



The Ambler

Amble's Community Newspaper

Issue 136 Oct/Nov 2022

Bird Sculpture trail progresses



The latest sculpture in the Bord Waalk trail has recently been installed, to the evident delight of passing walkers. 'Tern' by artist Jon Voss has been placed along the Coquet estuary, between the Warkworth Road and the Shorebase Trust. More on back page.

Tributes to HM Queen Elizabeth



The day the future King came to Amble



See page 2

Call for inclusion of sports centre as two-tier system agreed

Northumberland County Council has approved plans to switch Amble's schools to a two-tier system, and see the middle school become a hub for young people with special needs and disabilities.

A complete new build school for JCSC is also promised, as part of a £36m package of improvements for local schools.

But a call has been made to include more community provision such as a community hall and a sports centre in the project.

At the September NCC Cabinet meeting, Councillor Jeff Watson said "There are absolutely no facilities in the town, that is the size of Amble, which is almost the size of Alnwick, which are done by the county council.

"There is no community hall, there are no facilities, there's a library but everybody's got a library, there is nothing. This is an opportunity to make sure



Cllr Jeff Watson has called for a sports centre to be part of the project

that the sports and recreation element of the schools also co-incides with the needs of the community."

He added, "I hope we can do this properly so it's not just a school, it's a school with a community centre, sports and recreation area as well, the whole shooting match."

NCC has already approved a £25.5m investment in schools in the Coquet Partnership, and now plans to increase the spend to £36.6m to include the new project.

A public consultation in June, asked people for their views on moving to a two-tier educational system (primary and secondary) in Amble. 92% of respondents said they believed two-tier would deliver the best outcomes for young people.

There was also widespread support for proposals to create 50 new places for young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) by building a new satellite site of Barndale House Special School on the current JCSC South

Avenue site that would open in September 2024.

A four week statutory consultation will now take place.

In a joint statement, the headteachers of the Coquet Partnership said: "All the schools in the Coquet Partnership are united in their vision to build a thriving educational community where all our children and young people can reach their full potential."

Good Ofsted rating for JCSC

In their recent Ofsted report, JCSC has an improved rating. This summer the school was given a Good rating, after many years designated as Requires Improvement.

Executive Headteacher Neil Rodgers said "We are absolutely delighted with this outcome which is a true reflection and just reward for the hard work and dedication of all members of our team, across several years."

Amble pays respects to the Queen

Tributes from the people of Amble marking the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II included flowers, messages and a handmade feather wreath.

After the announcement of the death of the Queen, the flag in Amble's Memorial Gardens was lowered to half mast, and during the ten days' mourning period, flowers, messages of condolence, a painting and a 'Kintsugi for a Queen' wreath made from black feathers dipped in gold leaf were placed behind the clock tower.

One tribute placed by Deputy Mayor Helen Lewis read: "On behalf of the people of Amble. In tribute for a lifetime of devotion to all her people."

Another stated "To our Queen Elizabeth II. I thank you for your service, guidance and love. The Country and the Commonwealth are now in the safe hands of your son,



HM Queen Elizabeth visited Alnwick in 2011, as the guest of the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland, and where she was introduced to several people from Amble. Many community groups including The Ambler were also invited to the event. The photo shows the Queen and Prince Philip being greeted by Alan Shearer. Photo by Joan Robinson

King Charles III. May you rest in peace with your beloved husband Philip."

Books of condolence were opened in Fourways2 and in St Cuthbert's church.

The 'Kintsugi for a Queen' tribute (right) was made at Dry Water Arts by members of the community. Kintsugi is a Japanese tradition of mending breakages with gold. *See also p8*



When Charles visited Amble



Readers may remember when the future King Charles III visited Amble in July 2012.

HRH Prince Charles, as he then was, met representatives of local groups and was presented

with gifts including jam, a walking stick, a handmade box and locally caught lobsters. He even sampled some Spurreli ice cream.

Anna Williams



Left and above: Photos by Anna Williams
Below: Photo by Justin Cooper



A plea from our doctors

You ring the surgery and find you're eighth in the queue. Eventually you get through but there's no appointments with a doctor or advanced nurse practitioner left that day. The receptionist asks if you feel it's urgent enough to warrant a call back from the duty on-call GP.

The receptionist reviews the appointment screen and realises that unfortunately the emergency GP is unable to safely accept more patients.

We appreciate how frustrating this can be for you. We wanted to take some time to help explain the challenge we face and hope you can help us to cope over this unprecedented time.

No matter how much the doctors and nurses want to provide an efficient caring service, they are a limited resource and when they attempt to deal with too many patients in a day there's serious risk.

Risk to the patient, as the clinician is human and their judgement can be eroded when overloaded, and genuine risk to the clinician of "burnout".

The "safe capacity" is there for a reason. It may mean you have to ring NHS 111 to be safely triaged but it helps ensure your local GP service can continue to function.

The NHS is under considerable pressure and cracks can be seen across the system.

Your local GP service from Coquet Medical Group will survive. Not only will it survive but plans are being developed to help Coquet Medical Group strengthen its position over time and expand the service we can offer you, our patients.

This, however, will take time and the next five - six months will be incredibly challenging for us all. We have over 12,000 patients and more houses are being developed in the area.

Every day we find that our clinical capacity (i.e., Doctors / Nurses etc) is overwhelmed by the demand on our services. It's like trying to pour two pints into a one pint jug every day.

Our practice has never had more doctors or nurses but still, requests for appointments outstrips our capacity daily.

Our doctors and nurses face a stream of patients every day and have around just 10 minutes

per patient. In that time, we are focused to help identify those who are seriously unwell or in the early stages of serious illness such as cancer.

Time pressures are extreme, we would love to have far more time for each one of you, but the reality is that time is a finite resource and additional time spent with one patient places pressure on the time allocated to the next patient. At times this may make you and your clinician feel slightly rushed. We sincerely apologise for this.

Why don't we simply allocate each patient more time for a consultation?

We review this constantly and the balance has been struck to allow us to safely manage around five patients per hour focusing on a single problem. We have invested heavily in increased staffing, but GPs take a long time to train and there is a major shortage across the country.

For highly motivated, caring people, who have followed a vocation to become a doctor or nurse, it can easily become demoralising when, despite all the energy and emotion you put into your job, you simply cannot meet all the needs of your patients.

A side effect of this overwhelming demand is that some patients become understandably frustrated.

"Staff abuse will not be tolerated"

Sadly, some of these patients then vent this angst on the most vulnerable and exposed members of our team – our reception staff.

As a direct result, our reception team has been depleted. This in turn places unenviable pressure on the remaining receptionists and in turn the wider team.

Such staff abuse will not be tolerated. Anyone threatening or abusing our staff, swearing or being disrespectful will find themselves warned and if appropriate, removed from our list.

A "zero tolerance" approach means just that – Coquet Medical Group will not tolerate any staff abuse. Anyone deciding to ignore this can try to find themselves another GP



practice. Enough said.

On a more positive note, we have recently managed to secure some GP locum support, and additional full-time staff will be joining us in October.

We have recruited a Covid Vaccine Manager to help deliver the booster campaign locally from our Amble site to all over 50yrs old and those over 5yrs old with underlying health issues.

We have recently managed to get support from the local CCG to have additional consulting rooms built at both our Amble and Hadston sites, and these are now operational. Despite these extra rooms we still do not have enough clinical rooms or staff to deliver the kind of service we are striving for.

It is our intention to hold further discussions with the CCG in Oct/Nov about this situation with the aim of extending the practice significantly.

By March 2023 our clinical staff will increase again as we have managed to recruit both another GP and ANP (Advanced Nurse Practitioner).

We need your help. We need your support, and we need your patience. Before you rush to ring or visit the GP practice, please consider whether other routes to access care and support would be appropriate.

Finally, please remember we are trying hard to provide safe care for you and your family when needed. This Autumn and Winter will test us all and will inevitably be tough.

Please do not underestimate the impact of the last two years on us all. We are now witnessing the effect of cumulative fatigue on staff members, and we must work together to protect the local GP service at Coquet Medical Group for you, your family, friends and our community.

Together we will get through Autumn and Winter and moving into 2023 our GP practice will

consolidate its position and with your help and support will develop into the practice we would all wish for.

Thank you.

Drs Alison Oxby, Dr Katherine Carman, Dr Kathy McConnaiche, Dr Jamie Willey & Dr Ben Burville

Partners Coquet Medical Group

PRACTICAL examples that should be noted are as follows - these can all be contacted DIRECTLY by you, our patients, and can speed up access for you to local treatment:

- Urgent mental health support -: NHS Crisis Team 0303 123 1146 Direct access to NHS mental health counselling services- Talking Matters: 0300 3030 700 <https://www.tmnorthumberland.org.uk/contact-us/>
 - Social care needs - help with carers / needs assessments for care / housing problems, safeguarding for adults and children, mobility aids etc- NHS One Call : 01670 536400 <https://healthwatchnorthumberland.co.uk/onecall-northumberland-social-services/>
 - Sexual Health including pregnancy termination and vasectomies 01670 515151 <https://www.northumbria.nhs.uk/our-services/sexual-health-services>
 - Musculo-skeletal problems (e.g. back pain /knee/shoulder/hip pain) JMAPS - Joint Musculoskeletal and Pain Service 03301 244 652 <https://www.northumbria.nhs.uk/our-services/musculoskeletal-northumberland-joint-musculoskeletal-and-pain-service-jmaps#5bac60b2>
- These services can provide direct access to help and can reduce pressure on our local GP practice.
- In addition, pharmacists at our local chemists can often help with a range of problems and provide timely safe treatment.

Concerns about parking along Acklington Road



What can be done about cars parking along Acklington Road during football matches? Photo by Nicholas Hilton

I was cycling past Acklington Road with my child and saw all these cars parked on the footpath. I am not entirely sure who to complain to about it but it is not acceptable. The cars belong to parents of kids at football but they cannot just park like this. I am aware the high school do not allow parking and I am aware there is nowhere else for parents to park. They could walk them there from the industrial estate area though it is only a few minutes walk up.

*Carl Donaldson
South Avenue*

As someone who often walks down Acklington Road towards town, I have noticed two major issues.

The first being the speed of vehicles in both directions. At present the speed limit is 30mph. Last year I contacted Jeffery Watson regarding the excessive speed.

He said that the speed indicator would slow traffic down. It has made no difference whatsoever, if anything, vehicles are going faster to see what speed they can register.

Mr Watson is proposing a 20mph limit, and that too will not work. What is required are two chicanes to slow traffic. The first being approximately 200m from the entrance to Gloster Park, and the second approximately 100m from the entrance to the Welfare. The second one will make it safer for young and old entering or leaving the park.

The second issue is the parking.

I am a big football fan, and it is fantastic to see youngsters and adults, training and playing matches at the Welfare.

The parking is another matter altogether. People think that because they park half on the road and half on the pavement, it is all right but vehicles coming from the Togston direction still have to stop and wait for vehicles travelling in the opposite direction.

This parking also makes things difficult for pedestrians. I personally have witnessed people with pushchairs having to walk on the road because of the cars. This is a serious accident waiting to happen.

In addition, parents actively

encourage their children to climb the wall and cross the road, another accident waiting to happen.

The land adjacent to the Welfare could be better put to use as a car park on training and match days. A designated person from each team could be a key holder, open and then lock the gates when they have finished playing.

The last thing we want to hear is that someone has been fatally injured on Acklington Road.

*Peter Wheatley
via email*

Although the community Orchard development is highly commendable on the ecological front. Surely, some funds and area could have been set aside for a car park to alleviate the need for the current parking system as shown on attached photos. [Photo above] taken this morning, on actual match days/times the parking is considerably more inconsiderate and dangerous.

*Nicholas Hilton
via email*

Army Cadets

We currently have vacancies for young people aged between 12 and 18 years to join us to develop new skills, confidence, make new friends and gain recognised qualifications.

What did your child do this summer? Some of the activities that Northumbria Army Cadets undertook included: 4 Day Nijmegen Marches in Holland, Annual Camp in Scotland with activities on Loch Lomond, DofE activities and visits to shows and events supporting the climbing wall across the county.

If you are interested in joining us, then contact us: <https://armycadets.com/county/northumbria-acf/> and join us at Amble or Broomhill Detachments this autumn. If you are an adult wanting to work with young people, contact us at the same address.

*Lt K Cassidy Amble
Detachment Commander
See also p13*

Dangerous crossing

A warning to any Ambler readers who use the public bridleway from Hope House Farm where it emerges onto the A1068 opposite Hauxley Lane.



This photo shows all you'll see on the inside of a bend of traffic legally doing 60mph towards you, with only a second or so to react. I've complained to the highway authority about the overgrown verge and badly placed roadsign, but hope an accident can be avoided through your awareness in the meantime.

*Tom Lloyd
via email*

Lifeboat Day returns to great success



Organisers were delighted with this year's Lifeboat day. The special guest was ITV weatherman Ross Hutchinson who opened the event.

Chair of Amble Lifeboat Fundraisers Bart Rippon said, "It was a fab day. The weather was good and that brought the crowds out. Many of them came to see Ross Hutchinson, and it was great to have him open the event.

"We raised over £7,000 for the Amble RNLI, but there are still some things to come in. I also want to say thanks to the

volunteers for all their help, and to the RNLI crew."

As well as the ever-popular Ross who happily chatted with the crowd, there was great entertainment from the Auckland Shanty Singers and Amble Sword Dancers. Next was folk singer Tom O'Donnell, and then Tribe Zuza dancers entertained everyone with some great tribal dancing.

The crew of the lifeboat put on a great display and crowds gathered to watch.

All in all, a very enjoyable day for Amble.



Ross Hutchinson enjoys a quick snack with the cake stall volunteers



The Amble RNLI crew and friends. All photos by Judith Hardisty



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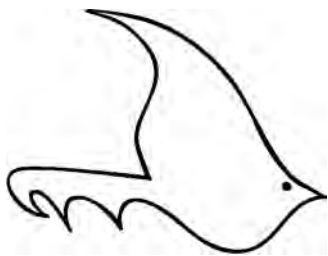
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#134 - 22 Apr	#137 - 4 Nov

Blimey, where to start...

The world seems to have changed again. Not that long ago we thought Covid was the big news. People's lives were upended, loved ones were mourned, behaviours were changed. Then came the war in Ukraine and many of us sent food, goods, and even offered homes to those affected by the Russian advance. Meanwhile, the cost of living and energy prices here at home have brought very real worry for our living standards.

And then the death of Queen Elizabeth - although on one level reasonably expected (she was 96) - yet it still came

as a seismic shock to so many of us. She had always been here, she was a constant in an age of massive change.

The second Elizabethan age comprised some of the biggest changes we have ever seen. The space race, the information age, the beginnings of the impact of climate change. A realisation that we need to work together for the common good, and yet a fear of sharing too much with others. We are a complex and conflicted species.

What changes will affect us from our new Head of State and our new Prime Minister?

In this edition we remember

the visit of now King Charles to Amble in 2012, (p2) where he met so many individuals and community groups - including The Ambler and Artograffi team, and we ask some of our older and younger residents about the last King (p8), and thoughts on the Royal Family (Artograffi page).

We showcase some of the best our community has to offer; (p1, p7, p9, pp17-20) but sadly we also need to take a look at some of our worst aspects (p3, p4, p6, p8, p9). Sadly, there are some things we really do need to change.

The Ambler team

WHAT YOU SAY...

>> more letters on p4

Litter at the Welfare

As we know, The Welfare is one of the few open/green spaces in Amble. In comparison to many inner cities the skate park, five a side courts, children's play area, football pitches, changing rooms, are fantastic for the various age groups.

I find it really sad that mainly, the skate park and the five a side courts are usually strewn with litter. This includes plastic bottles, cans, crisp packets, pizza boxes, and polystyrene chip containers etc. If it wasn't for the elderly gent who litter picks most mornings, I dread to think how bad it would look.

This area is for the generation who want us oldies, to "Save the Planet".

To be honest, they are letting themselves down, although the situation with the litter bins does not help. One is damaged, and has been for several weeks, and those that do get used, are very often full to overflowing as they are not emptied regularly.

Many locals say that its tourists that create the litter, but that's far from the truth. From young children, to adults, folk should take pride in our town. Parents should set an example to their children, and this should be emphasized in the schools.

Let's be proud of Amble. Regards

*Peter Wheatley
via email See also p15*

Prof Taylor's Hauxley family

In Professor Fred Taylor's obituary, Ambler Issue 135, it mentions that his father William was from a Hauxley fishing family.

Tracing back, William's father, Fred's grandfather was John Henry Taylor born 25th January 1890 in Hauxley. He married Elizabeth Patten in 1914. John Henry's father also William, Fred's great grandfather, was one of thirteen children. He was the son of Henry Taylor and Isabella Taylor nee Curry from Craster. They married at Lamberton Toll in 1840 before moving to

High Hauxley with their first two children, Mary (my great grandmother) born 1841 and Richard born 1843. With their thirteen children, born over a span of 23 years, they settled in No.11, Low Hauxley, one of the first houses to be built for the fishermen by the Widdrington family.

Many will also remember Fred's Uncle Maurice Taylor who was manager of the fruit and vegetable department at the old Amble co-op.

*Frances Irene Liddle
Hauxley*

Fairy doors



Perhaps your readers would be interested to know that in the area around Warkworth there are approximately 50 secret fairy doors waiting to be discovered.

Each door has its own unique story and photo that is to be found on the website:

Forthosewithwings.com

On the site there is also a map of the fairy realm showing where some of the doors are located.

There are also modern fairy stories on the site as well as a fairy newspaper with it's own amusing classified ads.

There is something there for everyone young and old alike.

*Yours sincerely
Stanley
via email*



Here come the girls!

Three new recruits have taken up residence on Northumberland Wildlife Trust's East Chevington nature reserve. Hazel, Bluebell and Lily hate getting wet so must have their own on-site shelter, but on the plus side, they eat almost anything. The terrific trio are English goats and English Boer X goats who are inseparable, having lived together at Wilde Farm in Ponteland since they were born. Bluebell and Lily are sisters and Hazel is their best pal and half-sister. Together they are helping the wildlife charity trial a new targeted habitat grazing scheme on the 185-hectare reserve, which, if successful, will be rolled out across other reserves in the area. Each goat wears a high tech collar with a GPS tracking system to help keep them in their designated area.

Hi-Tech Tea

They say if you want to know how gadgets work, ask a young person! So here's a new event to help people of all ages, especially older folks who may feel baffled by even the most basic functions of their mobile technology.

Amble Youth Project and The Ambler are inviting you to be smart savvy with your smart phones and other devices. Are you getting frustrated with your low knowledge of your phones/iPads/tablets, or would you like to be shown how to use your device better?

The event will be held on Thursday 10 November at Amble Youth Project, Dilston Terrace, 4-7pm.



Drop in and meet a Tech Geek Squad of Young People who will be happy to help. Free Tea/Coffee and Cakes!

In addition, Amble Youth Project are showing all things good about Youth Work during the week 7 - 13 November, as it is Youth Work Week 2022.

Call 07488984053 and let us know you are coming – we don't want to run out of cake.

Border Links proud to be nominated for award

Border Links has served the Amble area since 2008, providing training and day care for adults with learning disabilities, and are proud to have been a finalist at the National Learning Disabilities and Autism Award 2022.

They were nominated for the innovative ways they

communicate with their members in order to ensure inclusivity. The pandemic was extremely challenging, and Border Links met it head on, organising weekly activity packs to keep their members busy, but also to allow regular contact and continuity.

The introduction of

Zoom sessions allowed direct communication with peers and a new way of communicating for most, so a big learning curve. Social media proved to be the best way of keeping in touch with the public by posting photos of their activities to share on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

The Amble group are now back at their venue in Dilston Terrace but still enjoy keeping up with their friends on social media platforms.

To find out more, visit the website: www.borderlinks.co.uk, or look on Instagram #borderlinksuk or Facebook @BorderLinks

Advertisement feature

Amble families with prepayment plans from William Purves or Alistair Turner are reassured that their investment is safe and secure. From 29 July 2022, the prepayment plan market became FCA (Financial Conduct Authority) regulated. This means investments receive even more protection, standards are maintained and the savings made by fixing funeral director fees are guaranteed.

Funeral plans remove the burden from your family and represent real savings. Our professional fees are fixed and guaranteed at today's prices, plus a realistic sum towards third party costs is also set aside. This can represent significant savings as funeral prices rise year on year.

Four reasons to get a funeral plan

- Fix funeral director fees at today's prices
- Remove burden from family
- Clarify my decisions and choices
- Financial security

Free planning for Amble families

William Purves offers a free Plans of Wishes service for anyone wanting to get their affairs in order or to set out their wishes. Visit our Bede Street branch, call 01665 712277 or williampurves.co.uk and record your wishes or download free checklists to guide you through the process.

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Remembering the previous King

Are we a different country now?

The whole world seems to have been rocked by the news of Queen Elizabeth's death. After ruling for 70 years, she has been a permanent fixture of most of our lives, but not for absolutely everyone.

Harry McQuillen, aged 89, remembers when King George VI was on the throne and what it was like after his death.

Harry described how there wasn't the same amount of media coverage of George's death. "There was very little TV. Everyone used to buy newspapers every day, and the radio was where you used to get most of your news from.

"That was just how it was. You didn't react in any over the top way," he said, describing the general attitude towards George's death, as opposed to the nationwide mourning that is happening now.

However, this may also be to do with the length of the Queen's reign. Harry also remembers the shorter life expectancy at the time, which meant that there was quite a succession of kings within a shorter time, whereas Elizabeth lived for almost a century.

He remembers the excitement of getting coins with Elizabeth's face on them, but also the conversation around her as she ascended to the throne.

"People thought it was very sad because she was just so young, but she moulded herself to fit the role very quickly. I think Philip helped with that. They always set an example."

Harry believes that King Charles' reign will have a greater focus on environmental issues, but says there are two sides to this coin.

"Rich countries can



afford to spend money on the environment, but unfortunately we're a rich country with a lot of very poor people. They will see spending money on the environment instead of things like keeping food prices down as a waste."

"This is as good an age as there's been - especially for

women," he told us, thinking back to the time of George's reign.

"If you were different, life was very hard for you. There was no tolerance of difference then, which has changed now. We're a more tolerant country now, as we should be."

Lily Tibbitts

Pru's chiller thriller prize-winner

The remote historic Bathing House at Howick, Northumberland was the inspiration for a new prizewinning chiller by Warkworth writer Pru Heathcote. 'Don't Leave' won the 2020 Lindisfarne Prize for a debut thriller by an author living in the NE, or one set in the region.

"The Bathing House has such a special setting" says Pru "standing on its own so close to the sea, which lends itself to a story with a mysterious supernatural theme. Although the house inspired my tale and features on the cover, the cottage in my book is completely fictional."

Pru wrote the story as a short play for Warkworth Drama Group twelve years ago, and only decided to re-write it as a novel after picking up a leaflet for the Lindisfarne Prize competition. The 2020 Covid pandemic lockdown enabled her to complete the book. The Lindisfarne Prize judges,

which included the competition's sponsor crime writer L.J. Ross, described Pru's story as 'atmospheric, with a killer sting in the tail.'

'Don't Leave' is published by Red Dragon Publishing and is available on Amazon as a Kindle edition or paperback.

Why is sewage discharged onto our beaches?

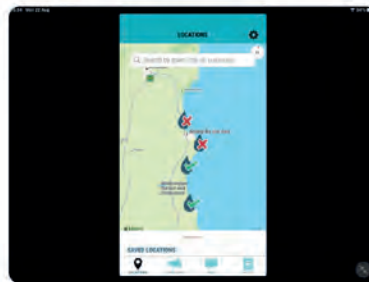
Sewage was discharged onto Amble and Warkworth beaches on at least two days in one week this August, although alerts were issued on several more occasions.

Water quality alerts for the Amble and Warkworth beaches were issued on 22, 23, 24, and 26 August. They appeared on the Surfers Against Sewage (SAS) app, which gets its data in real time from Northumbrian Water (NWL).

When looking on NWL's own website however, a discharge was flagged only once, on 24 Aug.

Water companies are only supposed to discharge untreated sewage directly into rivers and seas in 'exceptional circumstances' such as very heavy rainfall.

In Amble's case, discharges are pumped into the River Coquet from storm sewers, and



they flow out to sea. Tides and currents then bring the waste back onto our beaches.

The whole country had just been through an exceptionally dry, hot period, and although Northumberland was spared some of the worst effects, neither did we see the flooding and storms which came afterwards. We asked NWL where the discharges had taken place and why.

A spokesperson for NWL said "On 22 August, Amble/Warkworth SO The Butts, was operated between 08:39 – 10:29 and on 24 August the Amble/Warkworth SO 02 [Turner St] operated between 07:36 to 08:18."

The spokesperson said "There was significant rainfall on the mornings of both 22 and 24 August, so the SOs were operating as per their design. Under significant rainfall conditions, the storm overflows will discharge to the environment through these pipes what is largely rainwater, mixed with some of the contents of our sewer network from the area affected. This is to avoid the storm water backing up and flooding peoples' homes and our communities."

The Amble's own observation of the weather at that time was described in rather

different terms.

On 22 August our @AmbleByTheSea twitter account showed a screengrab of the SAS beach alert, and we said: "I think we had about half an hour of heavy rain this morning and a bit of drizzle throughout the day. Most definitely not 'exceptional rainfall'. But Amble and Warkworth beaches are not fit to swim in."

Under Section 94 of the Water Industry Act 1991, water companies are required to operate, maintain and extend sewage systems capable of dealing with the contents of those sewers.

Using NWL's own data, in 2021, discharges into the Coquet estuary from sewer storm overflows in Amble and Warkworth occurred for a total of 432 hours.

Anna Williams

Fires on Druridge Bay nature reserves



Vandals caused a fire on the pond dipping platform at East Chevington killing wildlife

Two fires in two months took hold of areas belonging to Northumberland Wildlife Trust (NWT) and both appear to have been the result of human action.

In August, a fire from a campfire which had not been extinguished properly caused damage to the dry trees on Hauxley Nature Reserve.

Fortunately the fire was discovered by Hauxley volunteer Pete Lazenby on his morning inspection. It would have been far more damaging to the reserve and its very dry trees if it had

not been spotted. The reserve is home to over 100 species of birds and the resident red squirrels, not to mention stoats, weasels, hedgehogs and foxes.

Although real damage was averted, the smouldering leaf litter meant it was difficult to extinguish. Luckily, staff and volunteers were able to contain the flames before the fire service arrived. It took about four hours to make the area safe.

Previously, in July, the northeast section of NWT's East Chevington reserve went

up in flames when vandals set fire to the pond-dipping platform, and a large percentage of the surrounding grassland was destroyed. As a result the boardwalk which was made of recycled plastic, burnt very quickly sending plumes of black smoke into the air that could be seen across the Druridge Bay area. The plastic melted into the pond, killing the newts, frogs, dragonflies and damselflies living there.

The wildlife charity would like to thank the members of the public who raised the alarm and the already overstretched fire crew whose rapid response to the calls averted a bigger blaze.

These incidents have affected the Catch My Drift project that aims to work with the local East Chevington community to protect and revive threatened habitats and species on the Druridge Bay site. It led to the cancellation of a number of the project's free community events over the summer, many of which were aimed at encouraging children to better appreciate nature.

It's back... and the Christmas Lights Parade wants YOU!



After a two year absence, Amble's Christmas Lights Parade is to take place once again and organisers are asking community groups, individuals and businesses if they would like to take part.

The Christmas Lights will be officially switched-on by 89 year old Harry McQuillen at 5pm on Sunday 20 November, after which the parade will leave the Wellwood at the top of High Street, and make its way down Queen Street into the Town Square, where there will be entertainment. This magical event is one of the highlights of the year, and of course everyone is invited to take part or watch.

If you would like to take part in the procession, please let Julia Aston know well beforehand, on julia@ambledevelopmenttrust.org.uk or ring 01665 712929.

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Ava: Hi there Lily, it's an honour.
Lily: Glad to be here.
A: Let's jump right in shall we? So firstly can you introduce yourself for those who have been living under a rock?
L: Well, my name is Lily Tibbitts, Future Amble Celebrity. My creative aspirations lie within the arts, specifically that of the writing creatively variety. I also bake a

A very serious interview with a future celebrity author

mean fudge.
A: Wow, I'm inspired already. How did you discover writing creatively? Is it in your blood? Can we all reach your mind-blowing level of genius?
L: Unfortunately not! My unbridled talent stems from being dipped in the forges of creativity as a baby. I wrote my first book, titled 'The Man in the Bathub', at age 4 accompanied with outstanding illustrations. It has not yet received the Pulitzer prize but I will continue to enter it each year.
A: So you illustrate too?! Your mind is truly wonderful. Now, are you able to pinpoint the most significant moment in your rise to fame?
L: There are just so many, it's hard to count. Winning the National

Rotary Young Writers competition catapulted me into fame and I would just like to thank all the little people who helped me along the way. It may be hard to imagine, but I was once as small and insignificant as you!
A: I am truly insignificant compared to your magnificent presence! What is the best thing about being so famous around the town?
L: Well, I wouldn't like to call myself a celebrity, but celeb is fine.
A: I never said celebrity.
L: We were all thinking it darling. My favourite thing about being famous is interacting with all my fans. Shoutout to JCSC's English department, who always asked for my autograph on the top of every test paper!

A: And do you have anyone else you would like to thank?
L: A big thanks to Anna at the Ambler, my number one fan. I will be rewarding her with a 20% discount on any of my books purchased.
A: Anyone else? Any family, perhaps?
L: My parents, who always felt like family to me.
A: Any siblings?
L: None worth mentioning.
A: There you have it folks, Amble's Future Celebrity Author. Thank you for your time Lily.
L: It's your honour.
By Lily and Ava Tibbitts (mostly Ava)



you could give?
A: If you can afford it it's cheap. Also, if you see my sister in it, it's probably out of fashion.
L: Wise words. Thank you so much for gracing us with your presence today Ava. Is there anything you want to say?
A: Live laugh love, my friend, live laugh and love .
L: Anyone to thank?
A: Only my fans, for forever stroking my ego.
By Lily and Ava Tibbitts (mostly Lily)

And in return...

An interview with one of our greatest citizens

Lily: Today we will be interviewing one of the greatest citizens in Amble- I'm not even joking, they won the good citizens award some time ago (but not long enough ago) that they don't still bring it up). They are a master at sewing, writing, styling great outfits and annoying random men with the contents of their Artograffi articles. It's an honour and a privilege, Ava. Thanks for coming.
Ava: Can't stay long. Make it quick.
L: I'm so sorry to have to drag you from your busy schedule. It must be so hard to find time for anything else between all your rescue

missions to save orphanages and lunch dates with other celebrities. First, could you just tell us how you got your general aura of awesomeness?
A: It stems from an abundance of praise as a child, that's what grew my arrogance. Oh sorry, did you say awesomeness? That's el naturalee baby.
L: It really is a blessing. Some might say you are too arrogant and awesome but I say it's the perfect amount. Your intelligence is also rumoured to be amazing, as results day demonstrated.
A: Ah yes, the 10 grade I unlocked

by outsmarting the exam. One in a million, they say, but I'm one in 7.753 billion. And I certainly dress like it! Did you see my pink leg warmers- tutu combination on the cover of vogue?
L: I did and it was inspirational. I now only wear leg warmers and tutus to be more like you. Can you tell us what inspires your fashion?
A: I'd say my style is an eclectic combination of Ru Paul's Drag Race and weird-lady-on-the-street. Personal style is not something you can buy, but being able to afford Gucci (like me) really does help.
L: What's one piece of style advice

New friendships after visiting the Friendliest Port

My name is Tiffany and I'm 17 years old. I live in London and am studying for my A levels. I have just returned home after spending a fortnight in Amble with friends who live there and I wanted to write about my overall experience as I so enjoy visiting in the school holidays.

My brother, David (13) and I met some really interesting people including the recently arrived Syrian family, Amira and Ahmad who are about the same age. We have built a strong friendship having volunteered during the holidays as young leaders with the 'Amble Youth Project'. We helped 8-12 year old children in a wide range of activities including visits to Cragside and Northumberland Zoo, Druridge Bay Country Park and Dry Water Arts.



Tiffany and David

Along with other lovely young leaders we were assigned groups of children to look after while participating in activities and trips. It was our responsibility to make sure the children were supervised and also to set an example as to how they should behave correctly while also having fun. I think that

Tina, Joe and Gary are doing a great job supporting the youth of Amble as well as recruiting teenagers to help out, take responsibility and work as part of a team.

My brother David and I were also lucky enough to participate in a 10 mile bike ride from Amble to Lynemouth hosted by the Northumberland charity Leading Link which also works with young people.

One evening we went on a 'cruise' from Seahouses around the Farne Islands and watched the sun set behind Bamburgh Castle. The memories that we have created during our times in Amble are things that we will never forget.

By Tiffany Loum



Ava and Remy

At Artograffi, we were recently introduced to Remy Grillet-Aubert who is from France! He came to Amble alone to practice and improve his English as well as 'discover new countries, cultures, food and traditions, and to meet new people'. Remy said that being in Amble has

Facts about our new PM

Good or bad - you decide!!



- She is the third woman prime minister in England after Margaret Thatcher in 1979 and Theresa May in 2016.
- She likes cats
- She disagrees with Vladimir Putin's attack on Ukraine.
- She wants to cut taxes (If Liz succeeds in dealing with the cost of living and energy / fuel crisis, then that will go a long way into helping her stay in the job as Prime Minister, however if she doesn't then staying prime minister will most likely become difficult for her.)
- She loves maths

- At first she was against Brexit until the majority of people voted for Brexit.
- She said that trans women aren't women
- She usually voted in favour of gay rights
- She voted to cull badgers
- She once believed the UK shouldn't have a royal family
- She was not in favour of banning smoking
- She voted in favour of selling state own forests
- She often voted against climate change measures

By Hannah

See: www.theyworkforyou.com



Grace's braces!



I FINALLY got braces! So, if you want to know what getting braces is like, I'll tell you.

First, from my experience, there's nothing to be scared about.

So at first, you'll go to the orthodontists, and you'll go in and and you'll lie on the seat thing. Like it or not, I can't really remember the rest, but trust me, it does not hurt. At all.

I do remember they asked me to bite down on

this thing. I think it blew air into my mouth so it was dry, making it easier to stick the braces on. It only starts hurting a while after, but if it gets too bad, you should just have an ibuprofen, like I did.

By Grace

Do you really care? A bit of a rant from Grace



I am not the best at wording things, but I'll try to put this as simply as I can - I think some people are just blind. Not as in 'I can't see' blind, but ignorant blind. What I mean is, as long as most people don't see bad things happening in their lives, like forest fires as an example, they won't really care, because they aren't in danger. People see something negative on the news, like the extreme heatwaves in China or the flooding in Pakistan, and just ignore it. This doesn't apply to all people, but it does to most. So, there's a chance this isn't aimed at you, so don't be offended.

The floods in Pakistan and heatwaves in China are, if you couldn't tell, all because of the effects of climate change. And just because it is happening in a different country doesn't mean it isn't happening at all.

Floods in Pakistan

In monsoon season, which usually takes place

Some of our thoughts on the Royal Family

"I'm not a monarchist, but I think the funeral should be paid for by the Royal family themselves. I have nothing against them personally, but because the country is going through a cost of living crisis I think we should use tax payer money to help the NHS instead."

"Rest in Peace to the Queen. And good for Charles that he is King."

"It always annoys me that people talk about the Royal Family like they know them. Maybe they are really lovely charitable people, but it's their job, so we'll never know what they're really like."

"It's sad she was only four years off being 100."

"The Royal Family is good for tourism."



"Charles met members of Artograffi (Will and Gracie) back in 2012 so he seems cool!"



There is nothing like a period of ill health to make any of us feel below par.

The last couple of months or so have not been a very good time for me. I always thought that my return to the house I have lived in for most of my life, would herald a period of contentment, if not euphoria. That just has not happened so far. I will admit that I've had a few health issues, manifested in the form of skin lesions, a touch of the wobbles and feeling ill at ease.

The weather has been great

here in Amble, so that is not the issue. I have been equally lucky in having wonderful care and attention from members of my extended family.

I am on my own now and it feels a bit odd. The next few weeks should see me settled in my renovated house, finding out where everything is and trying to remember where I have put something.

Amble seems to be thriving as a holiday resort. That is a plus. The other side of the coin is the hollowness that comes from the very large number

of temporary residents who occupy holiday lets and who travel here by car from all over the place. Our young folk are priced out of their hometown, as are many older members of their families. There is nothing we can do about any of it in the market-driven economy. One hears of attempts to 'cure the problem' by restrictions and suggested restrictions, on the use of our housing stock. Planning and nimbyism has been one of my constant themes. Answers on a postcard please!

The other side of the coin is the energy that comes from all the folk who come here. I often talk to people I meet (surprise, surprise) giving them my view of how we are doing. The same topics come up. Where can I find a parking spot? What happens if I move my car?

I wonder if anybody will be talking or writing about this in 20 years' time.

Harry

Advertising feature

The Nut Roaster: new pod at the Harbour Village

The Mocha Mondo group are excited to announce their new business 'The Nut Roaster' at the brand-new retail pod (Pod 11) at Amble Harbour Village, online at thenutroaster.co.uk and at their Amble Industrial Estate roastery.

At The Nut Roaster pod we produce four delicious pure nut butters; peanut, cashew, almond and hazelnut. We don't add any other ingredients, so it is an all-natural product. In the pod you can often see roasting demonstrations using our iconic replica of a 1938 Chicago peanut roaster.

As we produce all the nut butters ourselves, we know exactly what goes into every tub. We don't use palm oil, preservatives or emulsifiers, just 100% nuts of the best quality for maximum flavour. Our pure nut butters are naturally high in protein, healthy fats and minerals, gluten-free, vegan-friendly and have an impressive amount of uses; spread or dolloped, blended or cooked - or spooned straight from the pot!

We are delighted to announce the launch of our brand-new coffee, Morningstar™. This is a different coffee roasted in an unconventional way, developed specifically as a breakfast coffee. All takeaway Morningstar™ coffee from Pod 11 is at a special introductory price too!

The Nut Roaster is situated at: Pod 11 Amble Harbour Village, Northumberland, NE61 0FD 01665 714767 (roastery)

Pod Opening Hours: 10.30 to 15.00 most days. Online at: www.thenutroaster.co.uk - Get free shipping when you spend over £25.

Amble Food Bank: every item makes a difference

Amble Food Bank would like to thank our local communities for their overwhelming generosity, particularly during such challenging times with the current cost of living crisis. Food donations continue to come in via Morrison's and the Co-op. We hope that people will continue to be as generous as they feel they can. Every single item donated really does make a difference.

We have been able to provide children with extra healthy food during the summer holidays, once again accessing funding we received through the Co-op Local Community Fund. Thank you to the Co-op for making this possible.

Warkworth Primary School pupils came up trumps at the end of term, collecting a record 400 items for AFB! Thank you so much to everyone who contributed.

By the time this goes to print, Megan Boyd will have completed the Great North Run in aid of AFB - a huge thank you for raising money for our charity!

Thanks also go to the following: Jos and Roy Inglis for collecting and donating an amazing £585 to AFB in memory of Joy Inglis who sadly passed away; Alexa's Canine Trust for regularly donating pet food to us; Guy Nutting for playing his aerophone and raising £90 for AFB; and to Kate Wilson for running a willow weaving workshop and donating £60 raised to AFB.

With the increase in referrals to AFB, we now have to carry out regular large food shops (currently averaging £1800 a month).

Should you wish to make a financial donation to help with this, cash or a cheque can be

addressed to us and posted through the letter box at Trinity Methodist Church. Or you can do a bank transfer to: Amble Food Bank, sort code 77-20-04, account number 17925260. You can also donate through our Just Giving page. We are registered with HMRC, so if you pay tax you can Gift Aid any donations (email us for a form). A huge thank you for all financial donations that we receive. Without these we simply could not operate.

If you are in need, you can get a referral through an agency such as CAB, your local school or Health Visitor. Or contact Northumberland Communities Together on 01670 620015, 9-6pm.

Any general enquiries can be emailed to amblefoodbank@aol.com.

Many thanks

Amble Food Bank

Owl be tweeting you

Short eared owl aboard the Amble trawler Aquarius 90 miles East of Peterhead, I've tweeted this bird before on a different spot on the boat, I think the Skipper snapped this one from the wheelhouse.
@NTBirdClub

A social media post caught our eye a few months ago, featuring a short eared owl catching a ride on fishing boat Aquarius.

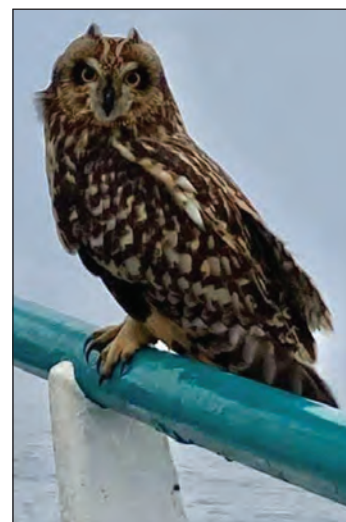
But as is the nature of social media, what appears in someone's timeline can turn out to have happened a while ago.

Skipper David Gair was happy to explain. "It was a couple of years ago now," he said. "We were about 100 miles

NE of Peterhead. I just got up and suddenly I saw it! It had been a foggy day so I don't know whether it had got lost. It flew off after couple of hours.

"We often get pigeons and little birds, especially starlings. Sometimes we try to feed them or offer them water, but they're not interested. So they just stay put and we bring them back to shore."

One social media commentor suggested the owl was a migrant from Scandinavia.



The owl was snapped on a trawler

Army cadets complete Dutch challenge

Two Amble Army Cadets - Staff Sergeant Daisy Carnegie and Lance Corporal Samantha Scott successfully completed the 104th Nijmegen Marches in Holland in August this year.

The Nijmegen Marches founded in 1909 consist of four days of marching from Nijmegen in and around the Dutch countryside before returning to Nijmegen. The march each day lasted 40km. Reveille for the two courageous cadets and 12 other Northumbria Army Cadets, six

adults and 24 Durham Army Cadets, was 2am each day, in readiness for the 4.45am start.

Training for the event started in January. Due to the very high temperatures expected, the Dutch Authorities made the decision to cancel the first day but this still allowed those who participated and completed the remaining three days (75km) to receive their individual team medal.

The cadets were supported by local Army Cadet adult volunteers, who spent the ten



SSgt Daisy Carnegie (centre)
LCpl Samantha Scott (r)

days of the event with them, transporting them to the start, tending their blistered feet and staffing checkpoints along the routes.

Whilst at Nijmegen they had the opportunity to visit some Commonwealth War Graves at Arnhem and the Arnhem Air Museum, as well as sightseeing in Nijmegen. Both cadets then proceeded to their Annual Camp in Scotland in during August.

LT Katrina Cassidy
Amble Detachment Commander

In the same world as the saints

At some point, talking about saints involves being specific about their historical settings. This is difficult for at least three reasons. We usually lack some of the identifying crucial or practical details of the saint's life. Some of the details of daily life, which were central to the attention of the saint we are trying to describe, will be missing.

One of the things we already know about the lives of each saint, is that they had a long list of priorities that they held onto

tightly, which probably made them saints.

No matter how many detailed differences we find between their own lives and ours, we live in the same world. Charity and poverty are nearly the same no matter where they occur.

Monasteries, or priories, and even big churches, especially ones with their own profitable centres of pilgrimage, were a lot more like factories, or perhaps military camps, than they were like Methodist Chapels or

Victorian Parish Churches. Surprisingly, even religion, in the sense most of us in the west would understand, had little or nothing to do with what went on in and around Lindisfarne Priory and its outlying branches.

If you rear sheep, fish and grow vegetables for the table and have a group of maybe fifty or a hundred men, monks, priests and farmers, to feed and water, your usual daily life would hardly ever centre on church services, prayers and clerical debate.

Even prayers would be different. From the vague Gregorian chant, and creepy semi-magical background of 'The Name of the Rose'. Trying to find common ground between the various rules for monastic life, published on a regular basis by groups of monks or saintly gangs of nuns, and any of our modern ideas of the monastic life, let alone what was prompting their proponents to prefer one business plan to another.

Matt Curran



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Reports from our *County Councillors*



I am delighted to support Amble Juniors by helping towards costs for training and playing. Fees were becoming unaffordable and the costs were becoming hard to manage.

I know that the coaches and families work hard for the kids, providing many hours of enjoyment, helping develop numerous skills. I fully support keeping grassroots football going. I have made it possible for Northumberland Children's Trust to apply for funding in future

I also gave funding to Amble Youth Project in their purchase of a PlayStation, games, controls, microwave and toaster, helping to keep all busy during the holiday period.

During July and August the Fire Service warned people to be aware of heightened risk of grass fires and dune fires during the extreme heatwave we experienced. Sand dunes are an important line of defence against sea levels, so they need to be protected, they have a critical role to play in preserving the balance of our complex ecosystem.

Sand dunes are a vital habitat for a wealth of rare and specialised wildlife, including a range of birds and insects which require a bare sand habitat to survive. Without sand dunes to call home this biodiversity is in trouble.

Fire crews have attended blazes on Amble's dunes on numerous occasions over the summer holidays. We are now left with large charred areas in their wake. These fires could have been accidental or deliberate: this shows how important it is to be extremely careful when out and about.

Give sand dunes the respect they deserve. When in the dunes area there is a high risk of accidental fires from barbecues, lit cigarettes, glass bottles and the like, so discard these materials responsibly.

If you see a fire or anyone starting one, call 999.

Cllr Terry Clark Amble, Hauxley, & North Broomhill.

Terry.Clark@northumberland.gov.uk 07779 983768

It has been a sad time; we all will miss our loyal and dutiful Queen and I am sure Amble residents will recognise her dedication and hard work over the last 7 decades.

Northumberland County Council took the right action to mark the Sovereign's death. Books of condolence were placed in widespread locations across Northumberland on the evening that the death was announced as well as putting all flags that were looked after by the Council at half-mast immediately.

I am sure we will welcome King Charles III to the throne and many of us will recall with pleasure his visit to Amble and feel close to him already.

I understand that the exam results at James Calvert Spence College have been good again, it is encouraging news that our young people continue to do well.

We eagerly await the plans for the long-awaited new structure of the Coquet Partnership.

God save the King!

Jeff Watson

Jeffrey.Watson@northumberland.gov.uk 07802 385367

Success for nesting shorebirds on the Northumberland coast



Juvenile Sanderling

In a summer that has been extremely challenging for coastal wildlife, we are delighted to say that shorebirds have had a successful nesting season on the Northumberland Coast! 13 ringed plover chicks and 1 oystercatcher chick fledged from our nest protection sites, a fantastic achievement. The protected areas around the ringed plovers' nests helped them breed successfully on the beaches

Thank you to the volunteers from Coast Care who have dedicated their time to help us throughout the nesting season. Support that local residents and visitors have shown for the nesting birds by giving them space to raise their young has been incredible.

With the nesting season now over, we turn our attention to the shorebirds which are returning to the coast from their breeding grounds. Some have only a short journey to make back to the coast, such as curlew, lapwing and golden plover which have been nesting in the UK uplands. However, others, including sanderling, dunlin and

turnstone are returning from arctic Canada, Greenland and Scandinavia! We must do what we can to protect them while they are with us.

Wildlife rangers from Space for Shorebirds will be showing beach users the magnificent birds and explaining why it is important to give them space to feed and rest undisturbed.

We will be running events such as Shorebirds for Beginners guided walks and bird watches over the autumn and winter. We can discuss the birds in more detail and give tips on how to identify them. The Coquet Estuary is one of the best places in Northumberland to see a wide variety of different shorebirds and will be a regular location for our events.

Details of the events will be published on our website over the coming months - www.spaceforshorebirds.co.uk. You can also follow us on social media. Search for Space for Shorebirds on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. *Katherine Dunsford
Space for Shorebirds*



Familiarisation training on how to use the defibrillator will be delivered by the Stephen Carey Trust at Low Hauxley Village Hall at a date to be confirmed in October, any interested parish residents will be welcome to attend.

Councillor Vacancy

Applications for the vacant position for Parish Councillor will be reviewed at the next PC meeting with a view to making an appointment.

Neighbourhood Plan

Progress is continuing with the Neighbourhood Plan

Parish Council Meeting

September's Parish Council meeting was postponed due to the Queen's passing and will be rescheduled for a date in October to be confirmed.

Defibrillator

We are pleased to confirm that a new defibrillator has been installed in Low Hauxley on the Chapel Lobby in early August.

We are grateful to Councillor Terry Clerk who arranged this to be funded by Northumberland County Councils Members Local Improvement Scheme.

Jade Reynolds Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
Hauxley Parish Council
14 Oswald Street | Amble | Northumberland | NE65 0EG
Telephone: 07786255649 Email: hauxleyipc@gmail.com
Website: <https://northumberlandparishes.uk/hauxley>

This section is written and paid for by Hauxley Parish Council



Well, after debating the concerns of the few in the last Trust Life, it is now time to thank you all for the fantastic comments posted about the three sculptures that have been installed so far. We fully appreciate that not everyone will like each one, but you have to admit they are definitely a talking point.

I am also aware that at the minute they are a little out of context because the trail isn't fully installed and the mobile app or leaflets are not available, but these cannot be finalised until all the info from the sculptors is received and sculptures installed.

Some people seem to be focusing on the cost, so I will reiterate; the funding was for art and creative work, not statutory remediation of existing amenities. Therefore, my question is; why shouldn't Amble have it as opposed to anywhere else?

If you would like to know more, please feel free to call into the Trust office or

contact me by email: julia@ambledevelopmenttrust.org.uk.

At the Welfare we are aware of some issues with parking. Unfortunately, there isn't space for parking within the grounds. The clubs are aware of the issues and encouraging visiting teams to car share where possible, and locals to walk as well as discussing the possibility of using the High School car park. However as there is an assumption this would have to be paid for, it will be between themselves to negotiate.

Plans for the orchard continue and we would like to thank everyone for their suggestions for varieties that are able to grown in the salty climate we have. Test digs will happen soon so we have a better idea of what the ground is like.

For further information on the orchard contact; andrew@ambledevelopmenttrust.org.uk

There is an ongoing problem with litter at the Welfare. A new bin has just been installed but so much litter seems to be left

beside the bins rather than inside. Why? If the bins are full please take litter home. If you can carry full containers why is it a problem to take empty ones away with you? (See also p6).

As the events committee begin organising the Light Procession this is probably a good time to ask if you, your school or organisation would like to be involved. We expect the procession to follow the route down Queen Street, now that Covid restrictions have been lifted – fingers crossed it remains so! Please get in touch if you would like to participate or help in any way.

Our job search facilities are now open from 9.30 – 11.30 each weekday.

If you would like to contact the Ambler or require a CV you can do so by ringing: 01665 712929 or emailing editor@theambler.co.uk or Julie@ambledevelopmenttrust.org.uk *Julia, all Trust staff and Trustees*

Den building fun at Hauxley

Holiday makers at Amble Links Holiday Park (part of Park Leisure) on Links Road ended their summer holiday at Northumberland Wildlife Trust's Hauxley nature reserve.

Children and adults spent the day on the Druridge Bay site trying their hand at den building using tarpaulins and natural materials, with many adults commenting it took them back to their childhood



The wildlife charity has hosted events on behalf of the holiday park in the past, and this year visitors have headed out with the Trust's education team during the Easter and May half term holidays to find out more about the wildlife on their holiday doorstep.



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Amble Town

COUNCIL

Town: 6pm at Fourways 2 Top Floor 13th Oct, 10th Nov.

Amenities: 6pm at Fourways 2 Top Floor 24th Nov.

Remembrance Sunday: 10.55am Town Square & Memorial Gardens

EAST WARD:	Helen Lewis,	Craig Weir	WEST WARD:	Jeff Watson	David Bewley	CEN. WARD:	Kate Morrison,	Paul Dancer
Ian Parks,	5 Meadowburn,	(Chair/Mayor)	Vacancy	14 Magdalene	11 Brinkburn	Vacancy	3 Island View,	Wellbank
33 Warkworth	Amble	76 Priory Park,		Fields	Place		Amble	Victoria Villas
Avenue,	NE65 0PH	Amble		Warkworth	Amble		NE65 0SE	Amble
Warkworth.	07751 229 739	NE65 0HY		NE65 0UF	NE65 0BJ		01665 711191	NE65 0LQ
NE65 0TP		01665 712342		07802 385367	07525713086			pauldancer1998@btinternet.com

MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE sent on behalf of the town.

It is with immense sadness that the Council and people of Amble received the news of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's death. She served Her people with great diligence for 70 years and will be remembered by all for her great compassion for people of all ages and from all walks of life.

Her unwavering sacrifice, dedication, sense of duty and devotion to her country will live on long into the future.

We join with all the people of our town and the nation in offering our deepest condolences to the Royal Family.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Arrangements are currently being started for the Remembrance Sunday service in the town. While wreaths and tributes had been laid during the years of the pandemic, it was not permissible to hold the usual full town service until last year. This year it will take place on Sunday 13th November commencing just before 11a.m. All are welcome and while face coverings are no longer mandatory, please feel free to wear them if you wish. The Poppy Appeal organiser has changed: if you would like to help collect please contact Marion Long: marionlong68@gmail.com. or if your organisation wishes to order a wreath please telephone 0345 8451945

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Recently there have been several incidents of anti-social behaviour in our town. These have been wide ranging from abusive shouting to actual harassment and assault. This is very upsetting to those targeted as well as to the people witnessing the incidents. Although Amble is fortunate not to experience the extremely violent incidents and murders seen in other large towns and cities, most residents abhor this behaviour and agree it is important that they are quickly dealt with and the perpetrators admonished to discourage repetition. Whilst police manning hours here have been reduced from past years, we can all help by reporting these problems and giving as much information as possible. The more individual reporting (no matter how small an incident) the more likely we are to get a higher police presence here

CEMETERIES

The damaged tarmac at the entrance has been repaired and the area by it will be reseeded to blend in. A new seat has also been installed along the cemetery drive. The majority of seats here are made with metal ends but from recycled materials so maintenance is low. The area around the turning circle will be replanted as the lavender there is now poor. Section M has been checked over recently and work will soon begin on filling any areas where the ground has settled too far.

Whilst doing this it was noted that some plots have plants/flowers etc. placed down the length of the plot. It is not a pleasant task asking families to remove these as some families do maintain these well but unfortunately this is not always the case, so the regulations state that all tributes/planting should be near the memorial in an area of about 18 inches in total. This will also help with the grass maintenance work. Once the East Cemetery gates with the renewed turning mechanism are in place, they will be repainted.

MEMORIAL CLOCK

These historic clocks were individually crafted and therefore any repair takes a considerable time as each replacement part must be individually made. Unfortunately when the engineer came to repair it in August, it was discovered that another part was needed, hence a longer delay. However it should be working by the time you read this. In the meantime, council was asked to consider turning off the chimes overnight but decided not to do so as the cost of making and fitting this limiter would be over £2,000.

COUNCILLORS CORNER

[Views expressed are those of the individual and not necessarily those of the council]

Ask not what your town can do for you but what you can do for your town. As we come out of some years of a pandemic and into yet another crisis, could you stop for a few minutes in your busy lives and ask, how might I help my community? Amble has many community groups, all requiring volunteers willing to give a few hours a day or a few days a week. These volunteers bring their expertise and enthusiasm to help people or to sit on a committee, or trustee board in the local community. There are too many causes for me to mention them here but the town clerk has a list. If you have a skill or just an interest and want to find out more, speak to any of our town councillors who themselves are all volunteers.

Cllr Kate Morrison

PARKING

Although not completely finished, Turner Street Car Park was opened early to help with the influx of vehicles over the summer. Signage seemed confusing as the old 'Free' signs were still in place but new charging signs had been erected. The charges will have come into effect by the time you receive this edition of the Ambler. It is hoped that these spaces will help to ease the congestion in the town streets.

While it can be very annoying to have to park away from your home if you live on a street with no individual drive, it is important to remember these are public highways where anyone can park and it is an offence to place anything in the road to 'reserve' a space. If enough home owners in a street are agreeable then a request can be made to NCC for residents' parking permits. New road markings will be placed on part of Leazes Street between the Harbour Village and the car park; these will prohibit any parking, including blue badge holders, as it was becoming increasingly difficult for emergency vehicles to get past.

VACANCY

There are two vacancies for Council members – if you are interested in helping your community in this interesting role, please contact the Clerk for details.

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

This page is written and paid for by Amble Town Council

Warkworth Film Club Autumn 2022

Films at Warkworth War Memorial Hall

October 1: The Rescue

Remember the dramatic 2018 rescue of 12 Thai boys and their football coach, trapped deep inside a flooded cave? The filmmakers have achieved a documentary masterpiece using much bodycam footage from the actual rescue.

The Observer gave the film 4/5 stars, describing it as a "hugely involving documentary", and praised 'the sense of the clock running down as oxygen levels in the cave decrease, while the monsoon outside rages'. (2021, 1 hour 47 minutes, 12). Door and cash bar 7pm, film at 7.30pm.

November 5: Top Gun & Top Gun Maverick Double Bill

If you haven't seen Top Gun Maverick yet, you are in for a treat. If you have seen it, then, like us, you cannot wait

to enjoy it again. And just to add to the fun, we're showing the original 1986 Top Gun at 3.30pm (1h 45' Cert 15, doors open 3.15pm), giving you time to rush home for dinner before returning at 7pm for Maverick (2022, 2h10' Certificate 12A) at 7.30pm. £5 donation covers both films. Soft drinks on sale in the afternoon, and our popular cash bar in the evening.

For more information call Anna on 07758 253104 or anna.willey@cantab.net Or check out our facebook page www.facebook.com/warkworthfilmclub. Or the War Memorial website Warkworth War Memorial Hall (wwmh.uk)

* No need to book – seating is plentiful – Warkworth War Memorial Hall, 40 Castle Street, NE65 0UN

* All welcome – £5 donation per person

Amble Photographic Group is back

Amble Photographic Group is now fully back to normal following a difficult two years during the pandemic. But during that period the Group won two major Northern Counties Photographic Federation interclub competitions.

Meetings are held each Friday morning at 9.30 to 12 noon in Trinity Methodist Church in Percy Street, Amble. The programme for the current year

is on www.amblephotogroup.com. It consists of a mixture of competitions, interesting speakers, advice and feedback sessions, outside visits, and members' mornings. Next year's programme is being actively developed.

If you are interested in photography, why not pay us a visit or contact our membership secretary, Helen Holmes, on helenholmes1947@gmail.com

Hadaway wi' ye - Spooky Tales

After the success of 'The Witch of Edlingham', Far Horizons Voices hosts 'Hadaway wi' ye – Spooky Northumberland Tales' at Warkworth Memorial Hall at 7.00pm on Thurs 17 and Fri 18 November. The bar will open at 6.30pm.

The productions are created by local writers, with local content and, where possible, incorporate 'wor tung' local dialect.

'Hadaway wi' ye' is in three parts, beginning with 'Lost Hearts', a ghost story set at Morwick Hall in the 19th

Century, where we witness the schemes of a deviant scientist and the trials of those subjected to his bizarre experiments. This is followed by 'Bogles', which relates the story of a dangerous odyssey undertaken by three Allendale folk to discover whether the youngest is a 'changeling' The Queen of the Simonside fairies dispatches them on a mission to find the truth. The show will also premiere two brand-new songs.

Tickets are available at Warkworth Post Office or may be reserved online at farhorizonvoices@gmail.com

FC Amble junior's u9s first trophy



FC Amble juniors u9s won their first trophy in a very competitive Walker tournament.

The boys played amazing football. They work so hard in

training to get where they are and deserved to win.

Thank you to the Taj Mahal restaurant Amble for their continued sponsorship.

WW2 novel from local author

Peter's Moon is a WW2 aviation novel by Warkworth author Michael Charlton, covering a time span of less than two weeks in late August.

The seven-man crew of the Lancaster, P- PETER has been chosen to carry out a top-secret deep penetration flight over France in broad daylight. For the planners, it is a mission not without inherent danger; to the seven crew, nothing short of suicide.

The story is not only war action. The seven individual lives of the crew are mentioned giving life to the characters. We have the passion of wartime romance and the feelings when two hearts are torn apart. There is also

the experience of exceptionally low flying over the Cumbrian mountains, running the length of Lake Windermere at zero feet, and flying from the mouth of the Tyne to the west coast. The story covers both sides of the conflict: there are no sides taken, all are heroes, none are villains.

The story is total fiction. However, the technicalities of the aircraft are fact. The route taken over France, the names and places, are also correct.

The book can be purchased from Amble Post Office at a price of £9.99. The book offers the reader nine hours of action, romance and aviation adventure, all for less than three cups of Costa Coffee.

Allotment vacancies in Togston

Applications are invited to rent an allotment in Togston village to grow your own produce and save on your grocery bills. There are three different sizes currently available with reasonable yearly rents. Tenants must live within four miles of Togston. For further information email Parish Clerk at togston.parish@gmail.com

Amble Living History group

Meetings at Dry Water Arts, Wellwood Street
Time: 7-8.30pm Entrance: £3
October 20: Christopher Hunwick; 'Alnwick Castle Archives'

November 17: Barry Mead; 'Monkey Business at a Medieval Abbey'

December 15: Richard Carlton; 'Sharperton Dig'

Lights Parade and ReKINdle are back

The Christmas lights parade is back! Save the date: Sunday 20 November at 5pm. If you would like to take part in the procession, please let Julia Aston know as soon as possible. The theme this year is Gold. Contact julia@ambledevelopmenttrust.org.uk or ring 01665 712929. More details, see p9.

ReKINdle, a lights and sound installation at the Little Shore

will take place on Saturday 12 November 5pm - 6.30pm.

The event will feature hundreds of colourful flags and banners, plus light projections and an original soundscape featuring local community groups and voices. There will be a selfie stand and street performers, and everyone is encouraged to dress up in bright/sparkly clothes and promenade!

Events at Amble Parish Hall

NOVEMBER: Escaped mental health patient Kevin Haggerty is not pleased about his diagnosis, even less pleased about being on a section of the Mental Health Act, and distinctly upset about being told he is not the reincarnation of the pharaoh Ramses 2nd. On his way to Egypt, via the Tesco Express, he stumbles on a the nemesis to all his plans: Millie - a six-year old girl mislaid by her father. Together they embark on a journey that will change their lives forever.

The second half of the evening will be made up of comic, poet and ex-psychiatric nurse Rob Gee's hilarious and insightful poetry, with the choice

and running order determined by the audience.

At Amble Parish Hall on Sun 20 November, at 7.30pm.

DECEMBER: Acclaimed jazz and blues guitarist Remi Harris and virtuoso double bassist Tom Moore present an evening of music ranging from the acoustic jazz of the 30s and 40s to the electric blues of the 60s and 70s; influenced by such greats as Django Reinhardt, Peter Green, Wes Montgomery, Jimi Hendrix and more.

At Amble Parish Hall on Saturday 3 December at 7.30pm

More info and prices for both these events at www.highlightsnorth.co.uk

Churches Together event



On 21 August, a mixed congregation met together at the Little Shore for a 'Pop-up Picnic'.

During the afternoon the hymns were accompanied by Bart Rippon, Bob Angus and Dave Gair on guitars and Marion Long led the singing.

Roman Catholics, Church of England, Methodist and United Reform churches were all represented and to represent

the Islamic faith young Amira Alkafafi, originally from Syria, sang a song in Arabic about universal love.

The Revd. John Mc Dermott of St Cuthbert's made the introduction and Minister Alison Mills, United Reform, conducted the proceedings.

Fortunately, the weather was fine and delicious cake was shared between songs which made it a very enjoyable event.

Amble Youth Project events

We have some exciting events, campaigns and projects on the horizon for young people who live in Amble (Year 3 - Year 13).

Friday night Activities...more info coming soon.

October: Look out for our Half term Holiday Activity Program - Year 3 - Year 13

Please check out our website www.ambleyouthproject.org for more information or follow us

on social media where you can continue to check for updates.

Find us on Facebook:

Amble Youth Project Appeals on Instagram:

@ambleyouthproject on Tiktok:

@amble_youth_project

on Twitter:

@AYPamble1

or on LinkedIn:

Amble YOUTHPROJECT

RNLI coffee mornings

Coffee mornings at the Lifeboat Station

On the third Sunday of every month; 16 October, 20 November, 18 December.

Savouries - corned beef pie,

quiche, sausage rolls.

Cakes - coffee and walnut, chocolate, lemon drizzle, Victoria sandwich, bara brith, tray bakes, shortbread, gluten free cakes and more.

Warworth War Memorial Hall

There have been significant improvements to Warkworth War Memorial Hall over the summer. The main change is the re-flooring of the main hall, thanks to support from the National Lottery Community Fund. Another change is redecoration of the British Legion Room, which is now available for general use. These upgrades follow on from recent redecoration of the library and both screen and sound

improvements to the cinema.

The film nights and concerts are both being well received and regular activities are restarting for the autumn. There is scope for more if you want to start up a regular or a one-off activity.

The next music concert on 8 October, brings us 'Ape House', three young musicians and singers from Scotland and Ireland.

See www.wmh.uk for further information.

Ordering poppy wreaths

Taking over from Keith Stenton, Marion McKenzie-Long is the new Poppy Appeal Organiser for Amble and Radcliffe. Those organisations and individuals who have previously ordered their wreaths from June Watson please be advised that Marion's contact details are marionlong68@gmail.com. She will be able to order a wreath on your behalf or if you would prefer to place your order through Supporters Care, please call 0345 8451945.

Knit and Natter

Our knit and natter is the only class we can manage to run at the minute as we are so short staffed, so can't staff any other in-house courses. Can I please make a plea for tutors?

Amble Pin Cushion is looking for more craft tutors. We have invested in new equipment to project a film of the tutor's hands onto a screen, to prevent the need for gathering round, in a bid for

everyone attending to feel less worried about Covid. If you would like to teach a one-off or a regular class, please contact norma@amblepincushion.co.uk for further details.

We are also looking for a seamstress. An experienced dressmaker or tailor to work as an alterations hand for one to two days each week. Further details from: norma@amblepincushion.co.uk

Grassroutes girls football: where can our future Lionesses play?

It was the summer football finally came home. And after all the excitement of the UEFA Euros win for the Lionesses, we talked to one of Amble's upcoming football players to find out the situation for the next generation of aspiring Lucy Bronzes, Jill Scotts or Beth Meads.

Lyla Smith is 15. She's been playing football since she was 5, but if you wanted to watch her, you'd have to travel a fair distance. There were no girls football teams for her to join in Amble, including at JCSC, so Lyla trains with the Newcastle United Foundation, and plays for North Shields.

Lyla told us: "Theoretically girls can play on the school teams - but actually, there are no girls picked. I think there should be at least a mixed team at JCSC, and if there was a girls' team, it would show how many wanted to play."

We asked JCSC what the current situation was for girls wanting to play football at school.

Liz Harrison, PE Teacher at JCSC, said: "We have introduced football this year throughout the school. Students in Y6-Y7 are currently doing football in lessons in mixed classes. Y8-11 girls PE are currently playing football and badminton."

"Football is a real passion of mine and we would love to run more teams but don't yet have

sufficient interest from girls, this is something we hope to push. We had mixed after school football sessions last year and are hoping to run more groups this year, given the huge success of the England Women's team."

In the UK, girls are routinely stopped from playing school football once they enter secondary education, and this was an issue the Lionesses drew attention to.

PE is a compulsory subject at school, but there are no rules on whether girls should have equal access to football. And schools themselves get to decide whether to offer football to girls during PE.

In a letter to the government after their Euros success, the Lionesses said: "This generation of schoolgirls deserves more. They deserve to play football at lunchtime, they deserve to play football in PE lessons and they deserve to believe they can one day play for England."

According to the FA, football is now officially the biggest female team sport in England.

Amble is/was home to several high profile footballers, and a quick search of Wikipedia 'notable people from Amble' shows our esteem for players goes back many, many decades. But of course, they're all male.

Just as with Lucy Bronze who as a youngster played for Alnwick Town, then had to leave when



Lyla Smith, Footballer

she reached secondary school (she attended the Duchess's High School), twenty years later, girls like Lyla still had to face obstacles when pursuing their footballing dreams. Is this finally changing?

Lyla shared her experience with us: "I started in football when I was in reception. My parents took me to an after school football club with Trident Soccer. This was the start of my footballing journey and introduced me to the sport. In 2015 I joined Alnwick Town girls. A year later, I had my first trial for Newcastle United Foundation and have been there ever since." She hopes eventually to be picked for Newcastle United's women's team.

Good news for younger girls

Since the fantastic achievement of the Lionesses, Amble Links have begun an under 7s girls' side which will compete

in the Northumberland Football League's girls' section.

Coach David Whenray told us: "I believe this is the first ever junior girls' team in Amble. The girls have been playing really well in pre-season and have already won their first tournament, beating sides a year older than them on the way. We also have some younger girls who attend our Friday night sessions aimed at 3-6 year olds. They've all been inspired by the success of England this summer and seem to be really enjoying playing football." You can contact him on 07885546163.

Our last question to Lyla: What does football mean to you? "Football is a way of life. It makes me feel all different emotions: happiness, love, sadness, anger, determination, guilt. Football is like oxygen, I need it to survive." Anna Williams














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The colourful houses of King Edward Street



I-r: Clare Hargreaves (no. 35, blue), Zoe Harrison (no. 25, Plymouth grey), Paul Rigby (no. 31, natural stone), Mark Keen (no. 37, green), Maureen Dixon (no. 29, orange), and 'The Gaffer' Terry Vickers

King Edward Street, in the heart of Amble's Conservation Area, has become colourful, even more enjoyable to live in, and full of happy vibes.

Those residents who have been able to do so, have got together and shared the colour chart resulting in pebble-dashed homes being painted in shades guaranteed to raise the spirits.

And not only raising the spirits but strengthening the community feel of the street. "Before, we would nod and say

hello to neighbours" said one resident "but now with this shared project, we have become more of a community and less of a neighbourhood."

Given that King Edward Street is part of the Conservation Area of Amble, permission was sought and granted and the majority of the painting has been carried out by residents Mark Keen and Terry Vickers, with paint being bought locally at N & F Young's in Queen Street and paid for by the homeowners who

have chosen to have their homes painted.

81 year old Terry said "I live on the stone-built side of the street so won't be painting my house but it is great looking across at the different colours."

Although still a work in progress, he added, "It's been hard work for Mark and me but well worth it. It really lifts the spirits whatever the weather."

There are 40 homes in King Edward Street and a recent count showed there were 13 houses

that are now either holiday homes or holiday lets.

Mark commented "We have been receiving overwhelmingly positive comments from residents and visitors alike, which is great for the street and a bonus for Amble."

So, no, it is definitely not Portmeirion nor is it Ballamory; it is the permanently sunny King Edward Street in Amble.

Jennifer Dunn

More 'Bord Waalk' sculptures installed



Above: Bird Song by Aether and Hemera (middle and right) and Flock Sphere by Rob Mulholland (right)



>> continued from p1 Jon, who is based in the south of France, is influenced by nature and endangered species, and this piece was inspired by the wings of a Roseate Tern.

He told the Ambler "Everything I do is about nature, and I want to draw awareness to the subject of endangered species."

Jon said he was inspired to

create Tern because nearby Coquet Island is the only place in the UK where endangered Roseate Terns breed, and he felt the artwork took on even more meaning after the recent avian flu outbreak had significantly cut their numbers.

The four metre high sculpture is made from marine grade stainless steel, which has been hand beaten, and finished with seven different layers of polish.

Jon said "I wanted a mirror finish so that the piece would reflect the landscape. It's a bold statement without over-dominating its surroundings."

Fans of Jon's work don't have to travel too far to see another piece. 'Heron' is a light sculpture, produced as part of Lumiere 2017 and then bought by Durham City for permanent display.

Tern is the third sculpture in

the Bord Waalk trail to be installed so far, with Bird Song by Italian based artists Aether and Hemera, and Flock Sphere by Scottish artist Rob Mulholland further along the Braid. Amble-based artist Frances Anderson's piece will be placed near the west cemetery.

The Bord Waalk trail covers the coastal route between Hauxley and Warkworth and will consist of 12 physical artworks, and several virtual pieces, along with an app. It was open to any professional artist, regardless of location.

Walkers along the estuary at Amble were fascinated by the new sculpture and several stopped to talk to Jon as he made the finishing touches to the fixings.

"It's beautiful" said one passer-by. "We've just walked past the other two sculptures. They are lovely. You see this sort of thing abroad, but it's great to have it here. We'll be back to look when they are all finished."

Anna Williams