



The Ambler

Amble's Community Newspaper

Issue 123 Aug/Sept 2020

Managing Covid-19 after the summer

We must not be complacent

The past few months have been taxing for all of us, not least our local GP practice. Staff at Coquet Medical Group have had to adapt some of their fundamental working practices and prepare for the unknown, all while running a busy Health Centre.

Assistant Practice Manager Rebecca Curtis told The Ambler that some of the changes, such as keeping the surgery doors closed for the foreseeable future, and the use of video consultations would remain. This is for the safety of both staff and patients.

"We are also encouraging patients we do see, to wear a face mask, and inform them they will have their temperature checked at Reception. We are also asking patients not to come early as we don't want the reception area full of people waiting."

Patients are asked to ring the surgery if they have an issue, and any acute appointments will be triaged by phone first. Doctors or the Nurse Practitioner will then decide whether the patient needs to be seen in person or if they can be treated via phonecall or video.

Rebecca explained that the video consultations have been very successful. "They are working really well, and in fact the NHS were looking to introduce this anyway. It's not taking away from our face-to-face appointments, but it means



l-r: Rebecca Curtis, Assistant Practice Manager; Lisa Scott, Practice Manager, Dawn Wade, Receptionist; Dr Ben Burville, Partner.

we have the facility to text, talk or provide video consultations where necessary."

Excellent resource

Over the summer, staff at Coquet Medical Group are expecting a slowdown in the number of Covid-19 cases. During this time, they will be looking to see more routine appointments.

However, come the autumn, they are expecting a rise in the number of patients contacting the surgery. This will be due to a combination of seasonal flu, chest infections, viral winter respiratory infections and Covid-19. It will be impossible to differentiate between any of these conditions until a test has

taken place.

"There's been masses of work done for the NHS 111 screening tool," explained Rebecca. "So we are encouraging people, if they have the symptoms, to go to the website: 111.nhs.uk/COVID-19. Go through the questions and follow the guidance.

"It's an excellent resource, and it means patients can take some control at the start. By completing this pre-screening before contacting us, it will also help us manage calls coming in, and means we can prioritise our planning during the flu season."

Planning has been key to the medical group's ability to cope so far, but Rebecca admits the last few months have been a challenge for the team. "It's been

tough, but we have had to take it in our stride. We've had guidance from the government and NHE England regarding shielding, and we've had to do what we could to manage staff and patient anxiety."

And despite the apparent lull in the number of summer Covid-19 cases, Rebecca stressed the point that we are not over this pandemic yet. "We need to make people aware, they still need to be really cautious, not complacent. Northumberland has been relatively lucky compared to other areas in the UK, because we don't have dense population numbers. But the virus is still here. And it's going to affect the way we all work for a long time."

Anna Williams

Advice for patients

- Ring the surgery first. Acute appointments will be assessed by a Doctor or Nurse Practitioner
- Where appropriate, appointments can be held via phone or video
- Face-to-face consultations are still available where necessary
- Patients must wear a mask and have their temperature taken when visiting the surgery
- If you suspect you have Covid-19 symptoms, you are asked to access the NHS111 website 111.nhs.uk/COVID-19 and follow their questions and guidance first, before contacting the surgery

Thank you to local heroes

Who do you think deserves a 'thank you' for all the effort they have put in to help our community during lockdown? Is there anyone we've missed?

More on back page



Audrey Jones and daughter Jacqui Jones

Audrey Jones, daughter Jacqui and her family helped to brighten up the town, and thank key workers. They created an 'NHS tree' and started the Amble stone snake. Read more on our website.



The Amble Food Bank team were busier than ever during lockdown, delivering over 20 food parcels a week. Read more on our website.

Demand is at an all time high

Between them, the Yopa dream team in the North East have Northumberland covered. Liz Humphreys has years of experience in North and mid-Northumberland including Alnwick, Amble, Morpeth, and the best of the Northumberland coastal areas, Ashley Hicks lives and works in the Tyne Valley, listing properties in and around Hexham, Bellingham and Corbridge. Tracey Chaplin has worked in and around the Ashington, Choppington, Bedlington and Cramlington areas for years.

Demand from buyers looking in Northumberland is at an all-time high, with competitive offers meaning sellers are often achieving better than asking price for their properties.

The Yopa team in Northumberland has been cracking on in spite of the difficult conditions. As one happy local vendor recently said in a review, "The team at Yopa are some of the most pro-active people I have met; from the initial meeting, paperwork, photos and getting the house marketed to then being able to contact them the whole time, especially during this difficult time with Covid-19."

"People's attitudes towards their properties and communities changed during the lockdown period," says Liz. "We recently commissioned a survey that revealed that 1 in 5 people in the North East are now looking for more outside space. Accordingly, we've seen huge demand for family properties with large gardens or acres of land. We also know that 18% of those in the North East are now being drawn to the seaside and the lifestyle that comes with it. Accordingly, we are seeing great buyer demand in idyllic coastal areas such as Alnmouth and Newbiggin-by-the-Sea. You usually have to sell the lifestyle when marketing these properties, but nowadays they are selling themselves and flying off the shelves!"

The team pride themselves on giving the best personal service and specialise in offering advice to customers on how to present homes to the market. To book a valuation of your property or just for some local market advice, contact them on: Elizabeth Humphreys: 0771 3072306, elizabeth.humphreys@yopa.co.uk Tracey Chaplin: 0787 5405974, tracey.chaplin@yopa.co.uk Ashley Hicks: 07944 757517, ashley.hicks@yopa.co.uk

New look for The Schooner



Welcome to Marie and Paul Young, the new landlords of the Schooner.

Marie told the Ambler "Amble is lovely place and has this fantastic working harbour which we were drawn to. Paul is ex-Royal Navy so naturally loves the sea, but has never really liked coastal areas, that was until we came to Amble and he got a good feeling about the place and the people." She added, "my great-grandfather was born in Victoria Street, Amble so I guess we have a connection."

The pub now offers real Ale,

good wines, and a shiny new beast of a coffee machine. All coffees are free every day until 12noon. And once lockdown restrictions are fully eased, they will be offering food. Paul has focused on redecorating the downstairs and there's been quite a transformation. There's a freshness in the bar, a large TV for sports, and a newly tidied beer garden.

There's even a little painted sign up to remember Derrick Jamieson the previous - and much loved landlord, a gesture which has been well received on social media.

"We feel that the pub very much belongs to Amble and we are just the current custodians of it so we very much wanted to show our respect to the late landlord and to the folk of Amble," said Marie.

"We have tried to keep the essence of a real local pub and I hope we have achieved that as Paul has put his heart and soul into making The Schooner a place where locals and visitors can be proud of."

Are you thinking of selling your home?

Your local Yopa agent is valuing homes in your area

- Fair fixed fees from £889¹
- Rated five stars on Trustpilot based on thousands of customer reviews
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or at elizabeth.humphreys@yopa.co.uk



If you refer a friend to Yopa and they sell their home with us, we'll send you a £100 gift card to say 'thank you' - and they'll get £100 off their fee.

1. Terms and conditions apply. Does not include viewings package.
2. Based on properties listed between 1st January 2018 and 31st December 2018.



Yopa
A Smooth Move



To all Amble's
NHS
and key workers
Thank you!

Our Services continue online for the time being.
Every Sunday you'll find contemporary music and an inspiring message:
harbourlightschurch.com/media

Would you like prayer?
Call our Prayerline:
07368 459411

Wreaths placed in memory of lost crew



L-r: Ken Henderson, David Gray, Penny Horseman, Craig Weir

A wreath laying event at sea was held in honour of the Amble dredger MV Coquet Mouth, which was sunk during World War 2 resulting in the loss of three crew members. The vessel struck enemy mines off the harbour mouth on 4 July 1940.

To commemorate the 80th anniversary of the event, two wreaths were placed in the sea at the site north east of the harbour mouth, by retired Coastguard Ken Henderson, and Amble's Mayor Craig Weir.

In attendance with the party were Penny Horseman from the

Church Army and David Gray on behalf of Warkworth Harbour Commissioners.

The day turned out to be of excellent weather having beforehand been of drizzle and poor visibility. The North Sea was like a mill pond.

In 1940 during WW2 the dredger was hit by a German mine dropped off the harbour entrance and intended to hamper vital coal exports. The ship was crewed by members of the Merchant Navy.

Three Amble crew were lost. The body of Sydney Lockey

35yrs (deckhand) was never recovered but is commemorated on the Tower Hill National Memorial (London) to Merchant Navy and Fishermen lost in WW1 and WW2 who have no grave other than the sea.

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

Bart Rippon

See also p12

Why businesses need to adapt to survive

When Amble Pin Cushion closed its doors on 23 March to go into lockdown, things looked bleak, but this local company has emerged on the other side feeling positive and excited for the future.

Back in March, along with many other small businesses, our local craft and alterations shop wondered if it could survive a lengthy period without income, and whether all staff would be retained. However, by April, there was a resurgence of interest in sewing, knitting and crafting, both in support of the NHS, and to while away the time in lockdown.

Orders came in thick and fast, and the shop partially re-opened on June 15 with reduced opening hours, selling from the door, or by bookable browsing appointment.

Face mask manufacture has boosted business, allowing staff to gradually come back off furlough. As well as making-to-order for the local market, masks have been sent all over the country, and have been made



Amble Pin Cushion's dinosaur masks are on sale at the Centre For Life's Lego Dino Experience

in larger batches for businesses, including the Newcastle Centre for Life, which has ordered a large quantity of dinosaur masks for their shop, to support their Lego Dino Experience, opening in August.

The shop has recently won the Northumberland "Lifestyle Store of the Year" Prestige Award. In the same week, they were nominated in the British Sewing Awards Best independent haberdashery

shop in the North East Region, up against large companies in Newcastle and Stockton-on-Tees.

Amble Pin Cushion expects that the trend for crafting will continue, and expects to be very busy - so much so, that they are looking to take on an apprentice. Contact Norma Arthur for more details: 01665 714584.

Unlike the dinosaurs, Amble Pin Cushion has proved that, in these times of great change, if you can adapt, you can survive!

Helping unemployed back to work

A Northumberland employment project is gearing up to help the expected wave of newly unemployed people as the economic effects of Covid-19 kick in.

Bridge Northumberland offers a one to one programme to support people facing barriers to work, such as mental ill health or lack of digital skills.

Support is free and offered for up to 12 months, but for some people success is achieved in a much shorter time.

The programme is completely voluntary, and able to support any Northumberland resident over the age of 18 (or 16 and NEET) facing multiple barriers to employment. People receive a dedicated Bridge Worker who will be their one point of contact. They'll then create a personalised support programme of interventions such as mental health counselling, a financial MOT, digital skills training, advice and job search help.

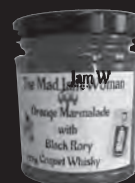
See more at: www.bridgenorthumberland.org.uk

It's a Nisa shop

Welcome to Suga, co-owner of the new Nisa store on Newburgh St. He told The Ambler, "I live in Alnwick, but I really like Amble and it's developing really fast. This shop is in a good location with a lovely community. The previous Co-op shop was long established and had a good reputation."

Nisa is a part of the Co-op so Suga can sell their products as well as goods from elsewhere.

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Helping fishers during pandemic

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the Northumberland Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (NIFCA) and its Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Officers (IFCOs) have endeavoured to maintain business as usual as much as possible, and at the same time give guidance and support to the hard working members of the local fishing industry, in what has obviously been a very difficult time for everyone.

CEO Mike Hardy told The Ambler "I am very proud of the efforts of our IFCOs both on shore and at sea during the last few months. Whilst making the safety of everyone the number one priority, our officers have been in the district to give guidance on the assistance which has been made available to commercial fishers from Government and other organisations, as well as continuing to keep a watching eye on such fishing activity as has been taking place, to ensure compliance with fisheries regulations and protection of the marine environment".

IFCA Chair Les Weller said "on behalf of the members and officers of NIFCA, I confirm best wishes to the local fishing industry and everyone who has the best interests of Amble and our other coastal communities at heart".

Brambles helping keyworkers return to work

Brambles Childcare Centre reopened on 2 June to support our parents/carers and keyworkers to return to work

We were excited and looking forward to see the children and their parents/carers. We knew there would be a few tears, and of course we had to implement lots of changes following government guidelines, ensuring everyone is safe to return.

We were so proud of the children on how quickly they adapted to these changes and seeing them cuddle their friends and saying how much they had missed them and watching them playing happily together, certainly did bring a tear to our eyes.

We had a lovely surprise on our first day back, and we were very grateful to receive our lovely outdoor gifts from our local



store Morrisons, (see photo) the boys and girls were so happy.

We are all so happy to be back and a massive thank you to all the parents/carers for their continued support and to my amazing staff team too.

We are open over the

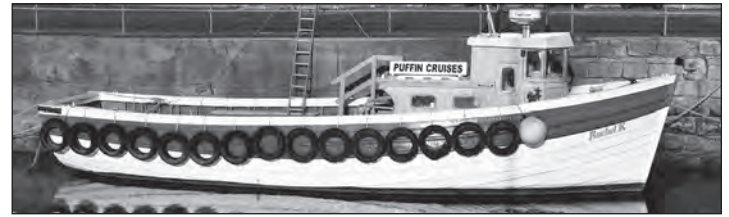
summer holidays providing a Fun Holiday Club. For further information please see our Facebook page, email: brambleschildcare@hotmail.com or contact us on 01665 710453
Pauline Donoghue
Brambles Childcare Centre

Puffin Cruises hit by pandemic restrictions

A local business hit hard by the coronavirus lockdown is Puffin Cruises. Beth Gray told The Ambler that the size of their boats has meant that keeping passengers at least one metre apart would be difficult to maintain.

"Unfortunately due to social distancing we are unable to allow passengers on board as there is not enough space (1metre+).

"We also help passengers to board and alight off the vessel by guiding and balancing them carefully to the quayside steps - not an easy task!"



Puffin Cruises' new boat the Rachel K

The family run business had just bought a new boat and were hoping to introduce it this season.

Beth said "This would have been our very busiest time of the year, sadly for us and our tourist

friends old and new it wasn't to be! We are hoping to apply for Government help to assist through this pandemic."

We wish them all the best.
Anna Williams

Harry McQuillen's

Age of insecurity



The past few months have brought very real insecurity to the whole world. Widespread illness and death has changed public debate, and there are many contradictory points of view, not least on the hot topic of Opening Up. Reduction in the number of NHS treatments could well cause more illness and death than the virus itself.

Monitoring of the virus in countries with such disparate levels of standard of living and health care structures (or lack of them), presents great difficulty. Asymptomatic disease presents its own diagnostic difficulties.

Economic measures, even with huge government

borrowing for furlough of individual workers and support for business, can only go so far. Rishi Sunak and his team have made a valiant attempt to reduce the impact of the Recession. They hope to avoid Depression but that's not certain. With Brexit on the horizon we have a narrow path to tread.

It's an ill wind that blows nobody any good. I've never seen so many people helping others, except perhaps in wartime. The rise of foodbanks and shopping for vulnerable neighbours they never knew. Mask-wearing and social distancing have become a way

of life. Working from home in our IT age is very popular. It saves workers time and money. The problem is that the abandonment of commercial property will skew the market. Simple answer- turn offices into flats. Workers in our NHS, shops, local services etc help us in so many ways.

For me the best thing of all is the number of people of all ages that I see walking and cycling on my daily visit to Warkworth dunes. I'm hooked on walking, and I'll keep it going as long as I can. Recent good weather has helped me no end, but we can always put a coat on, and boots. My walk

on the grass hills beside Warkworth beach is quite a solitary event. Hundreds of people on the sand - only me on the tops. The staycation could become very popular, especially now that the infection rate is low. The mixed blessing of constant traffic down Queen Street gives me pause for thought, but I know that people have to travel to get here.

There's hope for a vaccine and acceptance of its use for continued support for sensible health measures, and for economic recovery. What will things be like at the time of our next issue?

Separation anxiety in dogs after lockdown

Now lockdown is easing and we humans start go back to work, our poor dogs will be left feeling lonely and confused.

They will have got used to having their 'best friends' around 24/7 and they are bound to miss all the extra attention, walks and cuddles that they have been getting for weeks.

Separation anxiety occurs when pets are separated from their owners for longer periods of time through the day and leaves the dog feeling distressed, which can lead to bad habits such as barking, howling, pacing, scratching doors, chewing furniture, excessive licking and increased heart and respiratory rates.

The end of lockdown will be a huge shock to our poor dogs and the last thing any of us want is for our pets to suffer indirectly because of the current situation.

It has been hard enough for humans to understand the stress involved, but our 'fur babies' will be left wondering where all the attention has disappeared to.



Now we should start preparing our pets for our return to work to enable them to cope better when we are not there all day, every day. Each day, spend some time away from your pets.

Start with 30 minutes a few times a day, even if it's only a door or a child gate that separates you from your dog, then build up to an hour whilst you do some chores.

Getting your dog into a more normal, structured routine now

with set times for walks, exercise and quiet 'alone' time will help to make the transition back to normal life easier for your pet to cope with when you are back at work.

A younger pup may have more trouble adjusting because they have become so used to company in their short lives, this could lead to a bored dog becoming destructive as they try to find new ways to entertain themselves.

Of course an older dog in a house full of children will probably be relieved to have a peaceful house back to themselves again!

A cat, on the other hand, will be celebrating hours of uninterrupted sleep as calmness descends!

By setting a routine now we can all help our pets feel less anxious when life eventually returns to normal.

From the team at Coquet Vets
www.coquetvets.co.uk
01665 252 250

Eat Out to Help Out

Use the Eat Out to Help Out Scheme at these local establishments:

Dollys & Daisys Coquet Tea Rooms 1911 Coffee Co Kayleigh's Kitchen The Old Boat House The Fish Shack	Quayside Chippy Lilly's Landing The Amble Inn Castle Mania Circa The Old Storehouse Rossini
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- to get 50% off your food and non-alcoholic drinks up to a total value of £10 per person if you eat or drink in
- every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday between 3 August and 31 August as many times as you like
- You don't need a voucher to use the scheme and you can use it at the same time as other offers and discounts. There is no minimum spend.

Alcoholic drinks and service charges are excluded from the offer.

List correct at time of going to press: For a full list via postcode, see: www.tax.service.gov.uk/eat-out-to-help-out/find-a-restaurant/

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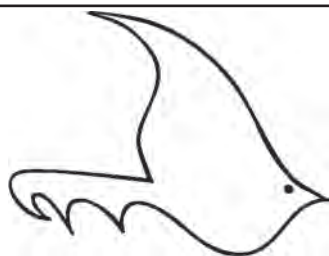
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The Ambler team? We are a friendly
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and help from anyone who would
like to volunteer.

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We've been locked down...but we got up again

The previous Ambler made it
all the way to the printers,
before lockdown called a stop,
so for the first time in 20 years,
the print edition never hit
your doorstep. It does exist on
our website, so if you haven't

already, you can read 'The
Ambler That Never Was': www.theambler.co.uk/back-issues-of-the-ambler/.

During lockdown we
continued to post articles online
on what local businesses and

individuals were doing. You can
catch up here: www.theambler.co.uk/category/health/coronavirus/.

This issue is a bit of a
slimmed down edition, but
we're still here! Stay safe.

WE WERE SORRY to hear of the death of Chelsea Pensioner George Skipper, who died in July. During WW2, George served in the Royal Army Service Corps and took part in the D-Day landings. He was awarded the Legion D'Honneur by the French government in 2015. George lived in Amble for many years, eventually moving to the Royal Chelsea Hospital in 2016. He was recently interviewed as part of historian Dan Snow's History Hit channel: <https://tv.historyhit.com/watch/35065519>

VE Day: celebrating triumph over adversity



The town square was
unusually quiet. A few
people had gathered in the
warm May sunshine to pay
respects to the fallen, but
it was the uncharacteristic
silence throughout the town
which spoke volumes.

A spray of red white
and blue flowers was placed
on both war memorials
on behalf of the people of
Amble, in a low-key but
nevertheless poignant tribute
to the fallen of WW2. The
flowers were placed by army
veteran Lyndsay Williamson.
Submariner veterans, Craig
Weir and John Bartlett, also
placed a floral tribute on
behalf of the NE Branch of
the Submariners Association.

Earlier in the day, at 11am,
a single salute was given by
veteran Peter Proctor-Cannon
of 15/19 the King's Royal
Hussars, as the nation fell
silent in memory of those who
fought during WW2. Silence
fell on top of silence. What a
strange new world.

Anna Williams

Read the full article and
see photos of the day on
our website: <https://www.theambler.co.uk/2020/05/10/ve-day-celebrating-triumph-over-adversity/>

Photos: Above: Peter Proctor
Cannon gave a salute. Photo by
Anna Williams

Below: We can do it - Amy
Baston recreates the famous
WW2 poster. Photo by Dru Dodd



Popular events cancelled

This summer's events
calendar is looking pretty
sparse, as two more events have
had to be cancelled.

Amble's Lifeboat Day

Amble's popular Lifeboat
Day due to take place on 30
August has been cancelled. A
spokesperson for the Amble
Lifeboat Fundraisers said: "It
is with regret that the Amble
Lifeboat Fundraisers have
decided, after consultation
with RNLI Officials, that the
Annual Lifeboat Harbour Day,
traditionally held on the August
Bank Holiday Sunday (30th),
will be cancelled for 2020. The
decision is reluctantly based
on the ability to protect our
volunteer crew and staff, as well



Lifeboat Day 2019

the public, in the current Covid
19 Pandemic, and current
uncertainty about future safety
guidance. The current time
scale also leaves insufficient
time to adequately plan the
event. Hopefully it will be back
in 2021, bigger, and better. We
hope to see you all then, and
thank you for your support in
previous years."

Hauxley Fun Day

The following day - 31
August - would also have
seen Hauxley Fun Day, but
this too has been cancelled.
A spokesperson for Hauxley
Village Hall Committee said
"We are very sorry to announce
that this year's fun day is
cancelled. Social distancing
issues and government
regulations has unfortunately
meant that we have had to
make this decision. We hope to
see you again in 2021."

Amble Puffin Festival, The
Colony, Mauretania Day and
VE Day commemorations are
among dozens of events in
2020 which have been cancelled
due to the coronavirus.

Anna Williams

WHAT YOU SAY... Looking for my friend

I'm looking for a friend Jennifer
Jones her maiden name. She
lived in Amble when we attended
Ashington Tech in 1966 to 1968. I
know she married a fisherman and

they had a daughter. My maiden
name was Darbyshire. I hope you
can help. Every time I visit Amble
I think about her.

Doreen Riley

Ed: if you have any information
for Doreen, please reply via
editor@theambler.co.uk

'Covid quilt of connections' community project

Dry Water Arts would love you to be part of our online quilting project and importantly there is no need to sew! Quilts and quilting are wonderful symbols of community, bringing together individual expression into a cohesive whole.

For this project we would like you to:

1. Identify a piece of fabric that has meaning for you. It could be a favourite piece of clothing, a table cloth, a scarf, a blanket, a favourite T-shirt. Something where the fabric - its look, feel sparks associations/memories in you.

2. Take a photograph of your

chosen fabric so that it fills the whole frame. Ideally we would like the photograph to be portrait not square. Or ask us to come and photograph it for you

3. Send the photograph to the Dry Water team at info@drywaterarts.uk or you can send by text message to 07542 141411 or send it on a Facebook message/messenger @drywaterarts

4. Please also send us the story behind your fabric just a few lines, you can email this or ring us and we can take notes.

Once you send us the image and your mini fabric story the Dry Water team will assemble the



fabric memories together into an online quilt for the community to enjoy. You will be able to see each piece and also the story behind it in our online gallery.

Once we are allowed to open the Dry Water Arts Centre, the online virtual

quilt will be transfer printed onto fabric, to form a living memory quilt brought together during Covid19, for and by the community both near and far.

Very important - If you know someone who you think would like to take part in the online quilt project but may find uploading their fabric image and story tricky, please contact us as we have a team able to give practical in person (socially distanced) support so that anyone who wants to be included can be.

www.drywaterarts.uk
info@drywaterarts.uk
Tel: 07542 141411

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.

And for every machine purchased or leased, we will give the buyer half price coffee for life (T&Cs apply). No coffee contract is required.

The Roastery unit is open for takeaway, bean sales and showroom tours (by appointment).

We have also expanded into Unit 6C on Coquet Enterprise Park (next door to the Roastery), where you can 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 - even if you don't have a business needing a coffee machine.

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Martin Homer



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Bsc Hons DPodM MChS

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- Bunions
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No hugs for Grandad

As our new normal life begins, our quarantine life comes to an end. For the first couple of weeks in quarantine people had no idea what to do, as no-one had any idea of what was really going on in the world.

Throughout the whole 13 weeks of quarantine grandparents couldn't see their grandchildren and grandchildren couldn't give their grandparents a hug. For some people that was very hard. This was one of the most difficult things for me.

For all of quarantine everyone has been so bored – but not me.

I had fun whilst doing school work. Then I would go see my auntie who was my main childcare as my mum is a key worker and is still at work. Once there we would do PE with Joe to help start the day fully. We would then later go on about a two hour dog walk around Warkworth. Once home I would have dinner, go to sleep and do it all again the next day.

Now I'm back at school and I'm really happy to be back, only I don't do as long walks as I have done, however at least we are trying to get back to normal. STAY SAFE. BE CAREFUL. PROTECT YOURSELF. Next step, cuddles with grandad, and horseriding!

By Megan



Bak 2 skoolz

The last few months have been difficult, but finally things are returning to normal. Shops are opening, we can see our friends and soon schools will be open again for everyone. It's exciting, but at the same time I'm terrified to be back amongst people and trying to live an ordinary life.

Over the lockdown period, schools have been setting work online (primarily through Google Drive at JCSC), but this means that when we go back to school people will be at different levels of education, because not everyone has been accessing it. Personally, I have found that the work set is good, enough to keep me thinking about each of the subjects- however it is challenging to teach yourself what you don't know, so I have found that I haven't learnt very much.

I don't know what's going to happen when we return, currently social distancing is easier in schools because there are less people, but what happens when we are all back in one classroom? It's worrying to think about but I know it will all work out, corona can't last forever.

By Ava



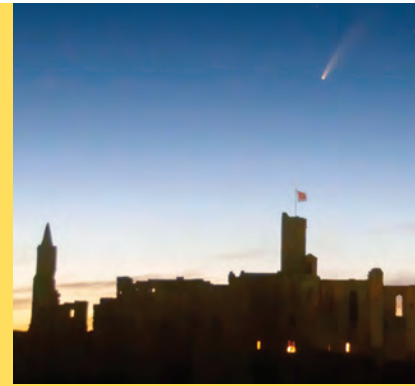
Comet NEOWISE



Known officially as C/2020 F3, this specific comet was discovered on March 27, 2020, by astronomers during the NEOWISE mission

of the Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer space telescope.

This comet orbits the Sun, not the newspaper, the star! You could see Comet NEOWISE just after sunset from July 13 to 19. You had to face northwest at dusk, and have a clear view of the northwestern horizon.



This photo of the comet over Warkworth Castle was taken by Adrian Jannetta.
By Grace

Time is relative



Time is a funny thing. It feels like it changes if we are bored or if we're doing something very fun. When out with friends or doing something we like, time seems to fly by so fast that you don't even notice. However, when you do these things too often it could get very boring, and time would go slower and slower. Another place time goes by

slowly is school. If only people made an invention called non boring school 2000!

Lockdown for me went by quickly as I moved to a new house and it seems like cleaning and moving heavy things makes time go by quickly? When it was a nice day we would go for a walk along the beach (so tempting to go in the water) but when it was raining we stopped inside and slept all day (boring).

By Hannah
(and William)



TV shows you should definitely watch



Like many, during lockdown I have been bingeing through Netflix and finding a lot of new and interesting shows, so I thought I'd share some of my favourites.

She-ra and the Princess of Power- this is supposed to be aimed at young children, but me and Lily have become obsessed. It has princesses, talking horses and robots, so what more could you want?

Brooklyn 99- for a slightly more mature audience, b99 is a comedy about police in New York that I've been rewatching with the fam. It's very funny and covers important topics.

The Good Place- I watched this a little while ago, but have been meaning to rewatch because it was so good. So many unsuspecting plot twists and iconic moments.

I hope you enjoy watching these as much as I did :)
By Ava

Results day won't be the same



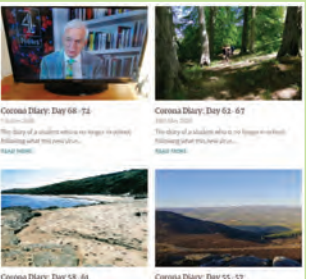
On 20 August, it's GCSE results day, although this year it's going to be very different to usual. A few months ago, we weren't even sure if we'd be able to go to the school to collect our results or if we'd have to get them sent to us, but thankfully we're able to go and see our friends as we get our grades. The only problem is, what are these grades going to be?

The corona virus means that we didn't do our exams, which was a relief in some ways. It meant we didn't have to go through a month of pure stress and revising. However, this means that our grades are going to be based off of target grades and mock results which, for a lot of people, aren't the best they could've done, and there's no way of telling if this will be taken into account.

Many students also think that it's a life experience that's been taken away, meaning that results day won't be the same. It's a prediction of how we would've done, not what we actually achieved.

"Results day will be different because we haven't had the opportunity to fully prove ourselves." Says Faith Bell, a GCSE student at JCSC, "We also haven't had the chance to experience what exams would've been like with real invigilators. Two years of our lives were for nothing."

Results day is still going to have the nervous excitement of opening an envelope and getting our grades, but whether they'll be the grades we would've got in the real exam or not is unclear. We just have to trust that our teachers know us well enough to give us the results we deserve.
By Lily



Check out Lily's brilliant Corona Diary
www.theambler.co.uk/category/opinion/blogs/

Well done to Warkworth!

Warkworth C of E Primary has been officially recognised by two national awarding bodies for its LGBT+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, plus other related identities) inclusion and visibility, and for outstanding mental health and wellbeing provision. They are the first school in Northumberland to achieve these awards.

The school was awarded The Rainbow Flag Award, a national quality assurance framework that encourages an organisational approach to developing strategies to combat LGBT+ phobic bullying.

The assessors commented on how well the school taught religion and LGBT+ education together perfectly, with the best written policies they'd seen!



They were impressed that staff had celebrated their support for LGBT+ individuals and families in the wider community and shared it in school.

The school also accomplished Silver for the pioneering School Mental Health Award, delivered by the Carnegie Centre for Excellence for Mental Health in Schools, part of Leeds Beckett University.

The award aims to strengthen pupils' mental health by supporting schools to make positive changes to improve students' outcomes and life chances.

Laura Ritson, Headteacher said "As a school community we are very proud to have achieved both awards. We feel they really are a celebration of the dedication of staff, parents, governors and of course the children to working in partnership and supporting each other to strive together as one."

Back to school will be a new learning curve for all

When the school gates swing open in September and we welcome back our students and greet a new cohort of Year 5 students, it will be the culmination of months of work and planning for the JCSC team. Those first steps into the yard at South Avenue or towards a new designated entry point for each year at Acklington Road are likely to feel strange after an extended time away for the majority of pupils. However, parents and pupils can be assured that we have the pastoral support in place to offer assistance where it is needed. This support has been a key focus for the board of governors and the executive team as part of end-of-term discussions that have admittedly looked a little different this year.

Communication with parents, carers and pupils has been more important than ever over recent

months, and it's been especially lovely to receive feedback and suggestions that have fed directly into our plans. The majority of students may not have been on the school premises but staff have dropped books, welcome packs and learning resources to families by foot, bicycle and school minibus. The coming together of the community has been a real source of inspiration and we are keen to continue to foster this spirit so we can meet the needs of our pupils and their families when the new term starts.

This September, the back-to-school period will be a new learning curve for all of us, governors included. There will be a one way system to follow, along with physical zoning of buildings to allow for social distancing. At South Avenue there will be different break and lunch

times. And as you'd expect, the JCSC Facilities team will regularly replenish hand sanitiser points and clean throughout the day.

Despite the many changes, we're confident students old and new will find that JCSC remains a welcoming and nurturing learning environment. If you'd like to play a part in helping to shape that environment and ensuring students achieve their full potential, the board of governors is currently seeking to recruit two governors from the local community. If you are interested in learning more about what it takes to be a school governor, you should contact the clerk to the governing body, Carole Hutchinson, chutchinson01@jcsc.co.uk

Sue Currie
Chair of Governors
James Calvert Spence College

Scavenger hunt planned

Amble Youth Centre has been busy over lockdown, delivering activity packages and offering support to young people across the area.

We are now ready for a new phase to our work. And as such we are planning something new.

On 11 August 2020 we are putting together an event in the town centre between 10am and 4pm. There will be a scavenger hunt for small groups (socially distant) and families to take part in, some sports to play, some crafts and we will have our Sunflower awards ceremony.

This event will see the re-launch of face to face

work and we are really looking forward to it.

Over the next few months we will be working in the community delivering our sessions in safe outdoor spaces and we hope that by the end of the year (If covid19 regulations allow) we will be able to move back into our building.

Things will be different but we know that together we can get through this time.

With your support we can help young people, families and our town get back on its feet.

Matthew Mahoney
Senior Manager
Amble Youth Project

Remembering Robert Foster

Robert L Foster 17 May 1959
– 17 March 2020

It is with deep sadness that my brother died unexpectedly aged 60 years of age. He was taken away far too young and too soon.

We were brought up at the bungalow Sunnyside, South Broomhill, and the family later moved to Gibson Street in Amble.

He did some amazing filming over the years including three months travelling with Gary Lineker, visiting the countries of footballers who won the Golden Boot.

His loving sister Angela Henderson (Foster)

Angela sent us this wonderful tribute to her brother from his friend, director Paul Balmer.

The late Robert Foster B.A. A tribute by Paul Balmer (Director)
Cameramen are invisible, they work at the 'other' end of the lens.

I have just searched back through our 30 years working together and there is his 'credit' on just about everything, but few photos. Together we dodged land mines and bandits in Yemen, crocodiles in The Gambia and the Gendarmerie in Paris.

In Africa we travelled by dugout canoe and blithely took the door of a light plane, precariously achieving dizzying shots of the endless Sahara and savannah. Robert was fearless.

Most recently we dodged skateboards and a Royal Princess at Adrenaline Alley. Robert also hosted a workshop at the first 'Corby Big Film Week'.

Nine international awards in London, Chicago, New York and Rome. A BAFTA nomination, a 'Gold Camera' and a Prix de Roma. All with Robert.



Cameraman Robert Foster worked with a host of celebrities

Robert was much more than a 'camera person'. He loved 'light'. In his work with Julian Bream or Mandy Young MBE - he searched constantly to show his subjects in the best light and to also bring out something of their inner light. He succeeded.

I only now realise that Robert was at my side during some of the greatest moments of my life. Sharing time with Yehudi Menuhin,

Michael Parkinson, Stephane Grappelli, Nigel Kennedy, John Renbourn, Lord Lew Grade and Julian Bream. Presidents and Princesses.... and many more.

This picture shows Robert at his happiest. Though we often disagreed, that friendly 'competition' occasionally created a kind of magic. I am lost.

Paul Balmer April 2020

Bringing Easter smiles

Helping ensure that despite lockdown Easter was still a celebration and a chocolate fix.

Harbour Lights Church

donated 50 Easter Eggs to Amble Youth Project who duly distributed them to delighted children across Amble.

Pastor C. Neil Sayers observed "It was a joy to see the smiles we brought, as due to the pandemic many children might have otherwise gone without.

Serving our community in

this way is a vital part of our church mission."

For further information on the work of the church, visit our website: harbourlightschurch.com

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Reports from our *County Councillors*



To the NHS workers battling on the front lines and the cleaners, cooks, porters, managers and backroom staff who keep our NHS running. To the lab technicians, pharmacists and scientists who run tests, prescribe medicine and work on treatments. To those creating and distributing vital medicines and medical equipment. To the social care workers caring for our loved ones in these difficult times.

To the transport and logistics workers on the buses, trains, ports and airports keeping supplies moving and ensuring key workers can get to work. To the police, police support staff, firefighters, prison, army, defence and court

Terry.Clark@northumberland.gov.uk

staff doing everything they can to keep us safe. To the food production, distribution and shop workers keeping us fed. To the infrastructure and utility workers keeping our water clean, our homes heated and our lights on.

To the schools and nursery staff caring for the children of those that cannot stay at home. To the civil servants and local government workers maintaining vital services. To the delivery, telecoms and postal workers keeping us supplied and connected with our loved ones. To the banking and financial services staff keeping our payments systems functioning. To the religious staff and those helping us through the hardest of times.

THANK YOU ALL.

The last few months have been dominated by Covid-19 and its effect on our community.

I have been very impressed with how the residents of Amble have behaved during this crisis. My observations of Queen Street, Morrisons and the Harbour area are that people have been very good in following the precautions requested.

When NCC (after consultation) signed a one way system on Queen Street some people thought it would not work, well it has! Apart from one or two uncaring individuals, the system is being adhered to very well indeed, as are the precautions in shops etc.

We have been fortunate here in Amble, sadly we have had a few deaths but many less than other parts of the country. Any

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

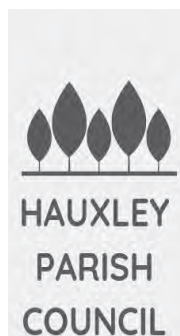
Covid death is a tragedy for someone, and

I sincerely hope that we have seen the last one; by following common sense rules that should be the case.

I have been working with officers of the County Council about the schedule of reopening of amenities and businesses in Amble and elsewhere over the last few months, and have supplied local knowledge to help make the right timetable for these openings.

I also have been able to assist with Government grants for certain businesses who were experiencing difficulty in obtaining them.

Please keep up sensible Covid precautions and continue to make our town a safe place.



Socially Distanced Litter Pick

WE ARE HOLDING a socially distanced community litter pick on Saturday 8th August meeting at the Village Hall at 9.30am. All equipment will be provided but volunteers are asked to bring their own gloves.

The litter pick will cover the village square, dunes, beach and verges from Low Hauxley to High Hauxley. We hope to see you there.

Hauxley Neighbourhood Plan

We recently appointed Jo-Anne Garrick Ltd as our Planning Consultant. Jo-Anne has significant experience in a variety of senior planning roles in a range of public sector organisations and more recently in the private sector having undertaken a number of commissions providing Neighbourhood Planning

support across the County.

We also secured an initial grant of £2,400 from Locality and Groundwork UK to commence the Planning Process.

The Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group will reconvene on Monday 10th August with Councillors and residents present to move the plan forward.

We hope to undertake further engagement exercises within the parish in the coming months to obtain feedback on draft visions, objectives and themes for planning policies and community actions. It is expected the plan will take approx. 24 months to complete.

Accounts for year ending March 2020

The Accounts for year ending 31st March 2020 have been checked by our Internal Auditor and have been approved by the Parish Council.

A summary of our accounts is attached here. The full Annual Governance and Accountability Return is available to view on our website. Any person interested has the right to inspect these accounting records and they will be made available until 28th August.

Traffic Issues in Hauxley

Of recent, there have been issues with cars parking on verges and blocking access to properties from the Beacon Hill car park into Low Hauxley. With the help of County Councillor Clark, temporary signage was installed at the junction to Low Hauxley stating 'local access only'. More permanent measures to address the issue of inconsiderate parking will be looked at over the coming months. Visitors to Hauxley are urged to use the car park provided.

We recently asked Northumberland County Council about the possibility of introducing a 20mph speed limit between High Hauxley and Low Hauxley to create a safer route for pedestrians. The Highways Senior Programmes Officer is currently looking at a scheme. He will run the plan past the Parish Council for comment and has confirmed that there is funding available to implement the scheme this financial year.

Future meetings

The next meeting of the Parish will be held at 6.30pm on Monday 14th September. For further details please visit our website: <https://northumberlandparishes.uk/hauxley>

HAUXLEY PARISH COUNCIL - ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2020

Opening Bank Balance Brought Forward		7034
INCOME		
Precept on County Council	4000	
Other income	100	
TOTAL INCOME	4100	
EXPENSES		
Salaries	1721	
Parish expenses	5445	
Earmarked funds	0	
TOTAL EXPENSES	7166	
TOTAL INCOME LESS EXPENSES		-3066
Bank Balance at 31st March 2020 - Carried Forward		3968

The above accounts indicate an excess of expenditure over income for 2019-20 of £3066. This is a result of purchasing new bins, repairing information display panels, improved planting schemes and groundworks in the Village Square

A breakdown of the balances carried forward is available on our website.

Parish Clerk: Elaine Brown Tel: 07588 659 600 Email: hauxleyipc@gmail.co.uk Website: <https://northumberlandparishes.uk/hauxley>



Amble Town

All meetings at 6pm via Zoom until further notice - details on website

Town: 13th August, 10th September, 15th October

COUNCIL

EAST WARD:	Helen Lewis, Ian Parks, 33 Warkworth Avenue, Warkworth. NE65 0TP	Craig Weir (Chair/Mayor) 76 Priory Park, Amble NE65 0PH 07751 229 739 NE65 0HY 01665 712342	WEST WARD:	Jeff Watson Tracey Hinton, 13 George Street, Amble NE65 0RZ	David Bewley 11 Brinkburn Place Amble NE65 0BJ 07525713086	CEN. WARD:	Jane Dargue Kate Morrison, 3 Island View, Amble NE65 0SE 01665 711191	VACANCY	10 Sylvia's Close, Amble NE65 0GB 07795360513
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COVID 19 CHANGES

The pandemic has had an effect on all our lives, both personally and professionally. We have all had to adjust to numerous new guidelines and recommended ways to keep us as safe as possible. As more businesses reopen and we can start some leisure pursuits again, we must still be cautious. Whilst the council office has been closed we are still available by email or telephone.

The office itself has undergone a

complete restructure to be Covid 19 compliant to keep our staff and visitors as safe as possible. If you have made an appointment to come to the office please observe the new entry system and wait patiently until asked to enter.

There are signs at our cemeteries and gardens urging everyone to keep to social distancing and to wash hands after visits- better still take hand sanitizer with you.

Those at Paddlers Park also ask that only

one person uses a piece of equipment at any one time so that distancing can be observed.

Our social media has carried a poster- thanks to Cllr Parks- with up to date information which is in greater detail on the website. It has been fantastic to see so many people and businesses in the town doing all they can to help others- Amble's wonderful community spirit has cheered us all through these difficult times.

'COQUET MOUTH' COMMEMORATION EVENT

July 4th was 80 years since this dredger was sunk at the entrance to the harbour mouth; despite valiant efforts, three men lost their lives. It was planned to hold a commemoration service at the end of the pier and lay floral tributes at sea. Due to the Covid restrictions the planned large scale event had to be cancelled; however Davey Gray kindly offered to take a very small group out. There was a short moving memorial service and floral tributes including one laid by the Mayor on behalf of the town were placed in the sea. There are still plans to erect an interpretation along the pier and to have a separate memorial for seafarers. Ideas of how to achieve this are also being investigated as well as sources of funding.



RENEWALS

We are pleased our insurers have agreed to the replacement bus shelter for the one knocked down in Church Street- it is on order but we await an installation date. The coal truck planters at Paddlers Park and JCSC are being renovated having done well to last five years from when Sodexo made them in HMP Northumberland workshops. Hopefully by the time you read these they will be filled with blooms again. At long last the water has been reconnected at the West Cemetery; please remember to either place your containers on the pole provided or in the litter bins otherwise they blow everywhere and look very unsightly.

EARMARKED FUNDS AT 31ST MARCH 2020

COMMUNITY

SCHOOL PRIZE FUND towards next batch	£800
SEATING refurbishment/replacement	£1890
TOWN PROJECTS towards projects/enhancements	£8635
COMMUNITY/ENVIRONMENTAL public meetings/ environment works etc.	£11470
COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS	£1500
MATCHED FUNDS towards projects attracting grants	£1300
ALLOTMENT FUND boundaries, walkways, maintenance	£10050
RECREATION maintenance/future replacement	£17100
WEBSITE & COMMUNITY COMMUNICATION	£1000
LITTER BINS refurbishment/replacement	£2200
BUS SHELTERS refurbishment/replacement	£4034
NOTICEBOARDS repairs/replacement	£3000
ACTIVE AMBLE	£4450
CCTV	£2000

TOWN

MEMORIAL CLOCK maintenance/service	£1700
MEMORIALS upkeep/repairs	£910
MEMORIAL GARDENS maintenance	£4000
WYND WALL repairs	£4720

ASSET MANAGEMENT

CEMETERIES

EAST CEMETERY MAINTENANCE walls/ boards etc.	£800
MEMORIAL SAFETY checks and stabilisation	£2500
WEST CEMETERY PREMISES maintenance	£3000
WEST CEMETERY MAINTENANCE walls/drive/fence/trees etc.	£9200
WEST CEMETERY DEVELOPMENT signage/mapping/new	£21255
CEMETERY REGISTERS legal requirement	£610

COUNCIL, COMMITMENTS & STAFFING

COMPUTERS & I.T. new and replacement hard/soft ware	£5290
QUALITY STATUS registration fee	£500
ELECTION COSTS for elections/ by election	£8510
OFFICE FURNISHINGS ETC.	£2000
LEGAL/ REGULATORY PROCEDURES advice etc.	£15000
TRAINING staff & councillors	£3000
PPE	£700
LOYALTY FUND retirement gift/ civic & community	£3390
CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS	£45200
CONTINGENCY emergency cover	£10000
GENERAL FUND	£25110

EQUALS TOTAL BANK BALANCE £236,824

PLEASE CALL IF YOU WISH TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TO VIEW THE AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31/03/2020

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



Welcome back to Trust Life, after an extended break. I'm sure I don't need to say what a strange time it has been over the last few months and while things appear to be getting back to as near normal as possible for the foreseeable future, so many business and organisations have had to take steps to ensure staff and customers are safe. Having been in many places and observed people wearing masks and thinking it strange, it is now about to become our normal too!

Trust staff are now working part-time, however the office will remain closed to the public for the time being. We can still be contacted by telephone or email if you have any queries or need your CV updated. If you need to speak to any other tenants in the building their contact details are on the posters in our window. Notwithstanding this our regeneration plans



Jack Charlton opening the refurbished pier in 2000

continue and the Bird Sculpture trail is progressing.

As I write this we have just heard about the death of Jackie Charlton and I thought I would share one of my memories of him.

For many years the Trust organised the annual Sea Fayre Festival. We had a wonderful steering group of volunteers who

each year asked me to contact Jackie to see if he would open the event, which was always held in July. Each year I received an apology because he was away somewhere. After about 4 years he responded saying: 'Julia, I'm always away fishing in Ireland in July.' So it was left at that until in 2000, we were set to open the refurbished Pier.

Knowing Jack and his brother Bobby had spent many happy times fishing off the old pier, I thought I would chance my luck again, this time making sure the opening wouldn't happen in July and telling him if he did this for me I would promise to stop stalking him!

As many of you will know Jack did respond and came along to meet the great crowds that lined the harbour and pier, walking and talking animatedly with everyone he met, which sadly did not include me – I didn't get anywhere near him.

I had done my organising bit and was about to be introduced when someone told him his lunch was ready and he made a beeline into Warkworth Harbour Commissioners to eat!

Exit one stalker who kept her promise.

Julia and Trust staff
julia@ambledevelopmenttrust.org.uk

Plan needs further public scrutiny

Members of the public are being asked to give their views on the latest changes to the Northumberland Local Plan. This sets out in detail how the county will develop in the future and, practically, forms the basis on how planning applications are decided.

The plan has had a long development history, but was finally submitted to the government in May last year. Since then there have been two public hearings, culminating in a series of changes instigated by the Government's Planning Inspectorate. The consultation will run until 5pm on Monday 7 September.

As well as all information being fully accessible online, it is possible to request a USB stick containing a full set of the documents being consulted upon or, if necessary, paper copies can be posted. Hard copies of the consultation documents can be viewed, by prior appointment, at County Hall in Morpeth.

Planning officers will also be available to explain the consultation by telephone or email.

You can find all the additional evidence and how to respond at <https://northumberland-consult.objective.co.uk/portal/planning/localplan/lp-exam-consultation-july2020>

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Bailiffgate reopens in September

Alnwick's award-winning Bailiffgate Museum & Gallery is getting ready to reopen on 1 September, and volunteers are busy putting the finishing touches to its new mouse hunt and Covid Safe measures.

Bailiffgate has come a long way since it opened in 2002. It has recently been awarded a grant from the Arts Council England and funds from the government, administered by Northumberland County Council. The funds have enabled Bailiffgate to set up consultancy roles to support their forward thinking and innovative volunteer team and to provide support during lockdown.

Warkworth Memorial Hall news

We are starting discussions about re-opening the Memorial Hall, although at the time of writing have not agreed a date or the constraints that will be imposed. Check the website www.wwmh.uk for updates.

Meanwhile, we have taken advantage of the closure to catch up with some maintenance work. The Library, a small meeting room on the first floor has undergone a much needed refurbishment. Improvements have also been made to both stair wells and to the storage area between the kitchen and the Supper Room. The external wall of the kitchen has also benefitted from much needed re-pointing.

Village Hall Heritage Project

Belinda Booth, Warkworth War Memorial Hall secretary, will be working with Community Action Northumberland to research the history of Warkworth Memorial Hall and welcomes contact from those willing to get involved in the project or to share photographs/memories of the hall over the years. An important part of the project is to collect oral histories about the role the village hall has played in local life.

Contact Belinda at wwmheritageproject2021@gmail.com.

Warkworth & Amble District Royal British Legion Branch News

Going to press the branch is still unable to restart our bi-monthly meetings in Warkworth War Memorial Hall. We will let everyone know as soon as we are able. The national advice centre of the RBL is still concerned about large gatherings for parades and funerals and it is all under review.

The next commemoration is the anniversary of VJ Day (Victory over Japan) in 1945, the 15 August making this year the 75th Anniversary. Many young men lost their lives who had families in this area. Those

that returned formed a branch of the Far East Prisoner of War Association.

Poppy distribution and Remembrance Day

I have been told that there will be no distribution by organisers like myself to deliver poppies and tins to businesses this year. We are not allowed to handle any cash. Only banks and major supermarkets will be allowed collecting tins which will be processed direct to them and banked by them.

I will still be taking orders

for wreaths but am not allowed to take cash – bank transfer is best method or cheque. I would ask people to pass this information on to those concerned. Orders must be placed through me, so please let me know asap.

There will be no parades or special ceremony for Remembrance Sunday this year, but individuals can lay a wreath in their own time on the day.

June Watson, Secretary, Warkworth & Amble District Royal British Legion

Singing together via Zoom



When the lockdown occurred, we wondered what would become of our choir.

Very quickly our wonderful Choir Leader Sarah Gray introduced us to singing together online via Zoom.

Every Thursday evening, around twenty four of us meet up together. We have a great sing, learn new songs and are able to catch up with each other.

It has also meant that we have been able to be joined again by a member who lives in Spain and one in the north of Scotland, so it is lovely to see them again.

The photo above shows us waving during one of our lively songs.

We have had a video made of our singing of the Platters song "The Harbour Lights".

We each had to record ourselves singing individually and it was all blended together to produce our online choir video.

If you type in Harbour Lights Community Choir youtube, you can check us out, great photos of Amble and our choir too.

You can also access it and more information about our choir via our web page, harbourlightscommunitychoir.org

Not everyone wants to sing online or is able to do so for various reasons, but we keep

in touch via email, our website and Sarah also records CDs so that everyone can keep singing. We know that singing has great health benefits as well as being good fun and it is so great to have that chance to do so each week.

Due to restrictions on singing at the moment we do not know when we will get back together as a group to sing, but we are still very much a choir, a singing community and as always a great friendly bunch of people.

*Mary Davidson.
Chair of Harbour Lights – Amble Community Choir*

Amble Pin Cushion workshops

Thursday 10 September "Sew Be It" Day offers
9.30am – 4pm £ various
Saturday 19 September Entrelac and Modular Knitting
10am – 4pm £50
Monday 28 September to Saturday 3rd October SEW Week
Saturday 3 October Re-model your Winter Coat
10am – 4pm £45
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.

Message from St Mark's URC

During the enforced lockdown, St. Mark's has been closed to everyone, except the Amble Foodbank, which has been operating from our hall, delivering many more supplies than usual. The volunteers are doing a sterling job and we thank them very much for this.

The Elders are currently working towards reopening the church for Sunday worship, although this will take some time as the regulations put in place need careful consideration. We are not willing to risk anyone's health by opening before we are ready. And so, I think you can expect St. Mark's will not be open for worship before September at the earliest.

As far as Sunday worship goes, the BBC offers radio and television services, and, if you have internet access, there is a vast range of services you can access - some local, some national. (You get to sing along with the hymns, which we can't have, even when we are open!!) Until further notice, we are sorry to say there will be no coffee mornings and no hall lettings.

Alison (Minister 01670 517510) and I (Secretary 01665 711177) welcome any enquiries regarding prayer requests, funeral arrangements, etc.

Sue Swanston

Morrisons to help RNLI for lifeboat day

This year's Harbour Day on 30 August has been cancelled due to Coronavirus, however Morrisons are stepping in to help. The Amble store will be decorated with bunting and flags and there will be some entertainment in the car park. Look out for more info nearer the time.

The RNLI Shop in Amble is currently closed as access to the station is restricted to keep the crew safe. Please check out the RNLI online shop where you can safely buy gifts, toys, clothing, pens, diaries, calendars, Christmas cards and much more. For free postage and packing use code AMBLE (no minimum spend) In these difficult times your support means more than ever. See also p6.

Speak For Yourself: Rural Women's Voices

Following on from our successful HERitage project in which we showcased an art exhibition and our very own play "Sticky Toffee Pudding and Butterscotch Sauce", Women's Workshop would like to announce our new online video-making project highlighting and identifying women's issues.

Our aim is to highlight women's stories and celebrate rural women's voices by creating a platform for women across Northumberland to have their say and make a short film about an issue that is important to them.

Throughout the Summer, Women's Workshop will be working with women to develop skills in film, create an (online) space and empower women in Northumberland to 'Speak For Yourself'. We are aware that women in rural areas regularly feel marginalised as services are often targeted to a more urban population and do not always address their needs. We are aiming to work with a group of women to identify and highlight their issues and concerns so that we can present their final pieces to policy makers to call for real change.

Women's Workshop will also host a virtual film festival at the end of August, showcasing the films created by the group.

To find out more or to get involved please contact JoJo Kirtley at womenfirst@womensworkshop.net.

Dry Water Arts future events

We are thrilled to announce that you can access FREE creative arts workshops suitable for all the family. We are also offering yoga/wellbeing sessions to encourage people to keep moving particularly those who are shielding. You can access all of these on our website www.drywaterarts.uk. We appreciate finding online content can be tricky so please give us a ring if you need help accessing the information.

We are also running a series of online community projects and exhibitions. The first one being the virtual Covid Quilt of Connections. (See page 7)

An exciting project very close to our hearts, the More Than Medication Exhibition will be launching online on 15 August. The exhibition will share insights into the realities of living with dementia, and features work by carers and people living with dementia from our Curiosity Cafe dementia positive programme.

The Covid experience has brought the possibility of a new way of working, so at Dry Water we intend to improvise with those possibilities; try them out in creative ways to improve our shared sense of community. With this in mind we will be continuing to develop and adapt our programme, finding new ways for us all to 'Make, Move and Meet' together.

www.drywaterarts.uk info@drywaterarts.uk Tel: 07542 141411



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Local heroes who deserve our thanks

We're compiling a list of people who we think deserve a big pat on the back and thank you, for all the work they've done for our community during the last few months.

During lockdown we wrote about many of the people and businesses listed below; you can read the articles on our website. Look under the Coronavirus section.

Some have gone above and beyond their normal work practise, others have volunteered their time and energy to help the vulnerable in our community. We think they deserve praise for

their tireless efforts. This is by no means a finished list - who else do you think deserves to be thanked?

Read more on our website:
www.theambler.co.uk

Health care services



The Ambler was told: "The whole team deserve medals! Some slept there for days to provide care for residents. Dedicated and caring they are a fine example of 'local heroes'"

Liz Atkinson and The Grange Care Home team



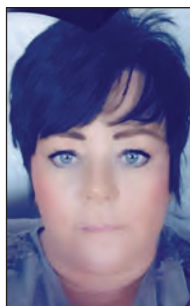
The Health Centre were regularly thanked for their service during the last few months, not least when Dr Pettifer left the practice at the end of April.

Dr Ben Burville and the Coquet Medical Group team



Cromies pharmacy team received a lot of praise for their diligence during lockdown

Community groups and individuals



Rachel's name is usually first when we ask who to thank. The support team have provided unstinting help for vulnerable people in our community.

Rachel Cook and the 'Isolation in Amble & surrounding areas' team



The team supported people with dementia and their carers via phone calls, deliveries of food & meds, and activities, and began a sewing group.

Frances Anderson and the Dry Water Arts team



Mary Davidson's name came up whenever we asked who we should include on this page. She helps with more groups than we can list here!

Mary Davidson



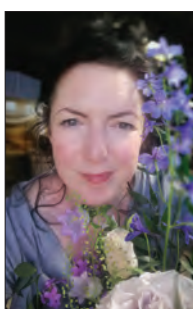
Lynne Morelli was also suggested more than once, due to her tireless help with the Foodbank and the Isolation support group.

Lynne Morelli



Kind hearted Julie never stopped baking during lockdown, delivering free home made cakes and scones to local people in need

Julie Baxter



Every week throughout lockdown, florist Moira donated a beautiful bouquet to other local heroes who were nominated on Facebook.

Moira Angus



Teachers at JCSC sourced materials and made protective visors, with help from colleagues at Duchess's Community High School.

James Calvert Spence College



Staff at Hadston House delivered 60-90 hot meals per day to people in Amble and the surrounding area.

Hadston House team

Local businesses



Kevin Rutherford and his team pulled out all the stops with free deliveries of essential goods to the local community during lockdown.

Queen Street Convenience Store



The fresh fruit and veg shop sprang into action by offering an online ordering system and providing free deliveries

Independent Food & Drink shop



Amble's Morrisons are generous donors to the Amble Food Bank. They offer prepacked bags for under £2 containing items for the charity.

Marion Long, Morrisons Amble



The Farm Bakery began offering deliveries as soon as the lockdown began. They were full of praise for their volunteer delivery team.

Farm Bakery Shop