



Upper Coquet Resource Group COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2026



Supported by

NEW:

The 2026 Upper Coquet Resource Group Shillmoor Duck Race

Winners:

- 1st: Gavin Selkirk (Rose and Thistle)
2nd: Linda Schofield
3rd: Tom Newman

We raised £652

Thank you to the many people who very kindly took part in this annual fund raising event by sponsoring the hundreds of little yellow ducks that were carefully unloaded into the River Coquet off Shillmoor Bridge during the summer. Thankfully water levels were sufficient to provide a good close race and challenge the catchers at the finish line.

All profits go towards the UCRG efforts in continuing to support local groups, defibrillator supplies, first aid courses and events. Thank you.

NEW:

The UCRG 2027 Calendars are being prepared and should be on sale during September.

We are grateful to everyone who makes this fund raising calendar such a success each year, adding vital cash to our pot of money to use locally for good causes such as free First Aid Courses in Harbottle Village Hall or replenishing consumables on local defibrillators.

Our special thanks go to local photographer Ian Glendinning for his generous donation of time spent throughout the year capturing many local scenes in spectacular ways.

The calendars are A4 sized, priced at £10 each and include an envelope. They can even be posted to your chosen recipient....just speak to Susan or Bessie for details and costs.

Your handy Christmas gift solver will be available through:

**The Star Inn, Harbottle*

**Rose & Thistle, Alwinton*

**Greenbrae, Newton*

**Bessie Rogerson, Hepple Post Office*

**Susan Rogerson, Alwinton*

**Tracey B at Harbottle Show*

Thank you, your support is very much appreciated.

The UCRG monthly quiz sheets you may see in various outlets can be purchased either when you see them or for the year ahead. They are coordinated by Margaret Ward (01669 650317) and they have been a fantastic steady way to boost our funds over the years. We continue to be grateful to Margaret and all those who regularly support this fun activity.

Newsletter Circulation

It is great that we are still welcoming new names to our circulation list. Please can we ask you to continue to spread the word so that everyone knows and can sign up to the blind copied circulation list by contacting Tracey on the email below. Plus, if you are able to print a copy to share with someone without internet then thank you. Items for the newsletter can be sent in electronic form ahead of the monthly submission deadline to Tracey Boldy via stickypud@harbottle.net

NEW: Planned 2026 dates: submission deadlines with electronic distribution by the end of each month are:

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Wednesday Deadlines</u>		
October	23/09/26		
November	21/10/26		
December/January 2027	18/11/26	THIS MAY ALTER TO EARLY DEC, tbc	<u>DOUBLE ISSUE</u>

Harbottle School Community Group: Supporting Our Local School

We welcome anyone from the school and local community to come along and help. No set times so it can be daytime or weekends, an hour or a morning whatever suits. Jobs could include weeding, bed clearing, tying back, tidying, painting etc.

So if you enjoy a bit of gardening in your spare time and would like to join us to look after our local school gardens, then please contact Margaret Ward for more information (01669 650317).

Harbottle School Community GROUP continues to collect and sell both new and pre loved puzzles, be they 300-2000 pieces. XL piece jigsaws are especially popular. Funds raised go towards the group's endeavours to help pay for the annual ground rent for the top field so that the school children and community have access to a green space for playing, plus covering the costs of refreshing the planters. Other past efforts have included supporting getting the school Bistro off the ground, out of school clubs, craft classes, and sending out the bat signal for locals and businesses to gather to maintain the school grounds e.g. maintenance, painting, gardening, tidying, gravel installation.....all help always very much appreciated.

Should you wish to purchase/donate jigsaws, please contact Tracey Boldy, Pauline Bickle, Ann Hennessy or Margaret Ward. We have also tried our luck at selling online and this is proving a popular way to bring in additional regular income for the group.

NEW: And from all at the UCRG:



Thank you to all who submitted pieces and help to distribute this community newsletter via email, local websites and community Facebook pages. It all helps to share alerts, news, activities and opportunities up and down the valley, thus supporting the UCRG Newsletter's aim to help the valley communicate. We are always on the lookout for items to include from recipes, local activities, local successes, nature watch, items for sale/available/sought, local history etc., so please get in touch. There is always so much going on – it is amazingly varied and we are so fortunate to have people prepared to organise it all.

We wish all the very best to all of our local youngsters who are moving on to new schools, places of work or further study (and don't forget to apply for that Rothbury Educational Trust grant by the 1st September!).

Enjoy the local shows and perhaps wander along during set up evenings/days as extra help is always welcomed.

Hoping the month ahead is kind to you all.

Until next time,

Take care

Tracey

SAVE SOME DATES

Further details for each event plus many more are detailed in the articles within this newsletter. Enjoy.

Forever Yung Dance: Ongoing cycle of lessons, always welcoming both beginners and those with dance experience. Lots of fun and great instruction. Ballroom/Latin Line dance lessons on Wednesday mornings plus ballroom/latin/salsa on Friday evenings. First dance, Father/Bride dance and 1:1 tuition also available (p 14/16).



Cafe Church: Sunday 23rd August, 3.45-5pm, Harbottle Village Hall. All welcome (p14,32)

Glendale Show: Saturday 29th August: Wooler Show field, NE71 6QX (south of Wooler on A697) .

Bellingham Show: Saturday 29th August: Bellingham Show Field NE48 2JY

ALNHAM CHURCH: SUNDAY 30TH AUGUST: Summer Lunch At the Church 12.30 for 1.30pm (p5).

Rothbury Educational Trust: Tuesday 1st September: Deadline for submissions to apply for an educational grant (p19).

Harbottle Show: Saturday 5th September: The Oak Field NE65 7DG (p12,13)

The Star Inn, Harbottle: Saturday 5th September: Harbottle Show Day with food & drinks all day, including 8pm Show Auction of Produce in the evening with Late 1am Licence. (p15)

The Star Inn, Harbottle: Saturday 5th September, 9pm: Harbottle Show Day Live Music with The Jackdaws (p15).



Coquetdale Wildlife Group: Monday 7th September, 7:30pm, Jubilee Hall, Rothbury: "Seals" by Richard Ilderton (p22)

UCCT Excursion: Wednesday 9th September: Bide a Wee Gardens depart Rothbury 10.30am, £4 each (p30).

Hepple WI: Thursday 10th September: Majorie Davy, Felting Workshop
Competition: Most Number of Items in 1 lb Jar beginning with letter F (p8)

Coquetdale Music Trust: Sunday 13th September: Thropton 7.30pm: Claude Bourbon (p17)

A&BLHS: Wednesday 16th September, 7.30 pm at Whittingham Memorial Hall: Aln & Breamish Local History Society: "Women in Anglo-Saxon Northumberland" talk by Dr. Chris Ferguson (p17).

The Star Inn, Harbottle: Thursday 17th September, from 8pm: Quiz Night in aid of Harbottle C of E First School with Tom Hall as Quiz Master, £2 entry and raffle donations welcomed (p15)



Coquetdale Music Trust: Saturday 19th September: Thropton 7.30pm: Sam Kelly with Jamie Francis (p17)
The Star Inn, Harbottle: Saturday 19th September, from 7.30pm: Cheviot Folk Night in the Courtyard Barn (p15)
Repair Cafe: Saturday 19th September : 10 am-2 pm in the Jubilee Hall, Rothbury (p23)
Thropton Show: Saturday 19th September: NE65 7JE



U3A: Monday 21st September, 10am: Margaret Bozic: The History of The Lit & Phil (p18)

UCRG Newsletter deadline: Wednesday 23rd September for the October edition (p2)

UCCT Excursion: Wednesday 23rd September: Heatherslaw Railway and Fountain Cottage Cafe, Etal lunch. Depart Rothbury 10.30am, train ticket £12. Trip £8 each. Lunch not included (p30).



The Star Inn, Harbottle: Saturday 3rd October, from 8pm: Acoustic Music Night in the bar (p15)



Coquetdale Wildlife Group: Monday 5th October, 7:30pm, Jubilee Hall, Rothbury: "Dragonflies" by Ian & Elaine Burnell (p22)

UCCT Excursion: Wednesday 7th October: Blaydon Shopping Centre, depart Rothbury 10am, £8.50 each (p30)

Hepple WI: Thursday 8th October: Tony Iley, Talk on Sheepdog Trialling
Competition: Photo of a Dog (p8)

Alwinton Show: Saturday 10th October: NE65 7BQ

The Star Inn, Harbottle: Saturday 10th October from 12 noon: Alwinton Show Day: food & drinks: noon-9pm (p15)

The Star Inn, Harbottle: Thursday 15th October, from 8pm: Quiz Night in aid of tbc (p15)



The Star Inn, Harbottle: Saturday 17th October, from 7.30pm: Cheviot Folk Night in the Courtyard Barn (p15)



U3A: Monday 19th October, 10am: Poems and Music on the theme of Autumn (p18)

SAVE SOME DATES continued

A&BLHS:	Wednesday 21st October, 7.30pm at Whittingham Memorial Hall: Aln & Breamish Local History Society: "Hillforts" talk by Michael Thompson (p17).	
UCCT Excursion:	Wednesday 21 st October: First & Last Brewery tour & lunch at Fountain Café, Bellingham. Depart Rothbury 10am, £6.50 each (tour and lunch not included) (p30).	
UCRG Newsletter deadline:	Wednesday 21 st October for the November edition (p2)	
Harden Quarry Talk:	Thursday 22 nd October, from 7pm at The Rose & Thistle, Alwinton: An UCRG event: Archaeologist Dr Clive Waddington will speak on his team's excavation work at Harden Quarry. Free community event, all welcome (p9).	
Social Dance:	Saturday 24 th October: Spooktacular Halloween Dance with half hour Tango workshop (p16)	
UCCT Excursion:	Wednesday 28 th October: Manor Walks, Cramlington – Rothbury 10am, £7 each (p30)	
Coquetdale Wildlife Group:	Monday 2 nd November @ 7:30pm, Jubilee Hall, Rothbury: "Roe Deer" by Richard Muggeridge (p22)	
UCCT Excursion:	Thursday 5 th November: Elsdon fireworks. Depart Rothbury 5pm, £4 each (p30)	
The Star Inn, Harbottle:	Saturday 7 th November, from 8pm: Acoustic Music Night in the bar (p15)	
FIREWORKS & HUGE BONFIRE:	Saturday 7 th November at 6pm: Trewitt Hall – NE65 7ET. EVERYONE WELCOME (p7)	
Coquetdale Music Trust:	Monday 9 th November: Thropton 7.30pm: Toby Shaer, Archie Moss & Jack Warnock (p17)	
Hepple WI:	Thursday 12 th November: Charlotte Boxall, Christmas Wreaths Workshop Competition: Home-made Christmas Card (p8)	
The Star Inn, Harbottle:	Thursday 12 th November, from 8pm: Quiz Night in aid of Harbottle Show 2027 with Stewart Wallace as Quiz Master. £2 entry and raffle donations welcomed (p15).	
UCRG Newsletter deadline:	Wednesday 18 th November for the December/January edition but may change (p2)	
UCCT Excursion:	Wednesday 18 th November: Heighley Gate Garden Centre; Rothbury 10.30am, £5 (p30)	
The Star Inn, Harbottle:	Saturday 21 st November, from 7.30pm: Cheviot Folk Night in the Courtyard Barn (p15)	
Repair Cafe:	Saturday 21 st November: 10 am-2 pm in the Jubilee Hall, Rothbury (p23)	
U3A:	Sunday 22nd November, 10am: Annual Lecture: Dr Chris Ferguson: Anglo-Saxon Northumbria, a maritime kingdom (p18)	
UCCT Excursion:	Wednesday 25 th November: York Christmas Market – depart Rothbury 08.30am, £22 each (p30)	
The Star Inn, Harbottle:	Thursday 26th November, from 8pm: Quiz Night in aid of Lily's World Challenge trip to Borneo 2027, £2 entry and donations to raffle welcomed (p15).	
Coquetdale Music Trust:	Saturday 28 th November: Thropton 7.30pm: Grace Smith Trio & Archie Churchill-Moss (p17)	
The Star Inn, Harbottle:	Saturday 5 th December, from 8pm: Acoustic Music Night in the bar (p15)	
Hepple WI:	Thursday 10 th December: Christmas Dinner, venue tbc (p8)	
Social Dance:	Saturday 12 th December: Christmas Dance at <u>St Michael's, Alnwick</u> with half hour Viennese Waltz workshop (p16)	
The Star Inn, Harbottle:	Saturday 19 th December, from 7.30pm: Cheviot Folk Night in the Courtyard Barn (p15)	
U3A:	Monday 21st December, 10am: Fool's Gold – The Blaydon Races Show, Stories, and Live Music around this iconic Geordie folk song (p18)	
The Star Inn, Harbottle:	Thursday 24 th December, noon – 10pm: Christmas Eve, food until 5pm, carols & mulled wine around village tree at 6.30pm, and then Christmas Prize Draw in pub (p15).	
The Star Inn, Harbottle:	Saturday 26 th December: Boxing Day noon-10pm with food until 8.30pm, dominoes rally (1pm registration) and optional fancy dress (p15)	
The Star Inn, Harbottle:	Thursday 31 st December: New Year's Eve celebrations, food until 8pm. Fizz & Fireworks at midnight plus live music tbc (p15).	
The Star Inn, Harbottle:	Saturday 2 nd January, from 8pm: Acoustic Music Night in the bar (p15)	
The Star Inn, Harbottle:	Thursday 21 st January, from 7pm: Burn's Night Supper with entertainment from Roddy Mathews & Malcolm Barrass. Ticket only available from 1 st December at £30/head (p15).	

ALNHAM

ALNHAM CHURCH SUMMER LUNCH

To be held on

SUNDAY 30TH AUGUST

At the Church

12.30 for 1.30

Pimms on arrival followed by Lunch

Raffle. Cash Bar

For queries and dietary requirements please contact
Jenny Sordy: 07736486367. jenny@alnhamfarm.co.uk

Tickets £25 per person. Children under 12 years free

Payment by BACS: Alnham District Church Council
Sort Code: 30-99-50. Account No: 34157460
Please state name as reference

Numbers limited due to the capacity of the Church

We look forward to seeing you!

NETHERTON

Netherton exercise class: Drop in and have a go at Chair Based Exercises, **every Monday 10am to 11am** in Netherton Village Hall. Everyone is welcome, £3 per person per session.

For more information call Charlotte on 01669 640265 or email Charlottebx@gmail.com

Netherton WI: New members always welcome. For further information please contact Joan Blakey.

Netherton Village Hall Coffee mornings: the Hall Coffee mornings are normally held on the **First Monday in each month from 11am until 12noon**. Everyone is welcome.

The Netherton Craft Group: We meet at Netherton Memorial Hall at **2pm until 4pm on the 3rd Thursday of the month**. Come along and join us for chat and an afternoon spent with like-minded company. Please bring along anything you are currently working on. We also knit small blankets, cardigans and hats for premature babies. We very much look forward to welcoming you to the Group.



NEW:

Netherton Village Hall:

Offering a warm space during power cuts

Netherton Village Hall have acquired a standby generator, courtesy of Northern Power Grid Foundation, to enable us to power the village hall during extended power cuts. That means that we will be able to provide a warm room during the days where people can meet and with the ability for people to heat up food, make hot drinks, charge their devices, and use the internet if needed.



With winter approaching, we need to be able to let people who may need these facilities know as and when they come into operation, so are compiling a list of people to contact as and when it happens.

If you think you would use the hall for any reason during a power cut, or know someone who would, (but who may not get this newsletter), then please get in touch with Siobhan (Hall secretary) on secretary.nwmh@gmail.com or 07786947278.

NEW:

TREWHITT HALL
**SPECTACULAR
FIREWORKS**
& HUGE BONFIRE!

**ON SATURDAY
7TH NOVEMBER AT 6.00PM**

TREWHITT HALL - NE65 7ET

EVERYONE WELCOME

ENTRANCE VIA FIELD GATE

ON SNITTER TO NETHERTON ROAD

**ALL PROCEEDS TO
ALWINTON & HOLYSTONE CHURCHES
& THE COQUETDALE SQUIRREL GROUP**

**ENTRANCE £3
PER ADULT**

**CHILDREN FREE
FREE SPARKLER**

**HOT DOGS £4
PUMPKIN SOUP £2
MULLED WINE £3
PERCY SPECIAL £3
BEER £3**

HEPPLE

Hepple Village Hall:

Seated chair exercise:	Thursdays 10-11am
Northumberland Basketry Group:	3 rd Wednesday of the month
Table Tennis:	Tuesdays 7pm

Hepple WI: regular Thursday meetings and activities, including guest speakers. New members always welcome.



Table Tennis is at Hepple Village Hall on Tuesday evenings at 7pm. All welcome.



Northumbria Basketry Group meets monthly, mostly, on the 3rd

Wednesday of each month between 10am-4pm. New members are always welcome. Please contact Gill Phillipson for extra details and queries.

Chair Based Exercise in Hepple:

Chair based exercise will benefit everyone; you don't need to be chair bound to benefit.

The Hepple Seated Chair Exercise runs every Thursday 10am-11am.

For information contact Chris Wilson: 01669 640012 or

Chris.wilson601@btinternet.com

Hepple Women's Institute Programme 2026-27

Thursday Meeting starts at 7.00 pm in Hepple Village Hall
Pooled supper. Visitors welcome £5

2026

Sept 10th	Majorie Davy, Felting Workshop Competition: Most Number of Items in 1 lb Jar beginning with letter F
Oct 8th	Tony Iley, Talk on Sheepdog Trialling Competition: Photo of a Dog
Nov 12th	Charlotte Boxall, Christmas Wreaths Workshop Competition: Home-made Christmas Card

Dec 10th Christmas Dinner, venue tbc

2027

January	No meeting
Feb 11th	Pie and Pea Supper, followed by Programme Planning Subs Due
Mar 11th	Kate Simpson, Talk on her Work as an Artist Competition: Drawing, any Medium
April 8th	Performance by Blyth Tall Ship Sea Shanty Singers Competition: Musical Instrument
May 13th	A.G.M.

Contributions for raffle prizes will be gratefully received each month.

ALWINTON



The Rose & Thistle

We have new menus to explore, so please come along and enjoy our traditional country pub deep in the heart of the wonderful Northumberland National Park.



Message from Alwinton Parish Council

The new email address for Alwinton Parish Council is: clerk@alwintonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Please note that our old 'Gmail' address will not be monitored going forward and a new website will be launched in the coming weeks which will also have contact details for the PC via our clerk.

Simon Taylor, Chair - Alwinton Parish Council

Harden Quarry Excavation Talk by Dr Clive Waddington

The Upper Coquet Resource Group are delighted to announce that Archaeologist Dr Clive Waddington will speak on his team's excavation work at Harden Quarry on **Thursday 22 October from 7.00 pm at The Rose & Thistle Inn, Alwinton.**

The team, which excavated the site for several months in 2025, found platforms where roundhouses may have once stood and piles of stones cleared by Bronze Age farmers to create fields. Their work suggested that people lived on the Cheviot Hills as far back as 2400 BC. Although they already knew people from this era lived along the river valleys, the uplands were not believed to have been cleared for farming and settlements until late into the Bronze Age. The team also found multiple burial cairns (piles of stones that were used as grave markers) on the site. In these cairns the team found stone grave boxes, which once likely held skeletal remains that had since decomposed, as well as a fully intact pot containing cremated remains.

This will be a free to attend community event and will include a raffle to benefit the ongoing efforts of The Upper Coquet Resource Group to assist community groups, events and necessities such as defibrillator consumables and first aid courses.

We also hope to have our 2027 Calendars on sale.

Should anyone wish to donate a raffle prize please contact Margaret Ward, Susan Rogerson, Simon Taylor, Billy Gibson, Gail Johnston, Pauline Burke, Bessie Rogerson or Tracey Boldy. Thank you.



CLENNELL

NEW: Clennell Hall Hotel

WHAT'S ON AT
CLENNELL HALL
 HOTEL & BAR
Upcoming Events

AUGUST

7TH & 8TH	IRISH FOLK WEEKEND WITH COLM GREY	FREE ENTRY
15TH	ACOUSTIC KEYS DUO	FREE ENTRY
22ND	EDDIE POPESCU ELVIS TRIBUTE	TICKETS £8
28TH, 29TH & 30TH	ROCK AROUND THE HALL	TICKETS £45

SEPTEMBER

5TH	D-PLUS	FREE ENTRY
11TH, 12TH & 13TH	COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL	£60 TICKETS
19TH	KEVIN FINIGAN	FREE ENTRY
26TH	MIKE DARREN	FREE ENTRY

OCTOBER

2ND, 3RD & 4TH	ROCKY'S RALLY	TICKETED (TBC)
10TH	STONES STORY	
17TH	PRIVATE PARTY	
31ST	CLENNELL SPOOKTACULAR HALLOWEEN PARTY AND GAMES	FREE ENTRY

NOVEMBER

7TH	FIREWORKS	
14TH	PERCY AND THE PIGLETS	FREE ENTRY

Great Music • Great People • Great Times
 LIVE MUSIC • EVENTS • FOOD & DRINK • CAMPING • ROOMS

FOLLOW US ON FOR UPDATES AND MORE EVENTS! CLENNELL HALL HOTEL & BAR
 Alwinton, Northumberland

CLENNELL HALL
SUNDAY LUNCH MENU

Mains

Roast beef with Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, mash, seasonal veg, stuffing, gravy
 (£3 surcharge)

Roast chicken, stuffing, Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, mash, seasonal veg, gravy

Chefs special – venison shank
 slow braised in red wine and blackcurrant, served with creamed mash, veg and Yorkshire pudding
 (£5 surcharge)

Veggie Mince pie with all the trimmings – Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, mash, seasonal veg, gravy

(Childs Sunday dinner option is available for £8.95)

Desserts

Choc brownie with ice cream
 or
 Salted caramel sundae

1 course 15.95
 2 courses 20.95

Please advise staff of any allergies

Dplus
 at
CLENNELL HALL

SAT 5TH SEPT
8.30PM

DUO TO POPULAR DEMAND, WE ARE BACK!
GHOST WALK AT CLENNELL HALL!!

Join us for an evening of stories and local legends at one of Northumberland's most atmospheric halls.

TAKING BOOKINGS NOW FOR WALKS ON
MONDAY 26TH OCTOBER
 TILL
THURSDAY 29TH OCTOBER

7.00PM UNTIL 8.00PM
MAX 15 PEOPLE PER WALK
£20pp PER PERSON
BRING YOUR OWN EQUIPMENT FOR YOUR OWN GHOST HUNT AFTER THE WALK

As dusk settles over the Coquet Valley, Clennell Hall begins to reveal another side of its history. Walk through the Hall and its grounds, listening to tales of the Lantern on Clennell Street, the White Lady, the Cellar Keeper and many more voices said to linger.

INDOOR & OUTDOOR SECTIONS
SENSIBLE FOOTWEAR ESSENTIAL
WRAP UP WARM & DRESS FOR WEATHER
SUITABLE FOR ADULTS & OLDER TEENAGERS

DISCOUNTED OVERNIGHT STAY AVAILABLE!
£85 PER ROOM INCLUSIVE OF BREAKFAST FOR 2 PEOPLE

TO BOOK OR FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT US DIRECTLY OR MESSAGE ON FACEBOOK

FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO LINGER LONGER...
 OVERNIGHT STAYS ARE AVAILABLE – AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE THE HALL'S STORIES FOR YOURSELF, ONCE THE VALLEY HAS FALLEN QUIET.

SHOWN COPIES OF THE BOOK WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE IN THE EVENING

A Ghost Walk of Clennell Hall and its Grounds

HARBOTTLE

HATHA YOGA CLASSES: Tuesday Evenings 7- 8.30pm in Harbottle Village Hall (also online).
Contact info@judaliyoga.com or see www.judaliyoga.com for more info.



Iyengar Yoga in Harbottle Village Hall on Monday evenings from 6.00pm to 7.30pm.
This is a general Iyengar class suitable for all abilities including beginners. For more information call Margaret on 650281 or email margaret@ranken.co.uk

CANINE PARTNERS: Please continue to save your used postage stamps for the charity, Canine Partners, in order to help towards the cost of training even more puppies to develop into helping dogs for disabled and injured people. Karen has kindly agreed to keep the collection bag at The Star Inn, Harbottle. The charity is very grateful for all your hard work. It has helped so much.

<https://caninepartners.org.uk/get-involved/fundraising/recycle-used-postage-stamps/>

Friends of Harbottle First School

We aim to meet every month to discuss ideas, upcoming events, fundraising ideas etc. and would love to welcome new members from the local community to join us (please note you do not need to have a child at Harbottle First School to join). If you have a little time to spare and would like to help in **any** way then please get in touch via our email: FriendsofHarbottleFirstSchool@gmail.com

and we can add you to the 'Friends' contact list for notification of future meetings and times (these will be varied to try and cater to everyone).

Bev

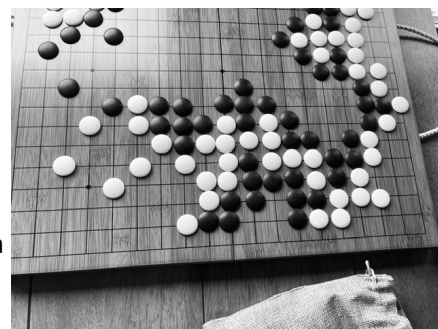
NEW: A New Go Club – Come and Have a Game

Fancy learning a fascinating game with a history stretching back thousands of years? Three local enthusiasts are starting a new club for anyone interested in learning and playing Go, one of the world's oldest board games.

Go originated in ancient China more than 3,000 years ago and later became deeply established in China, Korea and Japan. In China it is known as Weiqi, in Korea as Baduk, and in the West we generally use the Japanese name, Go. It has a wonderfully long history, yet the basic idea is surprisingly simple. See britgo.org

Go is played between two people using black and white stones on a grid. Players take turns placing their stones, aiming to surround territory while also capturing their opponent's stones. The rules can be learned quite quickly, but the game offers enormous depth and plenty of opportunity to develop new strategies and skills. Smaller boards can be used when learning, making it very approachable for complete beginners.

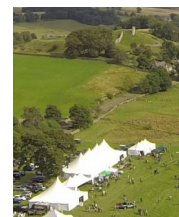
Our new Go club meets every Wednesday from 2pm to 4pm at the Star Inn, Harbottle. Whether you have never seen a Go board before, have played a little and want to improve, or are already an experienced player, you are very welcome. There is no need to be an expert — just come along, meet some fellow players and give this remarkable ancient game a try.



Go Club – Wednesdays, 2pm–4pm at The Star Inn, Harbottle
New members very welcome

NEW: 152nd Harbottle Show on Saturday 5th September 2026 – not long now!

The Team are extremely busy finalising this year's show and look forward to seeing you all on The Oak Field, Harbottle on the first Saturday in September.



So much to choose from but here goes....the splendidly impressive **Sheep Show**, lots of "enter on the day" **horticultural, industrial and children's classes** which are **FREE to enter but donations are always welcomed** in the buckets available on the front table in the main tent and then there is the crowd pulling **Music Tent** delivering toe tapping quality tunes all afternoon. The **raffle** is always popular at the end of the afternoon as everyone gathers in the main show tent to celebrate the **Trophy awards** to the many winners from the day. And then, after a clear up, some food and often a well earned nap everyone is invited to the fun community gathering in The Star for the **8pm auction** of donated produce, a drink, chat and **9pm live music**. Exhaustion with a smile guaranteed!

Ringside seats will be available to watch the ever popular **Cumberland and Westmorland Wrestling** with all of the usual classes. There will be plenty going on to keep the whole family entertained including **racers for both children and adults, the dog show, terrier races, archery** and the **quoits competition**.

A variety of local crafts will be demonstrated and be on display in our **Trade & Craft Tent**, alongside trade stands from the local area. Why not join the **car boot sale** on the show field; £10 payable on the day and it will help you to have a bit of a de-clutter as well as enjoying the show from a prime location. And whilst you catch your breath between events and chats, please don't forget to visit our wonderful **traditional tea tent**; all brilliantly prepared each year by Sylvia, Jaycee and their team.

The **2026 Show Schedule** is now locally available listing all of the classes at this year's show. Please have a look through and think about which classes you fancy entering. There are lots to choose from including new classes and all help to make the show a wonderful, colourful community display.

It all takes place on one field on one magical September day in Harbottle. So not long to go but still plenty of time to bake, create, get fit, clear out the cupboards **AND GET SOME CASH** as there isn't a reliable mobile signal on the show field so we can not guarantee card sales.

Raffle donations: gratefully received and can be handed to The Star Inn, Harbottle ASAP please. Thank you.

All help is very welcomed so why not pop along to the show field on Wednesday or Thursday evening 6pm or Friday morning to lend a hand in the setting up?

We look forward to welcoming you to our traditional friendly show, set beside the ancient Drakestone and Harbottle Castle.

The 152nd
HARBOTTLE SHOW
THE OAK TREE FIELD, HARBOTTLE
By kind permission of The Common Family
SATURDAY 5th SEPTEMBER 2026
from 12pm

ADMISSION AT GATE Adults: £5 Children (Under 16) : Free	CAR BOOT £10 per car (includes drivers admission)	ON FIELD CAR PARKING FREE
--	--	----------------------------------

HORTICULTURAL, INDUSTRIAL & CHILDREN'S CLASSES
CRAFT DEMONSTRATIONS • CUMBERLAND WRESTLING • DOG SHOW
MUSIC TENT • TERRIER RACING • ARCHERY • FAMILY FUN & MORE

AUCTION OF PRODUCE TO BE HELD IN THE EVENING (8PM APPROX) AT THE STAR INN - HARBOTTLE

PLEASE NOTE, LIMITED MOBILE SIGNAL ON THE SHOW FIELD
CASH SALES PREFERRED

And in this year's Harbottle Show Music Tent..... we present:



GOOD GUY HANK

From the harmonious Heartlands of Scotland and the musical metropolis of Melbourne, Australia, **GOOD GUY HANK** bring all of the heartbreak, joy and everything in-between with blistering bluegrass country guitar, lightning mandolin, virtuoso fiddle playing and three part harmonies galore! Influences range from Hank Williams and Elbow to Lucinda Williams, Gillian Welsh, Drive by Truckers. Good Guy Hank are: Guitar & Vocals: Theo Barnard of Scotland's much lauded hell-raising band of bluegrass desperados Wire & Wool. Fiddle, Mandolin & Vocals: Pepita Emmerichs of Australian indie-pop sensations Oh Pep! Guitar & Vocals: Donny McElligott of Scottish Americana outfit The New Madrids.

Dave Gray – Button Accordion
Jon Doran- Fiddle/ Voice

One of the standout qualities of Dave Gray and Jon Doran's music is the comfort that it exudes. Energy is the lifeblood of a great performance and they're two of the most versatile musicians on the Newcastle upon Tyne folk scene. Their live shows are a whirlwind of enthusiasm, seamlessly blending upbeat rhythms with reflective stories, and their audiences find themselves swept away into another world. Their show encapsulates a sense of familiarity and warmth and is guaranteed to resonate deeply with anyone who listens.



And be sure not to miss those fabulous men and renowned scallywags Aka **VoiceMale Folk Choir** who once again return this year to bring their dulcet tones to the Harbottle Show. With their whippersnapper conductor, Jon Doran, they're sure to have your feet tapping and singing along whilst they project their lusty voices in the general direction of the Drake Stone!!!

Harbottle Village Hall:

Harbottle Village Hall: a local amenity for the community of Harbottle, Alwinton, Sharperton & Holystone.

This community resource, with comfy chairs and Wi-Fi, can be booked for private and community events. It is a great space for music lessons, parties, discos, auction of promises, coffee mornings or perhaps even a new venture? Please chat to Tracey Boldy for more information and to make a booking: stickypud@harbottle.net

The past generations have used it for fund raising Coffee Mornings, Jumble sales, Discos, Auction of Promises, Village Pantomimes, Ceilidhs, Private Parties, Art Groups, Sewing Groups, Music Evenings, community consultations, museum exhibitions, mindfulness training plus youth and toddler groups.

Weekly Classes

Monday:	<i>Iyengar Yoga</i>	6 - 7.30 pm
Tuesday:	Judali Hatha Yoga:	7- 8.30 pm
Wednesday:	<i>Ballroom & Latin Line Dance</i> Beginner:	10 - 10.55 am Beginner Plus: 11 – 11.55 am
Friday:	<i>Ballroom & Latin Dance:</i> Focus Dance*** or Beginner: Beginner Plus <i>Salsa</i>	6 - 6.55 pm 7 - 7.55 pm 8 – 8.55 pm
Sunday:	Café Church	3.45 - 5 pm (Fourth Sunday each month)

Harbottle Badminton & Short Tennis:
The equipment and venue are ready when you are.

Focus Dance Fridays 6 - 6.55 pm

We are currently learning how to Rumba, Samba,
Viennese Waltz and Slow Foxtrot

Come along and join us!

Cafe Church at Harbottle Village Hall

A Coquetdale Churches Together event.

ALL WELCOME!

We would love you to join us for an informal service with a cuppa & cake, songs, talk and creative activity. This is an opportunity for all generations to be together.

These services will now be happening 3.45-5pm monthly on the fourth Sunday of each month (except December):

23rd August

For more information or to get involved please contact either:

Catherine Iley:
catherine.iley@gmail.com

Angela Feather
angela.feather@urc-northernsynod.org



NEW: The Star Inn, Harbottle

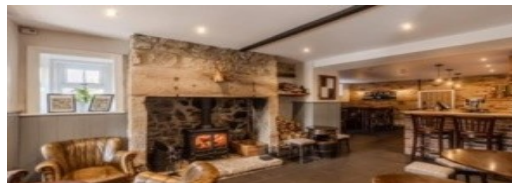


*We welcome walkers, cyclists, tourists, bikers, local residents
and their families, friends and dogs!*

Events planned over the coming months:

Saturday 5th Harbottle Show Day

Pub open between 12 noon and 1am
Food served all day between 12 noon and 9pm
Auction of the Show's produce at 8pm
Live Music with The Jackdaws from 9pm
Late licence until 1am on Sunday



Thursday 17th September, from 8pm:

Quiz Night in aid of Harbottle C of E First School with Tom Hall
as Quiz Master, £2 entry and raffle donations welcomed

Saturday 19th September, from 7.30pm:

Cheviot Folk Night in the Courtyard Barn

Saturday 3rd October, from 8pm:

Saturday 10th October from 12 noon:

Thursday 15th October, from 8pm:

Saturday 17th October, from 7.30pm:

Acoustic Music Night in the bar

Alwinton Show Day: food & drinks: noon - 9pm

Quiz Night in aid of tbc

Cheviot Folk Night in the Courtyard Barn

Saturday 7th November, from 8pm:

Acoustic Music Night in the bar

Thursday 12th November, from 8pm:

Quiz Night in aid of Harbottle Show 2027 with Stewart Wallace
as Quiz Master. £2 entry and raffle donations welcomed.

Saturday 21st November, from 7.30pm:

Cheviot Folk Night in the Courtyard Barn

Thursday 26th November, from 8pm:

Quiz Night in aid of Lily's World Challenge trip to Borneo 2027
£2 entry and donations to raffle welcomed.

We are having a very good summer, the weather has been kind to us, which has brought a lot of visitors to the pub for rooms and food/drinks. We also have good local support, something we very much appreciate. Let's hope the good weather continues for a while longer.

We have a strong team here but will be losing a few of our younger staff members as they return to education and new jobs in September. We will therefore be shortly advertising for a Pizza Chef, a Kitchen Assistant/Cook and Pub Staff 18+. If you know of anyone, please get in touch...

As the summer ends and the autumn begins, we will be restarting our winter activities - quiz nights will restart from September, darts and dominoes will begin in October and there will be a bit more live music at weekends. If anyone is interested in darts, please get in touch as we may be able to create a second team this season.

We will continue to open 7 days a week and are now serving food until a bit later in the evenings, until 8.30pm Sunday to Thursday, and until 9pm on a Friday and Saturday. These hours will remain until the end of September, perhaps into October.

You will have seen that I've listed the pub for sale. With the refurbishment nearly complete and the business doing well, the pub is in good shape for someone new to take it on, run it as it is, or put their own stamp on it. As I also near my 40th working year, the time seems right to think about retirement. I've worked flat out since I was 16, always putting work first. I'd like to spend more time with family and friends now, travel and enjoy life whilst I still can. Until the pub sells, it will be business as usual though, I'll be here until the end!

Thank you for your ongoing support, it's very much appreciated. We look forward to seeing you again very soon 🍕 🍹

Karen

The Star Inn, Harbottle
Morpeth
Northumberland
NE65 7DG

Tel: 01669 650221
Email: info@thestarinnharbottle.co.uk
Website: www.thestarinnharbottle.co.uk
Follow us on Facebook - twitter - Instagram



Forever Yung Dance Classes in Harbottle Village Hall



Focus Dance Fridays 6 - 6.55 pm

We are currently learning how to Rumba, Samba, Viennese Waltz and Slow Foxtrot:
Come along and join us!

We are always ready and keen to welcome new starters..... if you are tempted to try then please get in touch and we will help to get you moving in whichever class that suits you best.

Quotes from current local dancers:

"Happily married but love our different dance classes!"

"Good fun, made new friends and the perfect way to keep fit."

"We never thought ballroom dancing would be our cup of tea, but we joined when we moved here, just to get to know people. We've loved it ever since and I have even taken up Salsa classes!"

"There is no such thing as bad dancing, it's all just joyful."

"Great fun with a very patient teacher, nice meeting new people including the opportunity for coffee at The Star after some good, gentle, relaxing exercise."

"Very friendly groups; great teacher. You won't regret it. One of the best things I have done; love it!"

"Just love it and it makes me smile. Like the social, health & fun aspects, including the social dances expertly curated by Lisa, as well the challenge of learning so many different styles of dance slowly over time. Ken has the patience of a saint, carefully explaining and re-explaining the steps to us."

ADULT

Ballroom, Latin, Salsa, Line

Dance Classes

Harbottle Village Hall



Ballroom & Latin
Beginner
Friday Evenings
6:00 - 8:55pm
Fun & Welcoming..
Learn Foxtrot,
Jive, Waltz
and Cha Cha.

Ballroom & Latin
Beginner PLUS
Friday Evenings
7:00 - 7:55pm
Foxtrot, Jive,
Waltz, Cha Cha
PLUS Tango & Quickstep!



Salsa
Beginner
Friday Evenings
8:00 - 8:55pm
Fun & Welcoming
Dance Classes for
Beginners.
Immerse yourself in
the rhythms
of Latin America.

**NO Partner
Required for
any of our
programs!**

£45 per 8 week program



Ballroom & Latin
Modern
LINE DANCE
Beginner
Wednesday Mornings
10:00 - 10:55am
Beginner PLUS
Wednesday Mornings
11:00 - 11:55am
Non partner form of
Ballroom & Latin
Dancing.
Great exercise
and lots of fun.

**£25 per
4 week program**



CONTACT INFO:
Tel: 07818 726941
Email: yungdance@icloud.com
Website: www.foreveryungdance.co.uk

2026 Community Social Dances at Harbottle Village Hall

Saturday 24th October

Spooktacular Halloween Dance with half hour Tango workshop

Saturday 12th December

Christmas Dance at St Michael's, Alnwick with half hour Viennese Waltz workshop

6.00- 10.00pm **Please purchase tickets in advance**

Door prize

"pooled food" for mid-evening buffet

Everyone is welcome

No dance experience/partner req'd

*If you wish to know more or join any of the classes at **Harbottle, Alnwick, Wingates or Smailholm** then please contact Ken & Lisa:*

www.foreveryungdance.co.uk

Email: yungdance@icloud.com

Please check our Facebook page for updates: <https://www.facebook.com/foreveryungdance/>

Coquet River Action Group

One of the activities that CRAG is undertaking at present is pulling out Himalayan Balsam (an invasive, non-native species) from the river banks in an attempt to stop it spreading.

We are keen to locate sites as soon as possible. If you know of any or find some then please get in touch via the email below with details, including if possible a photo and a What3words location or google maps pin drop location.

We would hope then to gain the landowner's permission to go and pull it out before it seeds.

Thank you.

cougetriveractiongroup@outlook.com

THROPTON

The Coquetdale Music Trust – Thropton at 7.30pm

Sunday 13th September:	Claude Bourbon
Saturday 19th September:	Sam Kelly with Jamie Francis
Monday 9th November:	Toby Shaer, Archie Moss & Jack Warnock
Saturday 28th November:	Grace Smith Trio & Archie Churchill-Moss

Tickets on sale at Tully's, or see website: www.coquetdalemusictrust.com
Or contact: lesleyhallcoquetdalemusictrust@gmail.com

All Concerts start at 7.30pm and feel free to bring your own refreshments

WHITTINGHAM

NEW:

Aln and Breamish Local History Society

Wednesday 16th September, 7.30 pm at Whittingham Memorial Hall
"Women in Anglo-Saxon Northumberland" talk by Dr. Chris Ferguson.

Wednesday 21st October, 7.30pm at Whittingham Memorial Hall
"Hillforts" talk by Michael Thompson.

There is a small fee of around £2 for non-members. New members are very welcome to come along and join.

Jeff Reynolds, ABLHS Committee member

ROTHBURY

Rothbury Community Hospital, our local hospital: If you, or a loved one, are interested in a residential place please either email rothbury@pfcare.co.uk or telephone People First Care at their Wooler site on 01668 281 662; ask for Amanda Cowell. Here is a link to a virtual tour of the facility, you can see how lovely and homely it is: <https://youtu.be/Aw5UkCMj9Yo> Or find Rothbury Cottage Care on You Tube.

Over the Bridges: The Church & Community Magazine for Upper Coquetdale is available online at: www.overthebridges.org The UCRG are grateful for the ongoing link in Over the Bridges for people to find our latest newsletter via the Church website.



COQUETDALE LEAGUE OF FRIENDS

Reg. Charity No. 508289

About us: The Coquetdale League of Friends, a local registered charity, has been run for the last 46 years by volunteers. Our aim is to support health providers and those who rely on their services in the Coquet Valley. We do this by raising funds and managing donations so that we can help our health care providers give their patients the best health services in this very rural area.

Join: We are always very happy to welcome new Friends. If you would like to get involved please contact the Secretary at cathyjacob@hotmail.com. We are particularly in need of anyone with social media or web building skills.

Donate: We are only able to continue our work supporting the nurses and doctors working in the Coquet Valley and their patients because of the money generously donated by the public. If you would like to donate our bank account details are as follows:

Lloyd's Bank, Sort code: 30-99-50, Account number: 20679463

UPDATED: Retired? Or semi-retired? Thought about joining U3A?



Forthcoming Events for 2026

Everyone is welcome to come along to these talks. Non-members simply pay £2 on the door, which includes light refreshments. All talks take place in the Jubilee Hall, Rothbury. Here's what's coming up over the next few months:-

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Monday 21st September, 10am: | Margaret Bozic: The History of The Lit & Phil |
| Monday 19th October, 10am: | Poems and Music on the theme of Autumn |
| Sunday 22nd November, 10am: | Annual Lecture: Dr Chris Ferguson: Anglo-Saxon Northumbria, a maritime kingdom |
| Monday 21st December, 10am: | Fool's Gold – The Blaydon Races Show, Stories, and Live Music around this iconic Geordie folk song |

To find out more about Coquetdale u3a, visit www.coquetdale.u3asite.uk

Membership is only £10 for the year up to April 2026 (or £5 if joining from January). For more information, email us at: coquetdale.u3a.secretary@gmail.com

Joining your local u3a is a great way to find and develop new interests and make friends in a relaxed environment. We have monthly get-togethers, quiz nights and trips and visits. The interest groups that are the lifeblood of an u3a and at Coquetdale u3a we offer a broad range of groups, just look at the list below:

Art Appreciation	Book Groups	Ceilidh Dancing	French Conversation	Cycling
Discussion Group	Board Games	Food and Drink	Gardening	Running
Music Appreciation	Spanish Conversation	Table Tennis	Vegetarian Food	Walking Group
Natural History	Knit & Stitch	Italian Conversation	Philosophy	Ukulele
Poetry				

Dave Fleet, Coquetdale u3a Group Coordinator

LAST CALL: ROTHBURY EDUCATIONAL TRUST

The Trustees of the above Trust have a yearly amount available to provide a certain number of grants. These will be considered for:

- Students entering the first year of a recognised University degree course
- Students commencing an accredited apprenticeship, including those involving courses at Colleges of Further Education
- Students must be under 25 years of age on 1st September 2026
- Students will be granted one payment only

Potential beneficiaries must be permanently resident within the Parishes of Cartington, Hepple, Hesleyhurst, Rothbury, Snitter, Thropton, Alwinton, Harbottle and Tosson and the parts of the Parishes of Brinkburn, Hollinghill and Netherton that lie within the Ancient Parish of Rothbury.

There will be a limited number of payments and applicants will be required to complete a short form outlining why they feel they should be considered for the grant. Forms will be available from the Clerk, Marga Scott-Johnson, email: margascott@rothbury.net

Only applications by email will be acknowledged and applicants must stipulate a 'start date' for their course. The deadline for submission of forms is **1st September 2026**. Please note that students will not be notified until mid-October as to whether their application has been successful or not.



Please note this annual opportunity for local young people to apply for a grant (yes an actual grant, not a loan that you have to pay back with exorbitant interest during your working lifetime; they still exist!).

Simply contact Marga for the application form and return it by 1st September.

Don't miss out on the chance of help to cover some vital costs.

**PLEASE CHECK THAT THE ELIGIBLE YOUNG PEOPLE YOU KNOW DO NOT MISS OUT
ON THIS CHANCE FOR A GRANT.**



NEW: Messages from our local County Councillor

Coquetdale Community WhatsApp Group

As some residents may already be aware, mobile phone operators are beginning to introduce new satellite connectivity services, designed to provide basic mobile connectivity in areas where there is little or no conventional mobile signal, or during prolonged network outages such as those we experienced during Storm Arwen.

Currently, O2 is leading the way, offering access to its satellite service for an additional £3 per month. Other providers, including EE, Vodafone and Three, are expected to introduce their own satellite services later this year and into early next year.

At present, these satellite services are relatively limited in terms of what they can support but this will grow and develop. Currently, they can provide access to services such as text messaging and WhatsApp, but they do not currently support most apps such as Facebook, or the web, nor can they be used to make conventional voice calls. It is partly for this reason that I have set up a local WhatsApp Community Group for residents across Coquetdale and the wider Rothbury Division.

The group provides another way for me to communicate directly with residents during future emergencies, particularly if conventional mobile networks are disrupted. It will also be used to share relevant local information, including severe weather updates, emergency road closures, power or communications issues and other important community information.

The community includes a general discussion group, as well as separate chats for the various parishes across our area, allowing information that is only relevant to a particular parish to be shared directly with those residents. If you would like to join, please send me a WhatsApp message on [07590 032619](tel:07590032619), including your full name and the parish in which you live.

WhatsApp currently limits the number of people who can be added to a community to 2,000. Given the very high level of interest already received, I have therefore had to restrict membership to people who live within and are registered to vote in the Rothbury Electoral Division. This ensures the limited spaces remain available primarily for the residents I represent.

Residents can also sign up to my community mailing list by emailing me at: Steven.Bridgett@northumberland.gov.uk

And, of course, residents can contact me directly at any time on [07590 032619](tel:07590032619).

Best wishes,

Cllr Steven Bridgett
County Councillor, Rothbury Division

NEW: B6341 ROAD CLOSURE – ROTHBURY TO THROPTON

Monday 24th August:	Road closed 9:30am – 2:30pm for surface dressing works.
Tuesday 25th August:	Road closed 9:30am – 2:30pm for surface dressing works.
Wednesday 26th August:	Road closed 9:30am – 2:30pm to allow the lock-chip material to be set in place.
Thursday 27th August:	Road closed 9:30am – 2:30pm for the new road markings and white lines to be put in place.

Please note: the closures are until 2:30pm, NOT 3:30pm as is currently being advertised in some places.

On some days, the works may be completed earlier. If that happens, the road will be reopened as soon as it is safe to do so.

Although the road will be closed to general through traffic, access will be maintained as follows:

- * Residents living within the closure points will have access when required.
- * Businesses located within the closure points will have access.
- * Arriva and other bus services will be escorted through the works when required.
- * Deliveries to businesses in Rothbury will be escorted through the closure where necessary.
- * Emergency services will have access at all times.
- * Landowners requiring access to fields will be escorted through the closure where required.

I hope this helps to clarify the situation.

The Council has done its best to keep the closure periods as short as possible and maintain as much access as it reasonably can, while still allowing the works to be completed safely and in a timely manner.

If anyone has any questions, please don't hesitate to message me directly.

Cllr Steven Bridgett
County Councillor, Rothbury Division

NEW:



Coquetdale Wildlife Group

A local community wildlife group affiliated to Northumberland Wildlife Trust

Please come along and join the Coquetdale Wildlife Group
for our programme of interactive wildlife and nature talks.

For our current programme we have the following talks scheduled:

Monday 7th September

“Seals”

by Richard Ilderton

Monday 5th October

“Dragonflies”

by Ian & Elaine Burnell

Monday 2nd November

“Roe Deer”

by Richard Muggeridge

@ 7:30pm, Jubilee Hall, Rothbury

(Teas & coffees available from 7pm)

Please come along and join us. Visitors are always welcome (£4 per talk for non-members)



Rothbury Rubbish Friends

Rothbury Rubbish Friends are aligning their dates with the Coquetdale Repair Café sessions (see below). So we will be meeting every six weeks, for a community litter pick and get together for a cuppa, in the Jubilee Hall, at 11.00am.

Meet in the Haugh Car Park at 10.00am, litter pick till 11.00, then join us for a cuppa and chat. See our posts on the Rothbury Rubbish Friends Facebook Group, or email Katie Scott at rothburyrubbishfriends@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list.



Coquetdale Creatives

Rothbury Poetry, Writing, and Music Events take place on the first Wednesday of each month, except January and August. We have a guest writer and guest musician. Audience members can also share their work or perform a song or tune.

Email Katie Scott at Coquetdale.creatives@gmail.com or check out the website for more information, and to see who the guest artists are: www.coquetdalecreatives.art



Rothbury Climate and Nature (CAN)

Rothbury CAN holds monthly meetings for members and supporters to socialise and share ideas. If you would like to come along keep an eye on the Rothbury CAN Facebook group, or email Katie Scott at rothbury.can@gmail.com See our website for more information www.rothburycan.org

The Rothbury Tree Trail

A new tree has been added to this popular, circular, walk. The Fastigate Yew in All Saints Church Yard is waiting to tell you her stories. This includes information about the church itself, told by Jeff Reynolds. Also stunning music by local group *Tillering Tree*. Free! Download via the Rothbury Tree website: [Climate And Nature](http://ClimateAndNature.com) | [Rothbury Trees UK](http://RothburyTreesUK.com)



Next Coquetdale Repair Café for 2026:

10 am-2 pm in the Jubilee Hall, Rothbury

Saturday 19th September

Saturday 21st November

Broken toaster? Torn clothes? Broken zips? Garden items need sharpening?
Damaged picture frames? Dodgy chair? Loose garden fork handle? Don't bin it! Fix it!

Please visit us on Facebook and Twitter (@CoquetRepair) or <https://www.coquetrepair.co.uk/> for the latest information on how you can have your broken items repaired, learn repairing skills & have a cuppa, cake & a chat.

New Volunteers always welcomed, especially if you have electrical/woodwork expertise or have a specialist area like mending clocks for example. If interested please email the group.

Messages from Rothbury GP Practice

The Rothbury Practice
1 August at 20:20 · 🌐

Please remember A&E is for genuine life-threatening emergencies only!

If you do go to A&E and your medical need is not life-threatening you will experience significant delays.

Getting the right care, in the right place, can be quicker and closer to home...

Think:

- pharmacy first
- GP
- NHS111 online - or by phone - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week - they can help assess and direct you to the right place to go

#NHS #HeretoHelp



A&E
is for life-threatening emergencies only

Think pharmacy, GP & NHS 111 first. **HERE TO HELP**

About our urgent treatment centres (UTCs)

Did you know?

Our UTCs have an appointment service.

Call **NHS 111** and they can book an appointment. You will see a doctor or nurse practitioner depending on your need.

You won't have to wait as long. Simply turn up for your appointment slot.



building a caring future

NPC Rothbury
14 November at 18:00 · 🌐

UTCs are for certain urgent care needs. Conditions like:

- Minor head injuries
- Sprains and minor fractures
- Minor skin infections and wounds
- Minor allergic reactions

If you're not sure, check with NHS 111. They can book appointments at our UTCs.

You can find urgent treatment centres at these hospitals:

- Alnwick Infirmary
- Berwick Infirmary
- Hexham General Hospital
- Wansbeck General Hospital

More details and opening times - <https://orlo.uk/M14Eo> See less

NPC Rothbury
6 August at 18:31 · 🌐

The NHS is encouraging parents and carers to check that their children are up to date with their MMR vaccinations, following a rise in measles cases across England.

Children aged 1 to 11 who have missed one or both doses of the MMR vaccine will be invited for vaccination as part of a national catch-up campaign. Children under 6 may also be eligible for the MMRV vaccine, which protects against measles, mumps, rubella and chickenpox.

If you're unsure whether your child is up to date with their vaccinations, you can check their red book. If you are still unsure, or wish to book a vaccination, please contact our reception team. **See less**



NOT SURE IF YOUR CHILD IS UP TO DATE WITH THEIR MMR OR MMRV VACCINATION?
Check their red book.

News from the Valley

The Coquet Valley Archers Club

Under 18's must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. If you wish to know more why not join up and come along to our twice monthly Sunday sessions. For more information email: info@coquetvalleyarchers.org



COQUETDALE YOUNG FARMERS

You don't have to be a farmer to be part of Young Farmers as it is a rural, youth based organisation for anyone interested in rural and countryside activities. Coquetdale Young Farmers Club warmly invites anyone interested in becoming a member to join them. The club meets usually once a week on a Monday night and welcomes anyone between the ages of 14 - 26. It is a great way to meet friends and get involved in competitions and other activities.

Interested? Then please contact Lauren Clark on 07788724835 for more information.

Out-reach Post Office Services (aka Find Bessie)



Day	Location	Time
Monday	Hepple Post Office	9.00 am - 10.00 am
	Netherton Village Hall	10.30 am - 12.30 pm
	Holystone Church	1 pm - 2.30pm
	Hepple Post Office	3.00 pm - 5.30 pm
Tuesday	Thropton Village Hall	10.00 am - 12.00 noon
	Hepple Post Office	2.00 pm - 5.30 pm
Wednesday	CLOSED	
Thursday	Rochester Village Hall	9.15 am - 11.15 am
	Otterburn Village Hall	12.00 noon - 2.00 pm
	Hepple Post Office	2.30 pm - 5.30 pm
Friday	Hepple Post Office	9.00 am - 1.00 pm
	Hepple Post Office	2.00 pm - 5.30 pm
Saturday	Hepple Post Office	9.00 am - 12.30 pm

Government Help for Off Gas Grid Homes

The UK Government has announced new financial support for households that rely on heating oil, aimed at helping rural and off-grid communities manage rising energy costs. The support will be targeted at low-income households in rural communities affected by the recent surge in energy prices.

Support for rural & off-grid homes

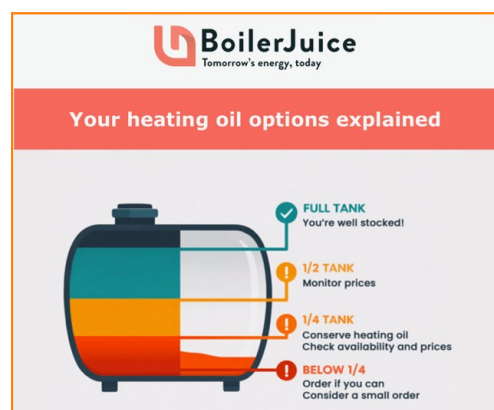
The funding is intended to support homes not connected to the gas grid, many of which rely on heating oil for both home heating and hot water.

Support delivered locally

In **England**, the funding will be distributed by local authorities through **the Crisis and Resilience Fund**, which comes into effect on 1 April. In Northumberland further information regarding what it covers and how to apply can be found via the following link:

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/cost-living-support/crisis-and-resilience-fund>

It is worth noting that this fund remains in place until 31st March 2029 and aims to support vulnerable households and may help with food, energy & water bills plus essentials linked to them e.g. blankets, soap, warm clothing etc. The funds can also help build local resilience, so appears to be open to communities as well as individuals. Please check it out. Also, please think of your neighbours, family and friends – not all will be aware of this potential bit of help.





Coquetdale Food Hub

**Struggling to make ends meet?
Finding there's little money left for food?**

We can help!

We can provide:



Cupboard staples



Meat & dairy



Fresh fruit & vegetables



Pet food

**...to support you and your family until your
circumstances improve**



Coquetdale.hub@gmail.com



07957 298057 (message or text only)

Confidential • Local • Here to help our community

Coquetdale Food Hub is a wholly owned partner of the Alnwick District Food Bank,
Lindisfarne Community Hub, Alnwick NE66 1AX

Registered with the Charity Commission for England & Wales, Number 1173294
Email: alnwickdistrictfoodbank@gmail.com Website: www.alnwickdistrictfoodbank.co.uk

Cost of Living Sources of Information

The Citizens Advice Service for free, confidential information and advice on benefits, debt, housing and employment problems. You can obtain help from us in a number of ways:



- By telephoning Northumberland Advice line on 0808 278 7944
- For energy advice 01670 339749.
- Help claiming universal credit 0800 144 8444. Open Monday to Friday 9am to 4.30pm. Closed Bank Holidays.
- By calling into our drop-in sessions: 10-12 on Tuesday mornings.

Debt advice is also available:

- **Monday to Friday on 01670 339960 or text DEBT to 81400**
- By going on-line at www.citizensadvice.org.uk/northumberland

Warm Hubs: created by CAN as places within the local community where people can be assured of finding a safe, warm and friendly environment in which to enjoy refreshments, social activity, information and advice and the company of other people'. The local Warm Hubs currently available are in The Star Inn in Harbottle, Hepple, Thropton War Memorial Hall, Rothbury Jubilee Hall, Longframlington and Coquetdale Lunch Club.

Did you know.....there are cheaper social tariffs out there for broadband?

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cheaper-broadband-for-struggling-families-14-august-2022>

Travelling to the EU? Check your EHIC expiry date. If expired, apply for a free GHIC via the NHS site to provide access to state run hospitals and GPs in the EU for the same price as a local. Travel insurance is still advisable.

<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic/>

Energy Advice in Rural Northumberland:

<https://energyadvicenorthumberland.org.uk/our-work/>

Pension Credit:

To calculate if you are eligible use:

<https://www.gov.uk/pension-credit-calculator>

For more information:

<https://www.gov.uk/pension-credit>

Don't miss out if you are eligible. If in doubt then check it out as it will help with paying for fuel.

Travelling to Europe? Don't get caught out by the 10 year rule

UK travellers used to be able to carry up to nine months left on an old passport over to a new one.

This meant that a passport could be valid for more than 10 years.

This did not matter when the UK was a member of the European Union (EU).

But the rules changed after Brexit, and the majority of EU countries no longer accept British passports which were issued more than 10 years before the date of travel.

This is known as the "10-year rule".

To enter those countries now, your UK passport must:

- have been issued less than 10 years before the date you enter the EU country (i.e. the "date of issue")
- be valid for at least three months after the day you plan to leave (i.e. the "date of expiry")

If your passport does not meet these requirements, you will be refused entry.

It is always worth checking in with **Moneysaving expert Martin Lewis** to read about his latest advice on energy bills, rising mortgages and the cost of living crisis.

Simpler Recycling in Northumberland....possibly by 2027/28 for rural areas like ours?

Across England from 1st April 2026 the Government is introducing new Simpler Recycling rules, which means that all councils must collect the same set of recycling materials from all households. Changes appear to include new food waste collections plus a new bin for additional recycling materials. The green bin general waste will still be collected every two weeks. For an update on where Northumberland County Council are with this please check their website:

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/bins-recycling-waste/simpler-recycling-northumberland>

It seems that food waste collections are going to start firstly in the urban areas from Autumn 2026, with a further roll out to remaining areas, dependant upon securing additional funding, in 2027/28. The additional dry recycling will begin its phased introduction in early 2027.

Social Tariffs

Social tariffs for broadband, phone and mobile are available to help people on Universal Credit and some other benefits to get connected at a lower cost.

Check if you're eligible by asking your provider.

If your provider doesn't offer a social tariff, you can switch to one that does. Your current provider might let you leave your contract without paying a penalty fee.

Mobile providers including EE, O2, Smarty and VOXI offer social tariffs for mobile phones.

For a list of broadband providers offering social tariffs visit www.inorthumberland.org.uk

Northumberland National Park

There are always plenty of activities and sites to visit across the whole of the Northumberland National Park.

For more information please check the website:

<https://www.northumberlandnationalpark.org.uk/w-hats-on/>

UK Entry Requirements for Dual Nationals are changing: The new requirements are part of changes to the immigration system that aim to streamline and modernise the UK border. Dual nationals will need to show either a British Passport or a new digital version of the certificate of entitlement (£589) to attach to their second nationality passport.

The new rules are linked to the roll out of the Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) system, which requires visitors to the UK who do not have a visa to apply for a £16 entry document before arriving. The new rules do not affect Irish passport holders but do affect other EU citizens. However these new rules also affect dual nationals who can not apply for a ETA and must meet the new documentation requirements instead.

Check before travel (ideally before booking) as checks will be carried out by airlines when departing en route back to the UK. For an overview of the changes: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cy57p1v61d1o>

REMINDER: POT HOLES DON'T REPORT THEMSELVES!

Have a go after every journey as it is very easy to do. www.northumberland.gov.uk, scroll and find Report road/street Issues (top left at present on the web page) - <https://fix.northumberland.gov.uk/>

If you consider them to be dangerous or an emergency, please call 0345 600 6400.



Northumbria Police

Phone scams

Your bank and the police will never ring and ask you to verify your PIN, withdraw cash or purchase high-value goods. They'll also never come to your home to collect your card, cash or purchased items. If you get a call like this, end the call.

If you get a call from your bank or the police, make sure you know who the person is before handing over any personal details. You can do this by calling your bank (the number on the back of your card) or the police (101) on a different phone line.

To get a different line, use a phone owned by a family member, friend or neighbour. This is because scammers can keep phone lines open after pretending to hang up. So while you think you're making a new phone call, the line is still open to the scammer, who pretends to be someone from your bank or the police (also see [Courier fraud](#)).

Depending on your bank, the security questions they ask may be different, but they'll never ask you to authorise anything by entering your PIN into your phone.

Never send money abroad to a person you've never met or to anyone you don't actually know and trust.

Likewise, never agree to keep your online relationship a secret. This is a ploy to get you not to tell your family and friends, who'll see the scam for exactly what it is.

Equally, don't accept any offer of money. A scammer may ask you to accept money from them into your own bank account, using a convincing story as to why they can't use their own account.

The circumstances may seem genuine, but you may unwittingly be committing the criminal offence of money laundering.



Some Ideas for the Coming Months



Cragend Farm for Historic Tours every Tuesday and Wednesday from now until October plus B&B & Self Catering Accommodation. All visits must be booked in advance.

Cragside's little neighbour with a big story to tell, Cragend Farm, was featured on TV's 'Matt Bakers Travels with Mum and Dad' On More 4 Series 3.: Since being featured a book has been written about the findings at the farm called: Transformation: Lord Armstrong's Cragend Farm and is available to buy from Tully's and Soulsby's in Rothbury.

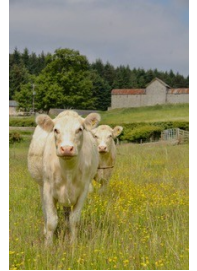
01669-621533

lourenwick@cragendfarm.co.uk

shaunrenwick@cragendfarm.co.uk

www.cragendfarm.co.uk

Holidays Heritage Farming, Cragend Grange, Cragend Farm, Rothbury, Northumberland NE65 7XN
Historic Houses Member.



Gift Vouchers are also available for Cragend Farm tours - ideal for birthdays, thank yous and Father's/Mother's Day.

A "Local Hero" shout out goes to Michael and Tim at **Colliedog Computers in Rothbury**, who carefully took me step by step through the process of buying my new PC and transferring everything so that it looked as familiar as possible in order to assist a bear of little brain!

Just look at all they can do to help you with your computing challenges: <https://colliedogcomputers.co.uk/what-we-do/>

"And last, but not least, we offer free advice! Call us, send a message, send a tweet, or better yet,

simply walk into our shop in Rothbury and talk to us face-to-face;

we will listen to you and do our very best to answer your questions and solve the problem."



"The Barn" Sessions

"The Barn" Community Workshop is now open
Tuesdays 2pm to 4.30pm
Mens Shed-Wednesdays 10am to 12.30pm
Wednesdays 7pm to 9.30pm

New from 17th January 2023
Mens Shed-Tuesdays 10am to 12.30pm

For more details e-mail: rcvbarn@gmail.com

For more info Call Paul on 07792 728262

or search for: www.rcvbarn.info

R & DM EDMONDSON LTD t/a NEWTOWN ENGINEERING CO.

AGRICULTURAL - HORTICULTURAL - PLANT ENGINEERING
FABRICATION & COUNTRY STORE

Garleigh Road, Rothbury, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE65 7RG



We have now updated our website,
you can find it here:-

www.newtownengineering.co.uk

You can also now find us on Facebook:-

Newtown Engineering Co
(please like and follow our page)

If you have any queries or are interested
in any products, please contact us
by telephone:-

01669 620755

or by email:-

enqs@newtownengineering.com
or
stores@newtownengineering.com

September 2025

Support local makers, bakers & artists

POP UP CAFE!

FREE ENTRY



WIN A £25
VOUCHER
FOR £1
PROFITS TO A
LOCAL CHARITY

ARTISAN CRAFT MARKETS 2026

LONGFRAMLINGTON MEMORIAL HALL
ROTHBURY ROAD
LONGFRAMLINGTON
NE65 8AH

10.30AM TO 3.30PM

SUN 8TH MARCH

SUN 16TH AUGUST

SUN 19TH APRIL

SUN 20TH SEPTEMBER

SUN 17TH MAY

SUN 18TH OCTOBER

SUN 14TH JUNE

SUN 15TH NOVEMBER

SUN 19TH JULY

WANT TO TRADE WITH US?

SCAN HERE



DO YOU WANT TO LEARN A NEW SKILL?
DO YOU ENJOY WOODWORKING?
DO YOU HAVE PRACTICAL SKILL YOU CAN SHARE?

If so we can help each other at

"THE BARN" COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

Ryehill Framhouse NE65 7NG

(just North of Rothbury)

my three word ### candy.campfires.propelled



NEW: Upper Coquetdale Community Transport

Volunteers Needed!

Do you enjoy **driving, meeting people, and helping your community?**

If you can spare just a few hours a week, fortnight, or month, we'd love to hear from you. We are looking for **volunteer car drivers** to support elderly residents and people with mobility challenges, helping them get to:

- Essential healthcare appointments
- Warm hubs and community spaces

All **training** is provided, and **out-of-pocket expenses** are covered. Your time commitment can be fully tailored to suit your availability — we understand how busy life can be and will work around what you can offer.

For more info contact Lesley Leeson on 01669 622 264 or visit our website - <https://ucct-transport.wixsite.com/ucct>

Upper Coquetdale Community Transport Rothbury Shoppers Bus

Do you know about our **Rothbury Shoppers Bus**? Are you struggling to get to the shops each week or sometimes? Are you fed up of asking friends and relatives for a lift or help?

UCCT run a Shoppers Bus service **every Friday that picks you up from your home** and takes you to the shops in Rothbury and back home again. Our drivers will help with your shopping bags. Maybe you would like to have coffee/tea and a chat once a week with a bunch of very friendly people. Once our shopping is complete, we all head back to T's Cakes & Bakes for a **chat and a coffee** while we wait for collection.

We collect passengers from **Snitter, Cartington, Thropton, Whitton and Rothbury**.

Our bus caters for all your mobility needs but if you are concerned, please contact us. For more info and booking contact Lesley Leeson or Joy Dyson on 01669 622 264 Mon – Fri 10am – 3pm. Or Email: uct4@hotmail.com

Upper Coquetdale Community Transport Community Bus Excursions

- Wednesday 9th September:** Bide a Wee Gardens depart Rothbury 10.30am, £4 per person
- Wednesday 23rd September:** Heatherslaw Railway and Fountain Cottage Cafe, Etal for lunch. Depart Rothbury 10.30am, train ticket £12. Trip £8 per person. (lunch not included)
- Wednesday 7th October:** Blaydon Shopping Centre - depart Rothbury 10am, - £8.50 per person
- Wednesday 21st October:** First & Last Brewery tour & lunch at Fountain Café, Bellingham. Depart Rothbury 10am, £6.50 per person (tour and lunch not included).
- Wednesday 28th October:** Manor Walks, Cramlington – Rothbury 10am, £7 per person
- Thursday 5th November:** Elsdon fireworks. Depart Rothbury 5pm, £4 per person
- Wednesday 18th November:** Heighley Gate Garden Centre –Rothbury 10.30am, £5 per person
- Wednesday 25th November:** York Christmas Market – depart Rothbury 08.30am, £22 per person
Excursions depart from Queens Head, Rothbury, but local pickups may be available.

For more info and booking contact Lesley Leeson or Joy Dyson:

on 01669 622 264

Mon – Fri 10am – 3pm

Or

Email uct4@hotmail.com

Upper Coquetdale Community Transport		Route 16a and 16b Timetable		
NEW TIMETABLE FROM 1ST SEPTEMBER 2026		Departure times		
Tuesday and Saturday Service		16a	16a	16a
X14 (From Newcastle) arrives Rothbury*		07:23	11:43	14:38
471 (From Alnwick) arrives Rothbury**		N/A	13:05	14:35
Rothbury, Silverton Lane corner with Garleigh Road		08:10	12:00	14:40
Rothbury, Rothbury Community Hospital		08:13	12:03	14:43
Rothbury, Opposite Queens Head		08:15	12:05	14:45
Thropton, Cross Keys		08:21	12:11	14:51
Snitter, The Cottage		08:25	12:15	14:55
Netherton, Old Coach House		08:35	12:25	15:05
Alwinton, Phone Box		08:49	12:39	15:19
Harbottle, First School		08:55	12:45	15:25
Holystone, Mill		09:02	12:52	15:32
Hepple, Post Office		09:15	13:05	15:45
Thropton, Three Wheat Heads		09:24	13:14	15:54
Rothbury, Queens Head		09:30	13:20	16:00
Rothbury, Rothbury Community Hospital		09:32	13:22	16:02
Rothbury, Garleigh Road before Silverton Lane		09:35	13:25	16:05
This Service will not operate on Christmas Day, Boxing Day or New Years Day				
X14 (to Newcastle) arrives Rothbury*		10:00	14:00	17:05
471 (to Alnwick) arrives Rothbury**		09:33	13:33	N/A
*This service is run by Arriva and we cannot guarantee these times. For their latest information see: https://www.arrivabus.co.uk/North-East/ **This service is run by Phoenix and we cannot guarantee these times. For their latest information see: https://www.nexus.org.uk/sites/default/files/documents/bus/471-pho-260323.pdf				

PARISH OF UPPER COQUETDALE

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

September 2026



NEW: The Happenings

A summer we can hardly complain about except sometimes too hot! Farmers and gardeners will have struggled with such dry conditions although the harvest was finished weeks before normal! However I wonder how the veg and flowers will fare for Harbottle show on Saturday 5th September?

We are all thrilled to be welcoming Rev. Stasi Tregatha to the valley, with her induction planned for Thursday 3rd September and her first service to be held at All Saint's, Rothbury on Sunday 6th September at 10.30am.

We had a super concert and BBQ at Alwinton at the end of July in Alwinton Church. All of our performers were very generous and gave of their time freely, entertaining a pretty well full house throughout the evening. We managed to raise over £600 to assist with our local churches. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making the event such a success.

John Graham and Josh Rogerson have very kindly filled in the enormous chasms that were in the lay-bye coming into Alwinton church. Thanks to them we now have a much smoother drive in!

We hear on the grape vine that the Vicarage will be up for sale but unfortunately have no details, or even if the Glebe field goes with it.

Very sadly we lost Jo Wood on the 2nd August. Ian and Jo lived at Lanternside for a long time and she was a wonderful supporter of Harbottle Show, including being Show Secretary for several years. A fabulous lady. We send all our love to Ian and family at this time.

Carolyn and George Graham are very kindly opening their home, Newton Farm, for us to host a "Cheese and Wine Evening" on Friday 13th November. I will add further details of this event in the next newsletter.

We look forward to welcoming many of you at Alwinton or Holystone churches to meet and welcome the Rev Stasi.

Until next time....

Julia

NEW:

200 Club Winners for September



£20: Xanthe Mawer

£15: Janet Hardie

£10: Janet Fenwicke-Clennell



*The profit from the sale of **200 Club** tickets goes towards keeping Alwinton and Holystone churchyards in good order.*

NEW: Book Stall at Harbottle Show

We are planning on running a book stall at Harbottle Show to raise funds for Alwinton & Holystone Churches.
We would welcome all donations either on the day or ahead of time to Sharon G.
Thank you.

NEW: Save A Date: Cheese and Wine Evening

**Friday 13th November
Newton Farm**

Carolyn and George Graham are very kindly opening their home, Newton Farm, for us to host a "Cheese and Wine Evening" on Friday 13th November.

Further details will be available in the October newsletter, released near the end of September.

A fund raising event for Alwinton & Holystone Churches; all welcome.

The Parish website has moved: to the Church of England site called **A Church Near You** - and it is important to include the "A": <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/> Simply type in the name of your church e.g. Alnham or the postcode and the site will take you there. Eventually we will probably add a Parish site but at the moment all the information is to be found at each church's page. Please remember it is a growing site and it will take a while to add everything and to make sure we are making the most use of the site.

Alison Ball

The latest copy of The UCRG Newsletter can always be located on this new website under any of the local churches e.g. Rothbury All Saints/ Notice Sheets section at:

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/8034/news/notice-sheet/grid/>

Thank you to Alison for updating this each month and helping to share news around Upper Coquetdale.



Cafe Church at Harbottle Village Hall

**A Coquetdale Churches Together event.
ALL WELCOME!**

We would love you to join us for an informal service with a cuppa & cake, songs, talk and creative activity. This is an opportunity for all generations to be together.

These services will now be happening monthly on the fourth Sunday of each month (except December), 3.45-5pm:

The next one is: **23rd August**

For more information or to get involved please contact either:

Catherine Iley:
catherine.iley@gmail.com

Angela Feather
angela.feather@urc-northernsynod.org

We are still trying to widen the Newsletter coverage, as well as our contact database. We don't have a complete set of contacts for all households in the area. PLEASE CAN YOU HELP? We are grateful to the many that we know of who already print and share copies with their neighbours, especially for those living "off the net." Also, if you have new or old neighbours ask them if they wish to join the blind copied distribution list by asking them to email me, Tracey, on stickypud@harbottle.net and I will add them to my list. Susan also has a distribution list and posts the latest copy on some local social media outlets. It isn't perfect but at least we keep trying to improve it. Thank you.

In addition to these sharing routes, since the start of COVID as many are aware we very occasionally use the same distribution network to speedily distribute additional items that perhaps have missed a newsletter deadline, or may aid people in anticipation of storms, or even help local businesses advertise a sudden bit of information. We always hope that this is acceptable and it has never been excessive (1-2 a year), but just in case anyone out there wishes to sign up only to the newsletters and nothing else, then please let me know via the email above and I can easily put you into a "no extras" mail box.

The UCRG has been established over 20 years as a registered charity. We promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the Upper Coquetdale area, consisting of the parishes of Netherton & Biddlestone, Harbottle, Hepple & Alwinton. The charity supports in the interest of social welfare for recreation and other leisure time occupations and is run by local volunteers.

If you know of a group that may benefit from some funding and they meet the above criteria, then please contact us via jsirogerson@btinternet.com

Funds are raised each year via the Quiz sheets, Duck Race, Calendars and other activities such as Bingo evenings. We have also been grateful recipients of the proceeds of a Thursday evening Quiz at The Star Inn, Harbottle (Thank you all and Karen). Donations are always welcomed.

Over the years we have supported many local activities and events including the local toddler group, sport equipment in Harbottle Village Hall, purchasing local defibrillators and their cabinets, music events in the church and Young Farmers events.

Throughout the pandemic we were able to continue with our community newsletter by switching to an electronic format thus enabling isolated communities to keep in touch.

In 2021 we covered the costs of renewing the batteries and consumables for the Alwinton & Netherton defibrillators. In 2022 we funded the provision of a defibrillator in Harbottle village at a cost of £1510 plus the cost of several first aid/defibrillator training courses open to anyone in the local parishes. Then in 2023 we assisted with the training of members of the local Archery Club and again ran a free First Aid Course. In 2024 we covered the cost of consumables in some of the local defibrillators, contributed to the mat fundraising efforts of Rothbury Wrestling Academy, assisted in the repair of the trailer belonging to the Coquet Valley Archers and made a donation to Coquetdale Squirrel Group to help them continue their important conservation work. A grant was also made to fund some new Christmas lights in Harbottle. Harbottle Baby & Toddler Group also benefitted from a grant.

We have recently, February 2026, funded the framing of a Mothers' Union Banner, a piece of local heritage, which will be available to view in Alwinton Church. March 2026 sees us funding yet another free first aid course. In February 2026 the UCRG donated £400 to help the Coquet River Action Group purchase a new test kit to assist them with their work on the River Coquet.

We appreciate all the support we receive and put every penny to good use locally.



EM ELSDON MEMORIALS
MJ ROBERTS AND SON
MEMORIAL, VASES AND ENGRAVING SERVICES

ALL ENQUIRIES TO:
ANGI ROBERTS
TELEPHONE NUMBER: 01669 650367
EMAIL: ELSDONMEMORIALS@GMAIL.COM

HINDMARSH EQUESTRIAN: Freelance groom covering Northumberland/Scottish Borders. Available for:
Coaching/Teaching * Riding- schooling, hacking, jumping, competition * Lunging * All general yard duties: Bringing in/turning out * Competition/ hunt turnout * Plaiting * Trimming * Competition grooming * Pony Club grooming * Holiday cover * Tack cleaning * Holding for vet/ farrier etc. Fully Insured*First aid certificate*Full Pony Club B test*certified freelancer with British Grooms Association*Quad bike ticket

Please contact me to discuss your requirements: Anna Hindmarsh.

Call/text: 07469249158 * Email: hindmarshequestrian@hotmail.com * PM on Facebook.

My "local" heroes; Pass it on:

Heads2toe: soft tissue and sports/remedial massage therapist Stephen Heads, based in Rothbury but can visit your home. 07921 568965 or <https://www.heads2toe.co.uk/>

Rothbury based Kevin T Coe for fixing plumbing leaks! Friends have been saved recently by Kevin appearing quickly to work his magic. When in need: 07970 539574.



Twin Trees
Tree & gardening services
0782588462

Please call or email for a free quote
0782588462
Twin_trees@yahoo.com

- Tree removal
- Crown reductions
- Crown lifting
- Tree pruning & thinning
- Stump grinding
- Pollarding
- Hedge trimming
- Hedge reduction



Wag & Co: We are the only visiting dogs charity befriending older dog lovers in their own homes as well as in care or in hospitals. For further details either to volunteer with your dog or ask us to visit, then please check our web site: www.wagandcompany.co.uk



Volunteer with your dog
...and help end loneliness in older dog lovers.




We're a community of dog owners sharing our dogs with older dog lovers across the North East. There are thousands of lonely pensioners who can no longer look after a dog of their own and miss them terribly. Just a couple of hours a week for a chat and a cuddle with your special dog makes all the difference to someone else's life and probably yours too. Apply today, we'll make it safe and easy to volunteer.

Apply online www.wagandcompany.co.uk



THE ROSE & THISTLE
ALWINTON
FOOD & ACCOMMODATION IN NORTHUMBERLAND



BAR & RESTAURANT
Now fully refurbished - The Rose & Thistle Inn is a traditional country inn serving real ales, lunches, evening and Sunday meals in the bar and in our stunning beer garden.



BED & BREAKFAST
Five rooms at The Rose & Thistle Inn provide quiet, comfortable and spacious bed and breakfast accommodation in a beautiful setting.



RED LION HOUSE
A stunning self catering property set over three floors that can very comfortably accommodate up to 11 people.

THE ROSE & THISTLE
Alwinton, Northumberland NE65 7BQ
Bar & Restaurant • 01669 650226
Accommodation • 07881 365809 • rooms@roseandthistlealwinton.co.uk
www.roseandthistlealwinton.co.uk

<u>Local Private Hire Taxi Service</u> I've just set up as a Private Hire taxi service here in the valley. I live in Netherton so I'm local for the needs of people living and working here. My contact details are as follows: Mobile number 07718 585508 and email rickyvph24@gmail.com Web site details will follow shortly. I have all my NCC licences and insurance in place and started the service recently. Please get in touch and I will get you to where you need to be! Ricky Lawrence	<u>DEFIBRILLATOR LOCATIONS</u> Alnham: the wall of Kings Priory School Field Centre Alwinton: car park on the toilet block wall Biddlestone: wall of No1, Biddlestone Barn, NE65 7DT Clennell: at Clennell Hall Hotel Harbottle: Star Inn courtyard Hepple: on the village hall wall Holystone: Priory Farm wall Netherton: on the village hall wall Sharperton: End wall of Sawmill Close, nr junction Thropton: on the school wall  
<u>DRAKESTONE BUILDING SERVICES</u> Joinery, General Building, Tiling & Decorating Work <u>Billy Gibson</u> Tel: 01669 650206 OR 07979042499 Email: feeshearer@googlemail.com	<u>Collins Fish Van</u> Visits the area on a Thursday: Hepple Post Office: 8.00am Sharperton (on the hill): 8.30am Alwinton Village Green: 9.00am Harbottle (Chapel end then Pub): 9.10am Holystone Post Office: 9.40am
<u>Northumbria</u> <u>Pet Crematorium</u> • Beautiful Peaceful Environment • Compassionate and Caring Service • 100% Guarantee Your Pets Ashes Back • Pick Up & Delivery Service • 24hr Ashes Return Service Tel: 07393 481 561 Email: northumbriapetcrem@gmail.com www.northumbriapetcrematorium.co.uk	<u>POT HOLES DON'T REPORT THEMSELVES!</u> Have a go after every journey as it is very easy to do. www.northumberland.gov.uk, scroll down to TOP TASKS and click on Report a Pothole. Alternatively phone them on 0345 600 6400. How easy is that? NCC defines "an actionable defect" as a pothole of at least 40mm (1.5 inches) deep and a minimum of 300mm (1 foot) in diameter. However, we think that if you aren't happy, then report it!

RMAC Heating: Small business focussing on quality not quantity. With extensive experience in the Heating industry working as engineer and service manager I decided a few years ago to go solo and concentrate on the installation, service and repair of oil, gas and LPG boilers and heating systems. Undertaken work in Upper Coquet area as well as Alnwick & Morpeth. **Trades:** Gas Work, Central Heating & Plumbing. **Annual visit to current Harbottle clients occurs in September**, if you wish to be included for a boiler service...please just get in touch.



Humanities Tutor Available

French, English, History, Classical Civilisation & Ancient Greek

I am a student at the University of St Andrews studying English and Classics with over three years of tutoring experience to GCSE and A-level. Available for enthusiastic, student-led sessions online and in-person!

Email: ibredmaynecontact@gmail.com

Litter Challenge: Enjoy, Respect & Protect our Countryside

Please help; if you see it then please pick it up safely and bin it.

LOCAL EV CHARGING POINTS:

***ALWINTON CAR PARK *HARBOTTLE: IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL**

Reminder from Northern Power Grid:

We will do everything we can to prevent cuts to your power, including spending millions of pounds on maintaining and looking after your power network, but it can still happen, particularly in winter weather. It's important that you know what to do and are prepared if your power goes off.

Support available for our customers: If you experience a power cut, the easiest way to report and access the latest information is via our website www.northernpowergrid.com/power-cuts. Alternatively, our teams are here for you 24/7 by calling **105.....store this number on your mobile or address book.**

You can also find some useful hints and tips on our website at www.northernpowergrid.com/what-to-do-in-a-power-cut. Our customer support vehicles are prepared and ready to go out into local communities, where possible.

Power cut advice and tips include:

- Bookmark Northern Powergrid's online power cut map and reporting service on your mobile devices – www.northernpowergrid.com/power-cuts
- Have a charged mobile phone with important numbers saved, including 105, the free national power cut phone line.
- check out our **Be Prepared** page on our website for handy tips on how to manage during a power cut
- Turn off electrical appliances at the socket (this is particularly important for heating or cooking appliances as your power could be restored at any time and potentially cause a safety hazard).
- Keep one light switched on so you know when power is restored.
- Keep a battery-operated or wind-up torch handy – they're much safer than candles.
- Have a grab bag ready in your home with a torch, spare batteries, charged power banks, and a blanket - just in case!
- Check on your elderly or sick neighbours and relatives.
- Ensure you have warm clothing and blankets handy and some food and drink in your home that does not require electricity to heat or prepare it.
- Call 999 in the event of a medical emergency.

If you have **additional needs due to your medical or personal circumstances**, and are not part of our Priority Services Membership, you should consider joining for **free** by visiting [Priority Services Membership](#) on our website or by **calling 0800 169 2996**. This will help us to support you during a power cut. This will include regular updates on the situation and consideration of any need for provision of hot food and alternative accommodation.

Those who can join include customers:

- Of pensionable age
- Who have a hearing or visual impairment
- Who have additional communication needs
- Who are in a vulnerable situation
- Who have young children at home
- Who are disabled, chronically sick, or have a long-term medical condition

Please remember to check on neighbours, friends and family members who may need additional support.

Advice and help with your bills this winter: We know that cold weather can cause worry about energy bills. You can find FREE independent advice from our charity partners on our web site.

Keeping in touch: If your power is ever affected, we might share a link with you to a video with more information. The link is safe to click.

Here for you, whatever the weather: Our teams work 24/7 to look after your power network and keep the lights on. If your power does go off, call us on 105 and we will do everything we can to get it back on as quickly as possible. Our teams will be ready to help whenever you need us.

CONTINUED OVERLEAF.....

CIVIL EMERGENCIES PLAN FOR HARBOTTLE PARISH

Emergencies resulting in loss of power, telephone, mobile telephone, water.
Damage to property

In the Event of Electricity Failure

The Emergency Hub at the Star Inn will come into operation in the event of a long power outage, especially if there is no indication when power will be restored.

A varied response will be needed according to the emergency, but as a general rule:

Loss of power overnight: Emergency hub will open up in the morning and remain open as long as needed.

Loss of power during the day: Emergency hub will open late afternoon/early evening to provide hot food, drinks and hot water.

A sign will be placed outside the Star to indicate that the Hub is open and we will endeavour to spread information by word of mouth or telephone if they are working.

Emergency Centre:

Star Inn, Harbottle: Telephone: 01669 650221
Equipped with generator and providing shelter, heat, hot water and food.

Main Contacts:

Harbottle:	Sue Bolam:	The Old Mill, 01669 650360
Holystone:	Stuart Wardlaw:	Lanternside, 01669 650409
Sharperton:	Joe Ormston:	North Sharperton Farm, 01669 650321

Other contacts:

Simon Kenny, Park House Farm:	01669 650250
Alan Stripp, Well House Cottage:	01669 650324
Northumberland County Council:	01670 627599; 0345 6006400

Other Resources

Two tents, 10m x 15m and 3m x 4m with lights and heaters
Contact: Simon Kenny

Parish Emergency Fund

Held by Harbottle Parish Council
March 2024

As Storm Eowyn raged the Warm Hub Kicked In....Please remember this for next time...



The Star Inn - Harbottle

18h · 🌐

...

Our emergency warm hub is up and running in The Courtyard Barn via the generator. It's toasty warm with a log fire, tea/coffee facilities and WiFi. We also have food and drinks available via the pub/kitchen, eat-in or take-away. Tel: 01669 650221.

Everyone is welcome to use this space whilst the power is off, whether you buy anything or not. [#StaySafe](#). [#storm](#)