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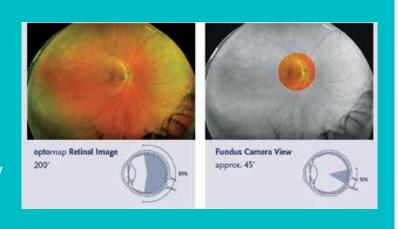


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EDITOR

Welcome to issue 82, what a jam-packed edition it is!

We've got our biggest ever competition below, as well as a £50 gift voucher for North Acomb Farm on page 53. There's a fresh set of puzzles in our festive coffee break and another chance to win a £5 Costa voucher. There are fabulous articles from our dedicated contributors, including a heartfelt message from Katie Pharoah and a new piece from award-winning

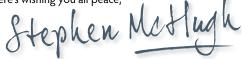
Special mentions go out to St Oswald's Christmas market and the return of Radio Prudhoe, opposite.

As we head into the winter, it's important to look out for one another and lend a helpful hand to those in need.

Until the next issue, here's wishing you all peace,

love and community this Christmas.

Stephen and the Tyne Valley Team.



Tel: Stephen: 07884 340 451

Email: stephen@tynevalleyexpress.co.uk The Lodge, Bays Leap Farm, Heddon on the Wall, Northumberland, NE15 0JW.



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Good luck everyone.



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...in BLAYDON & WINLATON

If you run a local group, club or a non-profit organisation, we'll include it in our What's On diary completely free. Visit: www.tynevalleyexpress.co.uk/whats-on/

ST ANNE'S RC CHURCH

St. Anne's Sunday Mass 9.00am. For enquiries please email or contact 0191 4142654

Place: St Anne's RC Church Organiser: Adrian Tuckwell st.annewinlatonrc@gmail.com

ST PAUL'S CHURCH

Holy Communion and All-age Family Communion services continue, albeit under covid restrictions. Please contact us for further details. Place: St Paul's Church

Organiser: The Reverend Alison Stewart Smith. 01914529381,

rev.alisonstewartsmith@gmail.com

ST PAUL'S CHURCH HALL

We have a beautiful, fully refurbished Church Hall available for all manner of parties and celebrations. For further details and to book please get in touch Place: St Paul's Church Hall Organiser: Anne Readshaw 01914145061

CHARITY CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Enjoy our magical Christmas Tree Festival raising money for local charities. 9th-11th December: Friday 6.30pm opening event, Saturday 10-4pm entertainment and refreshments, Sunday 12-4pm open, Brass band Carol service 4pm. All welcome. Place: St Cuthbert's Church, Blaydon Organiser: Revd Diane Ryan rev_dianeryan@btinternet.com

ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH

Service of Holy Communion at 10.15am every Sunday. A warm welcome and refreshments afterwards. Lite Bite cafe Thursdays 11.15-12.45. Contact us with enquiries about weddings, christenings, prayer for loved ones and deepening faith in God.

Place: St Cuthbert's Church, Blaydon Organiser: Revd Diane Ryan rev_dianeryan@btinternet.com

ST CUTHBERT'S COMMUNITY HALL St Cuthbert's Community Hall, Blaydon

- large hall now taking bookings for regular or one-off events. Place: St Cuthbert's Community Hall Organiser: Chris blaydonstcuthbert@gmail.com

ST IOSEPH'S RC CHURCH

St. Joseph's Sunday Mass at 11.00am. For enquiries please email or contact 0191 4142654

Place: St Joseph's RC Church, Blaydon Organiser: Adrian Tuckwell st.annewinlatonrc@gmail.com

WINLATON LOCAL HISTORY

We meet 2d Tuesday monthly from September to May at Winlaton West End Club, West Lane, Winlaton NE21 6 PQ at 7.30pm. New members and guests always welcome. Full programme on our website www. winlatonlocalhistorysociety.org.uk Place: West End Club Organiser: Susan Lynn winlatonhistorysociety@yahoo.com

LIBRARIES, ARTS AND HERITAGE IN **GATESHEAD**

We are pleased to release a full programme of events taking place across Gateshead Libraries Arts and Heritage. Book events online at gatesheadlibraries.eventbrite.com or visit your local library. Place: Blaydon Library Organiser: Lynne Corder LynneCorder@Gateshead.Gov.Uk

BLAYDON CARPET BOWLS

Meets every Wednesday from 1-3pm in St Cuthbert's church hall, Blaydon. Only £2 per session with free tea/ coffee and biscuit. No experience needed. We would love some new players. Friendly people/friendly game. Place: St Cuthbert's church hall Organiser: Sandra Thain 07949265987

ART DIAMONDS

An arts project for people of retirement age in Gateshead. No charge to join this friendly group led by Gateshead Libraries, Arts & Heritage. Activities are suitable for beginners, so if you're feeling arty, join our party.

Place: Gateshead Libraries (activities currently delivered remotely but workshops hopefully restarting later this year)

Organiser: Colleen Dewing colleendewing@gateshead.gov.uk

WINLATON EVANGELICAL

Sunday Worship Service: 10:30am. Bible Study & Prayer Meeting: Tuesday 1.00pm. All warmly welcome.
Place: Next to Public Library NE21 6AS Organiser: Winlaton Evangelical Church

winlatonevch@talktalk.net

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH

Worship every Sunday 10.45am everyone welcome. Monday needle craft 12.45-2.45pm. Tuesday 7.30pm Irish set dancing. Wednesday craft club 10-12/1-3pm. Cafe church 3rd Sunday month. Coffee morning 1st Sat month. Place: Lucy Street, Blaydon Rev Dave Charter. 0191 460 6411

WINLATON PARKHEAD ESTATE **GARDENS ASSOCIATION**

Shop open every Saturday and Sunday 10am – 12 noon providing gardening essentials at affordable prices. Place: Winlaton Parkhead Estate Organiser: Frank & Pat Smith 01914144337

WINLATON MILL VILLAGE HALL Monday - Yoga 6-7, Tuesday - Chair Yoga 10.15 - 11.30, Karate 5.30 - 7.30, Thursday - Playgroup 10 - 11.30 Singing Group 7.30 – 10, Friday - Folk Group 7.30 – 10, Saturday - Coffee morning 10.30 - 11.30 Place: Winlaton Mill Village Hall Organiser: Dawn info@winlatonmillvillagehall.com

NORTHERN TASKFORCE

We meet Tuesday to Thursday at Swalwell Visitors Centre. We're a small team who help protect local nature reserves (Shibdon Pond, Milkwellburn Woods, Cross Lane Meadows etc) including installing fencing and gates, removing invasive species, coppicing trees and littler picking. Place: Swalwell Visitors Centre Organiser: Chris northern@durhamwt.co.uk

KALMA LIFE

Kalma Life Baby/Toddler yoga classes are childrens' first movements to a foundation of wellness devoted to aiding baby's development in a safe and stimulating environment. Sessions are fun and stimulating using yoga inspired stretches, sensory, song and rhyme.

Place: Trinity Church Blaydon Organiser: Émma Bell www.kalmalifeuk.co.uk/gatesheadwest

WINLATON CAMERA CLUB

During summer months we meet each Tuesday 7pm and set off for local photo shoots around the North East. If you would like to come along either meet us in the car park or drop us an email: graemesnowball73@gmail.com Place: Winlaton New West End Club Organiser: Graeme and Lesley 07552 616909

CHAIR BASED YOGA

Chair based yoga classes, seated practice and standing practice using chair for support in balances. Fridays 10-11am only £3.50 per class. Place: Winlaton Community Centre Rose Romani: 07515107774

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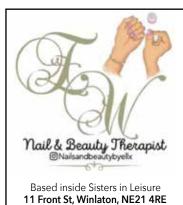
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- **Companionship Services -** This service can be from a few hours to a full day of shopping, attending you to appointments. Having a cuppa and a chat to playing games and completing cross words. Or having your hair washed
- you to appointments ie hospital appointments, doctors we can accompany you and take notes to pass on to family or just for your records.
- Breakfast, lunch, tea calls These calls are based on a comfort call to make sure all is well, make breakfast or a sandwich up for lunch. Lunch we can make you a fresh meal and make a sandwich up for tea. Tea call, again make you a fresh meal or heat a microwave meal up.
- Bed calls This call is based on a comfort call, make sure things are all good and support to lock up and make sure you have everything needed until the next morning. Companionship and reassurance.
- **Shopping services -** We can take you out shopping, or we can go and get your shopping and support you to put away.
- Respite services We are here to support family members if they need a break for a few hours or even a full day visit. Our aim is for you to go and do the things you need to do without the worry that your loved one has no support. We encourage engagement with activity packs that include games, cards, dominoes, colouring books if that would be of interest. All our activities are there to engage and boost brain activity.
- **Domestic services -** We offer basic domestic cleaning for our clients. Hoovering, polishing, cleaning of kitchens and bathrooms. Support with laundry services.
- Learning disabilities/ Independent living services We offer enabling services to support clients to live independently, shopping, cinema, preparing food and many more activities to suit.
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With Britain being chucked from the frying pan straight into the fire, the costof-living crisis is on most people's minds this winter. October brings with it the most recent hike in energy prices, and in the months beyond we have plunging temperatures and Christmas to think about. Back in February debt Charity StepChange said that 'cost of living pressures' entered the top five reasons for debt amongst their clients and it's stayed there ever since.

This winter we'll all be turning to tips and tricks to try and save money. Even with budgeting, some people will be feeling the pinch, and that anxiety will add to the mental health crisis that we are already facing.

This World Mental Health Day – which was on October 10th – I focussed on key issues that may be caused by the cost-of-living crisis and how we could tackle them.

Anxiety over money

The foremost issue is perhaps the simplest – worrying over affording necessities. Many people are already aware of food banks. Charities such as Northeast Homeless and Feeding Families are also available for those in need – Northeast Homeless also run their Christmas Meal for the vulnerable at Central Station again this year. Still, there are similar kinds of support in our communities that run school uniform banks and toy libraries, where second-hand items are available for people who need them. Gateshead West Pre-loved School Uniform Scheme is one such charity, who also supply all kinds of clothes. Your local library is also an excellent place to look for community resources; many also offer activities for families. In addition, ASDA recently announced a £1 meal deal in their cafés for the over 60s throughout November and December.

And remember there is no shame in buying second hand or thrifted items.

Some pubs across Northumberland – The Olde Ship, The Percy Arms and The Anglers Arms to name a few – have begun initiatives to help. Including stocking up on firewood to provide warm spaces. Each pub has also introduced a booksharing library and will be offering free hot drinks to anyone who donates a book to it. Visitors will be welcome to stay as long as they would like with no obligation to buy food or drink. The Anglers Arms, north of Morpeth, will be giving free soup to those aged 60 and over between the hours of 12noon and 4pm. And Thermos flasks and hot water bottles can be filled up free of charge upon request.

Combatting Loneliness

Loneliness is that unwelcome feeling of lack of companionship and this can occur for a multitude of reasons. Whilst it is associated with social isolation, people can and do feel lonely even if they are in a crowded room. It occurs when we have a mismatch between the quality and quantity of social relationships that we have and those that we want.

We combat it with one conversation and one act at a time. We check in on

those around us, pop round for a cuppa and ensure that people know that we are welcome to chat with them if need be. Simple things you can do are trying to stimulate your mind and do activities that you enjoy. Small activities can give you energy and positive feelings. One thing I like to do is simply go for a walk, plug in music or an audiobook and just walk any feelings off. Whilst this may get more difficult with the changing weather, it's also uplifting to see new scenery and have that physical activity. Nature has a calming effect on us - in

Japan there is an act called 'forest bathing' where going to a forest or wood and experiencing all the different scents and sights have a healing affect.

Taking care of yourself is also essential. We need to check our own relationship balance just as much as our bank balances and think about whether we've got the connections we need to keep going. Is there anything you can do to maintain the connections you already have? Can you strengthen them or build new ones to have that feeling of companionship?

Staying Positive

It is easy to stay pessimistic, especially during bleak times. But to aid in mental health struggles the key is to look for the silver linings. Or to sing it, 'always look on the bright side of life'. Turn off the news and take a deep breath. Reassess your feelings and know that whatever you're feeling isn't permanent, even if it feels like it is.

Helping Others

This year's theme for World Mental Health Day is making mental wellbeing for all a global priority.

If you can help, then there are opportunities to do so. As aforementioned, helping others can be free by just offering your companionship and friendship to other's. Talking out your problems can help you break worries down and make it easier to find solutions. Lend a listening ear or a helpful hand to those who need it – maybe you have extra clothes or food that you could give away. Being kind costs absolutely nothing.

It is also important to not pass judgement. For example, alcoholism and drug use is on the rise as some people use that as an escape from issues. Instead of passing judgement, let them know that help is available, either by assisting them personally or by going through mental health and addiction services. If you are in the position to help out financially then various charities and services are there. Donations go a long way to keep those charities going, either in physical money or by donating items to contribute to their cause.

In summary, these coming months are going to be tough, but it's important to keep track of your mental health alongside that. On a personal perspective take care of yourself and your wellbeing by understanding your feelings and taking measures to tackle them. Remember not to take life too seriously and remember the fun you can have despite these bleak times. Also remember that you are not alone in this and together we will get through it.



Pharoah

Katie Pharoah Writer for Tyne Valley Express katie@tynevalleyexpress.co.uk



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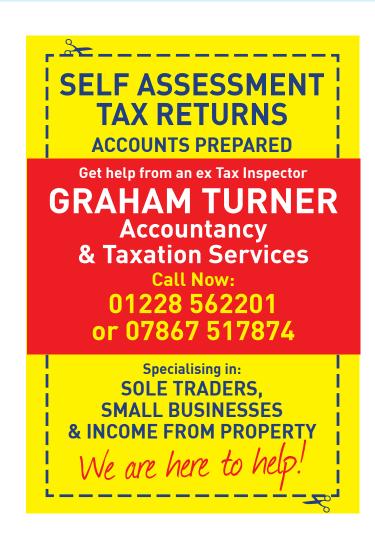
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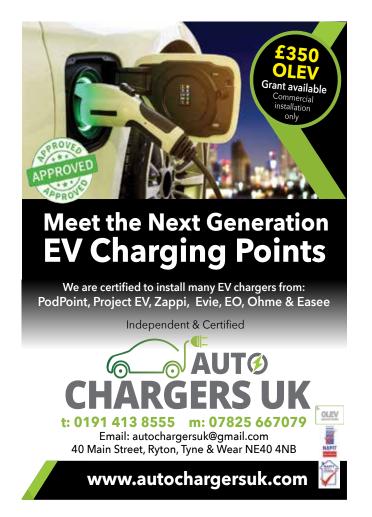
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Bronze Package - £2550

A cremation service including third party costs (doctor's fee, cremation fee, minister or non religious celebrant fee and professional services). Hearse only and no limousines. Options of coffin include The Morpeth (light oak) or The Arran (dark oak).

Silver Package - £2795

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Gold Package - £3150

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...in RYTON & CLARA VALE

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RYTON METHODIST CHURCH

SUNDAY MORNING 10.15am.
Contemporary service with children's group followed by Coffee. MONDAY EVENING Girl's Brigade. WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON Ladies Fellowship meeting with guest speakers.
SATURDAY MORNING 10am – 12pm.
2nd Saturday of the month only.
Coffee and cake, raising funds.
Place: Ryton Methodist Church
Rev. Dave Charter. 0191 4606411

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

SUNDAY 10.30 am Holy Communion, SUNDAY 10.30 am Young Church held in Church Hall, Ryton Village, THURSDAY 10.00 am Holy Communion. Please check Holy Cross Website for further information. Place: Holy Cross Church Organiser: Rev. Alison Stewart Smith Contact: 01914529381

HOLY CROSS CHURCH HALL

Thinking of holding party or celebration, this may be the perfect

venue for you. Church Hall has COVID-19 measures in place. For further details please telephone us using the details provided. Place: Holy Cross Church Organiser: Sue: 01914135233

U3A RYTON

Due to circumstances beyond our control we have had to wind up Ryton u3a with effect from 31/3/2022 Place: Barmoor Hub

Organiser: Christine Knox Contact: christine.knox@talktalk.net

RYTON OUTDOOR BOWLING
Home to the Towers, Vets and
Women's Clubs. Based in Ferndene
Park, Ryton. Come and join us either
for pleasure on most afternoons
or Sunday (am) or in Competitions
throughout the Summer.
Place: Ferndene Park
Colin Diball. Contact: 01914133872

MEN'S SHED RYTON

Carving out companionship, good old-fashioned conversation in a wi-fi

free environment. Meetings every Tuesday and Thursday 10-3, opposite rugby club. Place: Ryton First Scouts Organiser: Dave.

rytonmensshed@proton.me GARDEN, GATHER & NATTER

We welcome people of all ages and abilities to come and get involved in this wonderful green space.
Wednesday mornings from 9:30 (weather permitting!). For more immediate information on events, you can find us at facebook.com/ferndeneparkryton
Place: Fernedene Park, Ryton.

Place: Fernedene Park, Ryton.
Organiser: Friends Of Ferndene Park
friendsofferndene@outlook.com

STARGATE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Monday and Tuesdays Darby & Joan bingo 1.00 to 3.00. Tuesday hybrid kickboxing and fitness 4.30pm to 5.30. Wednesday stargazers toddler group 9.30 to 11.00. Thursday yoga 2.00 to 3.00. Thursday 6.00 to 7.00 Ryton singers.

Place: Stargate community centre Fiona Todd. Fiona.todd33@gmail.com CLARA VALE VILLAGE HALL & BUSINESS CENTRE

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Otis, my cat is a cruel mistress. Often, I wonder if she overhears my grumbles that the fridge is empty again and this is one of the reasons she presents me daily with a couple of shrews (often in shoes) and on special occasions, like summer solstice, a bat. Imagine that. Strategically placed at the side of my bed ensuring when I arose for sunrise to welcome in the longest lightest day, my first step was upon a symbol of death. Poetic that.

'There's evil in the air and there's thunder in the sky,

And a killer's on the bloodshot streets.'

Bare toes and dead bats at dawn might to most of felt like a "bad omen," but I couldn't help but get curious about such a symbol. Why are we so quick to demonise the dark and distract ourselves from depth? We'd sooner socially scroll ourselves to spiritual death than face our own shadow nature, or that sobering fact, one day we will physically die.

Otis is many things, and a zen master might just also be one of them for her gift on summer solstice presented a timely, tangible, synchronistic reminder of the nature of duality. For within each pristine white light lives a speck of darkness and inside the bleakest winter a beam of hope, it's a tightrope we walk, the yin and yang. That bat was about integration.

But when the day is done and the sun goes down,

And the moonlights shining through.'

The spirit world communicates with us through symbols so when Otis deposited a baby mole mortally wounded, I was poised for the pearl. All I could muster were a few soft words shielding his tiny body. What happened next took me quite by surprise! A sphere of light popped out of his side whilst white smoke spiralled from his back, twenty seconds later the jerking ceased, and the mole was dead. This creature no more than the size of half my little finger had thee brightest light dance from his body, his soul was free. Imagine what exists in us.

'Oh, baby, you're the only thing in this whole world

That's pure and good and right.

Have you *ever* held anyone as they transition from matter to spirit? Grateful was I to experience such a thing through my first feline Jemimah whose passing in the early hours was so brutal and quick all I could do was hold her through the violence of it all. After she gasped her last a large rectangle of orange, red and white at least five times the size of her somewhat small yet plump body lifted through us both. There was even a distinct sound to the process, a vacuum. WHOOOOSH.

'But I gotta get out, I gotta break it now, Before the final crackle of dawn.'

At the time of writing the world heard the news Queen Elizabeth II exited the earth school leaving her son Charles to be our new sovereign ruler. Don't get me wrong I LOVE the pomp of it all (especially the songs) and although I'll always 'vow to thee my country,' I soon sobered up when I thought about what the word sovereign actually means; 'to possess a supreme and ultimate power.' Read that again. Now recall footage the 74-year-old man who threw a tantrum over an ink well whilst signing the proclamation never mind the loss of temper over a leaky pen days later in

"Nothing ever grows in this rotten roll hole And everything is stunted and lost."

Sovereignty isn't a concept that is based around external, expensive demonstrations of pageantry and palaces by those with titles and wealth. What I am alluding to carries a very different kind of currency. It's the type the really begins to accumulate when we understand we are both the created and creator. To rediscover yourself anew will plunge you into the unknown but we pay a far greater price when we give our sovereignty, our power away to external sources for the sake of convenience and comfort.

'And nothing really rocks and nothing really rolls And nothing is ever worth the cost.'

To be sovereign *means* to live in a 'self-governing state', so let's unpack what that could mean. When we live in a state that is self-governed (and I don't mean geographically) we live in accordance with our own truth and integrity and, yes ironically that is the royal 'we.' This new 'state of being,' one in which your actions and intentions are inwardly driven is directed by your souls own unique song. The alternative: hijacked by a culture which continues to hold our attention captive with bright lights and big tech. Distraction is the basis of the current human condition.

'And my skin is raw, but my soul is ripe,

No one is gonna to stop me now,

I'm gonna to make my escape.'

On the whole *humans* are a loving and collaborative bunch of beings and the vast majority want to live in harmony so why do we continue to outsource our lives to outdated, corrupt and criminal systems? Centuries ago, Demonax the Cynic said this: Probley all laws are useless; for good men do not need laws at all and bad men are made no better by them.

I don't pretend to have the answer just curiosities about new ways of being and breathing. Although there is still one question that keeps me somewhat seemingly baffled by the sheer and bizarre logistics of it all! 'How on earth does a cat even catch a bat anyways?!' Cruel mistress, mole slayer, zen master and perhaps.. ninja?

'And I think somebody somewhere must be tolling a bell.'



Lyrics from Bat out of Hell By Jim Steinman

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Place: Crawcrook

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Many of you have of course been aware of the crisis in the UK government bond market following Chancellor Kwasi Kwarteng's recent minibudget, in which more tax cuts and government spending were promised. The UK government bond market or Gilt market, is the market in which the government taps investors worldwide for funds and in exchange, investors receive a bond with a promise of interest payments every six months with repayment of the full principal at the end of the term. Many will say that Kwarteng's mini budget was the reason behind the crisis as the price of Gilts crashed and yields spiked massively. My argument will be that this crisis had been brewing for decades and that the mini budget was the straw that broke the camel's back.

Let us look at what it means when Gilt prices crash and yields rise. When

HM treasury needs to borrow £1 billion it will go into what is called the primary market and issue a bond or Gilt at auction, and investors will offer to pay a certain interest or coupon. The secondary market is the market in which the Gilts trade amongst investors after an auction, so when prices start dropping precipitously and yields start rising, it means investors require more interest for holding Gilts. There are a few reasons why this might happen - The first one is a rise in inflation like we have seen recently to around 10%. For most of 2021 the 10-year Gilt yield was below 1% while inflation as measured by the CPI ran at 5.4%. So why would any sane investor accept a 1% interest payment from HM Treasury when the currency is being debased at a rate of 5.4%? Probably because investors thought the Bank of England and the government would sort their affairs and control inflation and fiscal spending. The other reason investors might want to sell Gilts in the secondary market is if they are for foreigners whose currencies are rapidly appreciating versus the British pound.

So why have things suddenly gone from a relatively stable Gilt market at the end of 2021 to total chaos in 2022? I would say that the underlying reasons are the inflation situation and the fiscal profligacy of the UK government ever since the 2008 crisis. Sure, the breakout of the war in Ukraine in February this year helped push energy prices higher, but they were already rising prior to 2022 and as we saw above, inflation was already pushing above 5%. The Bank of England held off raising interest rates from almost zero (stayed below 1% since 2009) up until the end of the year, despite about half a trillion pounds of Quantitative Easing (QE) during the pandemic and all the government spending during the same period. I warned you of this through my articles here that QE or money printing out of thin air would lead to higher prices, but the mandarins of Threadneedle Street thought money printing was not inflation!

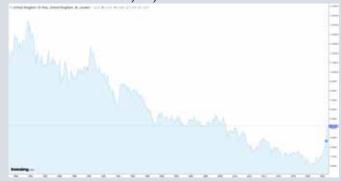
The Bank of England continued to raise rates this year but not nearly enough to keep pace with double digit price rises. Their excuse was that inflation was being pushed up by Putin and his war on Ukraine, so the Gilt market was not too concerned but the 10-year Gilt yield went from around 1% in the beginning of the year, to around 2.75% by June. Investors still seemed to be giving the Bank of England the benefit of doubt despite CPI escalating to 12.7% annual rate in June! Don't forget even with CPI running at 9.9% in August the Bank of England base rate was still below 2% at 1.75%, so foreign investors also started selling the currency - and that is why the rout in Gilts in late September corresponded to an all-time low for the pound of around \$1.03 late on Sunday night of September 25th. The mini budget on the 23rd and the £150 billion energy package announced a couple of weeks before did not help investors' confidence in the currency nor Gilts either.

The turmoil in the Gilt and currency markets meant the 10-year Gilt yield rapidly rose to around 4.75% by the end of September. This led to chaos in the defined benefit pension industry, the mortgage market and potentially

a lot of other sectors of the economy that we will probably find out about in the coming weeks and months. The reason mortgages and all other borrowing rates in the economy have been affected is that Gilt yields or what the government needs to pay to borrow, is the benchmark for all other rates and they follow the Gilt yields either up or down. The Bank of England had to come out in late September and announce £65 billion to stop a total meltdown of the UK financial system even though they were supposed to be doing the opposite which is QT (Quantitative Tightening) or selling Gilts from their balance sheet. The Gilt market and the currency have stabilised for now and the Bank states the temporary QE ended on October 14, but I am not too sure we are out of the woods yet.

My conclusion is that we have had a period of 40 years in which interest rates have been falling despite a huge build up in credit and debt. It has generally been a period where most including governments, corporations and households have been able to easily buy now and pay later with no regard to tomorrow as asset prices like houses, stocks and bonds kept going up. Inflation had, up until recently, been fairly much under control, if you think 3% inflation is a good thing. There is an old saying that all good things eventually come to an end and this case my view is that we will face a new world in the coming decade plus and that will be a world in which working producing, saving and then spend a little of what is left after expenses will become the norm. Maybe it will be a good thing to move away from a world of instant gratification and heavy debt loads? After 40 years of easy money, it is time to pay the piper.

The chart of the UK Gilt 10-year yield since 1980





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Place: Heddon Methodist Church

Place: Heddon Methodist Church Organiser: Rev Colin Barrick minister@heddonmethodists.org.uk HORSLEY BOOK CLUB

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Organiser: Ann Allsopp. 01661820568 HEDDON LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

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www.heddonhistory.weebly.com Place: Heddon Methodist Church Organiser: Andy Curtis. 01661853095

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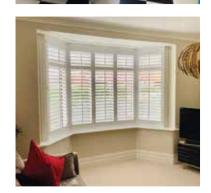
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As well as repairs, we also provide a cheaper and faster alternative when it comes to updating your home and car's interior - we can re-upholster and re-trim leather and fabric furniture, or even carry out a complete colour change.

Re-trimming is available for both classic and modern cars. As leather specialists, we can custom match panels and seats to blend in with the rest of the leather, rather than re-trimming the full interior. This option saves you a lot of time and money, and will help retain the authenticity of a classic car.

In addition, French polishers are able to clean, repair and carry out full restorations to any wooden items.

As industry experts, Furniture Clinic serve many large national business needs, such as hotel and restaurant chains. Their diverse and respected client base means that you can feel confident knowing Furniture Clinic is the right company for you.

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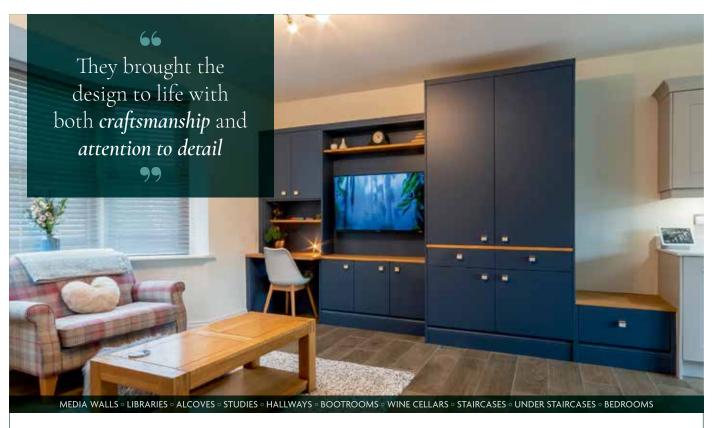
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It is to Sir Walter Calverley Blackett (1707-77) that we owe much of Wallington as we know it today.

Sir Walter oversaw the first and biggest phase of tree planting at Wallington, creating the East and West woods and extensively redesigning the gardens and grounds with the introduction of pleasure grounds and the digging of water courses and ponds.

From the 1850's the Trevelyan family planted the latest 'must have' trees. These were mainly exotic conifers discovered in the New World. As a result, Wallington has trees from all around the world. George Otto Trevelyan (1838 – 1928) started The Wallington Book of Trees in 1891, which recorded the planting dates, girth, height and position of more than 300 trees. The recording was continued by his daughter-in-law, Lady Mary Trevelyan, and his granddaughter Pauline Dower. We still depend upon this book to find out details about the trees on the Wallington estate.

After the Storm

Storm Arwen devastated Wallington's tree population in November 2021. Winds of up to 98mph tore through the region and devastated 40 hectares of trees across the 20-square-mile Wallington estate. Among those lost were a 250-year-old oak, beech trees planted by Sir Walter Calverley Blackett in the 1800s and what was the only surviving larch tree from five given to the estate in 1738 by the Duke of Atholl. As well as these notable individual losses, whole, large woodland blocks were also razed to the ground.

With support from iconic British brand Barbour, who generously donated funds to a group of Northeast National Trust properties to help repair and rebuild after the storms of 2021, we are continuing this winter to make steps towards recovery with the planting of a whole new broadleaf woodland at Wallington. Visitors, staff and volunteers are planting 8,500 native broadleaf trees along with Barbour employees this coming winter, close to the Dragon cycle trail. This will, in time, become a woodland supporting wildlife and serving as a reminder of not only what was lost, but importantly, the opportunities gained from the impact of the storm.

As well as this woodland creation project, thanks to Barbour two lasting monuments have been created from trees felled by the Storm. The first memorial carving is Elementree, which tells the story of the weather, carved into a huge oak tree that fell close to the entrance of the East woods. A second tree, an old oak that fell into Garden Pond adjacent to the Walled Garden during the storm, has an 8ft owl carved into the now righted stump. Visitors will be familiar with spotting owls around the house and grounds here as they form part of the Calverley family coat of arms.

Securing the Future

Our challenge for the future is to enhance nature and start to combat the effects of climate change across the most significant historic landscapes in our care.

At the end of 2021, more than 75,000 trees were planted at Wallington thanks to the Green Recovery Challenge Fund to create 12ha of new deciduous woodland, with the ambition to plant 1 million trees over the next 10 years.

Over the next 50 years, we will work with our partners to create rich and healthy spaces for nature, and in doing so, reverse the decline in wildlife and their habitats. We are working to create places where people and nature can thrive together.

If you are keen to get involved with tree planting at Wallington this year, join the public tree planting event on Saturday 3 December from 11am until 2pm. Work alongside Wallington's Rangers and help make a difference. (Normal admission charges apply).

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wallington





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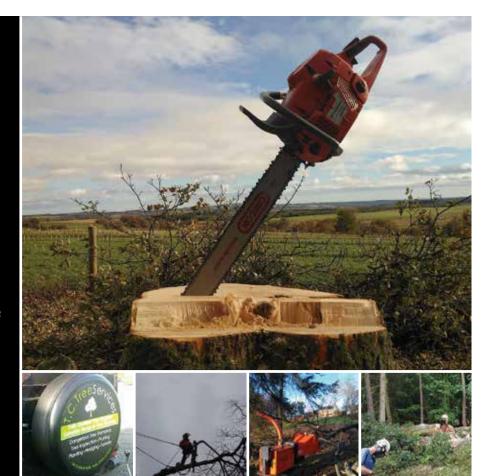
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in WYLAM & OVINGHAM

If you run a local group, club or a non-profit organisation, we'll include it in our What's On diary completely free. Visit: www.tynevalleyexpress.co.uk/whats-on/

WYLAM INSTITUTE

This grand Victorian building has two main halls and various other smaller rooms for hire. With competitive hire charges, why not consider using the Institute for your next birthday party, family gathering or fundraising event. Place: Wylam Institute Organiser: Institute office

Contact: 01661852498

COFFEE MORNING

Wylam Institute Community Association Macmillan Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday 17th September from 10am-noon. Cakes and raffle with coffee and biscuits. etc

Place: Wylam Institute Organiser: Fiona Oomes

Contact: wylaminstitute2@gmail.com

WYLAM METHODIST CHURCH

A warm welcome awaits you. Regular services and activities throughout the week, please get in touch for details. Rooms are also available for hire for meetings /parties etc Place: Chapel Lane, Wylam Organiser: Alan Smart Contact: 01661832717

ST OSWIN'S

Church Services are at 9.30am* Thursday and 8.00am & 10.00am* Sunday (*are currently live streamed). All, including

children, are welcome. Church Hall also available to hire. See https:// stoswinschurchwylam.chessck.co.uk/ Place: Church Road, Wylam Organiser: Rev Tom Birch Contact: wylamst.oswin@hotmail.co.uk

WYLAM CHURCH HALL

Now fully reopened with extended up to date facilities, has its own sheltered private garden and is available for hire. Suitable for most functions including children's parties. The home of Wylam's uniformed organisations. See our website www.stoswinschurchwylam.btck. co.uk for further details. Place: Church Hall, Church Road

Organiser: Helena Bates Contact: 07947116735

WYLAM WOMENS INSTITUTE

Meets every 3rd Tuesday of the month in Wylam Institute at 2 p.m. All Visitors very welcome. For further details, please contact us using the details provided. Place: Wylam Institute Organiser: Eleanor Kirkland

Contact: 01661 854563

PHYSIO-LED PILATES

Physio-led Pilates - small and friendly classes. Tuesday mornings: 9-10am Level 2, 10.10-11.10am Level 1 (suitable for clients with low bone density). 11.20-12.20 Level 1. Please get in touch if you

have any queries or would like to join! Place: Wylam Institute

Organiser: Angela McClintock Contact: pilatesphysio4you@gmail.com LOCALLY GROWN VEGETABLES

Growing and sharing veg across the Tyne Valley. Working with nature, linking with other local producers, a community enterprise for you to join. Check out all the details and sign up at www. golocalfood.org.uk

Place: Ovington & Matfen Organiser: GO Local Food Contact: admin@golocalfood.org.uk

UPLIFTED!

A relaxed opportunity to sing with other women across the Tyne Valley. 2nd & 4th Wednesdays in the month, 8 pm. No need to audition or read music! Lots of different styles of music - something for every woman.

Place: St Mary's Church, Ovingham Organiser: Christine. 01661 832296 **CHRYSALIS CLUB TYNEDALE**

Provides activities, stimulation and social opportunities for people with dementia, carer support, information and counselling. The outreach group for Prudhoe district is held every 1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoon of the month Place: St Oswin's Church Hall, Wylam Organiser: Chrysalis Club

Contact: 07760124539 **EXERCISE CLASSES**

Mondays Pilates 9.30-10.20am (all abilities), Post Natal Exercise Class 10.30-11.20am (Babies welcome). Tuesdays, Strength & Conditioning 7.00-7.50pm, Men's only core & mobility 8.00 -8.50pm. For more information & other zoom classes www.annalittle.co.uk Organiser: Anna Little Place: Wylam Methodist Church Hall Contact: 07747624541

OVINGHAM AND DISTRICT CHOIR

Ovingham and District Choir (Mixed Voice) meets for practice in the Reading Room on Tuesday evenings from 7:45 to 9:30pm. A wide repertoire is sung but the ability to read music is not essential. New members are always welcome. Place: Ovingham Reading Room Organiser: Ian Warburton Contact: ianwarburton25@gmail.com

PILATES & FITNESS

SSFitness, a wealth of knowledge and experience. Classes are based in Ovingham and surrounding areas. Pilates sessions Tues, Wed & Friday in Ovingham. Full timetable is available on www.ssfitnesspt.co.uk or contact Diane on 0783292542

Place: Based in Ovingham Organiser: SSFitness Contact: Diane - 07830292542





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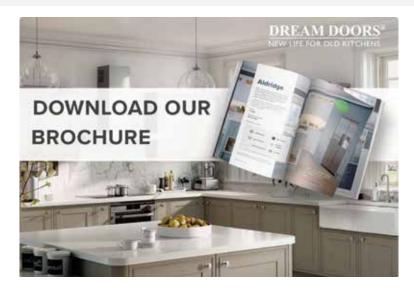


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A guide to Stargazing in Northumberland

After the Northern Lights recently put on a dazzling display in Northumberland's skies, there is no better time to get into astronomy. If you haven't already seen the footage captured by Kielder Observatory, it was shared by the BBC and a number of other outlets, as well as being widely shared on social media. Northumberland is one of the few places in the UK where, if the conditions are right, the rare Aurora Borealis can be spotted.

Northumberland is one of the 572 square miles of Northumberland have been awarded Gold Tier status for their dark skies. This makes up Northumberland's Dark Sky Park which is the largest in the UK and the second largest in the whole of Europe, spanning Northumberland National Park and Kielder Water and Forest Park. So, when autumn falls over the county and the nights become longer and darker, visitors arrive with their binoculars ready for a star-studded show. Here is our guide on where, when and how to stargaze in Northumberland:

NIGHT TIME NOVICES

Kielder Observatory

If you prefer a bit of guidance while you stargaze, everyone from night-timenovices to astronomy experts can head to Kielder Observatory for events that are out of this world. Sitting beneath Northumberland's vast, Gold Tier status International Dark Sky Park, their telescopes sit in concrete pillars for outstanding levels of stability. Some are even computer controlled meaning any visitor can experience the thrill of "driving" a telescope around the skies with just the click of a mouse. From beginners' Introductions to Astronomy to Physics in the Forest and everything in between, there is an event to suit every ability. Visit their events calendar on their website for more info.

Stargaze until you fall asleep at Falstone Barns and PoshHuts. Nestled in the North Tyne valley, close to Kielder Observatory and Kielder Water and Forest Park, it is perfectly located for stargazing.

Battlesteads Observatory

Battlesteads is the only hotel in the country with an on-site observatory and its magical location means that there is just as much to do after the sun sets as there is during the day. Battlesteads Observatory's accessible, public astronomical observatory offers sessions that range from Astronomy for Absolute Beginners to Stargazing and Moonwatch. You can even have a Shooting Star Supper and dine on fresh food from the award-winning hotel that is attached to the observatory while you stargaze. (Tele)scope out your options on their events calendar on their website.

Stargaze until you fall asleep in Battlesteads's cosy accommodation that is just a few steps away from the observatory.

The Twice Brewed Inn

Tucked away in Northumberland National Park, The Twice Brewed Inn isn't just known for its excellent pints and stunning location. The pub has recently taken action to make the most of its situation beneath Northumberland's International Dark Sky Park and now offers stargazing events. With a team of in-house astronomers, you can enjoy an inspiring presentation before heading outdoors for a laser guided tour of the constellations. Purchase their stargazing and supper package and enjoy a delicious meal in the pub before you head out

Stargaze until you fall asleep by booking their stargazing, supper and slumber package and wake up to a hearty Northumbrian breakfast, and Northumberland National Park and Hadrian's Wall on your doorstep.

STRONG, INDEPENDENT STARGAZERS

Dark Sky Discovery Sites

The beauty of Dark Sky Discovery Sites is that you can do some solitary stargazing – all you need is warm clothing and maybe a pair of binoculars if you want to get up close and personal with the night's sky. Dark Sky Discovery Sites are locations that are internationally recognised for their lack of light pollution, clear view of the sky and public access and many of them are scattered across Northumberland National Park. Each one has been awarded special status due to the outstanding quality of its dark skies and given one of two darkness ratings; "Orion" where the seven main stars in the constellation Orion are visible to the naked eye and "Milky Way" sites where the Milky Way is visible to the naked eye. Take a look at the Go Stargazing website where you'll find a map of Northumberland's Dark Sky Discovery Sites that you'd be lost without! Or, click through to Northumberland National Park's list of stargazing spots.

Stargaze until you fall asleep at Breamish Valley Cottages. They list number of stunning self-catering cottages based in the Northumberland Dark Sky Park, conveniently located near Dark Sky Discovery Sites.

Northumberland's Coastline

Head to the coast where the sand is your seat and the sound of crashing waves accompanies your stargazing experience. The dazzling Aurora Borealis, more commonly known as the Northern Lights, have been known to grace the skies above the Northumberland coastline. The dark expanse of sky over the ocean and the limited street lighting along this official Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty means that, even in towns and villages, it is possible to enjoy the darkness of Northumberland's skies. With more than 30 miles of beaches, there are castles on the coast, hidden bays and dramatic, sweeping vistas that make amazing Aurora viewpoints.

Stargaze until you fall asleep at Cherry Tree and Almond Apartments. Boasting five luxury, dog friendly self-catering holiday homes, each one is tailor-made for couples seeking the perfect coastal escape.

WHEN TO STARGAZE

You can stargaze all year round, but the best time is autumn and winter. When temperatures dip, the sky is at its most transparent and the darker nights make these seasons the prime viewing time. That's when the shivering river of stars that is the Milky Way can be spotted overhead.

Now you are fully equipped to discover Northumberland's Dark Sky Park and pristine coastline and reap the rewards of staying out after sunset on the cold nights.



Jenni Meikle
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PRUDHOE INDOOR MARKET

Our monthly indoor markets are held one Saturday a month in Prudhoe Parish Hall. We have lots of fantastic local traders with high quality products. For full details find us on Facebook or at www.chevent.co.uk Place: Prudhoe Parish hall Organiser: CH Event

Contact: contact@chevent.co.uk THE GATE CHURCH

Everyone is welcome at The Gate Church! Sunday Celebration is at 10.30am with a super Children and Youth Church starting a little later. During the week there are activities for various age groups - come along and meet the family!

Place: Swalwell Close, NE42 6EX Organiser: Bert and Margaret Boonstra Contact: thegatepcc@hotmail.co.uk

RENEW WELL-BEING OASIS

Tuesdays from 1.00pm - 3.30pm, Renew Oasis provides a quiet, safe space for adults where it's "OKAY not to be OKAY". There's tea, coffee and cake; hobbies, games, jigsaws and a time of reflection led by the local churches

Place: Tyne Riverside Cafe Lynda Telford. 07766142105

HOT CHOCOLATE - AFTER SCHOOL YOUTH CLUB

Calling all 9yr - 13yrs! Free safe youth club every Wed in term time 3pm - 5pm with Youth For Christ. Banter, Snacks, Games, Activities and Fun. Find out more about living life to the full! All volunteers DBS checked Place: The Gate Church Organiser: Bert and Margaret Boonstra

Contact: 07944118314 GLEEMEN MALE VOICE CHOIR

New members welcome. www. prudhoegleemen.org.uk. We meet 7.15pm every Monday night for our practices. Everyone who would like to join in can just come along. You do not need to read music.

Place: Prudhoe Methodist Chapel Organiser: Members. 01661832162 PRUDHOE GARDENERS

ASSOCIATION

The Prudhoe Gardeners Association manages allotment sites in Prudhoe and supplies members with economically priced inputs from the Hut behind the West Wylam Inn, Saturdays 10-12. For more information email allotmentassociation@hotmail.com or join https://www.facebook.com/groups/prudhoegardenersassociation Place: Prudhoe. Christine Hewitt allotmentassociation@hotmail.com

PRUDHOE LADIES NETBALL CLUB

We meet every Wednesday evening (term time only) between 7pm-9pm. If you want to get fit, have fun and meet new friends, just pop along one week we'd love to welcome you to our club. Place: Prudhoe High School Sports Hall Organiser: Chris. 01661834901

PRUDHOE METHODIST CHURCH

A warm welcome awaits you at morning worship every Sunday at 10.00am. Please consider others and wear a face covering in the building. For more information see our Facebook page Prudhoe Methodist Church Friends or online at Prudhoe Methodist Church. Place: Prudhoe Methodist Church Organiser: Martyn Johnson Contact: Facebook page

BAIRNS & BREWS

Café & Toddler Group at Prudhoe Methodist Church Hall, Thursdays 10-11.30am (termtime). Play-time for the bairns, chill-time for you. £1 per cuppa with free refills. Book your place – 07421018976. Further details from Youth & Families Worker: ruthlindridge@cloud.com Place: Prudhoe Methodist Church Hall Organiser: Ruth Lindridge Contact: peter@thischurch.com

PRUDHOE & DISTRICT U3A

We are a friendly organisation with a wide variety of activities and interests. Our members are from all walks of life and are retired or in part-time work, with different life experiences to share. For further information please visit http://u3asites.org.uk/prudhoe Place: Prudhoe Parish Hall/The

Spetchells. Organiser: Secretary e-mail: margaretbspc@outlook.com SPETCHELLS CONSERVATION

INTEREST GROUP

Help is needed to protect the Spetchell's unique chalk grassland which contains many species of rare butterfly and mining bees. More volunteers are needed to remove invasive plants and carry out surveys of the ecosystem. Please join us! Place: Spetchells, Low Prudhoe Tyne River. Organiser: Keith Shaw Contact: 07962658230

CREATIVE WRITING

These classes will inspire and encourage you to write poetry, fiction and memoir and to share and develop your writing through stimulating workshop sessions in a friendly and supportive group. Thursday afternoons. Try a session for free. Place: Online on Zoom Organiser: Claire Lynn Contact: claire@claire276.plus.com

PRUDHOE GROUND FORCE

Meets every Wednesday morning 9 – 10am at various locations in Prudhoe to litter pick or do other environmental work. Anyone wishing to join this group call for details of the day or email: Place: Prudhoe
Organiser: J Dobson

PRUDHOE COMMUNITY CHOIR

Welcomes new members. The choir meets on Wednesday evenings between 7.30pm and 9.30pm. Place: Stocksfield Baptist Church Organiser: Joan Sulter. 01914133442

TYNE VALLEY CANOE CLUB

We meet every Friday throughout the year in either Tyne Riverside Country Park (April-September) @ 6.30 pm or Waterworld (October-March) @ 8.30 pm. All ages welcome. For more details, please get in touch.
Prudhoe. John Dean. 01661832575
PRUDHOE COMMUNITY

ALLOTMENT

PCA is set up to support local people who would like to garden and need a

bit of help. We meet on Tuesday and Friday mornings. If you can help us we would love to hear from you. Place: Prudhoe Community Allotment, Redwell Court
Organiser: Ann Curran. 01661 844675

ST MARY MAGDALENE

We are a welcoming, family-friendly church in the heart of the community. Weekly services: SUNDAY: 10am Morning Worship with Young Church (term time); THURSDAY: 10am Holy Communion. You can also watch live on Facebook @PrudhoeParishChurch. More information online at www. prudhoeparishchurch.org.uk. Place: St Mary Magdalene church Organiser: Rev Dan Freyhan vicar@prudhoeparishchurch.org.uk

COFFEE & CHAT

Drop-in at the Parish Hall coffee morning every Thursday and Saturday 10am-12 noon for a cuppa and a chat. Reasonable prices, home-baked cakes and a warm welcome every time. Suitable for all the family. (Special charity events on some Saturdays.) Place: Prudhoe Parish Church Hall Organiser: Rev Dan Freyhan vicar@prudhoeparishchurch.org.uk

LITTLE TREASURES

Wednesdays 10-11.30am. A funpacked morning for babies, toddlers and their grown-ups. £3 per family including refreshments, craft activities, messy play, sensory activities and huge variety of toys for free-play. Drop-in and register on the door. Place: Prudhoe Parish Church Hall Organiser: Hayley Langston Contact: Little.Treasures@ PrudhoeParishChurch.org.uk

CHRYSALIS CLUB TYNEDALE

Provides activities, stimulation and social opportunities for people with dementia, carer support, information and counselling. The outreach group for Prudhoe district is held every 1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoon of the month.

Place: St Oswin's Church Hall, Wylam Chrysalis Club. 07760124539





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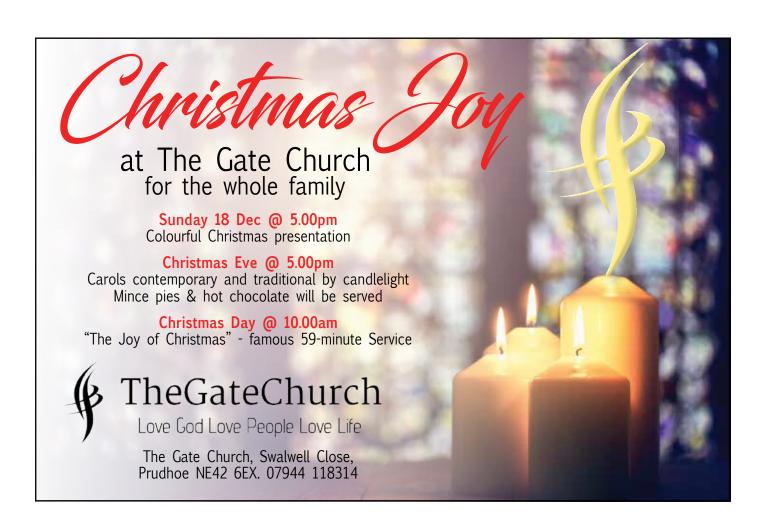
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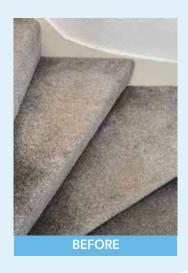
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...in STOCKSFIELD & RIDING MILL

If you run a local group, club or a non-profit organisation, we'll include it in our What's On diary completely free. Visit: www.tynevalleyexpress.co.uk/whats-on/

STOCKSFIELD COMMUNITY

We have a wide range of events and activities available. For more detailed information please visit our website at www.stocksfieldca.org.uk or contact us on the details below.

Place: SCA, Mount View Terrace Organiser: Terri Anne

Contact: admin@stocksfieldca.org.uk **MURDER MYSTERY EVENING**

Stocksfield Players are performing the murder mystery play 'Who Killed the Soapstar' on Friday 25th and Saturday 26th November at 7.00pm. £10 entry includes pie and pea supper! Tickets available in advance from Stocksfield Community Centre or telephone 01661 842346

Place: Stocksfield Community Centre Organiser: Stocksfield Players **CHURCHES TOGETHER**

Pre-Christmas Events - Saturday 5th November 10am-12 noon in Stocksfield Community Centre. Coffee Morning with Sale of Charity Christmas Cards and Traidcraft Goods

Place: Stocksfield Community Centre Anne Davison, 07754156099

STOCKSFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH

We are a warm, welcoming and informal church that meets every Sunday 10am - 11.30am. All are welcome, wherever you are on your faith journey. For all events see Stocksfieldbaptistchurch.net. Secretary: Kevin Frost enquiriesstocksfieldbc@gmail.com Place: Stocksfield Baptist Church Organiser: Kevin Frost

STOCKSFIELD METHODIST **CHURCH**

Our friendly, welcoming church has reopened for Sunday worship at 10.30am. We also host Afternoon Fellowship, 2.00pm on the second and

fourth Wednesday each month. We hope to restart our popular monthly Saturday Charity coffee mornings in the New Year.

Place: Mount view Terrace John Watson. 01661 834318

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

We meet on Tuesday evenings from 7.45 p.m. to 10.p.m. from February to December. No partner needed, and beginners welcome.

Place: Baptist Church Hall Rosemary Newton. 01661843163

STOCKSFIELD TENNIS CLUB

Friendly club based at Guessburn always looking for new members. We have sessions to include ladies, mens and mixed tennis and separate junior sessions. Coaching is also available. For further info please visit www.clubspark. It a. org. uk/Stocks field District Tennis Clubor www.facebook.com/ Stocksfieldtennisclub/ or email us stocksfieldtennisclub@gmail.com Place: Stocksfield Tennis Club Louise Freeman. 07752559571 STAY AND PLAY

A toddler group run by volunteers from Stocksfield Baptist Church for children from birth to starting school and their carers. It runs every Tuesday (term time) from 10-11.30am. A variety of activities are provided in a relaxed and informal setting. Place: Stocksfield Baptist Church

Organiser: Lynda Telford www.stocksfieldbaptistchurch.net

PLANTS & GARDENS SOCIETY

Autumn programme, meetings start 7:20pm. 18th October Robert Jamison, New Plans and Plants at Howick Hall: 15th November, Winter Colour, 13th December, Garden Design and Inspiration. More information www. stocksfieldplantsandgardens.co.uk.

New members and visitors (£3)welcome at all meetings. Place: Stocksfield Community Centre Organiser: Sue Sinclair

Contact: stocksfieldpg@gmail.com

LIVE & BREATHE YOGA

Hatha Yoga for all abilities, Wednesdays 6pm-7.15pm and Fridays 11.15-12.30pm. Book your place on 07794459268, only £7 per class (block booking available). Covid secure! Place: Stocksfield SICA

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STOCKSFIELD ANGLICAN **CHURCHES**

For information on services at, and contacts for Bywell St Peter's, Stocksfield St John's and Mickley St George's, please visit our website at www.stocksfieldchurchofengland.org Place: Stocksfield

Organiser: Rev. Dr. Pat Moran, Vicar www.stocksfieldchurchofengland.org

HATHA & SOMATIC BASED YOGA

Hatha/Somatic yoga practice, breathing practices and relaxation. Wednesdays 9.30am-11am, booking is essential. Contact Rose for more information and to book your place.

Place: St. John's Church Hall Rose Romani. 07515 107 774

ST JAMES CHURCH

Sundays 8:00am Holy Communion and 10:00am Parish Worship; Wednesdays 9:30am Holy Communion and 7.00pm Quiet Evening Prayer. Services are also accessible via Zoom. For further details please visit our website at www. stjameschurchridingmill.com. Place: St James Church

David - mckenzie.d@btinternet.com

ART GROUP

Supportive, self-help group for anyone interested in art. Held every Monday and Thursday morning, 9-12.00am. Please contact Maria for more

information. Address: 85 Guessburn, New Ridley, Stocksfield NE43 7QP Place: 1st Stocksfield Scouts Maria Coleman. 07756961354

SPINNERS/WEAVERS/DYERS

Tynedale Guild of Weavers, Spinners & Dyers meets 3rd Sat. of every month 10am-4pm. Visitors & new members very welcome if you would like to try your hand at these mindful textile crafts. Programme available at www.wsd.org. uk/guilds/tynedale Place: Stocksfield Community Centre

Organiser: Janet Padgett

Contact: tynedale.secretary@gmail.com **RIDING MILL PARISH HALL**

Regular events throughout the week. For bookings and enquiries please email us or ring Suzanne on 07587 068210. Place: Riding Mill Parish Hall Organiser: Suzanne Barker Suzanne.barkerrmvht@btinternet.com

RIDING MILL MILLENNIUM HALL

Regular events throughout the week. For bookings and enquiries please email us or ring Suzanne on 07587 068210. Place: Riding Mill Millennium Hall Organiser: Suzanne Barker

Suzanne.barkerrmvht@btinternet.com YOGA WITH ROSE

New Yoga Classes at Millennium Hall, Church lane on Mondays from 5th September at 11-12.30. Booking is essential, contact Rose on 07515107774 or email Rose@yogawithrose.co.uk Place: Riding Mill Rose. 07515107774

MATTERS AND CRAFTERS

We are a friendly group of crafters meeting at Newton and Bywell Village Hall every Thursday from 10.30 until 3.00. Visitors and new members welcome. For more information tel: 07810 286 285 or by email: dorothy43@uwclub.net. Place: Newton and Bywell village hall. Dorothy Peacock. 07810 286285



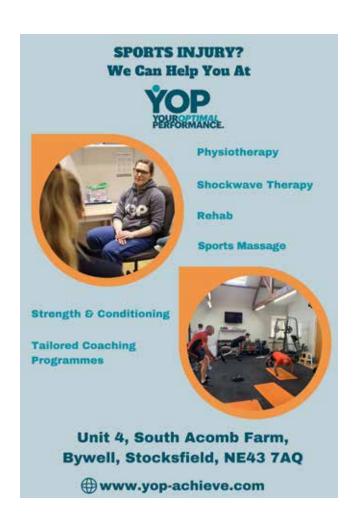


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A Christmas tree is the classic centrepiece to any home during the festive season and this winter, Dobbies Garden Centres has a range of real Christmas trees in store to help you find your perfect match.

All Dobbies' trees are sustainably grown from specially selected seeds, taken from hand-picked cones which have been left to dry and nurtured into seedlings. Specialist pruning techniques are used to create a bushy, uniform shape with emphasis on each individual tree's features. This work is done by hand which keeps any impact on surrounding wildlife to a minimum. Dobbies' customers can be assured they were not cut down from wild forests but instead come from environmentally managed plantations across Scotland.

We spoke with Horticultural Director, Marcus Eyles, for advice and tips on how to choose the right Christmas tree to complement your home and optimise your space. Whether you are a fan of the traditional, big tree look or fancy something different this year, Dobbies has you covered.

Freshly cut trees

Freshly cut trees are a fantastic option for those who love that real tree smell and a truly authentic Christmas vibe. Not only that, but once the festivities are over, a real tree can be used to create a safe and cosy space for wildlife in your garden to shelter during the winter months. Remove the branches as close to the main stem as possible and make small piles with them on the soil, under shrubs, trees or hedges. You can also cut your tree's trunk into sections for a mini log pile that will help create habitat for small animals and bugs.

Nordmann Fir slim cut tree, 180cm-210cm, £39.99

If you want the look and feel of a big tree but don't want to sacrifice a lot of space, Marcus suggests going for a Slim Nordmann Fir. Grown specifically to have a compact, narrow shape suited to smaller homes while retaining the classic lush foliage, this popular tree adds a touch of elegance to any home during the festive season. The Nordmann Fir is the most popular Christmas tree in the UK because it loses very few needles, meaning your tree will remain green and full, with the right care.

Nordmann Fir cut tree premium grade 120-150cm Nordmann £19.99 / 150-270cm from £34.99

The Premium Nordmann Fir is a Christmas classic and Marcus's top choice for creating a winter wonderland at home. It can comfortably fill a large space to dramatic effect and will give any room that festive feeling. The full, broad conical shape of a Nordmann Fir makes it easy to spread your baubles, decorations and lights along its branches right into the centre of the tree for an extra magical display. With deep luscious green needles and a height perfect for high ceilings, this picturesque tree can't be beaten.

Pot Grown Trees

Pot grown trees are great for anyone who wants to give their tree a forever home – they can be transferred to the garden and brought back in the following Christmas, or they can be planted in the garden to become a permanent fixture. Make sure to leave plenty of room around them as they can grow very large!

Pot Grown Nordmann Fir, 60-80cm, £34.99

For a tree which suits a low ceiling, consider a pot grown Nordmann Fir tree. Marcus recommends these smaller trees as they can be more versatile. Perfect for a cottage, flat, balcony or bungalow, they can be dressed in lights and baubles for some festive spirit while saving space. For a more rustic look, they can also be left bare and sat on a table or in the hallway. To get the most out of these, remember to keep their soil damp and keep them cool.

Pot grown Blue Spruce, 60-150cm, from £24.99

To make the most of a small space, a pot grown Blue Spruce tree will help to create a seasonal atmosphere while saving on room. This tree has unique silvery blue needles, making it a top choice for a cool or jewel-toned Christmas theme. Customise your tree with string lights, small baubles and a star on top. Small trees are versatile, so get creative adding your final touches!

Tree selection top tips

To ensure your Christmas tree is the right size, come equipped with the height, depth and width measurements of the area where you picture your tree at home. Make sure the area has a plug nearby, for your Christmas lights – corners are ideal, as it will keep your tree safe from knocks and burnes.

Bringing a tape measure to the store and double checking the dimensions is a good idea to avoid any disappointment and save you a return trip to the store if you find that your tree is too big or small once you get it home. Dobbies' team members will also be on hand to help you decide what tree is best suited to your space. Fear not, if your tree is a little too big, you can always trim it to fit the space.

Caring for your real tree

Once you have your cut tree home, keep it outside in a sheltered area, cut 1 inch off the base of the trunk and stand in a bucket of water until you are ready to bring it indoors, this will help reduce needle drop.

Place your tree in its water holding stand and ensure the water reservoir is replenished on a regular basis.

To find out more, visit: www.dobbies.com



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1) Use Fingerprint, Face Recognition and other forms of ID instead.

2) Use a secure password manager if necessary because:

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- You can copy and paste or autofill without showing your passwords
- Your passwords are stored in an encrypted form
- You can usually access your passwords from any device
- Your passwords can be randomly generated
- You get regular reminders to change your passwords

I hope this has convinced you of the evils of poor passwords and the benefits of using a password manager. For more advice, please do get in touch...

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CORBRIDGE PARISH HALL

Lots of mixed classes running from Monday to Saturday ranging from Zumba to Karate to Film Nights. Please get in touch for latest programme. Place: Corbridge Parish Hall Organiser: Mandy Senior Contact: corbridge@ukpc.net

CHILDREN'S NURSERY

St. Mary's Nursery (Hexham) Ltd is a children's nursery with a family environment where your child can blossom to their full potential encouraged by caring staff. We offer preschool, day-care, holiday club. All staff are trained in paediatric first aid. Place: St. Mary's Nursery Organiser: Jill Robb Contact: 01434 608723

CORBRIDGE PRESCHOOL CIC

Provides early education and childcare for under fours, once they are walking. Fees are low to ensure the preschool can be accessed by all families. Children enjoy fun activities and the opportunity to develop their social and communication skills.

Place: Corbridge Preschool Organiser: Claire Milburn Contact: 01434 622947

CORBRIDGE PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP

A group for parents, grandparents, childminders and carers with children up to four. Our friendly group runs from, Monday: 1:15 pm - 2:30 pm during term time. First session is free. £3.00 for 1 child. £1 for each additional

Place: Corbridge Preschool Organiser: Claire Milburn Contact: 01434 622947

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

Sunday at 10.00am Parish Communion Service, as places are limited due to social distancing please book via email provided. Wednesday at 10.00am Holy Communion, further information can be found on our website: www. corbridgechurch.org.uk Place: St. Andrew's Church Organiser: St. Andrew's Church servicesincorbridge@btinternet.com

SCOTTISH DANCING

Scottish Dancing at Parish Hall most Saturdays 7.30 p.m. Newcomers welcome, no partner needed. For details please get in touch Place: Parish Hall Organiser: Ros Contact: 01434604639

TYNEDALE CHESS CLUB

We meet every Thursday in the Corbridge Parish Hall from 7-10 pm. If you live in Hexham, then transport will be available on most club nights. Please contact us for further information. Place: Corbridge Parish Hall Organiser: Dave Humphreys Contact: dwhump3@ahoo.co.uk **CORBRIDGE INDOOR MARKET**

Our monthly indoor markets are held one Saturday a month in Corbridge Parish Hall. We have lots of fantastic local traders with high quality products. For full details find us on Facebook or at www.chevent.co.uk Place: Corbridge Parish Hall Organiser: CH Event

Contact: contact@chevent.co.uk **CORBRIDGE LACE GROUP**

A friendly group meeting on Wednesday mornings to make lace and chat about a wide variety of textiles. Tuition available for bobbin and needle lace and craft laces including tatting and crochet. Beginners and experienced lacemakers equally welcome.

Place: Corbridge Parish Hall Organiser: Gil Dye

Contact: email: gildye6@gmail.com

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Zumba® Kids classes (4-11 years), feature kid-friendly routines where we break down the steps and add games and activities. Sessions help develop a healthy lifestyle and incorporate fitness as a natural part of children's lives by making exercise fun.

Place: Corbridge Parish Hall Organiser: Shelly Dronfield Contact: Shelly.dronfield@gmail.com

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Place: Corbridge Parish Hall Organiser: Shelly Dronfield Contact: Shelly.dronfield@gmail.com

HADRIAN'S WALL ROTARY CLUB

Hadrian's Wall Rotary meets on two Thursdays each month at RAFA Club, Market Street, 7.30pm. We are a small group of enthusiastic, innovative and flexible Rotarians, very much young at heart and definitely put the fun into fund-raising. Place: RAFA Club

Organiser: Guy Galpin Contact: guy.galpin@uwclub.net

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Place: Hexham Elvaston Bowling Club Organiser: Mark Terry Contact: 01434 682910

HEXHAMSHIRE WI

1st Wed in month at Whitley Chapel Hall. Always have a speaker, night's out/ BBQ's etc. Thoroughly good time. For further details, please get in touch Place: Whitley Chapel Hall Organiser: Joyce

Contact: 01434602496

CREATIVE WRITING

These classes will inspire and encourage you to write poetry, fiction and memoir and to share and develop your writing through stimulating workshop sessions in a friendly and supportive group.

Tuesday evenings/Thursday lunchtimes. Try a session for free.

Place: Hextol Tans cafe/Core Music Organiser: Claire Lynn

Contact: claire@claire276.plus.com HEXHAM TENNIS CLUB, TYNEDALE

All standards welcome. We meet for casual play on Tuesday evenings from 5.30pm and Saturday afternoons from 1.30pm. See our website www. tynedaletennisclub.co.uk Place: Eilansgate (shared entrance with

Tynedale Cricket Club). Organiser: George Miller Contact: 01434606300

WARDEN IN HEXHAM WOMENS INSTITUTE

Meet at St Mary's Church Hall on 2nd Wednesday of each month. Always a home-made supper and usually a guest speaker. Non-members welcome. For more information please call us Place: St Mary's Church Hall Organiser: Womens Institute Contact: 01434603386

HEXHAM AND DISTRICT FLOWER

Meet on the second Monday of the month at 2 p.m. (except August). Demonstrations by qualified NAFAS flower arrangers, talks and workshops are organised and form part of our love of flowers and plants. Further info contact Carol at mcsand@talktalk.net Place: Function Suite, Hexham Mart Organiser: Carol Contact: 01434 602431

FAMILY CEILIDH - DANCE SCOTTISH

Fun, fitness, and friendship with easy Scottish dances. Suitable for children at first and middle school but whole family is invited. First Saturday afternoon of the month at 2pm. After the summer break re-starting on the 1st October. Place: Torch Centre Organiser: Carol

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLASS

Contact: 01434 602431

Meet on a Wednesday evening 7.30 to 9.30 commencing the 5th October. Suitable for beginners. No partner required. First class free. £3 thereafter. It's relaxed, fun and friendly, dancing easy ceilidh dances to more challenging Scottish Country dances. Place: Lockhart Room, Moothall

Organiser: Carol Contact: 01434 602431

TYNEDALE LIONS CLUB

Meetings every second and fourth Monday evening 7.45pm. We are ordinary people doing much to serve the local community and organising a

range of social and fundraising events. We would love you to join us, see further details at www.tynedalelionsclub.org Place: County Hotel, Hexham Organiser: Tynedale Lions Club Contact: tynedalelionsclub@gmail.co.uk

HEXHAM ART CLUB

We meet fortnightly on a Tuesday afternoon 1.00pm to 4.00 pm. Our meetings are mostly practical sessions led by local professional artists and by club member. To people who say I can't paint, we say, yes you can! Place: Hexham Community Centre,

Gilesgate Organiser: Gillian Silsbury

Contact: gillian.silsbury@gmail.com TYNEDALE COMMUNITY CHOIR

Monday evenings during term time, 7.30 -9.00 pm. Come and sing, relax and unwind with folk songs, rounds, gospel, contemporary and more. Led by musical director Kathryn Davison. Suitable for beginners and experienced singers alike. Place: Trinity Methodist Church Hall Organiser: Tynedale Community Choir Contact: tynedaleCchoir@gmail.com

HEXHAM HOUSE BOWLING CLUB

Set in the beautiful grounds below Hexham Abbey and behind Hexham House. The Club is open to all ages and gender, this is an outdoor sport the season running from Early April till Mid September. Open most afternoons from

Place: Hexham House Bowling Club Organiser: Debbie Crisp

Contact: 01434602437 **MORRIS DANCING CLASSES**

Morris dancing for both men and women. Women meet every Monday @ Corbridge Middle School (Term time only) 8pm-9.30pm. Men meet every Thursday @ Acomb Village Hall (Sep - May) from 7.30pm. Come and join our friendly groups and visit www. hexhammorris.com

Place: See description Organiser: Valerie. 01434684705

MACULAR SOCIETY

Meets 11am last Thursday in the month at the Therapy Centre, opposite Hexham Hospital.

Place: Therapy Centre Organiser: Jeanne. 01661833988

ARTVENTURERS

Art and craft classes, parties and events for babies, toddlers and children. Monday - 9:50am Baby ARTventurers (6-18 months) 11:30am Little ARTventurers (18 months - preschool). For more information please get in touch Place: St Marys Church Hall Organiser: Justine. 07737108061

HEXHAM PROBUS CLUB

Provides regular gatherings for retired or semi-retired professional or business men aged over 55. We meet most months at the Tynedale Mart for a talk preceded by lunch. New members from the Tynedale area are always welcome.





Don't move, improve! www.insidetransformations.co.uk

See our main advert on the back page

Place: Tynedale Mart Organiser: Hon. Secretary Contact: 01434607798

TYNEDALE ROTARY

We support local charities, and Rotary's international activities. We are an active club, always keen to welcome potential new members. Our recent donations have benefited foodbanks, schools and other worthy causes. Meetings: Wednesday 12 noon.
Place: County Hotel Hexham Organiser: Rotary Club

Contact: https://www.rotary-ribi.org/ clubs/homepage.php?ClubID=169 CHRYSALIS CLUB TYNEDALE

Provides activities, stimulation and social opportunities for people with dementia, Carer support, information, counselling, Younger dementia group, intergenerational project. Based in new premises in Hexham with outreach in the Tyne Valley, Volunteer opportunities. Rooms available to rent from £12 ph. Place: Dene Park, Corbridge Road, Hexham

Organiser: Chrysalis Club Contact: info@chrysalisclub.org.uk ACTIVE NORTHUMBERLAND

All walks are FREE, if you wish to join just turn up a few minutes before the walk starts and make yourself known to the leader (the one with the register!) The walks are graded for difficulty but are aimed at people with health conditions so are suitable for almost anyone. Place: Northumberland

Organiser: Lorraine. 01670622368

HEXHAM LIBRARY

Library is open for time limited browsing and prebooked PC access. We are operating amended hours so please check website before visiting www. mylibrary.co.uk

Place: Héxham Library Organiser: Fiona Corbett hexham.library@northumberland.gov.uk

MARY'S HEALTHY WEIGH

We meet every Tuesday morning and evening from 9.30am – 12 noon and 6 – 8pm for sensible advice on diet control. Everyone welcome, friendly group support and guidance for all weighty matters! No commitment to regular attendance.

Place: Conservative Club, Beaumont St. Organiser: Mary Reed. 01434673489

HEXHAM BRIDGE CLUB

Hexham Bridge Club meets on Thursday evenings at 6.50pm. Friendly, competitive duplicate bridge. There is also a Club on-line Bridge evening on Tuesdays. Tuition for beginners and improvers available. New members and visitors are always welcome.

Place: Hexham Community Centre Organiser: Alan McKendrick

Contact: secretaryHBC@btinternet.com FAMILY HISTORY BRANCH

We are part of the Northumberland & Durham Family History Society. We are a small friendly group who meet on the second Thursday of the month (except August) at 7pm for talks or discussions on family history related topics. Place: Community Centre, Gilesgate

Place: Community Centre, Gilesgate Organiser: Tynedale Family History Contact: tynedalebranch@ndfhs.org.uk

JIVE ALIVE

Tyndale's Modern Jive Group – Wednesday 8.00pm. Join an enthusiastic and friendly group of dancers. No need for a partner, all abilities welcome, expert tuition offered. Contact us for more information

Place: Torch Centre, Corbridge Road Organiser: Sheelagh. 07712108685

HEXHAM TOWN WI

Our meetings, on 3rd Monday each month at 7.30pm; are interesting, informative and most importantly friendly; have a cup of tea or coffee, a piece of cake and a chat. Meet new people and make lasting friendships. Visitors always welcome.

Place: Hexham Community Centre Organiser: President Suzanne Contact: 07858718056

HEXHAM RAMBLERS

Come and walk with us! Weekly walks in Northumberland's wonderful countryside - all year round. Every Sunday at 10.15 Find out more from www.ramblers.org.uk/hexham or contact Carol on 07718248502 for more info. Place: Various

Organiser: Carol. 07718248502

TYNEDALE ARCHERS

We are a friendly community archery club based in Tynedale (Hexham and Haydon Bridge) in Northumberland. We meet in Hexham and all details are at: www.tynedalearchers.co.uk Place: Hexham

Organiser: John Hope. 07887364433
TOWN TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Visit to Noyon 26-29 August by coach via south coast ferry/Channel Tunnel. Costs around £210 per adult, depending on numbers travelling. Young people/children: no more than £100 per individual. Accommodation is provided by our French hosts in their own premises.

Organiser: Hexham Town Twinning
Association
www.hexhamtowntwinning.co.uk/

contactjoin

TYNEDALE U3A

Monthly meeting and talk on the first Tuesday of every month at 2pm. Nonmembers welcome. See https://u3asites.org.uk/tynedale/events for details of speakers. In addition over 40 interest groups organise their own activities and meetings in the Corbridge and Hexham area.

Place: Hexham Abbey Great Hall Organiser: Tynedale u3a Contact: tyneu3apublicity@gmail.com

HEXHAM ARMY CADETS

We parade each Monday and Thursday between 7pm and 9pm. For both girls and boys 12yrs (yr 8 at school) to 18yrs. We do lots of activities such as Fieldcraft, Shooting, Expeditions, First Aid and the Duke of Edinburgh award. Place: Army Reserve centre, Hexham Organiser: Capt. Sean Ferguson Contact: 07977410385

HEXHAM ROTARY

We are a small enthusiastic group of men and women who meet together for fun and fellowship while helping local charities and good causes. We usually meet on Mondays and up-to-date programme can be found on our website www.hexhamrotary.co.uk Place: Beaumont Hotel

Organiser: Rob Hart. 07970221457

HEXHAM MALE VOICE CHOIR

Regular meetings on Thursday evenings. Our membership is strong but we always seek new members, you don't even have to be able to read music! Just come and have fun.

Place: West End Methodist Church Organiser: James Walmsley Contact: 07771715574

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT FOR PRE SCHOOL CHILDREN

Learn music, song, rhyme and rhythm under the guidance of experienced

music and dance leaders on Friday mornings during school term times. More information on our website at http://www.musicmovement.weebly.com or on our FB page @musicmovehexham Place: Trinity Methodist Church Organiser: Julie

Contact: musicmove79@gmail.com

HEXHAM AND DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Interested in photography? Hexham Photographic Society have a varied programme of events with something for everyone. We meet every Tuesday at 7.30 pm in the Torch Centre. All are welcome, full details can be found at www.hexhamphotographic.org Place: Torch Centre Hexham Organiser: Gerry. 01434606967

LITTLE OAKS NURSERY

Early morning activities over breakfast from 8am, for children age 2yrs plus. Our after school club opens from 3pm until 6pm and includes dinner. Nursery places offer a cooked lunch, high staff ratios and forest school. Ofsted Outstanding.

Place: Acomb, Northumberland Organiser: Catherine Fergus Contact: 01434 613422

NATIONAL TRUST TYNE VALLEY ASSOCIATION

Monday 21 November a talk entitled Plants, Pots and Bampots will be given by Patricia Hodgson. Tea and coffee served at 2pm. The Christmas Lunch, at The Duke of Wellington, Newton is 1 December, arrival 12 noon. Prior booking required.

Place: Great Hall, Hexham Abbey Organiser: Jackie Wood. 01434 674812

MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church at Hexham Community Church, Beaumont Street. We've restarted and now meet on the second Sunday of every month, 10.30am to 12.30pm. Crafts, activities and songs for all ages - and a free lunch! We'd love to see you!

Contact: Church office Place: Hexham, Beaumont Street Organiser: Church Office Contact: 01434 601113

HEXHAM BEACON CLUB

Hexham Beacon Club for retired men, meets weekly on Wednesday morning throughout the year. It is open to all retired men in the district. There is no subscription. Only a small charge for coffee. New members are always welcome.

Place: Trinity Methodist Hall Organiser: Mel Wall. 07568 451241

HEXHAM INDOOR MARKET

Our monthly indoor markets are held one Saturday a month in the Priors building at Hexham Abbey. Lots of local traders with high quality products. Full details on our Facebook page or www. chevent.co.uk

Place: Hexham Abbey Organiser: CH Event Contact: Facebook

MARTIAL ARTS

Adult martial arts classes on a Tuesday and Thursday from 7 to 9pm at E.T Fitness and Therapy. We teach boxing, kick/thai boxing, as well as grappling and weapons. Improve your general fitness and self defence skills while having fun!

Place: E.T Fitness and Therapy

Organiser: Simon

phoenixmartialarts@hotmail.co.uk

HEXHAM HIGHLIGHTS NETBALL

Do you love netball and want to return to the court? As well as being great for fitness, netball is a way to create new friendships, have a laugh, to destress and exercise (a bit!). Every Monday, 7.30pm - 9pm

Place: Wentworth Leisure Centre Organiser: Dill

Contact: 07974 811351

What's On # Hexham

5 Nov Hexham Round Table Bonfire & Fireworks

12 Nov Peace Walk

13 Nov Remembrance Sunday

18 Nov 2nd Annual Lantern Parade (part of the HSHAZ cultural

programme, but also supported by HTC)

19 Nov Ukrainian Craft Fair at Hexham Abbey

5 Nov Christmas Lights Switch On, Carols and hot chocolate at the Abbey and the launch of the Hexham Magical Movie March -

where dozens of local businesses will be dressing their

windows as Christmas movies!

30 Nov Reiver - Tales from the Borders, by Elysium Theatre Company

at Queen's Hall

2 Dec Illuminate: Festival of Flame (including the full flock of

Illuminated Sheep, fire gardens and live music)

3 Dec Sankta Lucia at Hexham Abbey10 Dec Hexham Christmas Market

10-31 Dec The Wind in the Willows at Queen's Hall

14-24 Dec The Three Bears at Christmas, by Kitchen Zoo at Queen's Hall

22-23 Dec Carols by Candlelight at Hexham Abbey

24 Dec Children's Crib Service and Midnight Mass at Hexham Abbey



Working together with Tyne Valley Express, bringing you regular news and updates.

Councillor Derek Kennedy - Mayor of Hexham

www.hexhamtowncouncil.gov.uk - Email: Derekhexham@gmail.com

Start as you mean to go on

Well known in Hexham for fantastic career opportunities, EGGER is one of the Tyne Valley's largest employers. With over 10% of its 600 strong workforce joining as an apprentice, it provides the opportunity to start a career in an international business that is on your doorstep.

EGGER offers a variety of apprenticeships across its state of the art production site in Hexham including electrical, mechanical, purchasing, marketing, business admin, IT, wood purchasing and more.

Read below to hear three qualified EGGER apprentices to find out about their experience with the wood-based material manufacturer.



Rachel Ruddick
Marketing Specialist

"I joined EGGER in 2017 after completing my A levels at Haydon Bridge High School. My apprenticeship was a two-year level 3 Business Administration qualification and involved two placements. My first placement was in the Marketing department,

where I supported the team in promoting and protecting the EGGER brand to customers and stakeholders. My second placement was in the Building Customer Service team where I took orders and arranged deliveries of our products. Alongside my work in Marketing and Customer Service I completed coursework with support from the apprentice training provider."

"At the end of my placement, a vacancy in the Marketing team became available. I applied and since then I have progressed from Marketing Trainee, to Marketing Assistant, to Marketing Specialist, something which I am really proud of."

"I really enjoy my role in the Marketing department. The new product innovation and variety of tasks keep things interesting."



Olly Gray Laboratory Supervisor

"I began my EGGER career in 2012 as an apprentice Laboratory Technician learning both on and off the job. On completion of this, I transitioned into a full time lab technician. I was offered further training to develop leadership and other skills, which led to the

opportunity to become Laboratory Supervisor."

"A highlight of my career so far was my successful application and completion of EGGER's future management programme Startklar, which allowed me the opportunity to travel and create international networks, but also partake in training tailored to EGGER's core values and philosophy regarding management."

"I have also been lucky to have the opportunity to work in a new team as part of a secondment to America, to provide training and support of the start-up of our new facility there."



Amy Hawke Production Material Management Specialist

"I knew I did not want to go to University, but wanted to continue my education, so after sixth form I joined EGGER's Production Planning team as a Business Administration Apprentice. I completed my apprenticeship in

2019 and became Production Material Management Assistant. Since then I have gained more knowledge and experience in the area of Production Planning, and in 2021 I was promoted to Production Material Management Specialist."

"A highlight of my EGGER career so far was visiting an EGGER plant in Germany to learn how they plan their production to see if there was anything we could implement in the UK. This was a great experience and offered a new challenge for us both."

"Throughout my time at EGGER, I have always felt very well supported by my manager and colleagues, they are always on hand to help."

To find out more about the apprenticeships available in 2023, please visit www.egger.com/jobs



An international business on your doorstep

Known as the cloud factory by locals, EGGER is one of the Tyne Valley's biggest manufacturers. Producing enough chipboard to travel to Newcastle and back from Hexham each day, it is a major supplier into the furniture, interior design and housebuilding industries.

EGGER moved into Hexham in 1984 and took over the site from Weyroc. The Austrian, family owned company, selected the Hexham site as its first foreign investment because of its proximity to Kielder Forest and excellent communication links.



For over 30 years, EGGER has been a major employer in the area, with most people in the Tyne Valley knowing someone who works at the wood-based material manufacturer located on Anick Grange Road. It is more than likely there is a piece of EGGER in your home, whether it be a kitchen cabinet, bedroom furniture or structural flooring.

To make More From Wood is EGGER's main priority and the founder of the business Fritz Egger Senior, is quoted as saying, "Wood is far too valuable to just throw it away". It uses round wood unsuitable for processing, by products from the sawmill and recycled wood, to produce a versatile chipboard panel. With 20 production plants and 26 sales offices across the

world, EGGER offers an international product portfolio comprising Melamine Faced Chipboard and MDF, Edging, Laminate, Worktops and Flooring. In the UK, products are sold via distributors to tradespeople, working on new builds and refurbishment projects across the UK.

In addition to the two production sites based in Hexham and Barony, EGGER also has forestry and recycling subsidiaries in the UK. The forestry business operates in in the North East of England and Scotland, and the recycling business, Timberpak, sources waste wood at its sites in Washington, Leeds, Bellshill and St Albans.



With over 800 people employed in the UK, EGGER has a variety of job opportunities on offer. From apprentices and graduate programmes to roles in mechanical and electrical, and even forestry and business admin, there are plenty of opportunities to become part of EGGER's team.

To find out more about the opportunities available visit www.egger.com/jobs







Passion. for a **unique**resource.

Production
Manufacturing

Business Apprenticeships Engineering Schemes & Technical Summer Placements

Professional Summer Placements

Undergraduate Placements

Together we are stronger

EGGER is a leading international wood-based materials manufacturer. With 20 plants and 24 sales offices worldwide, there are plenty of opportunities to shine and develop your career at our multi-award-winning company.

Due to the size and international presence of our company, we offer a wide range of careers choices and opportunities whether you are starting your career, looking to progress your professional career or simply want to try out a new role.

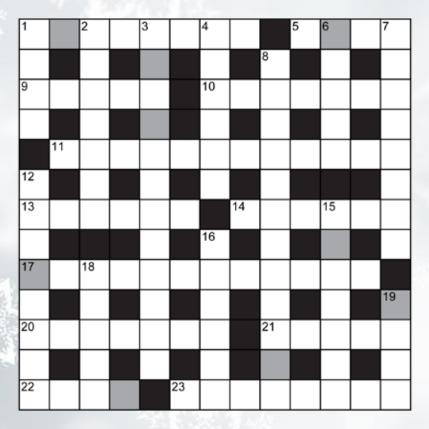
Visit www.egger.com/jobs to learn more about the many opportunities we offer.



COFFEE BREAK

Celebrate Advent.

Email the hidden themed word to puzzles@tynevalleyexpress.co.uk Winners will be chosen at random from the correct entries. Solutions will be available on our website from the next edition.



Unscramble the letters in the shaded squares to reveal a themed word:

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Email the themed word to puttles@to nevalles express court

Across

- 1 Conceptual thinker (8)
- 5 European mountain range (4)
- Crawl (5) 9
- 10 Farm vehicle (7)
- Triumphantly (12) 11
- 13 Find (6)
- 14 Share out food sparingly (6)
- 17 Inspiring action (12)
- 20 Bright red (7)
- 21 Frostily (5)
- 22 Loop of cloth worn around the waist (4)
- Impressive manner of a person (8)

Down

- 1 Short nail (4)
- 2 Mournful (7)
- Monotonously (12)
- 4 Parody (6)
- Water lily (5)
- 7 Showering with liquid (8)
- 8 Scientific research rooms (12)
- 12 Spies (8)
- Language spoken in Rome (7) 15
- 16 Stationary part of a motor (6)
- 18 Sets of players (5)
- 19 Computer memory unit (4)

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Can you make a difference for people with learning disability?

Two job opportunities have arisen to join our happy and friendly Charity team at Journey Enterprises, Acomb, Hexham NE46 4SA.



Life Skills Coach SP2 £19,007 pro rata: 22 hrs/wk

We are looking for a Life Skills Coach to work with us helping our Clients to build on their skills to lead independent, socially-inclusive lives. This includes supporting with cooking, baking, sports, music, photography, getting out and about in the village, Hexham and surrounding areas... It really is a varied role.

Cleaner/Handyperson/Gardener SP1 £18,695 pro rata: 15 hrs/wk

Our second role is a Cleaner but there is the opportunity to make the job your own. We really want someone to become part of our team and help us maintain the site with some basic handyperson and gardening skills. Ideally, you would also be working alongside our Clients sharing your knowledge and skills.

The best thing to do would be to give us a ring:

01434 724 035 and speak to Erica about what the jobs involve.

www.journeyenterprises.co.uk

info@journeyenterprises.co.uk

















The Snack Pawtal...

The Snack Pawtal is a local, independent business based in Prudhoe, Northumberland, supplying the North East with high quality dog treats. Focusing on 100% natural, single ingredient and single protein produce, our range of treats are especially suitable for dogs with allergies, dogs on strict elimination diets, and raw fed dogs.

We offer a wide variety of products in a range of proteins, including training treats, meat bites, meat strips, and longer-lasting natural chews.

We are fully insured and registered with Northumberland Trading Standards in the pet food sector, working to DEFRA guidelines. All products are responsibly-sourced, packed by hand in Northumberland and are fully traceable.

You can find our range of snacks both online and in local stockists around the North East, all of which are listed on our website and social media pages.

Trade enquiries welcome.







Find us at the following Christmas markets:

- SUN 6th Nov Buddies Tea Room, Mickley
- SAT 19th & SUN 20th Nov Morpeth Markets
- SAT 26th Nov Plantsplus Garden Centre, near Blagdon Estate
- SUN 3rd Dec Newcastle Dog Shelter, Benton Lane

Keep up to date with markets, products, stockists and other dog-related news by following our Facebook and Instagram pages

E: hello@thesnackpawtal.co.uk

www.thesnackpawtal.co.uk



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...in DARRAS HALL & PONTELAND

If you run a local group, club or a non-profit organisation, we'll include it in our What's On diary completely free. Visit: www.tynevalleyexpress.co.uk/whats-on/

PONTELAND RAMBLERS

We have started organising formal walks again, longer walks every other Sunday and shorter walks on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month. Booking is essential, please visit our website www.ramblers.org.uk/ponteland. New walkers are welcome. Place: throughout Northumberland Organiser: Graham Snowdon

Contact: graham_snowdon@sky.com BELSAY HALL CROQUET CLUB

Not sure if croquet is the sport for you? We can offer trial sessions. We'll provide all the equipment and instruction. You just need to wear some flat-soled shoes and we'll have you playing really quickly. Interested? Just email us. colingchun@gmail.com Place: Belsay Hall, Castle and Gardens Organiser: Colin Chun

ST MARY'S PONTELAND & HOLY SAVIOUR MILBOURNE

Visit our website for all services, activities and events:
www.pontelandstmary.co.uk
Place: St Mary's, North Road, Ponteland
Organiser: Church Office
Contact: office@pontelandstmary.co.uk

PONTELAND HEALTH WALKS

Meet every Tuesday at Ponteland Leisure Centre before 10:30 for a walk between 60 and 90 minutes. All are welcome.

Place: Ponteland Leisure Centre Gordon Allan. 07936135469

PONTELAND VILLAGE WI

The Friends of LV50, an historic timber lightship, will be giving the talk at our meeting on Tuesday, November 8, and on December 13 we will enjoy a Christmas Celebration, both at 7.30pm. To try us, email pontelandvillagewi@hotmail.com Organiser: Jeni Place: St Mary's Parish Centre

CREATIVE WRITING

These classes will inspire and encourage you to write poetry, fiction and memoir and to share and develop your writing through stimulating workshop sessions in a friendly and supportive group. Wednesday mornings. Try a session for free. Place: Members' homes Claire Lynn. claire@claire276.plus.com

PONTELAND BADMINTON GROUP

Adults Tue. 12:30-13:30 & 19-20:30 @ Pont. L/Centre, also WB Club Wed. 19-21:00. Juniors Mon. 16-17:00, Thu. 17-18:00 & Sat. 10-11:30 @ Pont. L/C. Also Adults Fri. 10-11:00 @ Pont.

Comm. Prim. School.
Place: Ponteland Organiser: Phil Hall
Contact: 078100 84153

PONTELAND LADIES CHOIR

Held every Monday 7:30pm at Ponteland Community Primary School, NE20 9EY. We sing a wide variety of music. New members welcome and no auditions required.

Ponteland Community Primary School Organiser: Susan. 07710418780

PONTELAND LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Meeting held at St Mary's church hall, Thornhill Rd, Ponteland at 7.30pm Regular talk programmes Annual membership Single £8 – Couple £10 – Visitor £2. More details please get in touch. Place: St Mary's

Organiser: Anne Kelway. 01661820396

PONTELAND SENIOR GENTLEMANS CLUB

We meet at St Mary's Parish Centre on 2nd Monday of every month starting at 2.30pm prompt. Following a talk there is a opportunity to chat to other members over tea and biscuits. See http://pontelandsgc.co.uk/ for details. St Mary's Parish Centre, Thornhill Road Organiser: Bill Schardt

Contact: pontelandsgc@gmail.com

PONTELAND FRIENDLY STITCHERS
Ponteland Friendly Stitchers meets on
the 4th Monday of each month from
2:15-4:15pm, except December. We
offer a mixture of small workshops and
speakers and welcome new members
of any ability. Please contact me, Penny
Ford for further details

The Studio, Ponteland Leisure Centre pontelandfriendlystitchers@mail.com

FRIENDS OF KIRKLEY HALL

Canine Partners Speaker evening. On Wednesday 9 November Susan Fulton, who has a disability, will tell us how amazing dogs help to transform their owners lives.

Kirkley Hall. Enid Saint. 07582711873

TAI CHI IN PONTELAND

Every Thursday morning in St. Mary's Church Hall there are two friendly classes of Tai Chi for you to choose from. 10-11am or 11.20-12.20pm . All welcome. Contact teacher Steve Oliver 07989171701

Place: St Mary's Church Hall ROTARY CLUB OF PONTELAND

We meet every Tuesday, alternating between lunchtimes & evenings. We have a light meal, chat & socialise and try to arrange fund-raising events to support good charitable causes. Why not come along & join us. Place: Ponteland Golf Club Organiser: Alan Hall. 07740866764

RAF AIR CADETS

733 Sqn Air Training Corps is open to the ages of 12 to 17 years, Mondays and Fridays, 7pm to 9.30pm. The Squadron activities include flying, gliding, shooting, first aid, cadet camps and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Army Reserve Centre, Kingston Park Organiser: Flt Lt G Smith RAFAC Contact: 733@aircadets.org

INNER WHEEL CLUB OF PONTELAND

Part of a women's voluntary organisation a small club founded on friendship and personal service which welcomes new members and visitors. Meeting held on the first Monday of the month include social time, talks, occasional lunches and gentle charity fundraising.

Place: St Mary's Church Hall Organiser: Ann Lowry. 07568743653

METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday worship 10 am, 6.30 pm. First Sunday of month Bouncy Church 9 am onwards. Monday Café, Tuesday Boys Brigade with Girls. Thursday Toddlers, Men's Forum, Women Together. Saturday Walkers & Coffee Shop Strollers.

Place: Ponteland Methodist Church Organiser: Ann Cooper Contact: anncooperx@gmail.com

PONTELAND U3A

Meetings and talks on the first Wednesday of each month at 2pm. 2nd November – Wartime Special Operations Executive by Mel Wall. 7th December – Christmas Festivities with Faith Tea. For information call the membership secretary on 01661 824953. Place: St Mary's Parish Centre Organiser: John Hewett. 07801233579

WALKING SCOTTISH DANCE!

Scottish dance for those who can no longer move as nimbly as they did! We meet in St. Mary's Church Hall on the second Tuesday of the month. 2.0-3.30pm £4 per session. It's great fun. All Welcome. Place: St. Mary's Church Hall. Gerry Turk. 01661 822056

SEIKEN RYU KARATE CLASSES

Seiken Ryu Karate Association runs family friendly karate classes for all ages and abilities in the village halls in Stannington (Tuesday 6pm) and Stamfordham (Wednesday 6.30pm). All instructors are fully DBS checked and insured. For more details www. seikenryu.co.uk

Place: Stannington/Stamfordham Organiser: Steve Reed. 07456 657308

PONTELAND WILDLIFE GROUP

7.30pm, St Mary's Parish Centre, Thornhill Road, Ponteland, NE20 9PZ. £2 includes refreshments. Tuesday 6th December Steve Lowe "Issues with Northumberland's Rivers, including The Pont". Tuesday 3rd January Stephen Westerberg "Whinchats at RSB Geltsdale and where they go in winter" Place: St Mary's Parish Centre Organiser: Ponteland Wildlife Group Contact: pontelandwildlife/talks

PONTELAND WI

Ponteland WI welcome visitors to their meetings which are held on the second Tuesday in the month, except August. The meetings begin at 2.00pm. There is a monthly speaker followed by light refreshments, with a competition and a stall.

Place: Merton Hall, Ponteland Organiser: Gill Thompson Contact: gillian.tho@googlemail.com

PLANT HERITAGE GROUP

The National garden plant conservation charity. Meetings 2.30pm. Illustrated talks, refreshments, plant raffles. Nov. 12th: "Everything you wanted to know about slugs & snails". Dec. 10th "Erodiums". Visitors welcome, £5 incl. raffle

Place: Memorial Hall Ponteland Patricia Skews. pat.skews@btinternet.com

PONTELAND UKULELE BAND

We are a group of friendly, mixed ability ukulele players. We meet every Tuesday at Ponteland CIU club from 1pm to 3pm to sing and play various music styles. New members are very welcome, come and join us. Place: Ponteland CIU club

Alan Atkinson. aatkinson13@talk21.com CALLERTON GARDEN & FLOWER CLUB

Our meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 2pm at Ponteland CIU Club, Merton Way Ponteland. Meetings include floral demonstrations and talks on aspects of gardening. Visitors welcome. £7 entry.

Visitors welcome. £7 entry. Place: CIU Club Ponteland Vivien Jackson. 07467035013





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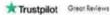


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0191 4841291 and speak to Adam about what the jobs involve.

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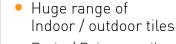
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