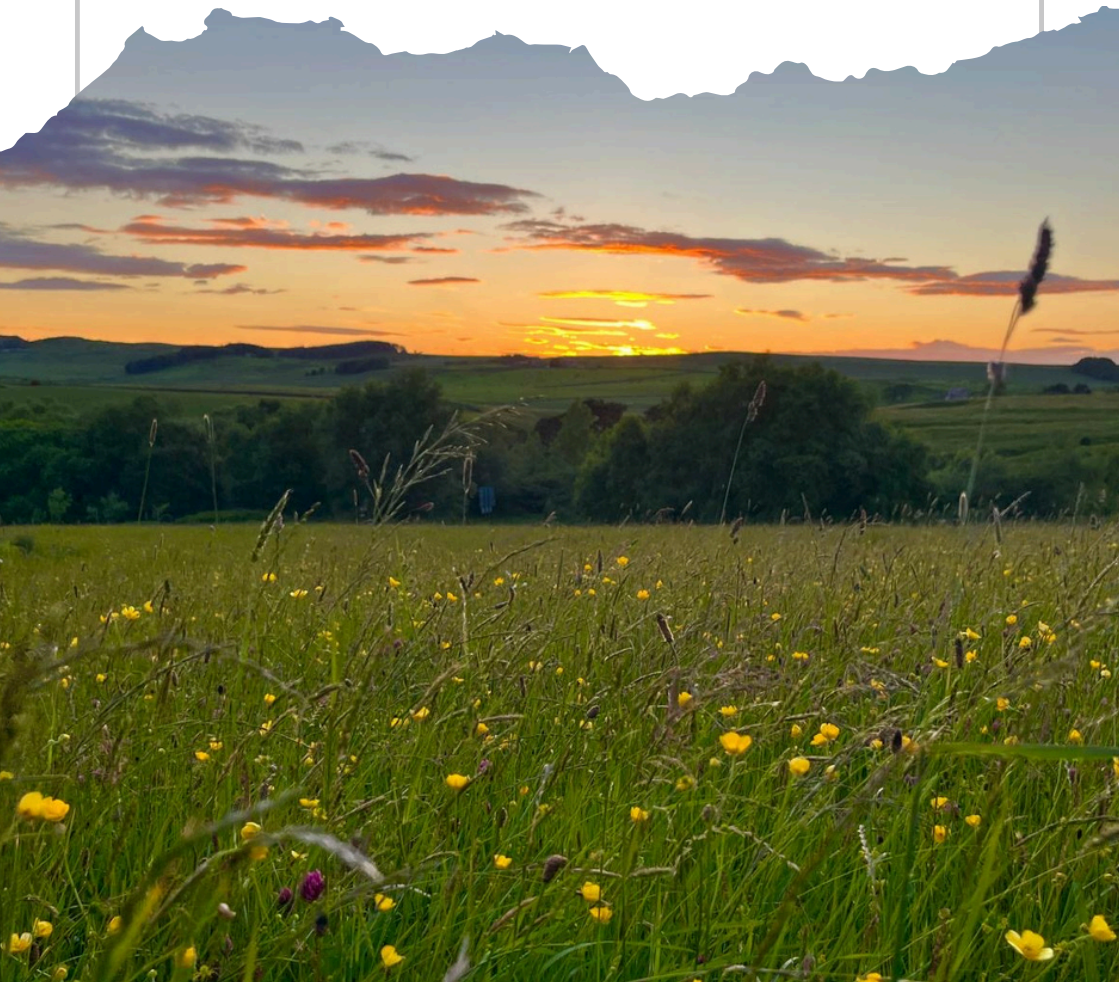


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The Haltwhistle Herald

JULY/AUGUST 2026





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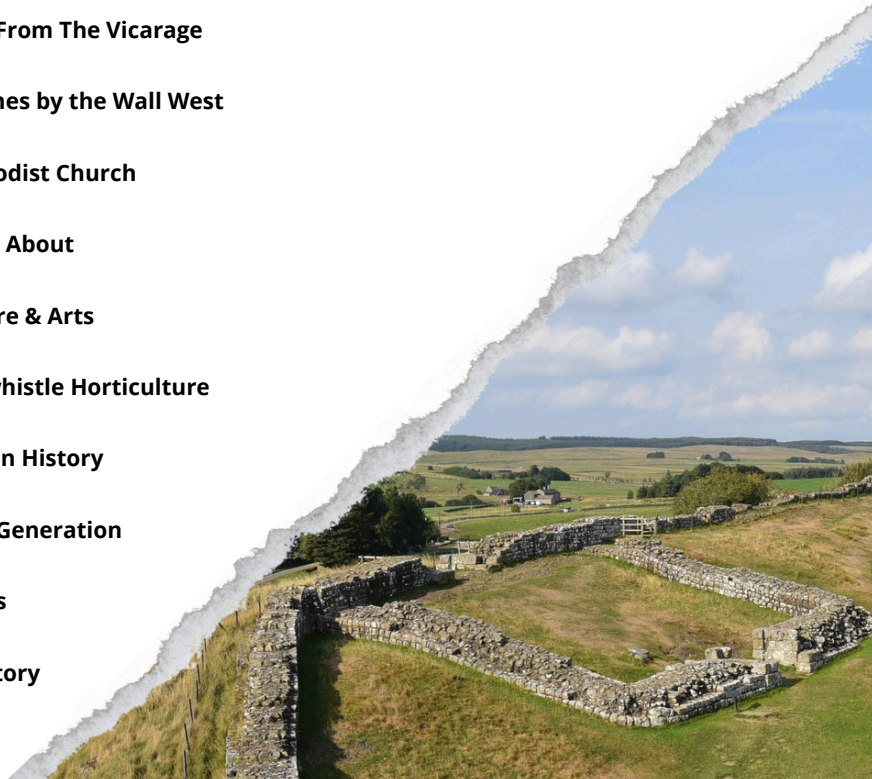
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What's on in July/August

July

- 4th** Start of Children's Summer Reading Challenge, see p42
- 5th** Church Service - 135 Years of Mother's Union in Haltwhistle, Holy Cross, 9:30am
- 8th** People's Emergency Briefing, free film and discussion, see p31
- 8th** Haltwhistle History Group - The Great Inundation of 1771; talk at the Comrades, 7:30pm
- 10th** Mother's Union Coffee Morning for Northumberland Food Bank, 9:30-11:30, Holy Cross
- 11th** Midnight Swim, see p44/45
- 11/12th** Carnival Weekend, see p21/22
- 11/12th** Ermine Street Guard Roman reenaction, Vindolanda
- 13th** Garden Club - talk on wildflowers and meadows in NNP, Comrades, 7:30pm
- 17th** Men's Brunch, 10:15-12noon, free at Hillside
- 19th** Haltwhistle Market at the train station, 10-2
- 20th** Silver Friends Monthly Shopping Trip, £10 - 07761207355

August

- 1st** Open Garden at East Deanraw in aid of Haltwhistle Hospital, £10, 6-8pm Posters in town
- 1/2nd** Ermine Street Guard Roman Makers Market, Roman Army Museum, 11-4pm
- 8th** Coffee Morning, Methodist Hall, in aid of Ukraine, 9:30-12
- 10th** Garden Club - visit to Stagshaw House & Garden, contact junereed53@icloud.com
- 19/23rd** Art Club annual 2026 exhibition, Celebration of Glorious Gardens, the Old Booking Hall at Haltwhistle Station, 10-2pm
- 23rd** Cream Tea, Greenhead Village Hall, 1-4pm
- 29/30th** Ermine Street Guard Roman reenaction, Roman Army Museum, 11-4pm

Coming Soon

- 4-6th Sept** Haltwhistle Music Festival, see p19/20

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

Mothers' Union:

Every second Tuesday, 2:15pm, Holy Cross

Bardon Mill Film Night:

Every third Tuesday, 4pm in the church room

Warhammer Club:

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

Bricks & Banter:

Every Tuesday 7-9pm, Mindful Hub (2, Station Court)

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

Poetry Drop-In:

First Wednesday of the month, 1:30-3pm, Greenhead Village Hall

Armchair Warriors exercise classes,

every Thursday 10-11am, Haltwhistle Library Hub

Haltwhistle Growing Together,

every Thursday 10-12, Hillside Youth and Community Space

Stay Well Be Happy,

every Thursday, 1-3pm, Hillside 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, Hillside Park Avenue, 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

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

What an exciting summer we have in front of us here at Haltwhistle. Firstly, it is our wonderful **Carnival** weekend - all events are listed on pages 21 and 22. The duck race is a particular favourite of ours here at the Herald, as well of course the fabulous procession. So get down there and take lots of photos for the magazine. Please send to haltwhistleherald@gmail.com, and of course we continue to search for pictures of old Haltwhistle.

We also have the **Haltwhistle Music Festival** to look forward to and this is an early reminder for the weekend of 4th to 6th September. A big thank you to all who helped with the launch event and coffee morning on the 27th June and everyone who attended and donated so generously. During the holidays Young and Sweet have plenty of treats lined up for you, listed on page 42 and of course you can make good use of the Swimming Pool and even a midnight swim! So we're all set we just need the sun to shine to really show Haltwhistle off at its very best.

Haltwhistle Herald will start its 4th year in September - how time flies! There will be a return of the collection tins in town. Please seek them out at the Library, Community Book Shop and Holy Cross and give what you can so we can continue to print free copies for you. Alternatively you can transfer the money via your Bank to H&G Parish Magazine 20-40-09 account 20166855. Thank you.

And finally, editor's apology and correction. In May's Herald the Mothers' Union article appeared under the Methodist Church page heading. The Mothers' Union is, of course, a Church of England movement.



Our next edition will be September so contributions need to be with us by the **20th August** 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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[Ewan_spt](https://www.instagram.com/Ewan_spt)

Haltwhistle Partnership

New Employees Join the Haltwhistle Partnership

The Haltwhistle Partnership is delighted to welcome two new members of staff to the team: Nicola Cullens, our new Administrative Assistant, and Christine Wright, our new Green Development Officer. Nicola joins the Partnership with extensive administrative experience gained through her work with the South Tyne Railway Preservation Society (STRPS). In her new role, she will provide vital support to the Partnership's Officer and assist with the day-to-day running of the organisation. Nicola looks forward to learning more about the Partnership's projects and helping promote opportunities available to local residents, community groups, and volunteers.

We are also pleased to welcome Christine Wright as our new Green Development Officer, a role made possible through funding from the National Lottery Awards for All Environment Fund. Christine brings a wealth of experience in environmental and community green-space development and will lead work to create a more connected and sustainable approach to Haltwhistle's green spaces.

Her role will focus on exploring how the Haltwhistle's parks, green areas, community spaces, and natural environments can work together to better serve residents and local organisations. By encouraging collaboration and identifying new opportunities for engagement, Christine will help shape projects that enhance the local environment and strengthen community involvement. The Partnership looks forward to the positive impact both Nicola and Christine will have on future projects and initiatives across Haltwhistle and the surrounding area.

The Haltwhistle Partnership is hiring!

Part-Time Office Cleaner (PAYE)
Location: Haltwhistle
Hours: Approx. 3 hours per week (flexible)
Pay: £12.85 per hour

The Haltwhistle Partnership is seeking a reliable and conscientious Part-Time Cleaner to maintain a small office building and communal residential areas.

Duties include;

- vacuuming & dusting,
- cleaning kitchen & washroom facilities,
- emptying bins, and
- maintaining communal hallways and entrances.

The successful candidate will also report maintenance issues and ensure cleaning equipment is used and stored safely.

Previous cleaning experience is desirable but not essential. Applicants should be dependable, trustworthy, able to work independently, and have good attention to detail.

To apply, please email admin@haltwhistle.org by 17th July. For further information, contact 01434 321242 or 07307 107436.



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Haltwhistle Partnership

Vacancy: Part-Time Cleaner

The Haltwhistle Partnership currently has a vacancy for a Part-Time Cleaner (3 hours per week). The role involves maintaining office premises and communal entrance areas to a high standard.

Applications should be submitted to admin@haltwhistle.org by 17th July. For further information, contact the Partnership Office on 01434 321242 or 07307 107436.

Community Shops Fund

The Community Shops Fund recently awarded £21,211.57 to ten local projects. The next funding round opens on 7th September and closes on 18th October.

Applications are welcomed from community groups and organisations with projects that benefit Haltwhistle and the ten surrounding parishes. The fund also encourages applications from young people aged 25 and under seeking educational or personal development opportunities that may otherwise be financially out of reach. Visit the Haltwhistle Partnership website at www.haltwhistle.org for further details.



Haltwhistle Memory Café

Monday 6th July 2026
* 2.00pm - 4.00pm *

**Meet Community Room
Haltwhistle Hospital**

2.30 to 3.30pm
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welcome and
introduction to
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Town Council

Town Council: Looking Back on a Busy Year

Haltwhistle Town Council has published its annual review for 2025-26, highlighting a year of work supporting public spaces, community facilities and local projects across the town.

Throughout the year, the Council continued to maintain and improve many of the amenities that residents use every day. Work included repairs and improvements at Comb Hill and Hadrian Rise play parks, maintenance of public seating and green spaces, and repairs to bus shelters.

The Council also worked with Northumberland County Council on a range of issues raised by residents, including footpaths, drainage, road surfaces, accessibility improvements and the refurbishment of the town's public toilets.

Public spaces remained a key focus, with maintenance carried out at Memorial Park, Orchard Gardens, Burn Field Village Green and other locations across the town. A survey of public benches was completed and plans developed for future improvements.

Community engagement continued through monthly councillor surgeries, giving residents the opportunity to raise concerns and discuss local issues directly with councillors. Community litter picks also took place throughout the year, supported by local volunteers.

The Council continued to support local organisations through its grants programme, helping fund projects and activities that benefit residents across a range of areas, including sport, youth provision, community events and support services.

Looking ahead, priorities for 2026-27 include the installation of a new community noticeboard, further improvements to play areas and public seating, continued work on the Neighbourhood Plan and ongoing partnership working with local organisations and public bodies.

The Council would like to thank the many volunteers, community groups, businesses and residents whose support continues to make a positive difference to Haltwhistle.

Town Council

A Haltwhistle Town Council Community Competition

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County Council

Message from County Councillor
Rachel Mathieson

A year further

I started my role over a year ago and I have just completed another fortnight of annual council training including planning, scrutiny and emergency response. This has been a good moment to focus again on my official promise to adhere to the 'Nolan Principles' for public service: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership. In fact, they resonate more a year on, and are integral to my work. It has been a whirlwind of experiences - often frustrating (I am not patient!), but also satisfying and rewarding.

I have spoken twice in Full Council - trying to ensure that Haltwhistle is not forgotten and receives the investment it deserves. This has resulted in talks concerning plans for regeneration in the town. I am now urging for these words to be put into action. I have also submitted over 120 enquiries to NCC on behalf of residents across the ward, many of these have resulted in positive outcomes.



Members' Local Improvement Scheme

Every Northumberland county councillor is allocated an annual £15,000 allowance to fund local community and capital projects in their ward. However, there are rigid conditions - one of my frustrations! So far, I am pleased to have contributed to two projects: a heating installation at The Studio (Hannah Lucy's new dance school and Charlie's Coaching); and two permanent, vandal-proof goalposts for the Comb Hill Play Park. There are other projects in the pipeline, including contributions towards highways' improvements.

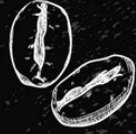
As always, please feel free to contact me about NCC issues at: rachel.mathieson@northumberland.gov.uk.

Have a lovely summer and enjoy all the wonderful events happening in Haltwhistle.



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Local Hero

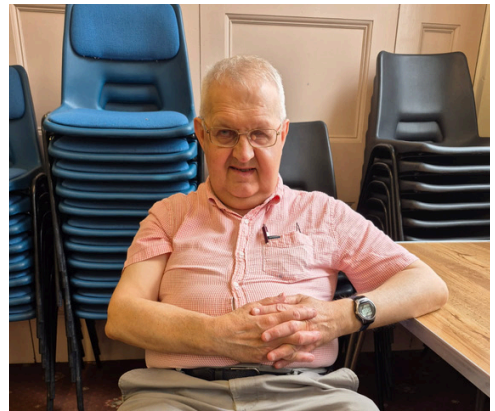
John Clark

John was born in Haltwhistle and attended the Grammar School in Hexham. At the age of eighteen he started work for the BBC in Manchester. Working as a sound engineer in the studio for radio productions, he also worked on outside work at Glyndebourne, Wembley and travelled widely. Retiring early on health grounds and returning to Haltwhistle, he cared for his parents living at Parklands.

John is an active Christian brought up in a church family as his father was organist at the Methodist Chapel. John became property steward and oversaw a new heating system in the chapel. He is a steward for funerals and helps with the warm space group. He is always on site for all church-based events and is on sound duty for Remembrance Sunday. He also organises the Good Friday procession with the cross overseeing it being placed in the market square. John is a member of churches together and the weekly prayer group that meets in Holy Cross church. He is a popular and well-known member of our community. John enjoys watching football and doing the daily crossword in the newspaper.

John is a reassuring presence at our community events, and believes passionately in supporting the community. He sees the coffee mornings regularly held in Haltwhistle as being notable events where friends come together in support of this community. He oversees the Frugal lunches every Lent to raise money for Christian Aid. There is a spirit in our town and there is no one more generous than John through his loyal support.

We wish John every blessing as he celebrates his forthcoming 70th Birthday. We take this opportunity of thanking him for his service to our town.



Haltwhistle Music Festival

Haltwhistle Music Festival: A Weekend of Music, Creativity and Community

Haltwhistle Music Festival is coming to the town from Friday 4th - Sunday 6th September, bringing a packed weekend of live music, film, workshops, and dancing - all completely free to attend.

Taking place across venues throughout Haltwhistle, the festival is all about celebrating local talent, welcoming visitors, and showcasing the fantastic spaces and businesses that make the town special.

The festival's Saturday evening highlight will take place at the beautiful Holy Cross Church, with award-winning Anglo-Scottish folk duo Janice Burns & Jon Doran headlining an evening of live music. Supported by the atmospheric sounds of watersmeet, the event promises a memorable night of storytelling, harmony and acoustic music in a truly unique setting.

Film and music come together on Sunday afternoon with a special screening of *Piccadilly*, the classic silent movie brought to life with a brand-new live score performed by Brief Encounter Duo. This unique experience blends cinema and music for something a little different.

For those who enjoy a dance, the Saturday afternoon Tea Dance will offer the perfect opportunity to enjoy live music, good food and great company, with music from Brief Encounter Duo and refreshments from the Milecastle Inn.



Haltwhistle Music Festival



The Up and Coming Stage in Holy Cross on Sunday morning will shine a spotlight on local, fresh talent, giving musicians the chance to perform to a live audience and helping new voices take centre stage.



The festival will also bring live music into the heart of the town, with stages at Market Square and Yellow Bird Cafe showcasing a range of performers throughout the weekend. From local musicians and emerging artists to established acts, there will be plenty to discover.

With a mix of music, workshops, film, food and community spirit, Haltwhistle Music Festival is set to be a weekend where the whole town comes together. Entry is free, although some events require advance booking due to limited spaces.

Creativity is at the heart of the festival too. Mark Barfoot from Sacred Sounds CIC will lead a community Drumming Workshop, inviting people of all ages and abilities to come together, learn rhythms and make some noise. The Haltwhistle Film Project will also host an Instant Film Workshop, where participants can create animation directly onto 16mm film and contribute to a festival film.

Head to haltwhistlemusicfestival.co.uk to book tickets, and follow us on Facebook and Instagram - @haltwhistlemusicfestival



Haltwhistle Carnival



Thank You to Penny Rose Photography

Carnival Princess: Kesha Massey
Attendants: Harper Caisley, Tommy Bell,
Lainie Graham, George Herdman

NOTICES

Tickets - Raffle Tickets - Ducks etc.
 available from Just Flowers from Monday, 15th June 2026.

- **ALL DOGS MUST BE KEPT ON LEADS DURING CARNIVAL EVENTS** •

WHERE TO WATCH THE PARADE

The Carnival parade will be starting on Avenue St Meen, opposite Tynedale Group Travel and will go past Edens Lawn, the Railway, the Metal Bridge and turn left over the Old Green Bridge to the Show field.

- **PLEASE CAN EVERYONE STAY ON FOOTPATHS AT ALL TIMES** •

SHOP DECORATED WINDOW COMPETITION

Theme: World Cup

Windows will be decorated by Monday 29th June.
 Judging will take place on Friday 10th July.



Haltwhistle Carnival

SATURDAY 6TH JUNE ANNUAL CARNIVAL CELEBRATIONS

(hosted by Warm Welcome)

Adult £5.00 - Afternoon tea, quiz and prize bingo

2.00pm-4.00pm - Methodist Church Hall

Tickets need to be purchased by Wednesday 27th May
from Ruth during Warm Welcome.

SATURDAY 20TH JUNE HALTWHISTLE CARNIVAL CUP

7-a-side competition - Over 16's only - One day event - £10 per player.

Contact Foxy on 07447426683 to register.

SATURDAY 27TH JUNE PARTY @ THE POOL

3.00-5.00pm - £5.00 each - Tickets include swim, soft play, inflatable
slide, hotdog, cake and juice. Available from Haltwhistle Leisure
Centre from Monday 1st June.

SATURDAY 4TH JULY DARTS DOUBLES COMPETITION

7.00pm registration - 7.30pm start @ Comrades Club (Pay on the door)

£5.00 entry per person double life - fundraising event with prize money.

SUNDAY 5TH JULY CAR TREASURE HUNT

Start at Sainsburys 1.30pm (Pay on the day). Adults £3.50 - Children £2.00

Ending at Haltwhistle Comrades for Cream Scone and Cake.

WEDNESDAY 8TH JULY QUIZ @ JUBILEE

£2.50 per person or £10.00 per team - 8.00pm start (Pay on the door).

Many thanks to Shirley & Steve. Prize money for 1st + 2nd place.

FRIDAY 10TH JULY OPEN BOWLS COMPETITION

6.00pm Start - FREE - ALL ages welcome.

SATURDAY 11TH JULY DUCK RACE

11.00am from the Old Tyne Bridge.

SUNDAY 12TH JULY CARNIVAL DAY

Procession of floats at 12 noon from Avenue St. Meen (opposite Tynedale
Group Travel) led by Hexham Brass. Fancy Dress Competition followed by
Presentation, Cumberland Wrestling, Live Music from 'The Rukus', Vintage
Vehicles & Engines, Naomh Fionbarra School of Dance, Hannah Lucy Stage
School, O'Hehir school of Irish dancing, Alpacas, Fun Fair, Stalls, Catering,
Beer Tent, Tea Tent... *plus lots more!*

Many thanks to Alasdair Gill

BBC Look North for judging the Carnival Floats.

Happy 100th Birthday to
Armstrong Fashion



Holy Cross, Haltwhistle

Well done Holy Cross Social Committee for doing so well with the Holy Cross Summer Fayre in the middle of June, raising about £1500 towards the upkeep and maintenance of our amazing church and ministry. It was a wonderful morning and we appreciate all the helpers that made it such an occasion!

The Mother's Union celebrates its 150th anniversary this year but the Haltwhistle branch was an early one and will be celebrating its 135th anniversary on the 5th July at 9.30am with the MU Diocesan Chaplain coming to preach to us. In the early days they campaigned to stop children collecting alcohol from public houses and to raise the age of marriage from 12 to 16 and by it's 50th anniversary had nearly half a million members. Today it has 4 million members in 83 countries. Tis the summer and the time for weddings! Holy Cross Church is beginning to plan a Wedding dress/Wedding Outfit Exhibition, likely next Spring. It's early days now, but we want to make it twice as good as the one we had in 2015.

Whether vintage, traditional, modern or unconventional, we would love to have a range of dresses and paraphernalia spanning the decades. Photographs and anecdotes about your Big Day, would help make this event even more special. If you still have your dress, or one from an older member of the family, and would like it to be included in our display, we would love to hear from you - Helen Norman, 07545285234 or stuartnorman@hotmail.co.uk.

And then there's the music festival - our church will be playing its part. See elsewhere in the mag for details.



St Cuthberts, Greenhead

Greenhead Village breakfasts in the village hall on the last Sunday of each month are still going strong and it makes a very nice refreshment for us after our service on that Sunday each month. We encourage you to come for breakfast, before or after our service that week, and come to pray and sing with us in church too.

At church we've not had so many fundraising events this year, but the bills keep coming and we are organising a cream tea in the village hall on Sunday 23rd of August, 1pm – 4pm, in aid of church funds and hope you will come and support it. We have a vicar to help and support us, but we need help in managing the many tasks that come with responsibility for such a lovely building.

Steve took the Lindisfarne Gospels into our school last month to show them that part of our heritage. Those Gospels were written and decorated specifically in honour of our patron saint, St. Cuthbert, and our church has some beautiful kneelers that tell St Cuthbert's story.



We'd like to keep our church open so that the gospel message still has its witness in our village but wonder if there are any out there in our community that might help with building management and fundraising.

St Cuthbert's Church, Greenhead

Cream Teas

In Greenhead Village Hall
23rd August 2026
1pm-4pm



Cream Tea

For more information
Call Jude 01677 47402
or Elsie 016977 47473

From the Registers:

Baptisms – Ellis William Turnbull,
Marley Gray Rogan

Funerals – A Jenny White, Joseph James
Smith, Anne Jackson, John Lord – May
they rest in peace and rise in glory.

All Hallows, Henshaw

The Lindisfarne Gospels have been on tour in our area recently – in the picture here they are being reverently carried by four ‘monks’ from Henshaw School with an elaborate cover to protect the valuables underneath. They delivered them to our vicar, Steve, who then revealed them before the assembled children and explained that often, the greater and more valuable the present, the greater and more wonderful will be the wrapping and of course this is true for the Lindisfarne Gospels too. But what a wrapping that workmanship is, and how worthy of admiration!

Steve is taking the Lindisfarne Gospels to various art and history groups in the area until mid July and if you’d like to see them, look out for local news of where he may be taking them. All three of our primary schools in our three parishes will see them a few times as well. Some of the groups have been quite interested in the stories behind how the gospels came to be written in the first place and the reliability of how we know what Jesus said and did. We read from the gospels each week in church too, slowly making our way through Matthew’s Gospel this summer.

Our Sunday services are usually in Henshaw, but this month we are meeting in Beltingham again on Sunday 19th July at 11am, a rare opportunity to visit this secluded and holy building with its three ancient Yew trees in the old churchyard. All are welcome, and we will have someone indicating where parking is in the churchyard extension for the service.



View From The Vicarage

Canon Steve Wright

Does a drinking straw have one hole or two? It depends how you look at it. We have a serious question like this that we have settled in church, is God one or three? And the answer we focussed on for Trinity Sunday last month is that we celebrate and worship one God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This summer's Bible readings in church will stumble across this puzzle too, and go some way to explaining what we mean by it. I encourage you to read your bible, especially the gospels to see what you make of Jesus, and if you get the chance to see the Lindisfarne Gospels while we have them, all the better!

CHURCH SERVICES

Church of England

First Sunday of July - 10am Group service, Holy Cross Haltwhistle.

First Sunday of August - 10am Group service in All Hallows Henshaw

Other Sundays of July -

- 9.30am Holy Cross, Haltwhistle
- 11am St. Cuthbert's, Greenhead
- 11am All Hallows' Henshaw (except 19th July in Beltingham)
- 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

Haltwhistle **Methodist Church** 

July 2026

Services

Sunday 5th

10.30am Norman Fullard

Sunday 12th

10.30am Rev Marie Beard
(Holy Communion)

Sunday 19th

10.30am Ruth Johnson

Sunday 26th

10.30am Elaine Goy

ALL WELCOME

Haltwhistle **Methodist Church** 

August 2026

Services

Sunday 2nd

10.30am Rev Marie Beard

Sunday 9th

10.30am Christine Thompson
(Reader Service)

Sunday 16th

10.30am Rev Marie Beard
(Holy Communion)

Sunday 23rd

10.30am Sheila Holland

Sunday 30th

3.00pm Circuit Service @ Prudhoe

ALL WELCOME

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Men's Brunch

Chat with other men aged 50+
Enjoy a bacon buttie & a hot drink.

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Date: Friday 19th June


Time: 10:15 - 12:00 pm

Venue: Hillside
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info@hannahlucystageschool.co.uk

Wed – cheerleading 4-4:50
 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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Out & About

Thomas the Tank Engine and Little Chopper: Full Steam Ahead, Monte Carlo or Bust

You don't often see Thomas the Tank Engine rumbling through Haltwhistle, let alone setting off for Monte Carlo. But that's exactly what happened on 10 June, when two cars from The Black Bull hit the road: Thomas, and his plucky sidekick, Little Chopper.

Four days. Six countries. The Black Forest, the Gotthard Pass, the shores of Lake Como, all conquered in cars held together by something best not investigated too closely, Little Chopper nipping along beside Thomas the whole way. They rolled into Monte Carlo together on 14 June and capped it off with a joint victory lap of Casino Square. Both cars survived unscathed. The crews? Jury's still out. Little Chopper then stole the show, flying away with Best Dressed Car.

This isn't the Black Bull's first rodeo, and it won't be the last. Next year's cars are already in the works.

The real point of the madness: raising money for South Tyne Railway, to help restore "Barber," a 1908 steam engine from Thomas Green & Sons. Only two survive worldwide.

Thomas has one last run before retirement, Haltwhistle Carnival, 12 July. Want to help keep South Tyne Railway's history on track? Donate here: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/thomas-the-tank-engine-monte-carlo-or-bust>



Out & About

Haltwhistle residents gathered last month for a screening of The People's Emergency Briefing, followed by a public discussion about what the issues raised in the film may mean for Haltwhistle

The screening formed part of a wider UK programme of events designed to help communities engage with the climate and nature crisis, and supported by naturalist Chris Packham, who has said that "I'd encourage people everywhere to attend a screening of The People's Emergency Briefing. This new film creates exactly the kind of honest local conversation we now urgently need, both about the threat from climate and nature breakdown, but also about what we can do, together with our politicians, to build a better future."

Discussion afterwards focused particularly on the need to develop community resilience in Haltwhistle. Abigail Cheverst, who helped organise the event, said "One of the strongest feelings in the room was relief — that issues many people have quietly worried about for a long time were finally being spoken about openly, clearly and together."



The film follows the in person briefing held at Westminster last year. One of the key asks now is that the film is shown on prime time TV to reach the most amount of viewers and people are being asked to contact their MP to support a campaign to get this to happen

A further local meeting / follow-up discussion is now being planned to enable more residents to see the film. The next free showing of the film will be on Wed 8 July at 6pm in Haltwhistle Hospital Community Room. All are welcome and booking is not required. The free film will be followed by an open discussion

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Culture & Arts

Hadrian's Wall Art Trail Returns This September

The Hadrian's Wall Art Trail returns this September, inviting visitors to explore a series of exhibitions celebrating the landscapes, heritage and creative spirit of Hadrian's Wall.

Taking place across three weekends — 4–6, 11–13 and 18–20 September 2026 — the trail will connect venues along the Wall, offering audiences the opportunity to discover artwork inspired by one of the UK's most remarkable cultural landscapes.

This year's theme, Underfoot / Overhead, encourages artists and audiences alike to consider the stories, histories and natural wonders that surround us. From archaeology, geology and hidden traces of the past beneath our feet, to skies, weather, wildlife and imagination overhead, the theme invites a rich range of creative responses.



The Hadrian's Wall Art Trail is a collaboration between Green Croft Arts and Field Shelter CIC, bringing together artists, communities and visitors through a shared appreciation of place. The trail aims to showcase both established and emerging artists while encouraging people to explore the unique venues, landscapes and heritage that make Hadrian's Wall such a special place. Artists wishing to be part of the 2026 trail can submit work until 5 July 2026.

Whether you're an art lover, a regular visitor to the Wall, or simply looking for inspiration, the Hadrian's Wall Art Trail offers a unique opportunity to experience contemporary art in extraordinary locations across this iconic World Heritage landscape.

THE THRESHING BARN

What's On Summer 2026





VOICES FROM THE WALL
Summer 2026
A Sound Walk in the landscape between Poltross Burn and Birdswald featuring audio dramas written by the community.



CREATIVE DAY RETREAT
The Threshing Barn
Saturday 5th July 2026, 10:00 – 16:00
A day of tarot-inspired art, yoga and sound healing with Amanda Drago & Sally Anderson



HADRIAN'S WALL ART TRAIL
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Haltwhistle Horticulture

Weathering the Storm

In Britain it is a national pastime complaining about the weather or second guessing what is coming next! For gardeners at this time of year it is almost an obsession. For good reason....

You may have spent a couple of months raising plants from seed, nurturing them, finally planting them out in June hoping that the weather will be mild but not too cold, sunny but not too hot, rain but not torrential and a nice gentle breeze to stop the damp getting to young plants. Instead we get a month of no rain, unexpected frosts then thunderstorms and downpours.



If you are a vegetable grower then you pretty much need to weather the storm (excuse the pun), but if you have a traditional flower garden you can think about changing your planting scheme to cope with our increasingly erratic weather.

A new Mediterranean Garden at Beningbrough Hall in Yorkshire designed by Andy Sturgeon is a brilliant example of how careful planting of hardy drought tolerant perennials can create a wonderful fragrant, attractive, low maintenance space to enjoy, as well as being bee friendly. You may not have the space of a stately home but some of the planting ideas can be replicated at home for similar effect.

Haltwhistle Growing Together have a couple of overgrown areas in the garden at Hillside which could really benefit from similar planting. Come and help us plan over the next few months ready for next spring. Thursday 10 am till 12 noon. All welcome.





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Hidden History

Vindolanda Excavations

The 2026 spring and summer excavations are well underway and have uncovered remarkable artifacts at the Vindolanda and Magna sites, including the delicately crafted arm of a Roman goddess statue, ancient copper alloy pins, and ironworking tools.

Ongoing field digs (running Monday-Friday) have produced over 136 newly cataloged small finds, pottery, and bone fragments. If you are visiting either site over the summer be sure to take a look at the current dig and have a chat to the excavators - they love a break from kneeling or pushing wheelbarrows!



Highlights across the Vindolanda Trust sites include:

- **Vindolanda Fort Excavations:** The team is progressing through burnt demolition layers inside the Centurion's apartment and recovering ancient metalwork, slag, and iron knife blades from furnace areas. They have also found extensive drain work and the Centurion's private outdoor toilet.
- **Magna Fort Excavations:** Archaeologists are uncovering remnants of the praetorium, revealing surviving flagstone floors and sections of ancient underfloor heating (hypocaust) systems.
- **Statue fragments:** A small, carefully crafted arm of a Roman goddess statue and a decorative copper-alloy pin.
- **Metalwork:** Iron tools—including a file and knife blades—and metal lumps are being carefully lifted and cleaned.

Kindly sponsored by the Roman Army Museum



Hidden History



ROMAN ARMY SUMMER: Train. Explore. Discover.

At the Roman Army Museum:

Packed with opportunities to experience life on Rome's frontier - young recruits can put their skills to the test at Roman Soldier School, while Have-a-Go Archery sessions offer the chance to follow in the footsteps of the Hamian archers once residents at Magna Fort.

During Meet the Makers, discover the craftsmanship of the Ermine Street Guard and see how they create their authentic armour, clothing and equipment.

At Roman Vindolanda:

In Hands on History meet our experts, handle finds and learn what happens beyond the dig, while Inks & Impressions brings the famous Vindolanda writing tablets to life through interactive activities. One of the season's highlights comes with the return of the Ermine Street Guard, whose spectacular displays, military demonstrations and living history encampment transform Vindolanda into a bustling Roman fort once again.

- Roundhouses: Remains of two new roundhouses have been identified.
- Recent Finds Exhibitions: There are special display cases at the Roman Army Museum and Vindolanda. They exhibit the most recent discoveries, including exceptionally large preserved Roman leather shoes at the Roman Army Museum.

Visit You Tube- Vindolanda Trust for regular updates from the site directors or visit over the summer and meet the Ermine Guard re-enactors, - details in our What's On section page.



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Next Generation

Haltwhistle Academy Celebrates a Spectacular Summer Term of Adventure, Talent, and Community Spirit

It has been an unforgettable, action-packed summer term at Haltwhistle Primary Academy. From outdoor adventures and sporting triumphs to historical reenactments and entrepreneurial success, our pupils have truly shone, making the most of every opportunity.

Adventures Under the Stars and on the Field

The term kicked off with plenty of outdoor excitement. Our Year 3 and Year 6 children experienced a thrilling one-night residential right here on our school grounds at our unique on-site campsite, 'Sleeping Under the Stars'. The young adventurers were treated to a fantastic archery workshop delivered by Talkin' Tarn Adventures, alongside an array of team-building games and scenic walks in the local area. The unforgettable experience was capped off in classic style - toasting marshmallows and sharing stories around a roaring campfire.

Our sporting calendar was equally packed and successful. Athletics took centre stage as 10 of our talented pupils qualified to represent the Tyne Valley at the prestigious Year 4 Quad Kids County Finals at Ponteland High School, showcasing incredible determination. Back home, the school spirit was palpable during our annual Sports Day, where families gathered in droves to cheer on the children through a variety of athletic challenges. The excitement continued at the Haltwhistle Swimming & Leisure Centre, which hosted our annual swimming gala. The atmosphere was electric as parents cheered their children on across the pool.



Next Generation

Spotlight on Talent and Living History

The arts and culture also took pride of place this term. After highly competitive auditions, four of our exceptionally talented pupils were chosen to represent the academy at the trust-wide celebration of talent, WISE Performs. Held at the impressive venue, The Fed in Gateshead, our pupils performed a captivating Irish collaborative dance, completely mesmerising a packed theatre audience.

History truly came to life in the local area thanks to a captivating visit from the Haltwhistle History Group. They treated the children to a thrilling Anglo-Saxon and Viking reenactment, complete with authentic costumes and storytelling, sparking a wave of historical curiosity.



Budding Entrepreneurs and Community Connections

Haltwhistle Primary Academy is proud of its deep roots in the local community, which were further strengthened this term through a fantastic enterprise initiative. Supported by the Haltwhistle Chamber of Trade and local business 'Northumberland Honey', our children engaged in a long-term entrepreneur project. The innovative pupils designed and developed their own carnival stalls, putting their business skills to the test to raise money at the vibrant local Haltwhistle Carnival.

Fond Farewells and Looking Ahead

As this incredibly busy and rewarding term draws to a close, the entire school community is reflecting on everything our pupils have achieved. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all of our families for their continued, unwavering support throughout the year. Finally, we send our very best wishes to our wonderful Year 6 leavers as they prepare to take the next big step on their learning journeys into Year 7. You have made us all incredibly proud, and we know you will continue to achieve great things!

Next Generation

Turn up the volume on reading this summer!

This summer, The Reading Agency invites children to discover the joy of reading through Read to the Beat! — the music-themed Summer Reading Challenge 2026.

With a fantastic collection of books inspired by music from around the world, children can explore stories, poetry, graphic novels, and non-fiction for all reading levels. Best of all, books are FREE to borrow from Haltwhistle library. The library will also be hosting a series of music themed drop-in activities for families during the summer holidays which are also FREE and open to all.

As part of the National Year of Reading, libraries are encouraging families to make reading part of their summer adventures. Children can sign up at the library, set their reading goals, and enjoy rewards along the way.



The Challenge launches on Saturday 4th July - from then until the end of August you can call in to Haltwhistle Library to discover all the activities going on over the summer and sign up for your Challenge pack. Read 6 books, make 3 visits to the library and collect all the reward stickers to complete the Challenge and receive your finishers medal and certificate!

Young & Sweet

Summer activities are for young people in school year 5+. Please contact Ayesha on 07835163927 for more information

Thursday 23rd July - BBQ

Friday 24th July - Pool Party

Monday 27th July - Family trip to South Shields

Friday 7th-9th August - 2 night residential to Lockerbie Manor

Friday 14th August - Blackpool Pleasure Beach

Thursday 20th August - Inflatespace/Tynemouth beach



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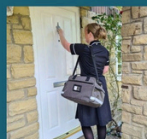
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Sports

Summer is shaping up to be a busy one at Haltwhistle Swimming & Leisure Centre, with two popular events returning for local residents to enjoy.

Back by popular demand, Midnight Swim returns on Saturday 11th July from 11pm until 12.30am. This unique late-night event gives swimmers the chance to enjoy the outdoor pool under the stars in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Whether you're looking for a different way to spend a summer evening, catch up with friends, or simply enjoy the peaceful setting of an evening swim, Midnight Swim offers something a little special.



After your swim, you can warm up with a complimentary hot drink or glass of fizz while taking in the atmosphere. The event has proved popular in previous years, so spaces are limited and advance booking at reception is recommended. Tickets are priced at £6 for members and £10 for non-members.

MIDNIGHT SWIM
SATURDAY 11TH JULY
11PM - 12.30AM

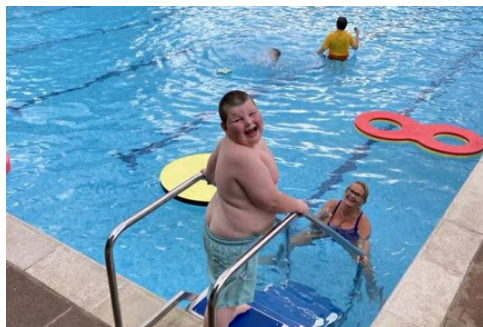
JOIN US FOR A RELAXING SWIM UNDER THE STARS. TAKE IN THE ATMOSPHERE, THEN UNWIND AFTWARDS WITH A COMPLIMENTARY HOT DRINK OR A GLASS OF FIZZ.

SPACES ARE LIMITED, SO BOOK YOUR PLACE AT RECEPTION.

£6 MEMBER - £10 NON-MEMBER

Sports

Also returning this summer are the SEND Family Swim Sessions, funded by the Haltwhistle Community Shop. These sessions have been designed specifically for swimmers with additional needs and/or disabilities and their families, providing a welcoming, inclusive and supportive environment where everyone can enjoy the pool together. By significantly reducing the number of swimmers attending each session, families can enjoy a calmer experience with more space, less noise and fewer distractions, helping everyone feel comfortable and confident in the water.



The sessions are an opportunity for families to have fun together, build water confidence and enjoy all the benefits of swimming in a setting tailored to their needs. They have been well received by local families and continue to provide an important opportunity for accessible recreation within the community.

This year's SEND Family Swim Sessions will take place on Thursday 23rd July, Thursday 30th July, Thursday 13th August and Thursday 20th August. Anyone interested in attending or finding out more is encouraged to get in touch with the leisure centre team.

For more information on either event, to book a place on Midnight Swim, or to register interest in the SEND Family Swim Sessions, please contact the team at reception@haltwhistleleisure.co.uk or visit reception at Haltwhistle Swimming & Leisure Centre.

SEND family swim sessions are back!

Thursday 23th July
Thursday 30th July
Thursday 13th August
Thursday 20th August

These sessions are aimed at swimmers with additional needs and/or disabilities and their families.

There will be a dramatically reduced capacity for this session for swimmer comfort and enjoyment

For more info and registrations please email us at reception@haltwhistleleisure.co.uk

funded by
Haltwhistle community shop

CLINIC BASED PHYSIO

We offer multiple services in our Hexham based clinic. Our therapists are all CSP, HCPC registered and DBS checked.

- ✓ Physiotherapy
- ✓ Pre and Post op Rehabilitation
- ✓ Access to Private MRI
- ✓ Access to Private Consultants
- ✓ Acupuncture
- ✓ Shockwave Therapy

📞 07833494268 🌐 www.insynctherapy.co.uk



wannop

DEVELOPMENTS & BUILDERS

Give us a call today to see how we can help! For all enquiries, quotations or information contact us on:

T: 01228 670311 M: 07747 897166 E: info@wannopltd.co.uk

Address: Esk Quarry, Sandpit Number 2, Faugh, Carlisle, England, CA8 9EG

Directory

HEALTH

Hexham General Hospital	01434 606161
War Memorial Hospital	01434 362200
Haltwhistle Health Centre	01434 320077
Cumbria Infirmary	01228 523444
Haltwhistle Dental Health	01434 322300
Geoff Steven and Sons Opticians	01434 322217
Anne Watson Podiatrist	01434 322723

SERVICES

Police	0345 6043043
Library & Tourist Information	01434 321863
Capontree Veterinary Centre	01434 320705
Co-op Funeral Director	01434 321755
Ian Blair Funeral Director	01434 322400
Northumberland Communities Together	01670 620015
Haltwhistle Family Hub	01434 321761
Cartmell Shepherd Solicitors	01434 320362

SCHOOLS

Haltwhistle Academy	01434 320467
Haydon Bridge High School	01434 684422
Henshaw C of E Primary	01434 344324
Greenhead C of E Primary	01697 747347
Gilsland C of E Primary	01697 747302

LEISURE

Haltwhistle Golf Club	01697 747367
Haltwhistle Leisure Club	01434 320727

HELP LINES

Victim Support	0300 3033 797
Childline Counselling	0800 11 11
Samaritan's Freephone	116 123
Farm Community Network	07002 32632
OneCall	01670 536400

PICTURE OF THE MONTH



Memories of Haltwhistle and the local area

Share your old pictures and photos of life in or around Haltwhistle pre 1980 to haltwhistleherald@gmail.com, or drop them off in an envelope addressed to the Herald at the library - don't forget to include your name, and address if you would like them returned.