

The Stanegate

Newbrough, Fourstones, Warden
and surrounding hamlets

* * * * *



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Do you have a story, an image, an idea or feedback
you'd like to share in the Stanegate,
then please send to the editorial team :

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

at

thestanegate@hotmail.com

**the deadline for the December/January edition is
Friday 14th November 2025**

* * * * *

Thank you to the reader who commented on how much they enjoyed
the 'Early Memories of Frankham', included in the October Stanegate.

**Did you know ?
there's more.....**

The recent Stanegate editorial listed several means of obtaining services and information locally. May I make you aware of some other services that are also available.

The Town Hall also has a web site :
www.newbroughtownhall.co.uk
which lists information about the building, hire costs etc. and also has an events page which lists Town Hall events such as concerts, plays, quiz nights etc.

There is a village Facebook page :
<https://www.facebook.com/FourstonesandNewbrough>
which lists events through the month and can be used for the spread of information, enquiries and any other local news.

Finally, there is an email service :
fourstones.info@fourstonesandnewbrough.co.uk
which can be used to convey information.

In addition, a monthly "What's On" email is mailed out to a current subscription list of 250+ subscribers. The emails are sent out bcc (blind carbon copy) so your email address is not displayed to anybody else. To subscribe to the mailing list all that is needed is a request to be sent to the email address shown.

Iain Bennett



Graveyard Tidyup

Many hands make light work,
Come with a rake,
Armed with some gloves,
Lots of enthusiasm , plenty of laughs,
It's St Peter's Graveyard tidyup.

November 23rd at 9.00 for a couple of hours.
See you there!

Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER

- 5th Warm Wednesdays
Town Hall
11am - 3pm
- 6th Town Hall AGM
7pm
- 8th Ceilidh, Town Hall
7pm. See p4
- 9th Remembrance Service
Town Hall, 10.30am
- 13th Newbrough WI
Town Hall, 7pm
- 17th Crochet Café, Town Hall,
1pm, see p4
- 21st Music Night
Town Hall, 7.30pm
See p4
- 23rd Graveyard Tidyup
St Peter's Church
9am – 11am
- 24th School closes for
October half term
- 27th Quiz at the Town Hall
Doors open at 7.15pm
for 8pm start. See p4
- 29th Carve print and paint
workshop, Town Hall,
see p4

**Save the dates !
December**

- 1st Christmas Wreath
Workshop
- 6th Christmas Fair,
Town Hall



Newbrough lad walks the length of the UK in aid of North of Tyne Mountain Rescue Team



Hal Hodkinson, a Sports and Exercise student at Loughborough University, has recently completed a challenge of a lifetime, walking the length of the UK from Land's End to John O'Groats, some 874 miles.

On 5 August, Hal set off alone with nothing but his kit and determination. Over 44 days, he walked the distance of a marathon every day, camping each night under the stars. It was a completely solo and unsupported adventure, testing his limits both physically and mentally.

Driven by a fascination with the mind-body connection, Hal was excited to explore how mental processes respond when the body is pushed to its physical limits.

The toughest parts of the challenge, he explained, were the solitude, painful blisters in the early stages, and the need to replace pieces of kit that couldn't withstand the journey. Hal commented: "I went through a dozen pairs of socks!"



Despite some difficulties, Hal said: "I absolutely loved seeing the changing landscapes and being so close to nature, although cows licking my tent was slightly alarming!"

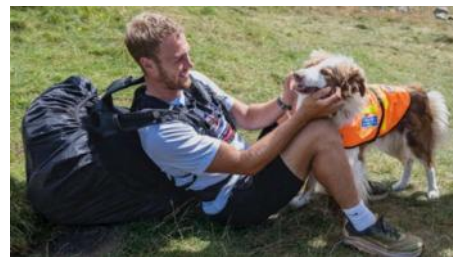
"The most memorable moments of the journey often came in the transition between uncomfortable and comfortable, like finding a stream when

thirsty, or seeing the landscape emerge as you summit a peak."

Hal's journey wasn't just for himself. He raised an impressive £2,200 for [North of Tyne Mountain Rescue Team](#), where his father volunteers. The charity, which depends entirely on donations and voluntary work, will use the funds to support its life-saving operations.

Chris Tait, Team Leader of North of Tyne Mountain Rescue Team said: "Well done to Hal for completing this epic challenge and special thanks for fundraising for North of Tyne.

"The donations will allow us to buy an AED trainer for use by our first aiders and remote rescue medical technicians, and to provide specialist rescue helmets for our swift-water rescue technicians."



North of Tyne Mountain Rescue Team delivers essential search and rescue cover for the whole of the Northumbria Police area, including much of Hadrian's Wall, the Cheviot Hills, Simonside Hills, Kielder Forest and parts of the Pennine Way. The Team covers both urban and remote environments and call outs include searching for missing or vulnerable people, and rescuing walkers, fell runners, climbers and mountain bikers who are injured or lost.

You can donate to North of Tyne Mountain Rescue Team via Hal's [GoFundMe page](#) (<https://tinyurl.com/lejoghal>)

There are many other places Hal is interested in hiking through, West Highlands and Scandinavia to mention a few, however for now he is having a well-deserved rest!



Newbrough Town Hall and Bunkhouse

Warm Wednesdays restart and outdoor improvements

Sheron Robson, Town Hall Co-Chair

Our fundraising campaign **THREE R's** (repair/refurbish/redecorate) has had another successful month. The "Friends of Newbrough Town Hall" continue to grow with 43 people now supporting the Hall on a regular basis. If you would like to join them, contact us on

secretarynewbroughtownhall@gmail.com

as these small regular donations really help us in our refurbishment work.

We are developing our fundraising strategy, with the aim of completing as many of our wish list of repairs and redecoration by next year – which is the 150th anniversary of laying the foundation stone for the Hall!

Using money raised so far, this month one volunteer has been strengthening and protecting the wooden pergola at the side door of the Hall, others have improved the courtyard windows using some marbled window film. This will provide insulation to that part of the building and keep our storeroom contents invisible to any prying eyes. Next month we are working on draft proofing and gathering quotes for Hall decoration. The volunteers who provide and maintain the raised beds at the front of the Hall have purchased new bulbs for the boxes and will be planting those up ready for spring colour.

In October, we welcomed another great Highlights performance, this time from the wonderfully talented Duane Forrest. Duane took us on an incredibly entertaining and moving journey through his relationship with Bob Marley's music and the wider Reggae movement. He was joined by Joanna Baget, an extremely talented French artist whose beautiful voice rounded out the experience.'

Please support our November Events: even getting the word out with friends and neighbours helps!

Warm Wednesdays restart on 5th November with a choice of soup, freshly baked rolls and usually some cake on offer every Wednesday in the Hall between 11-3pm. This year we are grateful for a donation from the Tom Benson Trust which will contribute to the costs of providing this service to our residents. Feel free to get in touch requesting your favourite soup and we'll see what we can do!

Ceilidh – We are pleased to announce "Meggies Ball" on 8th November at 7pm with local Ceilidh favourites **Hedgehogs Skin** providing the music and calling for the dances. Our Ceilidh will be a great social gathering filled with live folk music, energetic dancing and lots of fun. Beginners welcome – all dances are explained and instructions given throughout. £15 per person, snacks included in the break.

Tickets from www.ticketsource.co.uk (search for Newbrough)

Double bill of music as part of the Highlights season on 21st of November at 7.30: **Filkins Drift** – this duo use fiddle and guitar with close vocal harmonies in both delicate Welsh folk songs and traditional English dance tunes. **Lucy Grubb** follows them on the bill with understated guitar rhythms and country influenced vocals melodies, inspired by the likes of Johnny Cash and feted in the British Americana scene. Both acts for the single ticket price of £15.

Workshop – Carve Paint and Print -Provincetown Whiteline 29th Nov – at time of writing there are only a couple of places left on this workshop. All Highlights event details and tickets available at www.highlightsnorth.co.uk (search for Newbrough Town Hall in the venue section).

Crochet Café is on **Monday 17th November** at 1pm in the Lounge. Anne and Gill are on hand to support getting you started or bring along your own project to work on. Refreshments are provided and the 2 hour session costs £10. Email riffic15@yahoo.co.uk for more details or just drop in.

Quiz is on the 27th of November. £2 entry, teams of up to 6, great value bar and snacks at half time. Doors open at 7.15, quiz starts sharp at 8pm. No need to book. The theme for the picture rounds will be Art.

Crystal bowl Soundbath. A deep relaxation session including soundbath and guided meditation. Saturday 1st of November 4.30-6pm £12.

To book, search for AYZOH YOGA on FaceBook.

continued.....

Weekly classes in the Hall:

Pilates - Monday 12.15 -
See www.valravelle.com for details

Yoga - Monday 6.30 see www.jiyoga83.com
for more information and how to book or drop in on
the day.

Bowls - Wednesday 7pm. Fancy a go? Or come to
watch, this is a friendly non-competitive group who
enjoy playing a gentle addictive game, alongside a
cuppa, biscuits and a natter. Contact 01434 674406



Zumba - Friday 6pm, followed by **Line Dancing** Friday
at 7pm. Find [dance.zumba.with.val](https://www.facebook.com/dance.zumba.with.val) on Facebook or
just drop in.

Remember the Hall for **childrens and adult
parties** – we have great rates and can be flexible to
your requirements

NB: Christmas Fair on 6th of December –
tables filling up nicely.....bring the young ones
to see Santa



Fourstones with Warden Methodist Church

Greenery needed for the cross outside - please leave at the Chapel

Saturday 1st November 10am - 4pm

November Coffee morning

Friday 14th

Children in Need coffee/soup morning at
Fourstones Methodist Chapel

11am - 2pm

All welcome



Messy Vintage

Tuesday 11th

2.30pm

Topic : Circles of Remembrance

All welcome



Newbrough CC Season Review - 2025

As always the winter came and went pretty quickly and come the middle of April, it was time to start a new season. We started really well, two wins in a row in two pretty convincing performances against Wylam and Haltwhistle. We then muddled through May with a mixed bag of results, the highlight being Lewis Reekie's match winning 121* vs Allendale in a game that went to the last ball of the game, which Lewis hit for 4 to win the match.

From June onwards, our struggles became fairly clear, between exams and the summer holidays, coupled with the beginning of the West Tyne Midweek League, availability became a real issue. We could never get our strongest XI out which led to some poor results in games we really should have won. The one silver lining in this tough summer period was our victory against Medomsley in the semi-final of the WTL Cup. This took us to Tynedale CC for the final against Stamfordham. Unfortunately, despite our best efforts, we came out second best however our team spirit and determination really shone through getting within 15 runs of what was seen a near impossible chase.

The season fizzled out as we hit September and with the weather affecting our last few games, we ended the season finishing 9th in the division. There were still plenty of positives and individual milestones to take away from the season. Junior development has come on leaps and bounds this year with both Oscar Foot and Alfie Taylor achieving their maiden half centuries in adult's cricket for the village, as well as Poppy Forster improving massively with the ball, the future remains bright with all of the talented youth we have coming through! Lewis Reekie scores his maiden century in adult's cricket, with his fantastic knock against Allendale, and finally Bertie Spence bringing up a club first and scoring over 1000 in the season, putting him as lead run scorer in the league for a second year running.

We held our annual end of season awards ceremony after we beat the Red Lion XI on Saturday 27th September, in which the following awards were won;

Player of The Season: Bertie Spence
Young Player of The Season: Poppy Forster
Best Batter: Bertie Spence
Best Bowler: Joe Palmer
Best Fielder: Hugh Ballantyne
All Rounder Award: Martin Forster
Moment of the Season: Lewis Reekie's match winning 121* vs Allendale.



We look forward to another season next year after a well-deserved winter break.

None of this would be possible without the help of all our supporters and, of course, Wes Foot, whose efforts for the Club are much appreciated.

Over the winter we would love to be able to welcome some new players into the team, so, If you have a little bit of cricket experience behind you and would like to get involved with the team, please get in touch with Bertie on 07801 507543, we will have some indoor winter nets practice from February onwards for anyone interested it would be great to hear from you!

President Judith Kirby opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

The deputy secretary, Vanessa Ashton, confirmed that everyone had received the email containing the minutes from last month's meeting and the current correspondence was outlined.

On Saturday 4th October, the President, along with three members, attended the Northumberland Federation Annual Council Meeting at the Royal Grammar School in Newcastle and an overview of the meeting was given.

One of the speakers was Susan Fulton of Canine Partners <https://caninepartners.org.uk> Susan explained that this was a small charity with a huge take up area across the whole of the UK. Its purpose is using highly trained dogs to care and assist physically disabled adults in their daily lives. What these dogs can do is amazing and Susans talk proved to be very entertaining and informative.

Val Johnston gave a brief outline of the Treasurer's Report, and we continued with our craft themed evening.

Susan Sutton demonstrated Japanese Boro, a traditional textile repair and creation technique involving piecing together scraps or strips of fabric with layers of running stitches called sashiko to create new fabric. This is a practical, and decorative method to mend clothes and use up leftover pieces of fabric. Susan had brought examples, a small bag and a cushion cover to show how this technique can be applied.

Judith Kirby demonstrated the technique of Tunisian Crochet or Afghan crochet. A type of crochet that uses an elongated hook, often with a stopper on the end called an Afghan hook. It is sometimes considered to be a mixture of crocheting and knitting.

The members were then given the opportunity to have a go at trying each of these techniques.

At the end of the evening, the raffle was won by Susan Sutton and the table flowers won by Val Johnston.

The next meeting is Thursday 13th of November at 7pm and we will be making our Christmas Hats to wear at the Christmas Lunch

The hostesses are Janet Johnstone & Carol Ellis. The competition is 'any object with moving parts' The raffle prize provided by Dorothy Sowerby



Newbrough Town Hall
200 CLUB : October draw

1st	Yvonne Heminsley	28
2nd	Peter Lee	29
3rd	Judith Kirby	97

BONUS BALL : September

6th	Stewart Leadbitter	24
13th	Doreen Dodd	10
20th	Neville White	22
27th	Neville White	59



News from Newbrough C of E Primary School

As we reach the half term break, it has been lovely to see the children so engaged in their learning and enjoying the wide range of opportunities on offer this term.

We had a real treat when the team from Kielder Water and Forest Park came into school for a day of outdoor activities. The children loved trying out the mini seg-ways, exploring nature and learning new skills. It was a brilliant day full of laughter, teamwork and adventure.

This half term has also included our Creative Week, which was part of the national *Take One Picture* project. The children produced some outstanding artwork and writing inspired by a shared painting, and it was wonderful to see their creativity and imagination shine through.

We have also had lots of fun with a fancy dress disco and a dressing up day organised by our fantastic PTA. Thank you to everyone who helped make these events such a success.

A polite reminder to all parents and carers to please avoid parking on the zig zags or double parking at drop off and collection times. This helps to keep everyone safe and ensures that children and families can enter and leave school safely.

Our Key Stage 2 children are looking forward to joining pupils from three other local schools for a Remembrance Service at St Michael's in Wark after half term. It will be a special opportunity for them to come together in reflection and respect.

Our school vision, "Growing Well", continues to shape all that we do. We have been reflecting on how we help every child to flourish, academically, socially and spiritually, and we will be sharing more about this work over the coming months.

A quick reminder that Tiny Tots has a new time and will now take place on Mondays at 1.30pm. We are always delighted to welcome new families along, so please do spread the word.

We are also looking for a new school governor to join our supportive team. If you are interested in helping to shape the future of our wonderful village school, we would love to hear from you.

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

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Autumn recipes from Newbrough School

Sidney's Warming Autumn Cauliflower Cheese



Ingredients:

A cauliflower
200g + of cheese- mature cheddar is my favourite
A tablespoon of plain flour
A tablespoon of butter
Half a litre of milk
Salt & pepper

Method

Step 1: Wash and cut up the cauliflower into small chunks.

Step 2: Boil some water and add cauliflower. Boil until nicely soft.

Step 3: Now make the cheese sauce. Put a large tablespoon of butter in a pan and melt gently until it is liquid.

Step 4: Add a tablespoon of plain flour and stir into the butter making a sloppy paste.

Step 5: Now add half a litre of milk slowly, making sure you stir it well continuously. If it looks too thick add a little more milk. Make sure the milk doesn't boil.

Step 6: Grate 200g of cheese and then add it into the sauce with a little bit of salt and pepper.

Step 7: Allow it all to combine and keep stirring for another 5 minutes.

Step 8: Pour the cheese sauce over the cooked cauliflower and sprinkle extra grated cheese on the top. Put in the oven for 5-10 minutes until the cheese has crisped up on the top.

Step 9: Serve with some sliced tomato and seasonal salad for a light lunch or as a side dish with your Sunday Dinner!

Job done!

* * * * *

Sidney's Apple Cake recipe from Great Grandma Heather

A perfect recipe for all those autumn apples !!!

Ingredients:

12oz self raising flour
8oz butter
6oz caster sugar
4oz sultanas
1lb peeled and cored weight of apples diced
3 large eggs lightly beaten

Method:

Step 1: sift flour into basin and rub in butter

Step 2: Stir in sugar, sultanas and apple.

Step 3: Stir in beaten eggs with a metal spoon- this will be stiff- **do not** add extra liquid.

Step 4: put into 2x 1 lb loaf tins which are lined.

Step 5: Cook for about 50-55 minutes at 180 degrees. You can also pop a bit of greaseproof paper over the top in case they get too brown.

Step 6: Remove and let cool before enjoying!

We sometimes eat it with ice cream too!



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(also works in the Early Years classroom – a perfect transition for when your child starts school!)

Mobile Library in November
Tuesday 11th

Newbrough - Home Farm Estate	14.10 - 14.30
Newbrough - Sidgate	14.35 - 14.55
Fourstones - Green Church	15.00 - 15.20

Please note : the days and times for December are under review
but will be included in the next issue of The Stanegate

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Open Gardens 2026

It's been 10 years since we last had an Open Gardens event locally. Where did those years go? But, anyway, it's back! We had such a good response back in 2015 and we are hoping it will be even bigger and better this time round.

We are planning on a date in early June next year and it will raise much needed funds for the Town Hall. Fancy taking part?

Your garden doesn't need to be picture perfect - every garden is a work in progress. So don't worry about your garden measuring up. It is lovely just as it is!

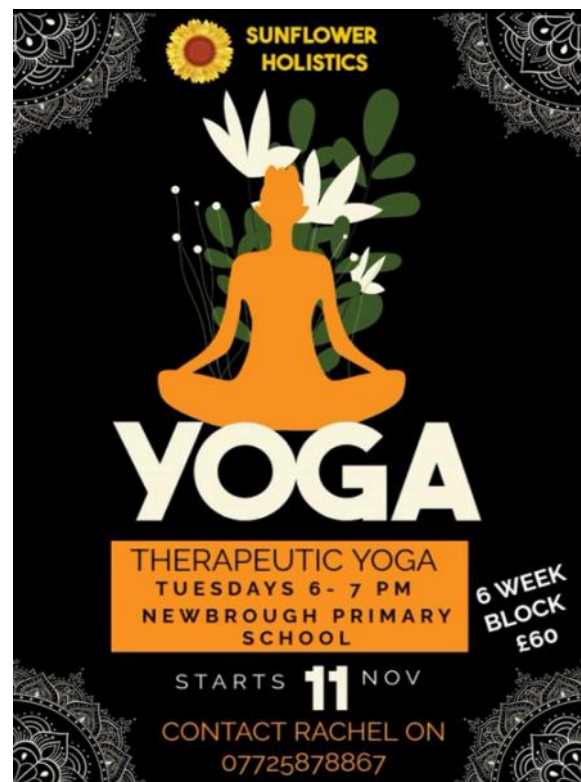
We are also hoping to have a plant sale. So, if you are propagating this Autumn or Spring, please put a few plants to one side for us.

We are at the very early stages of planning, but if you are interested in finding out more, give me a call or drop me an email. This is purely to register your interest and does not commit you to anything.

Please join us

Nick Springham
07533 356443
nick.springham@btinternet.com

The Red Lion



Fourstones and Newbrough Monthly Weather Information for September 2025

Lowest temperature was 0.4C at 7:11 AM on the 22nd
Highest temperature was 21.2C at 2:28 PM on the 7th
Strongest wind gust was 28mph at 4:23 PM on the 15th
Maximum daily rainfall was 18.4mm on the 20th
Monthly rainfall total was 75.6mm

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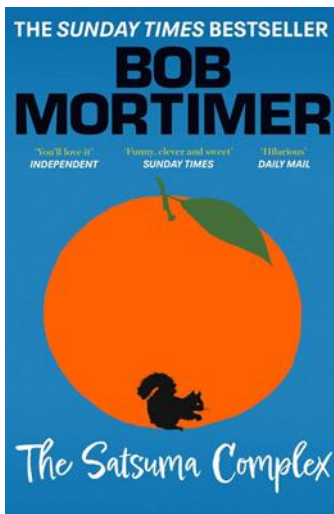
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'The Satsuma Complex' by Bob Mortimer



Bob Mortimer is a comedian, actor TV personality and author. He is best known for his double act with Vic Reeves. They have written and starred in several comedy programmes on British television.

In 2015 Bob was recovering from heart surgery from which inspired a television program called

'Gone Fishing ' which he presents with Paul Whitehouse where they discuss life while fishing after their shared major heart problems.

The Satsuma Complex is Bob's first novel, it's about loneliness, lack of identity and cultural and moral corruption.

The novel is about a man called Gary Thorn, what he calls himself as an unremarkable legal assistant, he meets with a colleague Brendan in a bar. When there, Gary spots a woman sitting by herself at a booth reading a book called The Satsuma Complex.

After Brendan leaves, Gary makes conversation with her but did not get her name before she left. The following day he is told that Brendan has been found dead and he had been the last one to see him.

Now, Gary sets out in finding the unknown woman which he has dubbed Satsuma, not only for his own interests but as an alibi and to figure out what happened to Brendan that night.

The main characters were well created especially Gary's neighbor Grace and her dog Lasso. The minor characters could have done with more development especially the police officers as they seemed to blend into one another so that I forgot who was who.

Gary frequently encounters a squirrel throughout the story who he likes to talk to and imagines him talking back. At first this was funny but as the story progressed I found him annoying.

Bob's quirky observations of everyday life and the detail he captures in some of his descriptions are very funny especially the meat pies Gary and Grace enjoy sharing. Exactly, the same observations and material a stand up comedian would use in their shows.

The Satsuma Complex was a light read, a shade under 300 pages so didn't take long to finish. I felt Bob Mortimer's voice and quirky mannerisms throughout the book which enhanced the humor for me .

The group were mixed in their feelings for the book. Those who really like Bob Mortimer's humour could hear his voice as they read it, but some of us did not find it funny at all and were disappointed. There was a spectrum of comments, from rubbish up to refreshingly different. It did bring a discussion about whether the rave reviews printed in the book were due to him being a celebrity.

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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The Barber Bus

The Barber Bus is not operational at the moment.

Further updates will follow next month.

Meanwhile please support Susan by making your appointments at the Mart Barbers where her colleagues will make you both welcome and smart!

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The Two George Cruddas's

Stanegate local and family history section

The long list of Warden parish vicars, displayed on boards in St Michael's, contains two identical names: George Cruddas 1867 –1895 and George Cruddas 1895 – 1899. A coincidence, an error or a connection? It is a connection and they have shaped Warden village for which I thank them, being associated with three of its listed structures.

Rev George Cruddas, the vicar for 27 years, was born in North Shields in 1829, educated at Durham School and then Oxford before entering the church. He became Vicar of Warden parish in 1867, rural dean of Hexham and Hon Canon of Newcastle in 1882. He reportedly built Nether Warden House and estate in 1867 and it shows for the first time on the OS 1895 map with its new entrance road and lodges. The OS map surveyed in 1862 shows only fields above the Warden corn mill and cottage on the North Tyne: the choice of site for the new build house took advantage of the famed beauty of the setting of Warden, the rocky North Tyne gorge, and watersmeet, all much written about and photographed as the idyllic rural and river landscape at the time. The house name of Nether Warden may have been revised from earlier times when it was used as a prefix for the village to distinguish it from Upper Warden (1841 Rev J Hodgson,) but then fallen out of use for the village to be Warden.

Establishing Nether Warden as a country estate may have been due to Reverend Cruddas's prosperity through his father: yet another George Cruddas who was a very successful engineer and businessman and who joined William Armstrong in establishing the Elswick Works in Newcastle.

Reverend George and his wife Jane lived at Nether Warden, not in the vicarage, and had nine children but two daughters died in childhood. Jane pre-deceased George in 1878 and in 1883 he married Hyacinthe and they had a child and continued living at Nether Warden as a blended family. George died in 1895 age 66 at Nether Warden, and was described as 'much respected' in the Hexham Courant on his death. Hyacinthe died in 1927. Whilst the Gothic style house is not listed, it is today a great adjunct to the village.

Reverend Cruddas's building fever did not stop at Nether Warden House but extended to enlarging and upgrading the interior appearance of St Michael's, his parish church. A modest plaque dated 1889 acknowledges George reconstructing the chancel making it significantly longer than its previous form. The wonderful stain glass windows in the chancel dated 1896, commemorate his own death and one window for each of his two deceased daughters. A plaque in the transept naming Hyacinthe as his widow, gives thanks for his life. Whilst St Michael's Grade 1 listing is not due to George, the building's current appearance and size is in part due to his spend.

The Grade 1 listed 7th century stone market cross, now located by the church tower, may have been seen in Nether Warden house garden as it was reportedly moved from there and placed at the church in 1957 but its exact location prior is a bit of a mystery.

Reverend Cruddas's eldest son George, born 1858, would have moved to Nether Warden as a boy. He followed his father's footsteps to Oxford University and into the church. George became Vicar of Warden parish in 1895 two years before his father's death and was only vicar for four years. However he too has left his mark on the village through a Grade 2 listed building which marks the death of his wife Mary at the age of 42 in 1899. In 1903 he built the imposing gothic style lych gate, as a memorial to Mary with its carved inscription.

1901 census records George as a widower and retired from the clergy, but in 1905 George married Amy and he continued to live at Nether Warden with a second family along with children from his marriage to Mary. George died in 1924 aged 66, the same age as his father on death. In 1939 Amy moved to Guildford, Surrey and died in June 1948 aged 75. There is no record of Amy in St Michael's, neither is she buried in the graveyard which has the graves of George and Jane, and George and Mary plus children from each first marriage.

Jill Robson



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Green Notes

Here we go again: it's COP 30 in Brazil! Not about climate?

by Malcolm Newson on behalf of Climate Action Newbrough-Fourstones

A year ago, Green Notes was looking forward, with more hope than optimism, to the Azerbaijan COP, featuring 195 nations; our theme was, 'science can warn but politics delivers'. Perhaps, therefore, we can prepare for Brazil by focusing on international political signals over the last year. Keir Starmer went to the 2024 meeting (much debate over how he would travel there!) and set an ambitious UK national target under the Net Zero policy – now even that is in doubt by some in Labour and two opposition parties. This year Prince William is going to Belem to present his Earthshot prize – will his message be more passionate and can he 'work a room' better than Ed Milliband who's leading the Government delegation?

Most climate scientists look back to the Paris COP in 2015 with pride (it set the limit of 1.5°C global temperature rise, recently broken, but still recoverable). Beyond the immaculate scientific evidence for man-made global heating, what were the *political* processes in Paris and can they be recovered? COPs are now *political* – the next International Panel report on the *science* is not due until 2028.

Jennifer Morgan, who was head of Greenpeace International in 2015 and was 'in the room', has suggested the following favourable Paris conditions: Obama was US President, renewable energy had suddenly become MUCH cheaper, the smaller vulnerable countries found a voice and the French were good hosts. Spot what's changed!! The USA has walked away from the Paris Agreement and doesn't believe in overseas aid. At least the cost of renewable energy continues to fall

(though not to consumers in the UK) and, in the first half of 2025, renewables overtook coal as the world's prime source of energy. A bit more continuity: ahead of Paris, Pope Francis published his thesis on climate change – now Pope Leo has done the same.

André Corrêa do Lago, the veteran Brazilian diplomat who will preside over Cop30, lamented in August that only 28 nations had submitted their climate targets and that geopolitical strife was a poor context for multilateral action. Brazil hopes that COP 30 will strengthen policies for a just transition (see May's Green Notes), further promote finance for adaptation to the growing climate extremes and put some meaning on the compromise resolution of COP 29 to 'transition away from fossil fuels'.

Maybe the COP architecture has not adapted to the geopolitical stress. In June 200 civil society and indigenous peoples demanded an entirely new set of COP procedures, citing the notorious ability of pure politics and commercial interests to hold sway on the international stage. Climate change is also becoming a major cause of human migration. The challenge faced by the Brazilian hosts is summed up by the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House): '... the world faces the increasingly devastating impacts of climate change and amid intense geopolitical turmoil'. Little wonder that the Brazilian hosts have gone for 'global mobilization' of civil society as their theme – retaining politics but not in the way politicians do it!

Remember, Remember, the 5th of November

The first weekend of November sees the annual celebration of Bonfire Night when around the country people come together to make bonfires and watch them burn, whilst fireworks displays are seen and heard all over.

But where does this tradition stem from? Let's go back to 5th of November, 1605 when Guy (Guido) Fawkes and his co-conspirators attempted but failed in their 'gunpowder plot' to blow up the House of Lords. Every year on the 5th November is Guy Fawkes Night or Bonfire Night to commemorate this!

Here is the now famous poem you can recite with your young ones. This poem is now indelibly linked to the fireworks and Bonfire Night we celebrate on this date every year.

*"Remember, remember the 5th of November, Gunpowder, treason and plot
I see no reason why gunpowder treason Should ever be forgot"*



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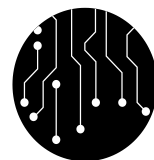
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November, From the Garden

Iain O'Brien

November is a month for picking, tidying and putting the garden to bed so to speak.



Firstly, all your root veg should be dug up by now. If you still have carrots, turnips, potatoes and other similar vegetables they need to be dug up as soon as possible. If you want to fill your plot with something you can plant hardy broad beans, onions, garlic and shallots but they will need protecting with mesh or cloth. Using containers is another alternative.

Second make sure you keep picking your fruit and storing them somewhere dry and cool. Your berry canes should be cut down to ground level now to encourage strong growth next year.

If you are lucky to have a supply of leaf mulch, you can use this now to cover bare patches of soil. This will break down more over the winter and help the soil condition in the spring and make it easier to plant into.

While it's still mild it is best to get your bulbs planted now. Pick out some beautiful containers and pick two complimentary tulips and fill that tub with bulbs. Don't be frightened to put a large number of bulbs packed in together they will be fine. Mix some slow-release fertiliser in with the compost and store the containers away preferably lifted off the ground. A plastic mesh can be used over the pots to stop rats and mice chewing the shoots next year.

Tip, picking short stemmed tulips for pots is a good idea as they won't flop as much and longer stemmed varieties.

Keep your ponds clear of debris as best you can during this period. As the temperatures haven't dropped fully yet bacteria will still build up in any waste plant material.

You can bring some colour into your garden by planting out some winter bedding plants such as pansies, violas and wall flowers while the temps are mild. Adding grit into the compost will help with drainage especially over winter and will stop the soil from being over saturated. Try to plant these on a warmer sunny day.

Erica (winter-flowering heather), Euphorbia and Heuchera can add flower and foliage colour through the winter months.

Now is a good time to order any new fruit trees and canes and you would plant these using the instructions that they provide.

It is your last chance to turn over your soil once all the dead plant material has been removed. The soil still will have retained the heat that has been absorbed throughout the summer so turning the soil over now makes sure that oxygen gets deeper into the soil structure

Erica



Heuchera

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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

Fourstones with Warden Methodist Church

Preachers for November

2nd Mrs Sandra Martin

9th Remembrance Service, 10.30am
Newbrough Town Hall
Taken by Reverend Michael Holland

All are welcome

16th Reverend Mary Beard at
Fourstones with Haydon Bridge
10.30am

All are welcome

23rd Mrs Elaine Goy

30th Circuit Service at Trinity, Hexham
1.30am, 1st Sunday of Advent

St John of Beverley, Haydon Bridge

**If you have any queries about service times
please contact:**

**St Mary's Catholic Church,
Hencotes, Hexham**

or call 01434 603119

All Souls' Day : Sunday 2nd November

On All Souls' Day, which this year falls on Sunday 2nd November, the Church remembers all those we love but see no longer - family members and friends, those who have died recently or some time ago.

There is a list at the back of Church for the names of loved ones to be remembered at the Service.

Letter from Fr Paul.....

One of the big differences when you move from living in a large town or a city to the countryside is the awareness of the changing of the seasons. Yes, you are aware of the changes from cold to heat, from dark to light, from hollcks to ice cream, but there is no substitute for experiencing the seasons through your senses.

The rainbow of the leaves as they fall from the trees to their crispness underfoot, the bleat of the lamb as you feel the spring sun for the first time that year, on the back of your neck, to the smell of the fresh cut hay, the sound of the tractor working in the distance and the silence of the hillside covered in snow. They are all reminders that we live in a created universe and that we are all God's creation. On top of that, we are not just observers looking in from a distance but are asked to actively participate in it.

We are part of its story, the essential cog to its existence and to its continuation. That is why the churches together have been celebrating the season of Creation. A season given to us each year, which runs from the beginning of September to the 4th October, the feast of St Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals, the environment, and ecology. It reminds us of the beauty of our plant, the bonds of love that we share with one another and that through that love how we are united to our Creator who has made us in His image and likeness, to share with Him in caring for our common home, to shine in the Light of the World, to feel the breath and heat of the Holy Spirit enkindling our hearts, as we grow each season in the circle of life, that leads us to Life Eternal.

God bless
Fr Paul

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

St John Lee, Warden with Newbrough and Haydon Bridge

	0800	0930	1100
1st Sunday	no service	Warden (BCP)	Haydon Bridge
2nd Sunday	no service	St John Lee	Haydon Bridge
3rd Sunday	no service	Newbrough	Haydon Bridge
4th Sunday	no service	St John Lee	Haydon Bridge
5th Sunday ***	-	Fourstones	Haydon Bridge

***30th November 2025

NB Roof repairs at St Michael & all Angels, Warden are ongoing and services normally held there continue to be held at St Aidan, Fourstones

Weekday Services

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

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