

The Stanegate

Newbrough, Fourstones, Warden
and surrounding hamlets

Annie Charlton's Window

See page 6 for Stanegate local and family history



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In memory of Jed



Lost a character from the village last month from a blood clot in the RVI.

Jed, the log man with the blue tractor. More smoke come out of Jed than the tractor till he stopped smoking. Still liked a pint of Guinness.

Jed moved in to the village about 1965. Woke Newbrough up with his motor bike and his trilby hat. No crash helmets them days. Soon found out if it worked when he come off on Warden bridge in front of Edmond in the double decker bus. One life gone. 8 left. Would not last long in mines — woods and riding bikes, so he did ok to reach 80.

He will be missed
Brian

Please send material or correspondence for
The Stanegate to the editorial team :

*Janice Baylis, Dave Spearman,
Sophie Straker & Chris Tolan-Smith*

At

thestanegate@hotmail.com

**the deadline for the September edition is
Friday 13th August 2025**

Calendar of Events

AUGUST

- 9th Tea for Tools Coffee Morning , Methodist Chapel, 10am . See p16
- 14th Newbrough WI Town Hall, 7pm Members only
- 23rd Community Barbeque Fundraiser, Town Hall 4pm - 7pm See p 6
- 28th Senior Citizens' Trip to Ripon See p7

* * * * *

**Save the date !
September
Saturday 6th
Parish Produce Show**



Advertising

Commercial advertising rates per year (11 issues)

Fraction Size in cm	Price of page H x W
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1/12 page 6.0x5cm	£30

Commercial monthly advertising rates available on application.

Please call 01434 674451

Competition

Drawing / Colouring Competition

for 0—9 year olds

Title : Northumberland

To be handed in to
Fourstones Service Station

By Tuesday 19th August

Prizes : 1st and 2nd place



As the academic year draws to a close, we're reflecting on what a fantastic year it's been at Newbrough. The children have been truly amazing – showing resilience, kindness, creativity and curiosity every step of the way. From exciting trips and forest school adventures to musical performances, sports, and classroom triumphs, we've packed in so much fun and learning!

A huge well done to all our pupils for everything they've achieved this year – you should all be very proud of yourselves. To those who are moving on to new adventures, we send our very best wishes for the future – we know you'll continue to shine.

We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the Parish Council for their support in fund-raising and organising the recent repairs to our MUGA – it's a valuable space for play and sport, and we're so grateful for your continued commitment to our school.

We're currently looking to welcome a new governor to join our dedicated governing body. If you are interested or would like to know more about the role, please don't hesitate to get in touch with the school office – we'd love to hear from you.

Finally, we are now accepting applications for nursery places. Please see the poster attached for further information – we'd be delighted to welcome new families into our school community.

Wishing everyone a restful, happy and sunny summer break!

Mike Boucetla
 Executive Headteacher
 Newbrough and Wark C of E
 Primary Schools
 DNDLT



Newbrough Town Hall

200 CLUB : July draw

1st	Mike Arkless	61
2nd	Jackie Harvey	110
3rd	Christine Blunt	50

BONUS BALL

June

7th	Riley Smith	56
14th	Mr Weaver	46
21st	Lucy Dodd	15
28th	Carol Gradwell	4



Caretaker (Level 2)

Newbrough C of E Primary School

Part of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Learning Trust (DNDLT)

Salary: SCP 9-12 - £14,275 (Actual)

Hours: 20 hours - Can be flexible with some of the time

Contract Type: Permanent

Start Date: 1/9/2025

We are looking for a reliable, proactive and friendly **Caretaker (Level 2)** to join our small, caring team at **Newbrough C of E Primary School**. This is a wonderful opportunity to play a vital role in the life of our school community.

The successful candidate will take pride in ensuring our school site is safe, clean, and welcoming for pupils, staff and visitors. The role involves a range of duties including routine maintenance, site security, health and safety checks, basic repairs, and liaising with contractors as needed. A practical, hands-on approach and a good sense of initiative are key.

We are looking for someone who:

- Is trustworthy, enthusiastic and takes pride in their work
- Has basic DIY and maintenance skills
- Understands health and safety procedures or is willing to undertake training
- Can work flexibly and respond to the needs of the school
- Enjoys being part of a team and values working in a school environment

We can offer you:

- A warm and welcoming school with supportive staff and families
- A positive working environment within a values-led Trust
- Training and development opportunities
- The chance to make a real difference every day

Newbrough C of E Primary School is part of the **Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Learning Trust**, a family of schools committed to nurturing every child and member of staff to flourish.

Visits to the school are warmly encouraged.

To arrange this please contact school on 01434 674284 or email admin@newbroughceprimary.org.uk.

Applications can be found on <https://mynewterm.com/>

Closing Date: 14/08/2025

Shortlisting: 15/08/2025

Interviews: 20/08/2025

Newbrough C of E Primary School and DNDLT are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. The successful applicant will be required to undertake an enhanced DBS check and all relevant pre-employment checks.

Mike Boucetla
Executive Headteacher,
Newbrough and Wark C of E Primary Schools
DNDLT

Stanegate Local and Family History Section

Annie Charlton's Window

Chris Tolan-Smith

On the south side of the chancel in St Peter's church is a stained-glass window dedicated to Annie Charlton. Annie had been a member of the choir for 20 years when she died in 1899 at the age of 28. From Census returns we know that she was born in 1870 the daughter of Thomas and Sarah Charlton. Thomas was a joiner and cartwright and the family lived in Newbrough.

There are numerous Charltons in St Peter's churchyard and Annie is recorded with her parents and a younger brother on a conspicuous memorial lying, fallen, just to the west of the church. Annie did not marry and remained at home with her parents, but some current residents of the village may be descendants from Thomas and Sarah.

The window was paid for by public subscription and is a striking example of late Victorian stained glass. The image is of a young woman within a Gothic style architectural frame. She holds a book in her left hand and supports a sword with her right, perhaps a reference to the Sword Stone in the porch (Stanegate November 2024). A palm leaf lies over her left shoulder and there is a Latin scroll above her head while at her feet an angel plays an organ.

It was made by the workshop of Charles Eamer Kempe, one of the leading producers of Victorian stained-glass and a student of William Morris. Kempe's style is noted for its delicately drawn faces and detailed costumes. His practice produced over 4000 windows most of which are in the south, though there is at least one other example in the Tyne Valley, the window in St Wilfrid's chapel in Hexham Abbey.

Kempe windows are accompanied by his 'signature' a sheaf of wheat, as in the bottom left-hand corner of Annie's window.



Senior Citizens' Trip



Have you booked your place on the trip to Ripon on Thursday 28 August? I haven't put out any posters yet but little pieces in the Stanegate and Courant, and word of mouth mean that the coach (Amble Coaches) is already nearly half full. It is free to anyone of pensionable age from the civil parishes of Warden and Newbrough. It is heavily financed by the Tom Benson Charitable Trust and by Christine's bonus ball fund.

There will be a 'comfort stop' at the Mainsgill Farm Shop on the outward journey but don't spend **all** your money there as it is market day in Ripon. We will aim to be back in Newbrough between 5 and 6 o'clock.

If you would like to book a seat, contact me on robmtin@aol.com, by message on facebook messenger, through Joanne at the Garage or by phoning on 01434 674324. (I seem to spend a lot of time out of the house in the summer so leave a message on voicemail if no-one picks up the phone)

Rob Tindall



Newbrough Town Hall and Bunkhouse

3 Rs campaign off with a bang!

Sheron Robson, Town Hall Co-Chair

We recently launched our fundraising campaign the **THREE Rs** (repair/refurbish/redecorate) to bring our slightly 'worn at the edges' Hall back to its former glory. Two major successes to report so far: we launched the "Friends of Newbrough Town Hall" scheme and have had over 20 people sign up to support the Hall on a regular basis. Following the launch we did receive some questions about how the money would be used and someone asked to come along to meet the Committee and volunteers. All are welcome to attend the regular committee meetings to see how we run the Hall (and the Bunkhouse), just get in touch on secretarynewbroughtownhall@mail.com for details of how to join.

The second success was the Line Dancing Social that we ran as a fundraiser with the support of Val Little (the regular Friday Line dancing teacher) who not only provided the tuition free of charge, but also donated a raffle prize and provided the buns for the chilli dogs! It was a fun night, suitable for all levels of 'Liners', even those not dancing enjoyed a drink or two and it was lovely to sit in the courtyard between numbers. So, with a massive thanks to Val, we raised over £300 for the **THREE Rs**.



NOTE: If you like dancing, but this type is not for you, watch this space for a ceilidh in the Autumn

Regular activities continue in the Hall over the Summer:

Pilates - Monday 12.15 - Val Ravelle teaches this class and others across the Tyne valley (so if you can't make an occasional Monday, you can pick up a class on a different day elsewhere). See www.valravelle.com for details

Yoga - Monday 6.30 Jane teaches an all abilities class and is skilled at making adjustments for both more bendy and less flexible members! See www.jyoga83.com for more information.

Zumba Friday 6pm, followed by **Line Dancing** at 7pm. Lively classes lead by Val Little that feel like a night out, but are a good workout too! Search for [dance.zumba.with.val](https://www.facebook.com/dance.zumba.with.val) on Facebook

NOTE : Summer is a great time to start these classes as numbers tend to be a little lower and you can get a grip on the moves before attendance increases again in September.

Bring Your Family and Friends! **Community Barbeque fundraiser** **23rd August, 4pm - 7pm**

This month's fundraiser is a bbq in our revamped courtyard. The bar will be open and we'll have all the bbq regulars:

good quality sausage in a bun (£2), burger (£3) or cheeseburger (£4) available on the day with no need to prebook. Who can resist?

We'll order in the good weather...

We'll also offer a **chef's bbq buffet** with sausage, burger, chicken and kebab served with salads, dips, relishes and garlic bread all for just £12. This option will need to be pre-booked and early booking helps with our planning.

Tickets available on www.Ticketsource.co.uk (search for Newbrough), email the secretary address or catch a committee member to book.

We'd love to see our new 'Friends' at the bbq, put faces to names and thank you for your support.

Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to connect with your neighbours, enjoy great food, and have a wonderful time.

We look forward to seeing you there!

continued.....

Town Hall.....

NOTE: we are planning our next food and film night so if you have a favourite movie or cuisine you'd like us to offer, get in touch via secretarynewbroughtownhall@gmail.com

And finally...All the town Hall events and classes are organised by a small but committed band of volunteers who dedicate many hours to keep the hall as a resource for all the community to use, so, even if you can't support the Hall financially, or by attending events... a 'well done' or 'thank you' goes a long way to support their efforts



The Parish Produce Show 2025

Saturday 6th September



Make sure you mark down in your diary the event of the year - the Parish Produce Show - which takes place on Saturday 6th September At Newbrough Town Hall.

This is your chance to show off your skills in a range of areas - classes include home-grown vegetables, fruit, flowers and plants, baking, crafts and photography.

Anyone can enter as long as they live in the parishes or Warden and Newbrough or have a demonstrable connection (see schedule for further details).

So whether you're a grower or a sewer, a photographer or a painter, a baker or a brewer there's something for everyone - and it's free to enter.

There are three children's categories so the whole family can join in.

How to take part:

1. Collect a schedule from Fourstones Service Station.
2. Get growing, baking, crafting and photographing.
3. Complete the entry form from the schedule and send or email as shown on the form **by midnight on 4th September**.
4. Bring your entries to the Town Hall on Saturday 6th September between 10am and 12pm.
5. Come along to the Town Hall between 2.30pm and 3.30pm where all exhibits will be on show and see how many classes you have won.

Good luck!
Mandy Perrie

Fourstones and Newbrough Monthly Weather Information for June 2025

Lowest temperature was 5.3C at 5:25 AM on the 11th
Highest temperature was 29C at 5:42 PM on the 20th
Strongest wind gust was 40mph at 10:01 PM on the 3rd
Maximum daily rainfall was 8mm on the 4th
Monthly rainfall total was 37mm

Please note : we have been asked by Michael Guthrie to clarify that this data has not been taken from the Park Shield Weatherwatch station.

Newbrough Parish Council

Notes from the Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd July 2025

02-07-06 Public First Focus

Concerns about possible vandalism and anti-social behaviour in Crow Wood.

02-07-07 Communications

Various e-mails and other correspondence including; CAN Newsletter, Nalc e-news, NCC Roadworks Information, Tynedale Hospice newsletter, GNAAS, Sport Tynedale, Request for a Donation to Citizens Advice Northumberland, RBL Poppy Appeal, Annual Return for Newbrough and Warden Sportsfield Association now due, Northumberland National Park Authority AGM, MP for Hexham.

02-07-08 Planning

TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 Planning Consultation 25/02033/LBC Newbrough Park Newbrough Hexham Northumberland NE47 5AR

02-07-09 Roads and Footpaths

Local Transport Plan Capital Programme 2025-2026 None of the suggestions the Council identified have been selected by NCC. The next LTPCP is due at the end of September.

02-07-10 Reports

Sportsfield Association

Cllr Walton reported that cricket is being played regularly with the home ground conditions being much better than those of the rest of the league. Annual Return for Newbrough and Warden Sportsfield Association is now due and the Lease needs renewing.

Newbrough Church of England Primary School

Cllr Bell reported that the new headmaster has been in situ for a year now, operating in conjunction with Wark within the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Learning Trust. There is a new initiative with nursery education and the school is supported well by PTA, governors and "Friends of the school".

Northumberland County Council (NCC)

(full report later) A full written report was submitted by County Councillor touching on the following issues; Allerwash Bench, Local Transport Plan, Network Rail drainage pipe and issues down the Mossy, Drainage plans for East end of Sidgate,

Northumbrian water pollution, Dog waste bin at the Sidgate Play area, proposed meeting with Hexham MP, Newbrough Sim Specs guided walk with Jack Moffat, Community Emergency Plan in conjunction with Newbrough Town Hall.

02-07-11 Remembrance Sunday

This year it will be held on Sunday 9th November. Clerk to order wreaths from RBL.

Background – Auditors are scrutinising parish council websites and email addresses so that they now are in line with current legislation and financial regulations which have come about from Localities Act.

Auditors will focus more thoroughly on these aspects because of the new Accounts and Audit Regulations and are expecting Parish Councils to conform to Web Content Accessibility Guidelines.

"Newbrough Parish Council is committed to ensuring digital accessibility for people with disabilities. We are continually improving the user experience for everyone, and applying the relevant accessibility standards."

In this regard the Council will publish the appropriate Accessibility Statement and move to a new website address (newbroughparishcouncil.gov.uk)

02-07-12 Website

The Council RESOLVED to change the current website address (Newbrough.info) to newbrough-parishcouncil.gov.uk

02-07-13 Council Policies

Accessibility Statement for Newbrough Parish Council

"Newbrough Parish Council is committed to ensuring digital accessibility for people with disabilities. We are continually improving the user experience for everyone, and applying the relevant accessibility standards."

It was RESOLVED to adopt the Policy Statement.

02-07-15 Date and Time of Next Meeting

7.00 pm, Wednesday 3rd September.

The Meeting was closed at 8.40 pm.

Warden Parish Council (WPC) meeting held on Monday 7th July 2025 in Newbrough Town Hall

The first item was to approve the co-option of Lesley Kay and Keith Youngs onto the Council to fill the two outstanding vacancies.

The Council then received a brief presentation on the proposed Solar Farm development north of Fourstones Sub Station from Oskar Niessen and Ross Wolhuter of Eden Renewables followed by a Q&A. It was reported that following consultees' comments on the proposals the heritage statement and ecological reports are to be updated and will be available later in the summer. In the Q&A the developers confirmed that if the scheme proceeded, vehicular movements after completion will be restricted to 2 to 4 small vehicle visits per month for preventative maintenance; that sheep will graze the site with the panels being at least 2 feet above the ground; and that a community benefit fund of £16k per annum and additional £3k per annum educational fund will be made available to be administered by a legally constituted committee of local representatives.

Concern was voiced about the number of planning initiatives at the same time, with two solar farms currently proposed, and a quarry having already received planning permission. The general consensus was that renewable energy is important going forward, however it isn't easy to make a decision on this proposal without taking into account the anticipated second solar farm planning application.

The Parish Council agreed to withhold its official response to this scheme until the heritage and ecological reports are available, and will respond in the second statutory consultation period. The Parish Council will also request a site visit with the planning committee. A member of the public raised concerns about visual damage to the gateway to the Roman Wall and also visibility from Warden Hill if proposed tree felling goes ahead.

A resident reported overgrown footpaths along the river between Fourstones and the Paper Mill, and west of Railway Cottages, also reported was

the poor state of a stone wall near Broadacres with a stock fence being required. It was agreed that the Clerk will report these matters to NCC.

It was agreed to carry out a preliminary litter survey ahead of arranging the next community litter pick. Frustration was voiced at the lack of notice given for NCC road closures although it was acknowledged that the road from Fourstones to the A69 has been improved significantly over the past year. It was noted that the ROSPA inspection of the Parish Council play area at the Boatside had been received and that Cllr Martin would coordinate the minor works required.

It was noted that the retrospective Planning Application for the installation of a container for storage at Fourstones Filling Station had been approved.

NCC Cllr Azocar-Nevin reported as follows: Network rail have carried out some drainage work in their yard at the bottom of the Mossy, one drainage pipe has been cleared and is now functioning well, a second drainage pipe has partially collapsed and is not functional. Network Rail is planning further work in the yard area to expose and improve the alignment of the existing pipe to identify if localised repairs can be made rather than renewed. The culvert that feeds water into the Tyne is life expired with no plans from the landlord or tenant to replace it.

Cllr Foot reported that a total of £14,870 has been secured to repair and update the MUGA as a sustainable community/school facility. This included £5,000 from the Green Rigg Foundation. However the cost of repairs had risen and there is a shortfall of £7,354. The contractor has indicated that the work could be carried out over the summer school holiday. It was agreed that WPC would look favourably at a grant application to fund part of the shortfall, with other sources including Cllr Azocar-Nevin, Newbrough PC and Go Fund Me to be explored. An extraordinary Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 21st July 2025 to consider a grant application to be submitted by the Sportsfield Association. *continued.....*

WPC adopted the Freemanship policy to enable WPC to award Honorary Freedom of the Parish to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the Parish.

Detailed minutes of this meeting can be found via: [Documents | Warden Parish Council \(northumberlandparishes.uk\)](https://northumberlandparishes.uk/warden/people)

The next meeting of Warden Parish Council will be held on Monday 1st September 2025 commencing at 7.00pm in Newbrough Town Hall.

The first item on the agenda for all council meetings is devoted to issues raised by members of the public. Please come along if you have any issues you would like to us to address. Alternatively please contact one of the Parish Councillors whose details can be found via:

<https://northumberlandparishes.uk/warden/people>

Stanegate Readers

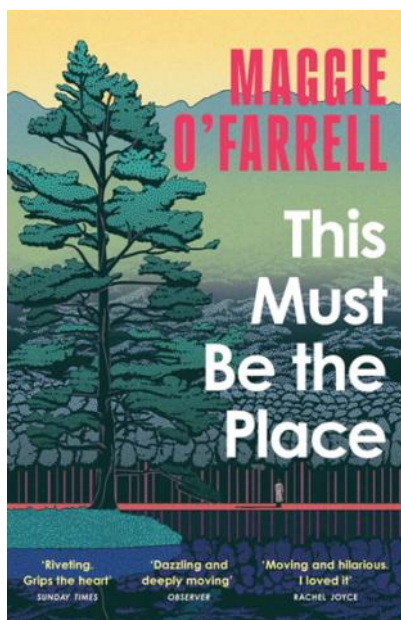
review by Christine Blunt

'This Must be the Place' by Maggie O'Farrell

We are familiar with the author and usually relish what promises to be a good read.

Maggie is master of her craft and this book is no exception, but it is also rather experimental for this author.

Basically the story concerns the marriage of the two central characters. Each has an interesting history before they met and now the author is writing about their relationship and what may hold them together or perhaps may cause them to part.



time chart on a very large pin board. She divided the chart into coloured time zones and then she gave each character a colour too, using coloured post notes bearing their name. These were pinned to the time zones and in this way she kept track of her story and adjusted when necessary.

Some of Stanegate readers were intrigued to read of a writer working in this way, but others were disappointed that Maggie did not just sit down with a notebook and pen and let the creative juices flow.

One must persevere with this story as what happens within one chapter does not necessarily follow on from the chapter before or be connected to what happens in the following chapter. From this perspective it is not an easy read.

Many characters are brought into the story and Maggie tells us in a notes at the end of the book that to keep track of her narrative she created a

Like everything else in life, writing can be hard work. Maggie told us of a small disaster that occurred during her writing which may have made others give up but she was not to be deterred and she simply started again.

To enjoy this story and a little of its history you must simply buy or borrow this book and I hope you won't be disappointed

Did you know.....

If anyone in Warden, Newbrough or Fourstones is wishing to sell anything, or looking to buy, you can do so, free of charge, through joining the **Newbrough and Fourstones Buy, Sell Swap and Share** Facebook page

We can help

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Summer Rainbow Pizza

Perfect for children to make during the summer



Ingredients

- 225g strong white flour
- 225g strong wholemeal flour
- 1 tsp yeast
- 1 tsp sea salt
- 4 tsp olive oil (plus a little for the bowl)

For the topping

- 160g sweet potato, peeled and cubed
- 300g passata
- 1 tsp dried oregano
- 300g 50% reduced-fat mature cheddar, grated
- 2 red peppers, seeds removed, thinly sliced
- 2 orange peppers, seeds removed, thinly sliced
- 240g sweetcorn (tinned or frozen)
- 240g button mushrooms, thinly sliced
- 240g broccoli, thinly sliced
- 1/2 small red onion, thinly sliced
- 80g pitted Kalamata olives
- 80g kale, thick stalks discarded, leaves roughly chopped

Method

1. Preheat the oven to as hot as it will go. Place two large baking trays upside down in the oven.
2. Tip all the flour into a large bowl, add the yeast, salt and olive oil and stir well. Make a well in the centre, then pour in 325ml/11fl oz warm water and gradually incorporate the flour into the liquid to make a soft, sticky dough.
3. Tip onto a lightly floured work surface, dust your hands with flour and knead the dough for 5 minutes, until smooth and springy. Set aside for 15 minutes in a lightly oiled bowl, covered with a clean tea towel.
4. While the dough rests, bring a saucepan of water to the boil over a high heat and cook the sweet potato for around 10 minutes, until soft. Drain and set aside.
5. Mix the passata with the oregano and black pepper in a bowl.
6. Tip the dough out onto the floured work surface and knead briefly. Roll into a log, then cut into four equal pieces. Roll each piece out into a rough circle, about 5mm/¼in thick – the thinner the dough, the crispier the pizza.
7. Cut four sheets of greaseproof or baking paper just bigger than the pizzas. Lay the dough on top – this will make it easier to transfer to the hot oven trays.
8. Spread the passata over the dough, then scatter the cheese over the top. Arrange the vegetables of your choice in concentric circles from the outside in, to cover the cheese.
9. Slide a flat baking sheet under a pizza and paper and transfer to the hot tray in the oven. Repeat with each pizza. Bake for 12-15 minutes or until golden brown and crisp. Serve hot.

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* Terms and Conditions apply

Water House, Burn Lane, Hexham, Northumberland,
NE46 3HN. Email: office@jpwestall.co.uk



July 2025

This month's meeting was our rearranged Strawberries and Pimm's evening and was opened by President Judith Kirby at an earlier time of 6pm to make the most of the lovely summer evening.

The meeting began with an update of previous events including the National Annual Zoom Meeting and our summer trip to Woodhorn. Future occasions and invites were outlined to the members including a 100th WI birthday party for Bardon Mill and the village trip to Ripon.

After the business had been concluded we then had a delicious light supper with cake and strawberries and cream, all provided by our members and accompanied with fruity glasses of Pimm's.

The raffle of a Summer Hamper was won by June Kendrew, with the proceeds being donated to the Town Hall, and the competition of best summer buttonhole was won by Judith Kirby.

The evening couldn't have been better; the weather was warm and sunny allowing us to sit out in the courtyard of the Town Hall and the food and company was excellent. All contributing to a very enjoyable evening indeed!

The next meeting is Thursday the 14th August at 7pm and is members only.

The speaker is author Emily Payne
The hostesses are Lynne Garton & Catherine Grant
The competition is any fluffy object
The raffle prize provided by Judith Kirby

Judith Kirby

Stanegate local and family history section

If anyone has pieces of interest they would like to share for inclusion in this section of The Stanegate, please email the Editorial Team at

thestanegate@hotmail.com

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Friends of Newbrough Primary School update

A huge thank you to everyone who came along to the Newbrough Summer Fair and to all who generously donated - your support made the day a fantastic success! The fair was buzzing with energy, and we were thrilled to welcome some exciting new stalls this year, including guess the number of balloons in the tractor, a second-hand book stall, combination lock game, and ultimate lemon. The Zumba performance brought brilliant energy to the afternoon, and Mr Boucetla drew a big crowd when he did a stint in the stocks! We're delighted to share that thanks to everyone's generosity we raised a brilliant total of £1,603.

This year has been an incredible success for fundraising efforts, with a wide range of events at school including Halloween and Valentine's cake sales, film night, Christmas raffle, wreath making, ASDA cash pot contributions, the Easter disco, Colour Run 2025 Challenge, Break the Rules day, the Summer Fair, and Sports Day refreshments. Thanks to the amazing support from our community, we've raised a fantastic total of **£4,675.81** from these events. These funds have gone directly towards enriching the school experience for our children - funding coach travel for trips for every class, a new carpet and sand pit for Early Years, Beebots for interactive learning, new books for the library and classrooms, treats like sweets at Beamish and end-of-term ice creams. We have also committed to providing a polytunnel which

will be an exciting new addition for next year and a fantastic resource for the children, helping them learn about growing food and sustainability in a hands-on way

As always we have lots of exciting plans for the next school year and will share a calendar of activities once we have returned from the summer holidays!

Thank you again for your support.
The Friends of Newbrough Primary School



Methodist Chapel

Saturday 9th August, 10am

Tea for Tools coffee morning



Bring your old, unloved, unwanted, sad, rusty 'tools' to the Chapel and have a cup of tea or coffee. All these tools go to Tools for Self Reliance, a Charity to refurbish tools, who then send them to Africa.

Margaret 674207

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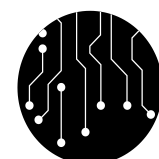
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Green Notes

More heatwaves, more floods. 'It's official'

By Malcolm Newson on behalf of Climate Action Newbrough-Fourstones

Apologies for the tabloid headline but I'm continually frustrated by getting nowhere with the cautious 'science speak' I've had to use for 60 years. For half of that time I've been dealing with climate change and extremes like floods. Currently in our minds are heatwaves, but how long before the next flash flood or named storm?

This week the UK Met. Office published its review of 2024, comparing last year's averages and extremes with their data (back to 1884 for temperature, 1836 for rain). Perhaps this is the point to thank all 'citizen science' and professional observers who've contributed the numbers and Hubert Lamb who first identified that the UK's climate was changing. Lamb had to leave the Met. Office in 1971 because they wouldn't expand his research; it continued and grew into the Climate Research Unit at the University of East Anglia.

Our climate data are now the living proof that the predictions and forecasts of climate science, including much-derided computer models, were right (although they partly missed subtleties like sudden 'tipping points' and the fact that 'curing' acid rain by reducing sulphur dioxide boosts warming). Globally in 2024, half the world's population (195 countries) experienced 30 days of extra heat, including 67 record-breaking heatwaves. The Met. Office reveals that, in the decade to 2024, days with a maximum temperature more than 5°C above average more than doubled: readers may recall July 2019 and July 2022. Understandably, there was a 7-day deficit in frosts! Winters have been 6-16% wetter but there is no analysis of rainfall intensity (my own records confirm we get more rain on wet days). No surprises

either that our trees are longer in leaf and we're mowing our lawns for longer (possibly good news for livestock).

It's not the Met. Office's job to guide us on how to adapt to the hazards of heat, storms and floods. The heat hazard is lagging behind in public policy - it's been called 'the invisible risk'. The 2019 summer heat caused 892 excess deaths in the UK: heat puts direct stress on heart, lungs, nervous system (loss of electrolytes in sweat) and works indirectly air/river pollution, pests and wildfires. I have heard sceptics of my age bragging that 'we coped in 1976!' but in fact we didn't *learn* and this is now showing plainly, for example in this year's water shortages.

As with many routes to adaptation and resilience, the answer may be local. Our Parish Councils are being urged to support emergency services with local detail of both those vulnerable to, and those holding useful resources for, climate extremes. The example of care for others during cold snaps may well have to be extended to heatwaves: air conditioning or cold drinks can be life savers! On the day, who needs them and who's got them? Locals know best.

Footnote:
Independent Water Commission Interim Report. The Report (all 465 pages/88 recommendations!) is available now. Headlines for Green Notes readers probably that the whole regulatory framework needs rebuilding to ensure sufficient safe water for human consumers, recreation (wild swimming, surfing) and nature. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/independent-water-commission-review-of-the-water-sector/>

The Mobile Library

visits on the second Tuesday each month :

The timings and dates of visits on 12th AUGUST are below

Settlingstones House	14.20 - 14.40
Newbrough, Home Farm Estate	14.50 - 15.10
Newbrough, Sidgate	15.15 - 15.35
Fourstones, by Green Church	15.40 - 16.00



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Let's talk deadheading, pruning and Lavender this month

This year the Lavender in my garden seems to have "gone over" very early. Large amounts of it had to be cut back to green mid-July. Usually this is a job for August. The weather and the number of bees we have had visiting the garden has pushed the lavender flowers over very quickly. With Lavender what you're aiming to do is get the plant to heal itself over after pruning early enough that it is protected from the cold and frosts of winter. We do this by pruning Lavender twice. First prune usually is done in August and then you will again prune the plant back once it starts to grow next year. This will keep the plant from becoming spindly and leggy instead of the attractive mound shapes we look forward to.



The most popular and common lavender people will have in their gardens is the *Lavandula angustifolia* 'Hidcote' which is an English dwarf cultivar of the *angustifolia* which is native to the Mediterranean. Lavender, incidentally, is in the same plant family as Basil, Rosemary, Sage, Oregano and Mint. (*Lamiaceae*).

What you use to prune your lavender is up to you, you can take your time with a pair of snips, garden shears or you can be like me and be brutal and go at them with hedge trimmers. You're aiming to take them back to a nice compact mound shape and I would advise you make sure the mound is fully green still. Try not to cut down into the old wood.

If this is your Lavender's first year you must skip pruning altogether the first year and even a second if it's slow to grow. The mound shape you create every year helps it not only look good but also will stop the plant becoming very woody and brittle.

If you have the French white lavender, firstly, good luck with that and secondly, I would either not be trying to prune it at all or leave a much

longer green stem than you would with the English varieties. Our climate isn't really the best for the French lavender although if the weather continues the way it's going it may be worth trying again.

Deadheading your flowers

Keep those secateurs clean between plants as best you can to stop the spread of any disease. Use this dead-heading time to relax and be mindful as you slowly prune off spent flowers around your garden. It's a good time to just clear your head of anything and simply enjoy being outside. Deadheading encourages more flowers and healthy growth. Keep a bucket or garden bags with you to avoid dropping the cut waste onto your soil as best you can, again this just helps keep bacteria at bay.



Wisteria's summer snip

Wisteria is another plant that requires two cut backs a year. Once in summer and again in January or February.



You can see very easily which growth parts need a prune back as they will be long and almost vine or whip like. They will be sticking out like a sore thumb at you and hanging down untidily. Cut these long growths back to about five or six leaves. These will be cut back further in the winter to 2 or 3 leaves.

If your Wisteria has got to the point where it is needing a hard cut back and a reshape, this is a winter job best not done during your summer cut back.

Church Pages

Who's Who

Church of England Parishes by the Wall (East)

The Reverend Ollie Dempsey
The Vicarage
Station Yard
Haydon Bridge
NE47 6LL

Tel: 01434 671649

Methodist

Reverend Michael Holland
Tynedale Methodist Circuit
Fern House
Catton
Hexham
NE47 6QS

Tel: 01434 683732

Roman Catholic

Parish Priest : Fr Jeffrey Dodds
Assisted by Fr Paul Kilduff
St Mary's Catholic Church
Hencotes
Hexham
NE46 3EB

Tel: 01434 603119

St John of Beverley Haydon Bridge

If you have any queries about service
times please contact:

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Hencotes, Hexham

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From the Registers

July

Weddings

*Jesus said "As the Father has loved me,
so I have loved you: remain in my love"*

Saturday 19th July at St Michael & All Angels,
George Beaumont and Rebecca Weeker

Funerals:

*If we have been united with Christ through
baptism into death, we will certainly be united
with Him in his resurrection.*

On Thursday 10th July at St Peter, Newbrough :
Gordon Everitt of Newbrough

Fourstones with Warden Methodist Church

Preachers for August

- 2nd Local arrangement
- 10th Reverend Steven Talbot
- 17th Reverend Michael Holland
Holy Communion
- 24th at Haydon Bridge with
Mr Fullard
- 31st Reverend Fiona Calverey

All services at 10.30am
Everyone welcome

Letter from Fr Paul.....

The reading from the Gospel this weekend had Jesus calling in on his friends, Mary and Martha. It's always good when we see Jesus in a social setting as it reminds us of both his need, and our need to be around people. To share a meal, a pint or three or that cup of tea.

We are in our nature social beings, we are reminded in Genesis that it is not good for us to be alone, and we are encouraged, to be a neighbour to each other. It reminds us that we need to thank God for our friends and family and that whenever we gather, Jesus is in our midst. We need to come together not only in good times, shared life events like baptisms and weddings, but also be there for each other during difficult times, such as bereavement or a serious illness in hospital.

That is why it's so important that when we do call in on our friends, that we take the time to listen

to what the other has to say, to be generous with our time and understanding, to hear with our heart. Too often we make ourselves busy in the hustle and bustle of life, so that we fail or avoid the needs of our friend and quite often our own needs as well.

Do we make ourselves so busy that we fail to listen to Jesus when he speaks to us? Do we let Jesus be a friend to us? As clergy there is always somewhere to be or something to do, but as I grow in my ministry I am becoming more aware that sometimes less is more, quality is better than quantity and to listen is the best gift we can give to a friend and neighbour. The same applies to Jesus if we listen to his word with our hearts.

Fr Kilduff
Assistant Priest
St Mary's Catholic Church

Thank you National Churches Trust and Northumbria Historic Churches Trust

Having successfully raised significant grant money, together with generous parish fundraising, the PCC of Warden with Newbrough refurbished the Saxon tower of the Grade 1 listed St Michael's Church at Warden in 2014 and replaced timbers and tiling on some roof slopes in 2015. We now have a need to do the same type of roof works to the south pitch of the nave and transept roofs due to timber and slate failure which is beyond patch repair and into which rainwater has been able to penetrate.

For the last year, steps have been taken by the PCC to appoint Doonan Architects to inspect, prepare a scheme and seek tenders, while the PCC sought the extra funding needed, over and above the residue of restricted funds held from our 2014/5 fundraising for this church. As this project is a major capital financial undertaking for our small parish, and the current focus for local fundraising is to meet our annual parish costs of running three churches, several grant applications were made. We were rejected by one but successful with two bodies.

We sincerely thank National Churches Trust and Northumbria Historic Churches Trust for supporting the project and enabling us to secure the project. Without their aid we could not proceed.

The start date for the specialist roofing contractors being on site is July 28th and it is expected to complete in approx 6 weeks. The project is being supervised by Tristan Spicer of Doonan Architects, Hexham. We have the necessary consents and are meeting compliance conditions laid down by the regulation bodies involved in the scheme and grants.

While the project is being carried out there will be no services in St Michael's as there will be some dust protection measures in place, especially for the organ. It is hoped that the church will be able to be open for limited public access; however the safety of visitors will be paramount.

Gill Robson is the PCC point of contact for the scheme : email gillandneilrobson@gmail.com

Pattern of Worship across the Parishes by the Wall (*East*)

St John Lee, Warden with Newbrough and Haydon Bridge

	0800	0930	1100
1st Sunday	St John Lee	St Aidan's Fourstones	Haydon Bridge
2nd Sunday	Newbrough	St John Lee	Haydon Bridge
3rd Sunday	Haydon Bridge (BCP)	Newbrough	Haydon Bridge
4th Sunday	St Aidan's Fourstones	St John Lee	Haydon Bridge
5th Sunday ***	-	Fourstones	Haydon Bridge

*** 31st August 2025 and 30th November 2025

Weekday Services

Morning Prayer	0800	Monday—Thursday at <i>Haydon Bridge</i>
Evening Prayer	1630	Monday—Wednesday (Monday & Tuesday at Haydon Bridge. Wednesday at Fourstones)
The Eucharist	1000	Wednesday at <i>St John Lee</i>
The Eucharist		On festival days as advertised

The Reverend Ollie Dempsey Tel: 01434 671 649 email: fr.oliver.dempsey@outlook.com

NB: from Fr Ollie

Due to roof repairs services, which were due to take place at Warden, will now take place at St Aidan's Fourstones, beginning Sunday 3rd August.