harbour mouth; despite valiant efforts, three men lost their lives. With the permission of Warkworth Harbour Commissioners, it is planned to hold a commemoration service at the end of the pier and floral tributes will be laid at sea by R.N.L.I. on behalf of the town and family members. Plans are afoot to raise enough money to have an interpretation panel installed there to outline the valuable role of merchant seamen during WWII and to be a permanent tribute to the Coquet Mouth and its crew.

Although there are merchant seamen commemorated on the town's memorials, this has raised the thought that it is surprising a coastal town such as Amble does not have a separate memorial for seafarers. Ideas of how to achieve this are also being investigated as well as sources of funding.

COUNCILLOR'S CORNER

If I had penny for every time I have been berated or asked politely about all the developments taking place within Amble, I would feel like a lottery winner. Discussion takes place regularly and seems endless with our side always discussing the same theme about infrastructure, schools, doctors, roads, parking etc. Is there an answer? I wish I knew.

What I do know is that working against progress or laying down in front of machinery eventually gets nowhere but builds up resentment on all sides. Which leaves what?? Well, start by talking to the developers and county council about what is needed from a local point of view. Difficult but with help instead of hindrance we may get some results so that's what councillors do. For example, developers make more money out of high end 3-4-bedroom houses when we know there is a greater need for 1-2-bedroom houses, bungalows or flats within our community at affordable prices. So we ask for a better mix and hope we can make a difference. Will we win? I don't know. Will we keep on trying? Yes, we will!

Cllr Craig Weir

STREET NAMES

In the past, local Councils have been consulted about names for streets in new residential developments- such as the Coquet View estate (Persimmons) whose streets are named after castles in the county. Shortly the estate near New Hall, next to Gloster Meadows, will begin building; that on Percy Drive has outline approval and others may follow. Often these developments can take years to be completed as market forces tend to dictate a developer's timeframe. However, Council may once again have input into the names. Previously, notable deceased people have been commemorated in this way. Many of our streets have 'royal' connotations such as George Street, Albert Street but some are more local such as Gibson Street, Staffen Court. Over the years since, there will have been many notable contributors to our town- maybe it is time to look again at honouring them in this way. For example Miss Usher; Drs Loughridge, Reynolds, Robertson and Thompson; Special Medal Holders Aston, Calvert Spence, Coxon, Forster, Horn, Johnston, Morton, Nichol, Purus, Purvis, Riches, Straker, and Temple;no doubt there are others whom you can recall- but remember we are not allowed to use names of those still with us.

AMBLE CONNECT

There are many caring people in the town who want to make a difference to Amble. With this in mind, Amble Connect is being formed and its first event will be held in the Town - check out page 15 in this edition. The eventual aim is to create a forum for everyone- the community, local businesses, charitable organisations- in fact anyone who would like to offer their time to ensure that the successful development of Amble continues long into the future.

The events will be staged in an informal exhibition setting with businesses and other groups offered the chance to display their services or products to all visitors; whether that be the community or other businesses or groups. It is hoped this will generate interaction between attendees and be a way of informing not just those who already live here but also new residents of services, hobbies, sports, community ventures etc. that this wonderful town has to offer them, and also how they can be a vital part of their community.

NEW BUS SHELTERS

By now the Wynd and Percy Drive should have had new bus shelters installed. These have cost almost £20,000- money Council has held since the Persimmons development began as it was originally intended for shelters on the A1068. However Arriva have said there is no possibility of re- routing their services along this road anytime in the immediate future- should this change then shelters there will be looked into then. Unfortunately it is not possible to place any on the opposite side of Percy Drive due to the measurements restrictions there. The other shelters in the town are currently being assessed to see if any work or painting is required.

WEST CEMETERY

New utility installation work is taking place at the entrance so please take care when attending the cemetery. Once all the services are connected, a new fountain system and head will be installed. Later in the year when the ground has settled the drive will have new tarmac laid as the current surface is beginning to break down.

When this work takes place, there will be no interments as vehicular entry will not be possible for a few days and pedestrians will be advised to enter by the steps at the end of West Drive. In the coming weeks memorials will be checked for stability. Where details are known, families will be contacted should there be a problem as it is their responsibility to reinstate these. Failure to do so will result in a headstone being 'banded' for safety.

TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES, FOURWAYS 2, AMBLE. NE65 0DT Tel: 01665 714 695 www.amble.gov.uk

Email ask@amble.gov.uk Twitter: @AmbleTC Facebook: 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

Buddy project

A local charity is calling out for Volunteer Buddies to support fellow volunteers by transporting them to volunteering opportunities.

Northumberland CVA's Supported Volunteering project helps some of the county's hardest to reach unemployed people to develop the confidence, life experiences and skills they need to move nearer to employment.

The scheme is part of The Bridge Project, which is funded by the European Social Fund (ESF) and the National Lottery Community Fund, as part of their joint Building Better Opportunities Programme.

Northumberland CVA is looking to expand its team throughout Northumberland. Buddies will receive training

including Safeguarding.

Anyone wishing to be a Volunteer Buddy must be able to explain things clearly and have empathy and understanding. They need to be willing to commit to a minimum of one half day per week plus training prior to becoming a buddy. Out of pocket expenses will be paid and a Disclosure and Barring Service check will be required. You will be required to advise your insurance company that you are volunteering and must provide proof of insurance and registration details to enable us to confirm your car is taxed and has MOT.

If you would like to find out more, please call Lisa on 01670858688 or email lisa.wackett@northumberlandcva.org.uk

Getting everyone on the water!



Spring is here, and summer is on its way – time to get out and enjoy the unique feeling of floating on the water and seeing things from a new point of view.

An easy way to start off is by hiring a sit on top kayak, open canoe or a paddleboard on the lake at the Country Park – just call or email us to book a time. You get a wetsuit, buoyancy aid, etc and we'll give you basic instruction and look after you!

Or you can come and explore the estuary on a guided tour - you get the best view of the castle as you go up the river with the rising tide. If you are worried about being fit enough, why not grab someone else and take a two seater kayak or open canoe? This should be on everyone's bucket list!

Ever thought of trying sailing? You can have a taster session on the lake in a stable dinghy – suitable for people with disabilities as well as beginners of all abilities.

Take the first step, and if you want to go further we can help with skills training and the opportunity to join one of our affiliated clubs.

Coquet Canoe Club meets at our premises on the Braid on Sunday mornings (10 – 1pm), and Wednesday evening (6 – 9pm). Membership fees are low, and all the equipment can be hired for a small fee each session.

Coquet Sailing Club and Coquet Windsurfing Club meet at the Lake at the Country Park at weekends on the same basis.

For more information, call us on 01665 710367, email info@coquetshorebase.org.uk or see: www.coquetshorebase.org.uk

Make this the year you take to the water.

Coquet Shorebase Trust

Future looks good for Kickboxing club



Hybrid kickboxing club started 2020 the way they left off in 2019 with two competitors travelling to Barnsley for the WKO English Open Championships.

Instructor Adam White (pictured above left) took Gold in the Boxing after two gruelling fights and a superb win in the final against an excellent Italian boxer. In the K1 kickboxing Adam had to pull out all the stops in the final to ensure victory and add his second championship Gold.

Young rookie student Archie Smith (pictured right) entering his first ever competition held his own in the K1 kickboxing, losing in the quarter finals. He then surprised everyone with an excellent performance in the Boxing overcoming superb opposition to go on and win Gold.

Archie is one of Hybrid's up and coming young stars with at least six young people rising in the ranks preparing for future competitions along with some excellent juniors now starting to fulfil their potential. The future looks extremely good at Hybrid kickboxing.

To top off the week Adam was awarded the Alnwick and District Sports Council Senior Achievement award for 2019.

Adam would like to thank his club's sponsors: TDL Motors (Hadston), Hotspur Residential, McCauley Cullen Photography, Park Leisure (Amble Links), Calibrate Energy and Wash & Co, without whom none of this could be achieved.

Allan White

Amble RNLI Lifeboats

Due to the Coronavirus situation our monthly coffee mornings have been cancelled and our Lifeboat Shop will remain closed until further notice.

We hope to resume as soon as possible but in the meantime, we would appreciate your continuing support for our vital Lifesaving Service. Please visit our online shop at: shop.RNLI.org

Rotary support for local charities

Several local charities and voluntary organisations have been given awards from Amble & Warkworth Rotary, following the Christmas charity Collection.

Over £5,000 was raised by the club's Santa Sleigh, as Rotarians organised street and door-to-door collections throughout December in Amble, Warkworth, Hadston, Widdrington and Acklington.

Beneficiaries include Mencap in Alnwick, the Amble Youth Project, Elpha Lodge, Acklington Community Team, British Legion, Warkworth Cricket Club Juniors and many more.

Rotary President, John Geggie said, "Our Rotary Club members go out in the dark nights before Christmas, often in poor weather, to bring some cheer with the Santa-Sleigh. Their effort has helped several local groups continue their excellent work as the public gives generously. Every penny donated goes to worthwhile local projects, serving our communities in north Northumberland."

Derek Conway

Walking netball



Walking Netball is a social form of exercise for folk who perhaps cannot now manage 'proper' netball, or feel they would like a gentle introduction to getting back into netball.

It is, as it says on the tin, Walking Netball... no running or jumping allowed! It is great exercise and great fun.

If you would like to try it, come along to Willowburn Sports Centre at Alnwick on a Wednesday afternoon, and join us 2.15pm - 3.15pm £2 per person per session. It is all indoors so weather does not affect us. You will be made most welcome.

Further details can be had from Jacquie Edward. Phone 01665 711856 or e-mail. jacquie.edward@gmail.com

Amble Pin Cushion - workshops

Wednesday 8 April: Hooky Hen - Rag Rugging for beginners and improvers 1pm - 4pm £35

Friday 17 April: Knit and Natter (Drop in knitting group) 10am - mid-day £4.50

Saturday 18 April: Lilly fascinator for beginners / improvers 10am - 4pm £45

Monday 20 April: Stitch and Bitch (Drop in sewing group) 1.30pm - 3.30pm £4.50

Saturday 2 May: Yarn Shop Day / Introduction to Intarsia 10am - 4pm £50

Friday 15 May: Knit and Natter 10am - mid-day £4.50

Monday 18 May: Stitch and Bitch (Drop in sewing group) 1.30pm - 3.30pm £4.50

Tuesday 19 May: Crochet for Beginners - Granny Square 6.30pm - 8.30pm £20

Tuesday 26 May: Beginner's Quilting - Scissor holder 10am - mid-day £20

Tuesday 26 May: Beginner's Quilting - Tidy bag 1.30pm - 3.30pm £20

To book your place, please pay your deposit no later than three days before the course date, either in the shop or by BACs via the website www.amblepincushion.co.uk

20-22 Queen Street, Amble, Northumberland NE65 0BZ
Tel. 01665 714584 We're also on Facebook.

Virus halts play

Coronavirus has put paid to Warkworth Drama Group's planned staging of the comedy play "Cruise Control".

Penned by local writer Dave Stockwin, the play had been scheduled to run for three nights at the Memorial Hall beginning Thursday April 30.

Dave and co-producer Sue Bennett said: "Very reluctantly we have decided that due to a deteriorating and highly unpredictable national situation, it would be both impractical and imprudent for the play to go ahead at this time.

"We hope to reschedule it at a later date"

Amble Juniors FC

FC Amble Juniors have gone from strength to strength over the last 18 months. We wouldn't be where we are without the dedication of all our coaches /parents and sponsors.

We are now looking for a coach for our development squad, as the children will be going into a U7s league in September. We will need someone to help them along their journey.

Anyone interested please contact Sharon Chambers on 07415305988.

Become a virtual visitor to Baliffgate

Although Bailiffgate Museum and Gallery's building will be closed for the foreseeable future in response to government advice, virtual visitors can share in a wealth of fascinating historic content online.

The Bailiffgate Collections website is a digital archive of photographs, documents and images of objects and artworks held in the Collection. Recently uploaded is a striking collection of over 100 rare portrait photographs, likely to be some of the first such portraits ever taken in Alnwick. It also includes a database of local servicemen who died in World War One.

Bailiffgate TV YouTube channel showcases films made of local people and archive footage over the last 70 years. A recent film features International super-model Stella Tennant selecting haute couture dresses from her wardrobe for Bailiffgate's popular 100 Years of Fashion Exhibition.

OOT (Bailiffgate's Out of Town Museum) celebrates the rural heritage of Coquetdale. Recent additions to the OOT website include stories about farming, wrestling, dancing and photographs of Coquetdale from the 19th and 20th centuries.

Jean Humphrys, Chair of the Trustees, said 'the whole country is facing a difficult time ahead and although Bailiffgate's building has had to close, we will be working hard to provide new stories, photographs and items of interest online for our virtual community. Visitors can stay up to date by following us on twitter, facebook and on our main website. And our unique myth-busting exhibition about the Vikings in collaboration with JORVIK will now take place in the summer of 2021'. <https://bailiffgatecollections.co.uk/>

Hauxley reserve still open for birds



Long-tailed tit. Photo by Tim Mason

In line with the recent government announcement about Coronavirus and reducing social interaction, Northumberland Wildlife Trust are cancelling all Northumberland Wildlife Trust events and scheduled volunteer tasks for March and April 2020. Our cafés at Hauxley and Northumberlandia will be closed from Monday 23rd March. The visitors centre and reserve at Hauxley currently remains open but this is subject to change depending on what happens regarding current advice on the coronavirus.

We are of course being extraordinarily vigilant in regards to cleanliness, and will be reviewing our position regularly. We will update this page as soon as we receive any new information or guidance. We ask that all supporters and visitors take sensible precautions, and respect and support each other, our staff and our volunteers.

For up to date information see www.nwt.org.uk/

WHAT'S ON

Due to the coronavirus situation, events may have been cancelled or postponed. Please check with organisers before attending.

Youngsters return to Coquet Island



Coast Care Young Rangers are part of a volunteer educational project who engage with conservation activities.

In March 2019 the Young Rangers travelled to Coquet Island to work with Site Manager Paul Morrison and team. They helped to improve the habitat on the island for nesting terns. The group were such a great help that they were invited back again recently to get the island ready for the birds return this year.

In preparation for this visit the Young Rangers worked with other young people to paint Little Tern decoys. These

are dummy birds made out of plaster and painted to look like a Little Tern. They took the decoys out during their recent visit to the island and positioned them in the hope of attracting the real thing in to breed.

If it works, Coquet Island will be the first colony to have all five breeding species of terns in Europe – a fantastic achievement and legacy for the Young Rangers.

For more information visit www.coast-care.co.uk. You can also follow Coast Care and the Young Rangers on Facebook at Coast Care Northumberland and Coast Care Young Rangers.

Easter services cancelled

St Cuthbert's will be open each day for private prayer. However, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have ordered the suspension of all public church services until further notice (both Sundays and Weekday services) and this means there will be no public Easter services this year.

We are asking everyone to pause and pray at 12 Noon each day about this situation. There is a prayer request table set out in church. Suggestions for prayer have been put out in church.

Christenings have been postponed. We are awaiting further advice about Weddings and Funerals.

We are encouraging everyone to follow advice from NHS and Government in order to keep the vulnerable as safe as possible.

Rev John McDermott

Message from NTC

In light of the Government's latest advice for people to avoid non-essential contact, we have taken the difficult decision to cease touring and close the Dovecote Centre to the public and suspend future programming until the end of May.

The health and safety of our staff, visitors, artists and volunteers is of the utmost importance to us, and we believe given the current situation it is not viable to remain open to the public at this time.

We are being optimistic and will use this time to plan for the future and work on our upcoming productions - Jekyll and Hyde, Alice in Wonderland and our 2020 Panto - Cinderella!

In terms of our cancelled events, we respectfully ask any patrons who can afford to donate the price of their ticket or simply take a credit instead of a refund to do so during the closure.

We'll be keeping our audiences updated via our website and social media channels as to when we will reopen, and we look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Thank you for all of your support, it really does mean the world to us.

Stay safe and look after each other.

Much love

The NTC Team

Music at Warkworth Memorial Hall

Sadly all music events at the Warkworth Memorial Hall are now cancelled until further notice.

Updates will be provided on the Hall website at www.wwmh.uk.

"All aboard"
Puffin Cruises

Welcome to customers old and new for our 2020 season

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www.hauxleyhounds.co.uk

Widdrington, Red Row, Hadston, Amble, Warkworth, Lesbury, Alnmouth

Can you help with information on the Coquet Mouth?



Ken Henderson

A retired Amble coastguard officer wants to create a memorial to those lost when an Amble dredger sank in the harbour entrance.

Ken Henderson was Station Officer until last year. He has undertaken a lot of research but now he needs help from the community.

He sent us the following information, with the request: *Do any Ambler readers have any more information on this story, or perhaps are related to the crew who were involved in this tragedy?*

A recent photograph of the old Amble Harbour dredger (MV Coquet Mouth) on "Amble in Old Photos" made me recall the story my father passed on about the sinking of the dredger only half a mile off Amble piers. In 1940 during World War 2 it was hit by a German mine dropped off the entrance and intended to hamper vital coal exports. The ship was crewed by members of the Merchant Navy

who I believe lived in Amble at the time.

Three Amble crew were lost. The body of Sydney Lockey 35yrs (deckhand) was never recovered and as such is commemorated on the Tower Hill National Memorial (London) to Merchant Navy & Fishermen lost in WW1 and WW2 who have no grave other than the sea.

James Brown 66yrs (deckhand) and Robert Forster English 45yrs (mate) were recovered and are commemorated on a Commonwealth War Grave in Amble West Cemetery (graves 96 and 106).

As this was a tragedy that happened within sight of Amble, and it is the 80th anniversary on 4th July 2020 I wondered if this may be something the Town Council would be interested in commemorating. Perhaps a memorial service at the war grave and/or wreath laying over the wreck site. Perhaps the

RNLI may be able to help with this.

These guys were doing a vital and stalwart job to keep the port free to the many coal ships that took coal to other parts of the country as part of the war effort.

Many remember our brave lads of the Royal Navy in both World Wars and subsequent conflicts but the role of the Merchant Marine is sometimes forgotten or not well known.

For info. My late father, Newton Henderson, was a fisherman during World War 2 and was involved in the attempts to rescue the crew of the dredger. This must have been his calling as he later joined the then called Coastguard Auxiliary Service in which he served 43 years at Amble. The calling then passed on to me with 40 years service when I retired from HM Coastguard as Station Officer of Amble Coastguard Rescue Team in 2019.

You can contact Ken via email: ken525@btinternet.com

A huge test for our communities

I write this on the final day of schools being open as our nation heads towards an uncertain time. The coronavirus is beatable if we all play our part.

For most people, it will be a mild illness or they will have no symptoms at all. However, for those most at risk – the over 70s, pregnant women and those with existing medical issues – it could be much more serious. We need to keep NHS resources free for those people.

If you think you may have the virus (if you have a new, continuous cough or a fever) please stay at home for at least 7 days, and if you live with others, the whole household must stay home for 14 days. You should only call 111 if you cannot manage your symptoms without medical help. This is vital for those most at risk.



Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP

We can all play our part by not socialising, and keeping at least 2 metres from others. Most important is to kill the virus by washing our hands. The more we do all of these things, the faster we will beat it.

These coming weeks will be tough for us all. They will involve sacrifices. We must all make them in order to help the NHS and our whole communities.

This is a huge test for our communities but it is one we will face together.

I am sending email updates on the situation which you can sign up to receive on my website www.teamtrevelyan.co.uk or by emailing me. My team remains on hand to help anyone who needs it.

Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP

Community room available for groups

As part of Morrisons dedication to serve the Amble community we have installed a purpose built Community Room for use by groups of any type.

The room will accommodate around 15 people at a time, will have Tea and Coffee facilities and will be available to book 7 days per week from 9am to 8pm.

Initially the room will be set up 'board room' style for meetings but it can be changed for the use of a data projector

and screen if necessary, both of which we can provide.

After the initial opening we at Morrisons will be delighted to receive requests from Community Groups and Charities asking for Bag Packing opportunities or for donations in support of your fundraising efforts.

For all of the above please contact Marion Long, Community Champion on: champion.amble@morrisonsplc.co.uk.



Marion Long, Morrisons Community Champion