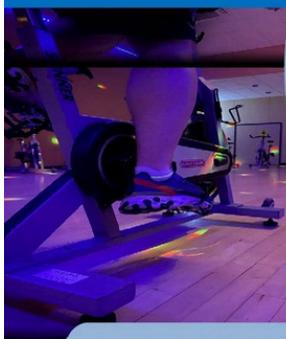


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MARCH 2026





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What's on in March

- 1st** The Big Little Sale, 10-12, Old Booking Hall - see p8
- 3rd** Discussion Group - 'What Makes and Shapes a Church?,' 7pm, Henshaw Meeting Room (every Tues in March)
- 4th** Frugal Lunches for Christian Aid, 12noon, Methodist Hall (every Weds in March)
- 4th** Poetry Group, 1:30-3pm, Greenhead Village Hall, see p32
- 5th** Women in the Bible Discussion Group, 2-3:30pm, Room 2, Haltwhistle Library (every Thurs in March)
- 6th** Haltwhistle Library Consultation Drop-In - Have Your Say, 10:30-12:30
- 6th** The Letter careful creation discussion group, 6pm, St Wilfrids, see p24
- 7th** Coffee Morning for Henshaw Nursery, Methodist Hall
- 8th** Hadrians Wall Farmers Market, 10-1:30, Greenhead
- 9th** Memory Cafe, 10-12, Haltwhistle Hospital Community Room
- 11th** History Group Talk - Centre of Britain, 6pm, Centre of Britain Hotel
- 12th** Stop Smoking information session, 3-4:30pm, Haltwhistle Library
- 14th** Coffee Morning for Haltwhistle Academy, Methodist Hall
- 15th** Mothering Sunday - service at 9:30am, Holy Cross
- 21st** Coffee Morning for Young Farmers, Methodist Hall
- 28th** Coffee Morning for Cricket Club, Methodist Hall
- 28th** Clocks Go Forward!
- 31st** Tynedale Community Partnership Meeting, 4pm, Haltwhistle Library, see p14

Regular Events

Churches Together - Praying Together:

Every Monday, 10:30am, Holy Cross

Haltwhistle Memory Café:

First Monday of the month, 2-4pm, Community Room

Greenhead Art Club (also crafts):

Every Monday, 1:30-3pm, Village Hall

Greenhead W.I.:

Every second Monday 7pm, Greenhead Village Hall

Henshaw W.I.:

Every Monday 11-3, All Hallows Church Room

Older People's Project:

Every Tuesday, 10am-12noon, Drop In, Methodist Church Hall

Family Cafe:

First Tuesday, 2-3pm, Drop-In, free refreshments, Family Hub

Warhammer Club:

Every Tuesday, 5-7pm, Bonnie's Cafe

Mothers' Union:

Every second Tuesday, 2:15pm, Holy Cross

Bardon Mill Film Night:

Every third Tuesday, 4pm in the church room.

Community Gardeners:

Every Wednesday, 9.45am-12.30pm, meet behind Pillar Box Cafe

Knit & Natter:

Every Wednesday, 2pm, Haltwhistle Library

Craft & Chat:

Every Wednesday, 2pm, Holy Cross

Haltwhistle Friendship Group:

Every Wednesday, 1-3pm, Community Room

Armchair Warriors exercise classes,

every Thursday 10-11am, Haltwhistle Library Hub

Haltwhistle Growing Together,

every Thursday 10-12, Hillside Youth and Community Space

Haltwhistle W.I.:

Every 1st Thursday 7:15pm, Comrades Club

Calico Hinnies:

Every 4th Thursday, 10:00-2.30pm, Greenhead Village Hall

Men's Brunch:

Every 3rd Friday, 10:15-12, Haltwhistle Hub, Free

Badminton For All:

Every Friday, 10am-12noon, Haltwhistle Leisure Centre

Stay and Play:

Term Time Fridays, 10.00am-11.30am (drop in), 0-5yrs, Family Hub

ZigZag Days:

Alternate Fridays, from 10am, for info call Sue 07935 259 416

New Hadrian Singers:

Every Friday, 7pm, Hospital Community Room

Greenhead Dominos Night:

Every Friday, 7pm, Greenhead Village Hall

Haltwhistle Art Club:

Every Friday, 10.30-2:30pm, Methodist Church Hall

Breakfast Club:

Last Sunday of the Month, bacon butties, tea and coffee, 9am-1pm, Greenhead Village Hall

From The Editorial Team

Welcome to the March edition of the Haltwhistle Herald. We are in the Church season of Lent so you will find this month there are Lent Lunches in the Methodist Hall every Wednesday, raising money for Christian Aid. Also talks and discussions about some key women from the Old Testament; Care for Creation and Rev'd Keith's discussion group on 'What makes and shapes a church? See the What's On page for more details of these.

The Haltwhistle History and Heritage Group are venturing out to the Centre of Britain hotel for a talk about the history of this astonishing building. Promisingly, they are meeting in the new Cocktail bar at 6pm on the 11th March.

We would draw your attention to the back page in case you haven't already seen it.

The editorial team were unbearably disappointed that we did not have any entries at all and in order to restore our faith in the good citizens of Haltwhistle - **Get your cameras out, search your photo libraries!** Please submit your photos or pictures/paintings by the 20th March to our email below. The theme is 'Longer Evenings'

Finally, we would draw your attention to the Smith Charitable Trust below. If you are involved in a local Charity or know of a local good cause, please consider applying for financial support or pass on the details below to a key person involved.

The Smith (Haltwhistle & District) Charitable Trust

This local Trust set up in 1961 by Douglas Smith of Smith and Walton Ltd and his mother, encourages applications from Charities in the Haltwhistle and South Tyne area for funding. Many local Charities already receive support from the Trust. Applications are now sought for 2026. New applicants should visit the Trust website to see the scope of the Trust.

<https://www.smithhaltwhistletrust.co.uk/>

New applicants and existing beneficiaries are reminded that the deadline for online applications is the 1st May.

Our next edition will be March so contributions need to be with us by the **20th March** at the very latest please, maximum 250 words with a couple of pictures. To send contributions or to contact us email haltwhistleherald@gmail.com

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Haltwhistle Partnership

The Community Shops Big 'Little' Sale!

Families looking for quality children's items at affordable prices are invited to explore the Big Little Sale at the Old Booking Hall, located at Haltwhistle railway station.

This friendly community event offers a fantastic selection of nearly new baby, toddler and children's clothing, along with a wide range of essential baby equipment and accessories. Shoppers can browse pushchairs, changing mats, potties, children's toilet seats and even a small cot. There will also be a small selection of maternity wear and a variety of toys suitable for children of all ages — perfect for picking up a bargain while supporting a great local initiative.

Visitors can also make a morning of it by stopping at local cafés and taking the opportunity to explore the town. Whether you're preparing for a new arrival, updating wardrobes for growing children, or simply love discovering a great community bargain, the Big Little Sale promises something for everyone!

When: 10am to 12 noon on Sunday 1st March 2026

Where: The Old Booking Hall, Haltwhistle Station.

BIG LITTLE SALE!

SUNDAY 1ST MARCH

- Baby Clothes
- Toys
- Baby equipment
- Children's Clothes
- Maternity

- Nearly new baby, toddler & children's clothing,
- wide range of baby equipment & accessories,
- small amount of maternity wear &
- a selection of toys for all ages.

**Old Booking Hall
Haltwhistle Station
10am - 12 noon**

Grab a bargain and then grab a bite in Haltwhistle.
A warm welcome awaits.

A Haltwhistle Partnership Project with all surplus funds going to support the Community Shops Fund.



Haltwhistle Community Shops Fund

FUNDING NOW AVAILABLE

for community groups and young people in our area.

Does your group have an initiative or project that could benefit the community of Haltwhistle and its 10 surrounding parishes?

Or are you a young person under 25 with an inspiring idea or ambition?

Applications are now invited for our Spring 2026 funding round.

APPLY BY 5TH APRIL 2026

To apply visit, email or call

haltwhistle.org/communityshopsfund

shopsfund@haltwhistle.org

01434 321242

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Haltwhistle Partnership

Community Shops Fund Reopens for Applications!

Thanks to the continued generosity of local donors - and the hard work and dedication of volunteers at the Community Shop and Community Bookshop - the Community Shops Fund is once again open for applications.

The fund continues to make a real difference across Haltwhistle and the surrounding districts. In previous funding rounds, it has supported 27 community projects and awarded grants to 21 young people, helping to strengthen local organisations and provide valuable opportunities for personal development.

If you are involved in a project that will directly benefit the residents of our local community, you are encouraged to apply. The fund supports initiatives that enhance community life, create opportunities, and make a positive difference within Haltwhistle and neighbouring areas. Young people (25 and under) are also invited to apply.

If you are hoping to develop a new skill, pursue training, take part in an educational course, or access an opportunity that may otherwise be financially out of reach, the Community Shops Fund may be able to help.

Important Dates

- Application Deadline: 5th April 2026

Application packs are available from:

- The Community Shop
- The Community Bookshop
- The Haltwhistle Partnership Website - www.haltwhistle.org

For more information or to request an application pack, please contact the Haltwhistle Partnership.

Together, let's continue to support local dreams, create opportunities, and strengthen our community through the power of partnership.

☎ Landline: 01434 321242

📱 Mobile: 07307 107436

✉ Email: admin@haltwhistle.org





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Town Council

HEADSTONE SAFETY NOTICE

Haltwhistle & District Joint Burial Committee

Headstone safety inspection completed

Some headstones have been found to be unsafe and have been marked with a yellow warning label featuring a hazard symbol. Families are asked to contact the Burial Clerk to discuss how to arrange for these memorials to be made safe.



Urgently unsafe headstones removed

Some headstones have been identified as posing an urgent and immediate risk and have been removed for health and safety reasons. Families will need to work with the Burial Clerk and an approved monumental mason to reinstate these memorials safely.

Deadline for Remedial Works

All required remedial works must be completed within one year of the inspection date (by 3rd of December 2026).

Health and Safety Duty

The Committee has a legal responsibility to remove any memorials that pose a risk to public safety.

Contact

Burial Clerk: Emma Ackroyd

✉ burialclerk@haltwhistleanddistricttowncouncil.org

© 07818915171

Town Council

HALTWHISTLE TOWN COUNCIL **TENDER – REPAIR & REPAINTING OF PUBLIC BENCHES**

Haltwhistle Town Council invites experienced contractors to help restore our well-used and well-loved public benches.

The successful contractor will deliver all repairs and repainting works identified in the Council's Bench Condition Survey.

One contractor only — the Council is seeking a complete service.

Scope includes:

- Surface preparation (cleaning, sanding, removal of flaking paint or corrosion)
- Minor timber repairs
- Replacement or tightening of fixings
- Timber replacement where required
- Repainting with suitable exterior-grade coatings to match existing finish
- Leaving benches safe, clean, and ready for public use

Bring new life to our town's benches and help maintain the everyday spaces that quietly serve our community.

For information and to request a tender package, please contact:

The Town Clerk

Haltwhistle Town Council

Email: clerk@haltwhistletowncouncil.org



County Council

Having A Say

Our 685 bus service

Four months ago I attended a transport forum facilitated by Kim McGuinness (North East Mayor). I held my own transport consultation a year ago so was aware of complaints about our bus service and its shortcomings. Apart from it being unreliable, a major concern is Haltwhistle's lack of connectivity / hourly timetable. Presently, our service is run privately, by Stagecoach, but in 2026/27 the North East Combined Authority (NECA) will take over. Obviously, I am seeking reassurance that there will be an improvement in the fleet quality, thus reducing breakdowns; however, I am also lobbying for a half hourly service. The proposal I sent to Stagecoach was rejected as too expensive, but with the future changes in mind, I will be pushing for funds to be found from more profitable services in the authority. I will also be encouraging Kim McGuinness to visit Haltwhistle so that you can have your say. Watch this space!

Haltwhistle Library Consultation Drop-in 6 March 10.30-12.30, library

There are changes afoot (reduced hours but enhanced service) - much

is in your hands. Find out more and have your say at this drop-in.

Tynedale Community Partnership Meeting 31 March at 4.30pm, library (1st floor)

A common complaint is that Haltwhistle is forgotten by NCC. This is your chance to engage with County Councillors from Tynedale. Let them know what matters so that we can unite in putting pressure on Morpeth. The meeting will kick-off with information on library changes (see above). Other proposed discussions are the First School petition and housing allocation - both hot topics in Haltwhistle. Save the date, come along and have your say.

rachel.mathieson@northumberland.gov.uk



Chamber of Trade

The name may change but the game remains the same.

In 1972 the Plate Glass Mutual Association agreed to reform, change its name and switch emphasis from a trading society focused on helping local business with insurance, to an organisation striving to provide the whole community with a Main Street of which it could be proud. The Christmas lights display started to grow from this point, but more than that, the members of the Haltwhistle Tradesmen's Association (as it was then) worked together to support the wider community, donating to the many charitable fund raising projects throughout the year and playing an integral part in making this town work for everyone.

In the 1980s, we realised that women too, could run a trade, and the new name The Haltwhistle Chamber of Trade was adopted and stuck with us along with the collective desire to help our town thrive.

Twenty years ago, there was an article in the 2006 Spring Haltwhistle Partnership Squeak magazine and a quote from the winner of the annual raffle draw which we still run today.

She said "I was delighted to hear how lucky I had been to win.... I really couldn't believe it. Haltwhistle Tradespeople work so hard to keep going in extremely difficult trading conditions, high rates, competition from large stores, the internet, and rules and regulations. Yet they all are very supportive of the Haltwhistle community in fundraising, the Town Carnival, Christmas Lights and Haltwhistle Pride. They often go the extra mile for their customers, ordering goods especially for them and delivering them. As a pensioner, we need our shops and should try to support them". Well, the trading conditions haven't got any easier, but the will to continue to make a difference is as strong as ever.

Shop local and support your town.

HALTWHISTLE TRADESMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Dear Sir,

I beg to advise you that a MEETING of the above Association will be held in the CHURCH HALL on TUESDAY,

..... at p.m.

Yours faithfully,
Alan Dickinson, Secretary.
BUSINESS:

This Association is what the Members make it--"A Help or a Wash-out." We want best advice from all our members to carry on the good work.

Kindly make it a duty to attend this Meeting



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Local Hero

Sheila Williams

Sheila was born and brought up in Sunderland into a church family. She went to the Charlotte Mason Teacher training College at Ambleside and after qualifying taught in primary schools. After qualifying as a Head Teacher was appointed to St Hild's Church of England School in Durham City.

Sheila worked with the Durham Diocese and the local church, St Giles in Durham City. In 1988 she married John and took early retirement in 1997. Moving to Haltwhistle they settled at Cawburn, where they enjoy gardening and the lovely views.

Sheila started attending Holy Cross Church where she volunteered to help with the cleaning before being elected to the Parochial Church Council and later Churchwarden.



She fought hard several years ago for the church to open during the day and to be there for any who wanted to have quiet time and look around our historic church.

She loves liturgy where the different seasons and festivals are kept, providing structure and strength to her faith.

Sheila has served in two vacancies and managed rotas and looking after visiting priests. The last vacancy was for four years and during this time the covid pandemic hit and the church was closed due to restrictions. During this time Sheila ensured church members were kept regularly in touch with by telephone and she organised a rota of church volunteers.

Finally, Sheila has continued serving the church and community here sustained by her faith and the love and support of John. Sheila feels blessed to be here amongst such a loving and supportive community.

Thank you Sheila, for all that you do in front and behind the scenes at Holy Cross Church, ensuring everything is run smoothly.

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Holy Cross, Haltwhistle

Mothering Sunday comes this month on Sunday 15th March – bring your family along to church on Sunday morning to give thanks for your mother and the gift of life (9.30am Holy Cross, 11am Henshaw and Greenhead). Being a mother is truly a miracle of life and a gift of God even though we take it so much for granted that this is how nature works. We will celebrate that, and the blessing of the church which nurtures us in the grace and teaching of God. All welcome.

For those observing the season of Lent, Mothering Sunday can make a break from the more sombre services we have in this season. Our two Lent groups have been going well, but it's not too late to join them: one in Henshaw Church Room looking at 'What Makes and Shapes the Church', Tuesday evenings at 7pm; and one in the library on Thursdays at 2pm, learning about famous women in the bible, continuing on from the popular course we had last year in the Manor.

Looking ahead to Easter – we have Bishop Mark coming to us for Easter Day (10am Holy Cross Church). After the service, instead of an Easter egg hunt, we're going to have a Pace Egg competition and an Easter Bonnet competition. There's lots of advice online about how to make a pace egg and your innovations and creations are all welcome for eggs and bonnets on Easter Day at the service and afterwards and we hope for a wonderful display 😊.



From the Registers:

Baptisms – Thomas and Olivia Yeats

Funeral – Sue Leeming

In birth and death we move within the love of God who gives us life. Thanks be to God.

St Cuthberts, Greenhead

Recently we were shown a little collection of photos from times past – not too far back mind. Anyone remember the floral displays in these pictures, or this school visit? There were no dates on the photos so we're not exactly sure when they were. The Church is a place for memories, christenings, weddings, funerals, Remembrance Day, Christmas, Easter. We meet each Sunday at 11am, joining in with the village breakfast usually on the last Sunday of a month. Easter Day though will be in Haltwhistle with our three churches praying all together. We hope Greenhead entries for the pace eggs competition afterwards will be the winners!



All Hallows, Henshaw

At this time in the church year, we are on our journey through Lent towards Easter. Two of the churches in our Benefice, at Greenhead and Beltingham, are dedicated to St Cuthbert, a saint known for travelling to different communities in Northumberland and bringing his message of Christianity to them. He is so associated with our County, that apart from the two in our benefice, there are 12 more churches in Northumberland dedicated to him. In some cases, these are sited in places where St Cuthbert may well have travelled to preach. In other cases, it is believed his body rested enroute to his final resting place in Durham Cathedral.

A few years ago, the associate priest from St Cuthbert's in Haydon Bridge, Rev'd Gill Alexander, decided to undertake a dedicated cycle ride around all 14, to raise funds for essential church repairs. This was an epic ride of 250 miles, through some of the most wonderful countryside, and Gill arrived back to a rapturous welcome. Her ride had taken her to Norham near the Scottish Border, to Amble and Blyth on the coast, through Elsdon, Corsenside and Hebron inland, with Greenhead as her most westerly point.

Gill's journey no doubt gave her plenty of time whilst riding her bike to contemplate the life and works of St Cuthbert. However, you don't have to journey far, to come to St Cuthbert's church in Beltingham, on Sunday 22 March at 11 am, when in a service of Morning Prayer, we will be celebrating Cuthbert's life.

St Cuthbert's Cross



View From The Vicarage

Canon Steve Wright

Today I completed a chore I've been putting off for four months. It took me 15 minutes. I will learn nothing from this. I don't know why it's so hard sometimes to learn, but I keep on trying nevertheless. The season of Lent, is well underway already but it's not too late to turn over a new leaf and show the new you, the you that you could be. Ask God to help you, and prepare to give thanks to him at Easter. Palm Sunday's the last Sunday of this month.

CHURCH SERVICES

Church of England

First Sunday of March - 10am Group service, Greenhead.

Other Sundays of March -

- 9.30am Holy Cross, Haltwhistle
- 11am St. Cuthbert's, Greenhead
- 11am All Hallows' Henshaw

Easter Day (5th April) - 10am Group service, Holy Cross, Haltwhistle

Thursdays 10am - a quiet meditative service - Holy Cross, Haltwhistle

Roman Catholic Services

9.30am on Thursdays at St. Wilfrid's Church Haltwhistle

Methodist Services

10.30am on Sundays at Haltwhistle Methodist Church

CONTACTS

Church of England

Revd Canon Steve Wright
Holy Cross Church, Haltwhistle NE49 0AB
01434 320215
<https://parishesbythewall.org.uk/>

Methodist

Revd Marie Beard
Haltwhistle Methodist Church, Westgate, Haltwhistle
01434 632210
www.tynedalemethcircuit.org/churches/haltwhistle.html

Roman Catholic

Father Jeffrey Dodds
St. Wilfred's Catholic Church, Westgate, Haltwhistle
01434 603119
<https://www.stmaryshexham.org.uk/st-wilfrids-haltwhistle/>

Methodist Church & Churches Together

FROM: POPE FRANCIS
To: St Wilfride Haltwhistle



THE LETTER
A MESSAGE FOR OUR EARTH

Follow: activists from the Amazon, India, Senegal, & Hawaii as they share their stories of acting on climate change in their own countries and journey to the Vatican to dialogue with Pope Francis and each other

**Join us at St Wilfrid's
Fridays**
Feb 27th, Mar 6th, 13th 20th
6pm Extracts from the film The Letter
6.20pm Stations for the Care of Creation

Haltwhistle **Methodist Church** 

March 2026
Services
Sunday 1st
10.30am Rev Marie Beard
(Holy Communion)
Sunday 8th
10.30am Norman Fullard
Sunday 15th
10.30am Worship Leaders
Sunday 22nd
10.30am Rev Michael Holland
Sunday 29th
10.30am Rev Stuart Earl

ALL WELCOME



**CHURCHES
TOGETHER
IN HALTWHISTLE**

Prayers Together
We meet in Holy Cross
every Monday at 10.30am
(except Bank Holidays)

This is a peaceful time for prayers, spoken and unspoken, on topical events, those in distress, World affairs, our churches and leaders. We give thanks for the many blessings we receive.

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Out & About

Set against the beautiful Northumbrian backdrop, Featherstone Gate is about more than building houses – it is about supporting the future of Haltwhistle and helping the town thrive.

Thoughtfully designed homes give existing residents and new buyers the opportunity to stay within, or move to, a community they value. With a mix of high-quality two, three and four-bedroom properties, the development appeals particularly to young and growing families looking to put down roots. As more families choose Haltwhistle, the town benefits from renewed energy and long-term stability.

An increase in households strengthens the local economy, with independent shops, cafés and everyday services benefitting from greater footfall and a broader customer base.

This creates confidence for new traders considering opening in the town, knowing there is a supportive community around them. Carefully planned housing growth can protect the character of the high street while encouraging investment.

The wider social benefits are equally important. As part of the planning application, the developers have committed financial contributions to education, health services and community facilities, helping maintain strong provision for residents.

With 17% affordable housing, including Discounted Market Homes and Shared Ownership schemes in certain phases, young families and first-time buyers can access high-quality homes at attainable prices. Featherstone Gate contributes not only beautiful properties, but also a sustainable and vibrant future for Haltwhistle.



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More than simply a place to live, Featherstone Gate is a place to grow, thrive and make the most of every moment.

These homes are designed for modern lifestyles, offering a mix of two, three, and four-bedroom properties. Each house features high-quality craftsmanship, contemporary layouts, and practical living spaces. Kitchens are thoughtfully fitted, bathrooms are elegant and functional, and gardens are landscaped for enjoyment and privacy.

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Out & About

Karbon Homes Silver Friends – New activities for people aged 50+ in West Northumberland.

As we get older we can all find ourselves wishing we could meet some new people or have new experiences, but it's not always easy.

Silver Friends is a new programme of social activities and information events in Haltwhistle for people aged 50+. We have a new Men's Group with brunch, cuppa and chat, and a new monthly Shopping Club to Hexham.

Silver Friends is a great opportunity to meet new people and enjoy good company. Contact the Silver Friends team for dates or to book.

Men's Brunch, Haltwhistle - Free
Third Friday of every month, 10.15am – 12.00pm.

Silver Friends Shopping Club - £12
Third Monday of the month (Pick up around 10.00am)

Book your seat with Silver Friends

Market Stalls Information Event with 20 organisations

Health, Leisure, Finances,
Wednesday 29 April, 10.30am – 12.30pm
Haltwhistle Hub

Talking Stories at Hexham Library
First Tuesday of every month, 2.00 - 3.30pm

Hexham Library

Silver Friends Film Club - Forum
Cinema Hexham

Monthly on Tuesdays.

Watch a film then enjoy a cuppa in the cafe afterwards.

To find out more, contact Elizabeth King on 07761 207 355 or email silver.friends@karbonhomes.co.uk.



Helping people aged 50+ enjoy life in West Northumberland

- Connecting people to social activities
- Information and wellbeing events
- Opportunities to volunteer
- Enjoy a cuppa, snacks and good company



For more information please contact
Elizabeth on..

☎ 0191 223 8662

☎ 07761 207 355

✉ silver.friends@karbonhomes.co.uk

Out & About

Haltwhistle Growing Together - A community garden project open to all

Do you think you would enjoy a couple of hours with a sociable group learning a bit about gardening, or passing on your own skills? Then please do come along on Thursday mornings from Thursday 5th March. No regular commitment needed, just come when you can and do what you can.



Come and join us

to help maintain the Garden at Hillside, Youth and Community Space (by the school entrance)

Thursday 5th March
10 am til 12 noon

then every week over summer

- No gardening experience required
- Learn how to grow vegetables and herbs
- Keep your share of the produce
- All ages and abilities welcome
- Level accessible access
- Friendly group who will share their biscuits
- Come for the "Crack" and see what we are doing

Hillside is a venue with parking, accessible toilets and level access to the garden area and growing space. We meet at 10 am and start with a cuppa, biscuits (and sometimes home made cake!). An hour or so in the fresh air, then maybe another cuppa?

No need to book, just turn up between 10 am and 12 noon and ask for Claire or Jill.

You can contact us via facebook or at haltwhistlegt@gmail.com.

Garden address:
Hillside Youth and Community Space,
33 Park Avenue, NE49 9AU

THE THRESHING BARN



What's On March 2026

VOICES FROM THE WALL

from Saturday 7th March 2026
A Sound Walk featuring works by artists and the community along Hadrian's Wall at Gilsland.
FREE



KIZLAR - CEYDA TANC DANCE

Gilsland Village Hall
Saturday 14th March 2026 7.30pm
Combines Turkish folk dance with athleticism.
£15.00 / £10.00



MOTHER'S DAY SOUND BATH

The Threshing Barn
Sunday 15th March 2026 3.00pm - 4.30pm
Relaxing passive meditative experience
£20.00



Scan the QR code to find out more or visit the website.



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Acro 5-5:50
Adult ballet/Modern 6-6:45
Adult tap 6:45-7:30
Clubbercise 7:45 – 8:30

Thurs – Teeny boppers 4-4:30
Mini ballet/tap/mod 4:30-5:20
Junior ballet/tap/mod 5:30-6:20
Street 6:30-7:30
Senior ballet/tap/mod 7:30-8:30

Fri – Junior ballet/tap/mod 5-5:50
Street 6-6:50



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Culture & Arts

OH YES IT WAS.....!

...yet another outstanding Halty pantomime! On Friday 23 and Saturday 24 January, The Haltwhistle Boardwalkers again treated three almost sell-out audiences to their hilarious, slap-stick take on 'Hansel & Gretel' (and a Halty version of 'The Bake Off').

This panto had all the elements a good panto should have, starting with a good cast: an outrageous dame, Ma Kipling with 'her' side-kicks Fanny Duster and Jimmy Dodger; a prince, Prince Elvis Pavlova; a 'baddie', Barry Bagel (booooo) and his two side-kicks, Dough & Knutt; three incompetent police officers, Sergeant Scone and Constables Crumpet & Cupcake; a sparkly good witch, Witch Allspice and her daughter Saffron; a Big Bad Wolf with his inevitable chase around the school hall and through the audience; and of course, Hansel & Gretel and their friend Charlotte Kipling. They were supported by two able narrators and an excellent group of dancing and singing villagers, and a spider!

The spoof of the Brothers Grimm fairytale took place in some impressive sets, ranging from familiar high street, to a bakery with gigantic cup cakes to a delicious-looking gingerbread house. There was lots of music, singing and (ice)-dancing - including an unforgettable performance of 'Bolero'. The wonderful costumes, make-up, lighting and stage effects all finished off what was a slick, fun afternoon or evening of entertainment clearly enjoyed by both audience and players alike. It was good to see so many young people taking part. Haltwhistle has talent!

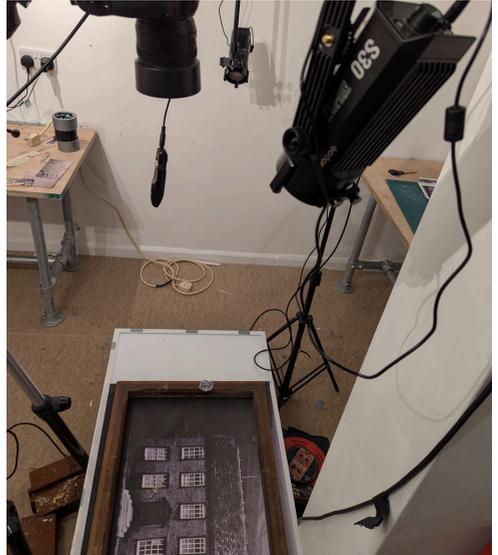
Congratulations and compliments to all on stage and behind the scenes for a great production. It must have been a lot of hard work, but it was certainly worth it - oh yes it was!



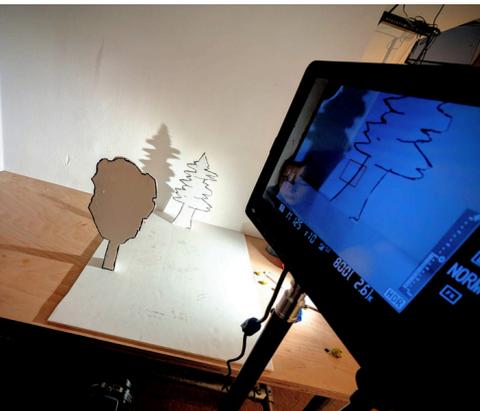
Culture & Arts

HALTYMATION - A stop-frame year in the life of a small market town.

Haltwhistle Film Project recently received Lottery funding for HALTYMATION a year of animating Haltwhistle's community groups, businesses, artists, buildings and landscapes. We'll be visiting every corner of the Town with animation set-ups, or using our Animation Studio to show the richness of life, and everything that goes on in Haltwhistle. All kinds of animation: 3D, drawn or painted, objects, and new ways. All ages and experiences (or no experience at all) welcome, either groups or individuals. Got an idea? Let's hear it! We'll be getting in touch, or contact us via: haltwhistlefp@gmail.com



The New Hadrian Singers are preparing a new programme ranging from 15th century drinking songs to a terrific Tina Turner number, via work songs of American labourers and one titled Naked in the Garden. If you love to sing, can't read music, and like to laugh as you learn, join us in the Community Room at the Haltwhistle Hospital on Friday evenings at 7pm. Our leader does have gigs in distant cities on Fridays sometimes, so always check for time changes by contacting mac.kent360@gmail.com



The Poetry Group will meet next on Wednesday 4th March to share poems they've found /written that will make us chuckle, giggle or laugh out loud. Greenhead Village Hall from 1.30 to 3pm, free and all welcome.



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Hidden History

The Mare and Foal

Above the town of Haltwhistle and in the shadow of Hadrian's Wall. A landscape defined by Roman interventions. But look deeper.

It is an area which has been sculpted deeply by the Romans and extensively mined and quarried in subsequent generations. Prehistoric remains are few and far between, but they are here still, often seen as little more than faint earthworks, crop marks or, as is the case here, the occasional stone.

The Mare and Foal monument is set alongside General Wade's Military Road (B6318) a few miles above Haltwhistle and below Caw Gap. It is situated on a low rise, facing south.

The Historic England listing describes the monument as comprising the remains of a Bronze Age stone circle. Only two of the original stones remain standing. The socket holes of the other stones survive below ground as buried features. The stone circle had a diameter of 6m and the remaining stones 1.05m and 1.5m height respectively.

Historical records show that in 1769 there were three stones still standing. The stones are shown as 'The Three Stones' on Armstrong's map of Northumberland. The third stone is no longer in situ and is thought to be the recumbent boulder lying about 6m west of the Mare.

Geologists have identified all three stones as Whin Sill, a craggy dolerite intrusion which runs from the Northumberland coast to Teesdale. Hadrian's Wall is built on the Whin Sill in the central sector.

Today the Mare and Foal stands at the junction of the B6318 and a smaller road leading to the Shield on the Wall farm, just below Caw Gap. In Roman times the monument would have stood alongside the Stanegate as it ran from Vindolanda to the Haltwhistle Burn Fortlet. The remains of the Stanegate have been traced as lying just underneath the modern road junction.

Kindly sponsored by the Roman Army Museum



Hidden History

Given the 'gaps' represent the few points where it is possible to get through the crags, it is likely that even in Roman times the monument inhabited a position at the crossing of two routes with a projected route from the Stanegate to Milecastle 33, located close to the Caw Gap.

Going back to the Bronze age, the river valley and glacial spillways would have already formed part of the landscape and it is very likely that the trails of Bronze age societies followed similar paths - east to west along the river valley and south to north through the gaps in the crags.

Traditionally it has been widely thought that crossroads, as a place of intersection, carry the sacred, transformational energy of liminal spaces, however this is defined. As such, we often find monuments and shrines at these intersections.



This is a sacred monument that was positioned at a prominent point in the prehistoric landscape, with a potential wayfinding function at the junction of two routes. It may also have had additional sacred or scientific functions.



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Health Matters

Have you heard.....

RNID are working with Haltwhistle Medical Centre to set up a hearing aid support clinic where you can get general advice about NHS hearing aids & there will also be provision for cleaning & replacing tubing. The plan is for probably monthly clinics starting in April.

Currently we are looking for volunteers to help with Meeting & Greeting & refreshment provision as well as anyone willing to train to carry out tubing maintenance.

If interested please contact Helen on 07703150443

Did you also know that new hearing aid batteries can be obtained from Haltwhistle Medical Centre reception even for people not registered with the Practice?

Watch this space for further news.



**HAVE YOU HEARD?
VOLUNTEERS WANTED**

HALTWHISTLE MEDICAL GROUP
PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ROYAL NATIONAL
INSTITUTE FOR DEAF PEOPLE

Volunteers needed to establish a monthly hearing aid drop in session in Haltwhistle. The role will include Meet & Greet, refreshments and help with tubing (training available).

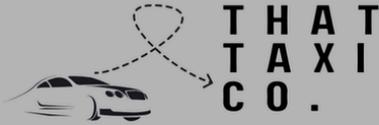
Interested? Call Helen on 07703 150443



**WEDNESDAY
11TH MARCH 2026
NO SMOKING DAY**

Visit the
Stop Smoking
Information Session at
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3.00-4.30pm

HALTWHISTLE MEDICAL GROUP



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Sports

Haltwhistle Jubilee FC

The season is moving towards its climax, and despite the awful weather, most of our teams have been playing and with a good deal of success. Our first team have made their way through to their league cup final following a nail biting semi final win, the final will be on a mid-week date sometime in March. The development team are into the semi-finals of their cup, and we are hoping they can make it two adult finals in one season.

Our junior sides continue to enjoy good progress, most notably the under-12 Magpies who are hot favourites to win their league and are in the latter stages of their cup as well. Success in these would be a fitting achievement, especially as their coach Nathan, is stepping down at the end of the season. We hope to update you all on more progress by our junior sides next month.



We are also delighted to announce we are launching a new program called Wildcats for young girls in the locality. This is for girls aged 5-11 and is an introduction to football, with the hope we can then see girls' teams eventually play in Halty Blue. The information can be found on our new website www.haltyjubes.com. So come girls give football a go and see the fun it can be.



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Keeping you moving

Sports

Cornhole first for Haltwhistle a great success

A fantastic turnout at Haltwhistle Leisure Centre on 7th/8th March for the UK Cornhole League Qualifier 5 saw 52 players compete, travelling from as far as Portsmouth and Fife. Eleven players from Featherstone Flyers Cornhole Club took part and produced some excellent results.

Friday Blind Doubles (21 pairs)

Ian Christie finished runner-up after a narrow final defeat. Roy Williamson placed 3rd, Jamie Reay and Frank Furlong 5th=. Alan Walton, Jon Stynes, Viv Morrison, Tom Watson and Richard Macdonald were 9th=, with Tony Sowerby and Dereck Morrison 17th=.

Saturday UKCL 5 Singles (51 players)

Tier 1: Richard Macdonald 5th (his best result to date), Jon Stynes 7th, Roy Williamson 13th, Alan Walton 17th and Willie Reay 25th (both first major competitions).

Tier 2: Ian Christie 5th, Viv Morrison and Dereck Morrison 13th=, Tony Sowerby 17th=.

Saturday featured standout performances: Willie Reay defeated seasoned pro Jon Wishart over 13 rounds with three 4-baggers. Alan Walton beat Danny Goodier in 19 rounds. Roy Williamson recorded a 9.67 PPR in a win over Viv Morrison.

Ian Christie secured impressive 18-round wins over Alan Walton and pro Graham Davies.

Jon Stynes added another strong 18-round win over Dave Morey and now sits 3rd in the UK rankings. Richard Macdonald enjoyed hard-fought victories over pros Daniel Lilley and Aaron Whited, narrowly losing 21-20 to eventual winner Nick Pettitt.

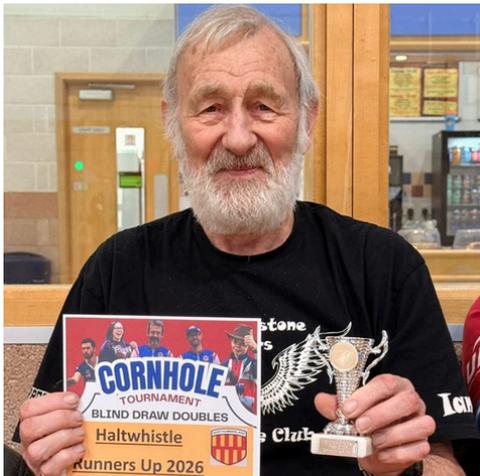
It was a tremendous weekend for Haltwhistle, with many competitors staying locally. The venue proved a great success and we look forward to returning next season.

Next UK venue: Portsmouth in March. Fancy a go? Join us at Featherstone Village Hall, 7pm every Wednesday - new players welcome.

Richard Macdonald

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| Samaritan's Freephone | 116 123 |
| Farm Community Network | 07002 32632 |
| OneCall | 01670 536400 |

PICTURE OF THE MONTH



 ***We need your pictures!*** 

We didn't receive any submissions for the March Picture of the Month competition! We would like to continue to use the back page for images of our beautiful town and local area - so please help us with this by sending your pictures to haltwhistleherald@gmail.com

April's theme is 'Longer Evenings'