

# The Stanegate

*free Parish magazine for*

**Newbrough, Fourstones, Warden  
and surrounding hamlets**

\* \* \* \* \*

## Fourstones with Warden Methodist Church



### Final Services

#### **Saturday 11th July, 3pm**

An informal time of remembering and celebrating 150 years of Fourstones Methodist Chapel - an opportunity to view our Memories exhibition and share stories and memories of the life and ministry for the church here in Fourstones with tea and cake.

**All are welcome**

#### **Sunday 12th July 3pm**

Our final service of celebration of 150 years of faithful worship, witness and service.

**All are welcome**

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## Methodist Chapel

### Items for sale : offers

**Indesit fridge A+ class**  
1' 9" wide x 1' 9" deep x 2' 9" high  
Spotlessly clean. Hardly used.

**Oval coffee table**  
3' 7" x 2' 6"  
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\* \* \* \* \*

### Free to a good home

**Marshall and Rose upright piano**  
'Bruce Moore, W Hartlepool' written on it

\* \* \* \* \*

**All can be seen in the Chapel**

Please contact Margaret  
01434 674207

## Mobile Library in July

**Tuesday 14th July 2026**



Newbrough - Home Farm Estate  
14.10 - 14.30

Newbrough - Sidgate  
14.35 - 14.55

Fourstones - Green Church  
15.00 - 15.20

## Calendar of Events

### JULY

4th Shibashi Workshop  
10am - 11.30pm  
Open to all. See p9

6th Warden Parish Council  
Town Hall, 7pm

8th Newbrough Parish Council  
Town Hall, 7pm

11th Pickleball : free taster  
Town Hall  
1pm - 3pm, see p9

11th Newbrough WI  
Town Hall, 7pm

17th School closes for Summer  
holiday



### Save the dates



**Thursday 27th August**

Senior Citizens' Trip – See p12

**Sunday, 30th August**

Fun Dog Show and BBQ – See p5

**Saturday 5th September**

Parish Produce Show – See p10

## Advertising

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## The Stanegate

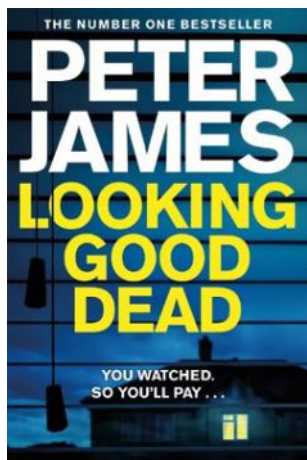
Do you have a story, an image, an idea or feedback  
you'd like to share in the Stanegate,  
then please send to the editorial team :

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

at [thestanegate@hotmail.com](mailto:thestanegate@hotmail.com)

**the deadline for the August edition is  
Friday 17th July 2026**

### 'Looking Good Dead' by Peter James



I picked up this book – I think in Barter Books – simply because I enjoy a good murder mystery every now and then.

It caught my eye as I had just seen and enjoyed an episode of Grace with John Simm starring in the role of Detective Superintendent Roy Grace. (Remember him from Life on Mars?)

Peter James is a prolific author and a TV producer and Her Majesty Queen Camilla has declared that Det Sup Grace is her favourite TV detective and such is the clout that she carries, that Peter James gave her a starring role in his most recent novel 'The Hawk is Dead'.

That aside, the book concerns a man - Tom Bryce - who finds a CD left on a train and rather stupidly, in my opinion, loads it into his laptop and looks at it. A chain of events that Tom could never have predicted then unravel and his life is changed for ever.

He witnesses a murder that he should not have seen and he – and his wife Kellie – pay a heavy price for his curiosity. The ongoing story of Tom and his family's problems both personal and financial are a continuing thread throughout the book and form the basis of the climactic conclusion.

Luckily Det Sup. Roy Grace - supported by his right hand man DS Glenn Branson - is on hand to solve the murder and bring to justice the gang responsible for the distinctly macabre service that they offer to their customers .

There are some sub plots, in particular the blossoming relationship between Roy Grace and Cleo the pathologist, which offer some relief from the events catalogued in the novel but it is a fairly unpleasant topic that is at the centre of the storyline.

In the event it is a chance recognition of someone coming out of a shop that gives Roy Grace the lead to save Tom Bryce and his wife and we then have a rapid climax and satisfactory conclusion. I suppose we all know that it is going to be a 'happy ending' so you enjoy the build up and try to pick up of the clues to direct us towards the criminals. In this instance however, we know who the baddies are from the start so that particular element is missing from the build up:It doesn't detract from the plot though.

It's not a light book but it has pace and our hero does bring the perpetrators to justice in the broader sense of the word at the end. Nor is it educational, or meaningful but it is certainly entertaining. A good holiday read.

### Fourstones and Newbrough Monthly Weather Information for May 2026

Lowest temperature was -0.8C at 5.41 AM on the 10th

Highest temperature was 28.2C at 2.21PM on the 25th

Strongest wind gust was 28mph at 5.26PM on the 12th

Highest daily rainfall was 7.6mm on the 3rd

Monthly rainfall total was 20.6mm

A very dry May saw the highest daytime temperature of the year so far.



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## Newbrough Womens Institute

**Meeting : Thursday 11th June 2026**

Vice President Susan Sutton welcomed members and guests.

The business of the evening was conducted by the Secretary with an update from Ann Wodzinski about a trip later in the year perhaps to a Christmas Market. We also heard about the success of the Open Gardens event where we helped with catering in The Town Hall. Teresa Bessant reported that the domino team had won its second heat and would now play Craster at a date to be arranged.

We then welcomed Liz Dixon and Lindsey from Tropic Skincare. They were both very enthusiastic about their products and gave us a history of the beginning of the company.

We learned that the founder started very small in her mother's kitchen using recipes learned from her grandmother and going to local markets to sell them. That was 21 years ago and it is going from strength to strength.

They have a very strong ethic of being environmentally friendly and being involved in lots of charitable ventures. We then had the opportunity to try some of the products and hear about the organic ingredients used. After the meeting was closed we then had the opportunity to look through the range of products and make some purchases.

We asked Liz to judge the competition which was 'Something Soft'. This was won by Maureen Carr with her fluffy duster and second was Ann Wodzinski with her Teddy Bear.

The raffle was won by Maureen Carr and the flowers donated by Lucy Fisher were won by our guest.

Our next meeting is on July 9<sup>th</sup> with the speaker being Ian Jackson talking about Northumberland Rocks.

New members are always welcome.



### Save the Date

### PAWS and GRILLS



### Fun Dog Show and Barbecue

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August at The Red Lion, Newbrough. 12 - 5pm**

Dog show, have-a-go agility, sausage on a plate race

Barbecue, tea, coffee, cakes and Bar



#### Bonus Ball draw 2026

##### May

|      |                  |    |
|------|------------------|----|
| 2nd  | Carol Gradwell   | 19 |
| 9th  | Sophie Robley    | 5  |
| 16th | Christine Robley | 20 |
| 23rd | Christine Robley | 35 |

#### Newbrough Town Hall 200 Club draw

##### June

|     |                |     |
|-----|----------------|-----|
| 1st | Ian Bell       | 74  |
| 2nd | Katrina Mewse  | 162 |
| 3rd | Nick Springham | 67  |

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## News from Newbrough C of E Primary School

Dear Friends of the school,

We are incredibly proud to share with you the final report from our recent Ofsted inspection, which took place on 24 March 2026. This report is a testament to the dedication of our staff, the hard work of our pupils, and the continued support of our families.

It is important to share some context regarding Ofsted's renewed inspection framework. Achieving the "Expected standard" is now a very high bar to reach. Unlike the old "best fit" model of previous years, the new framework operates much more like a rigorous tick list, where every single point must be achieved to demonstrate that the school is meeting all professional and statutory standards. We are thrilled that Newbrough has met these high expectations across the board.

### **A "Strong Standard" in Early Years**

We are particularly delighted that our Early Years provision was awarded a "Strong standard", which indicates that leaders are working above the standard expected of them. The inspectors noted that:

- *"Leaders prioritise the early years. As a result, the children in the nursery and reception years make a strong and successful start to their education."*
- Our staff have created an *"inspiring environment with ambitious activities that help children develop skills and knowledge,"* and as a result, *"children are excited and knowledgeable about their learning."*

- There are *"high-quality interactions with staff to support the development of their speech, language and communication,"* ensuring reading and writing are top priorities from day one.

### **Our School Family and Values**

The report also captures the unique culture of our school. Inspectors observed that *"pupils love being part of the Newbrough Church of England Primary School family"* and that they *"feel valued by the staff who know them well."*

Other highlights we wish to celebrate include:

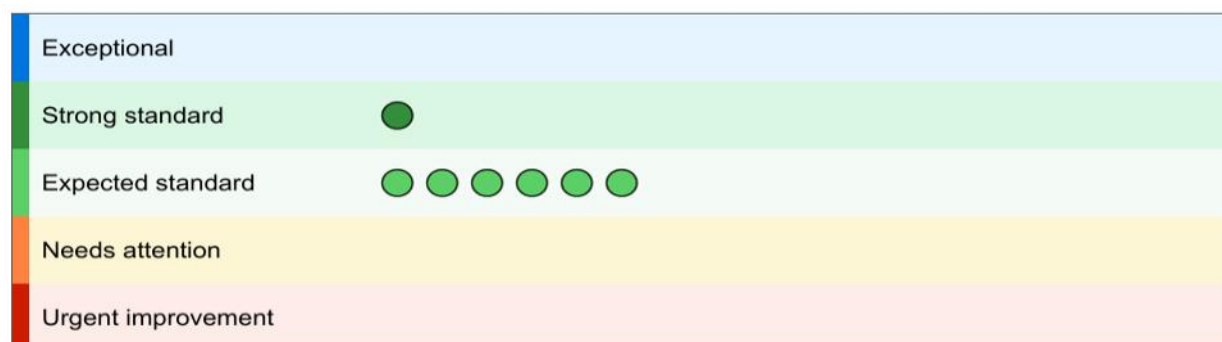
- Inclusion: We are touched that parents *"speak highly of the support that pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) receive."*
- Safety and Behaviour: The school has an "open culture" of safeguarding where pupils feel safe, and "bullying is very rare."
- Living Our Values: Our pupils truly embody our values of perseverance, compassion, courage, and respect, whether they are acting as "changemakers" or supporting the local community through litter picks.

The full report will be available on the Ofsted website this month (June) to read.

I would just like to say again how very proud I am of everyone involved with this glowing report. Thank you.

Mike Boucetla  
Headteacher

## Inspection report: 24 March 2026



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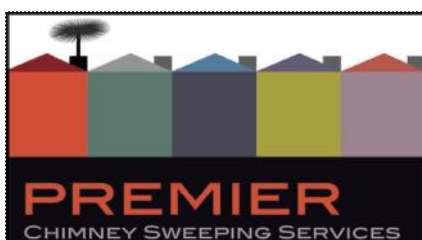
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# Newbrough Town Hall and Bunkhouse

Sheron Robson, Co-Chair

## Open Gardens '26 – A Blooming Wonderful Day Out!

Open Gardens returned for the first time in over ten years, and it was a fantastic success. More than 100 visitors enjoyed exploring ten beautiful private gardens in Newbrough and Fourstones, taking in the colours, scents, and peaceful surroundings close to home. The late addition of Newbrough Park was a welcome bonus, and every garden received high praise, reflecting the hard work and dedication of those who opened them to the public.

The plant sale in the Town Hall courtyard was busy throughout the afternoon, with generous donations from local gardeners and Down To Earth garden centre in Hexham. Many visitors also stopped by the Hall to enjoy delicious cakes and refreshments served by the WI, who continue to be great supporters of the Hall. A raffle was also held, with Helen Patison as the winner.

Thanks to all who turned out, the event raised over £2,000 for the Hall and generated a great deal of positive feedback. The villages had a wonderful atmosphere that day, with a strong sense of community spirit and involvement. All funds raised will support the ongoing refurbishment of the Hall's interior.

This month, Friends of the Hall contributions have also helped cover roof repairs identified during gutter clearing in May.

## July Events:

### FREE SHIBASHI workshop on 4<sup>th</sup> of July 10-11.30

followed by refreshments. Open to all, not just those attending the Wednesday Tai Chi for Health class. Shibashi is a sequence of 18 movements following tai chi principles using controlled breathing. It can reduce stress, improve circulation and enhance energy balance. All movements can be adapted for differing abilities – for example they can be performed from a seated position or you can just hang onto a chair for extra balance during some movements... Following the workshop the Hall will provide refreshments if you want to stay and chat with other class members or ask any questions of the instructor. Wednesday **Tai Chi for Health** classes continue weekly.

## Pickleball FREE TASTER

The Hall is considering purchasing a pickleball set for hire by hall users. To help us assess interest we are running a pickleball taster class on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July 1pm-3pm**. Come along and Vince from Hexham Tennis club will run through the rules and tactics for this enjoyable game that combines elements of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong and is low impact.

**Crochet café** and the **QUIZ** both take a break over summer. So, our spotlight this month is on our weekly classes which run right through the summer.

Attendance sometimes dips with holidays and other commitments so thanks to the class leaders for keeping these classes available weekly on our doorstep.

## Monday

### Pilates 12.15pm

Val's classes aim to develop muscle strength and flexibility as well as joint mobility. The exercises help to balance the distribution of loading in the spine and major joints to minimise the risk of overuse injuries.

Pilates can help you achieve greater range of movement, better functional strength, and ease and freedom in your whole-body movement. See [www.valravelle.com](http://www.valravelle.com) for details

### Yoga 6.30pm

This is a gentle yoga class, although Jane consciously adapts the content for those less/more bendy. She'll even take requests often accommodating weekend gardeners with special stretches for them on a Monday. See [www.jiyoga83.com](http://www.jiyoga83.com) for more information and how to book or drop in on the day.

## Wednesday

### Tai Chi for Health 11.30am – 12.45 pm

Enhance your wellbeing through gentle movement  
Contact Kathryn on [wellbeingfromwithin@outlook.com](mailto:wellbeingfromwithin@outlook.com) or 07721494315 for more details.

Also see free shibashi workshop this month.

*continued.....*

## Wednesday

### **Bowls** - 7pm. Fancy a go?

Or come to watch, friendly non-competitive group who enjoy a gentle addictive game, along side a cuppa, biscuits and a natter. This group is trialling continuing over their usual summer break and would welcome new members.

Contact 01434 674406 and try it out – first session is free to see if you like it!

## Friday

### **Zumba** 6pm

more than just a workout, it's a party with a purpose! No wrong moves, just accidental solos, good music and friendly faces. If you are on the floor with Val you're mostly having fun and bonus burning a few calories!

Find **dance.zumba.with.val** Facebook or just drop in.

### **Line Dancing** 7pm

great exercise, social and welcoming, easy to learn and hard to quit! Lots of laughs and great music – one of our most popular classes.

Find **linedancewithval** on Facebook or just turn up

For dates and updates check:

**Facebook:** [Newbrough Town Hall](#)

**Instagram:** [newbrough\\_town\\_hall](#)

We now hope to run the free **defibrillator training** in September.



We will be shortly launching a new Facebook page for Newbrough Bunkhouse – I know many of you already follow the Hall on Facebook and I am grateful for all the likes and comments you make on that as it really helps Hall events get 'seen' by the algorithm and I especially love it when you recommend the Hall for events and classes when people are asking for recommendations on sites like Hexham matters – these few clicks cost nothing but really help us keep the Hall vibrant and viable.

Perhaps you could have a look at the new Bunkhouse page and give us some feedback there too? TIA (Thanks in advance)

---

## The Parish Produce Show

The annual Produce Show will be held in Newbrough Primary School on Saturday 5 September. The Town Hall has prior bookings on that date and the following weekend, hence the change in venue. Although the schedule is yet to be given a final polish, expect the range of classes to be much the same as in previous years. The schedules should be available on line and from the usual pick-up points in late July.

Due mainly to a very difficult growing season, entries in the vegetable and flower classes were poor last year and the committee hope for more exhibits this September. It is a friendly show and no-one outside the ticket winners (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>) is identified. I hope, possibly in next month's Stanegate, to produce an article outlining what the judge is looking for in the vegetable and flower classes. Nurture your potatoes well because the magnificent Daniel Renwick Memorial Trophy will be awarded to the best exhibit in the potato classes.

## Rob Tindall

Competition in the industrial classes is always keen but novice bakers, needleworkers, artists and photographers have developed a habit of upsetting the applecart by showing the experienced exhibitors how things really should be done. Members of the show committee are always willing to give advice or refer you to some one who knows better about a particular point.

The Committee is :

Michelle Bridges, Victoria Curry, Mandy Perrie, Margaret Tindall, Catherine Whaley and Rob Tindall



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## Senior Citizens' Trip : Thursday 27th August

We'll be going to Saltburn and Staithes. Once again, our coach company is Amble Coaches and the trip is supported by Newbrough and Warden Parish Councils and the Red Lion.

The trip costs nothing to participants and is open to residents of Newbrough and Warden parishes who have reached pensionable age, and their carers if appropriate.

The excursion will leave from the Red Lion at 9am and pick up - if wanted - at Butt Bank, Frankham Road End, The Green Church, Broadway, Hardhaugh and the Boatside. We would aim to be back between 5 and 6pm, depending on traffic conditions.

I am taking bookings from 1st July so please let me know if you would like to go. First come, first served!

Phone 01434 674324 or email [robmtin@aol.com](mailto:robmtin@aol.com)

**Rob Tindall**



### Allen Valley Quoits League July Dates for your diary

Saturday 4th – Beamish – Singles

Sunday 5th – Beamish – Doubles

Saturday 11th – Beamish (Fall back Dates), Singles (Kings Arms Wolviston)

Sunday 12th – Beamish (Fall back Dates) Doubles (Kings Arms Wolviston)

Sunday 12th July – Bobby Dover KO-singles + doubles-Rose & Crown

### For those who stalk for Deer

Those who are local and travel to other areas of the county, into the borders, those who are professional cull specialists - for Sika, Fallow, Red and Roe Deer.

To find those who are skinning, butchering, processing deer for personal, or, commercial purposes.

My specific interest being waste from processing - CAT 3 - waste.

They must be registered with the local council EHO / public health and be able to provide the usual requisite tag details.

email – [hadriansgamelarder@gmail.com](mailto:hadriansgamelarder@gmail.com)

Ideally looking to connect with those who are out stalking during September / October / November.

Pheasant Fishes

## Pork and Parsnip traybake

**Serves 4**

**Preparation time : 10 mins**

**cooking time 40 mins**

4 large parsnips  
2 red onions, cut into wedges  
1½ tbsp olive oil  
4 trimmed pork chops  
Sage



\*\*\*\*\*

1½ tbsp clear honey  
1½ tbsp wholegrain mustard

**Oven 220C / 200 fan / gas 7**

1. Put vegetables in roasting tin. Season and toss with 2 tbsp olive oil and 1 tbsp mustard. Roast for 20 mins with the remaining oil, fry the chops in heated pan for up to 1 min until slightly brown on both sides.
2. Stir the veg, then place the chops on top and rub with remaining mustard. Roast for a further 15 mins. Drizzle with honey and scatter sage over. Return to oven for 5 mins or until pork is cooked through. Serve with juices from the tin.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Roasted sausage and potato supper

**Serves 4**

2 tbsp olive oil  
2 red peppers, diced  
2 garlic cloves, chopped  
200ml white wine  
500g baby new potatoes  
1 tbsp fresh thyme  
2 large onions sliced into wedges  
12 sausages



**Oven : 220C / 200 fan / gas 7**

1. Place all ingredients, except the wine, into a large resealable freezer bag. Seal and shake well to coat in oil.
2. Tip into roasting tin, spreading the ingredients out into one even layer and ensuring the sausages aren't covered by the veg. Season well
3. Roast for 30 – 35 mins until golden brown.
4. Remove from oven, turn sausages and toss veg in cooking juices.
5. Pour in the wine and return to oven for 20 minutes until browned and sausages are cooked and potato is tender.

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# Kids today don't know they're born

## Stanegate local and family history section

Rob Tindall

In Victorian times the lead mines at Settlingstones and Stonecroft were important sources of jobs but not only for adults. The following age information is taken from the 1871 Census. Information for Fourstones, Allerwash and Nun's Bush show a similar pattern.

Once the ore was taken out of the mine it had to be crushed and all the waste washed away leaving the pure lead. This work was done mainly by boys, who were paid by the mine owner on a daily basis.

The Washer Boy would start work at nine years old for 4d. (four old pence) a day. By this time, he would already have been at school since he was six years old. He finished school by the age of twelve, when he would be earning 7d a day. At fourteen years old a washer boy could work underground during the non- washing winter months when inclement weather prevented work on the washing floors. He would now be paid 9p a day. At fourteen he could work underground, perhaps helping with the Galloways (ponies) or working the ventilation fans or just helping around the partnership, which probably consisted of his father or brothers or relatives, but he could not work as a miner until he was eighteen years old, by which time he would be earning 1s1d (one shilling and a penny).

Work as a washer boy was hard and long, in fact he worked longer hours than his father, the miner! He worked twelve hours a day against the miner's eight hours a day. He worked under a disciplined regime and there were harsh penalties (mostly of wage reduction) for neglect of working hours.

The mines were open even when the washing floors were frozen up, unless the weather was so bad as to

preclude any travel across the fells to the mining shop, then the fourteen year old boys could earn a small wage either from the mine owner, the Galloway owner or even perhaps within his father's partnership.

### Newbrough

|                     |                       |     |    |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-----|----|
| Christopher Dinning | Lead ore miner        | Age | 14 |
| Jane A Robson       | General Servant       |     | 15 |
| Martin Hutchinson   | Lead ore dresser      |     | 13 |
| Joseph Hutchinson   | Lead ore dresser      |     | 11 |
| Isabella Robson     | Agricultural labourer |     | 15 |
| Mary Bell           | Agricultural labourer |     | 15 |
| William Bell        | Agricultural labourer |     | 12 |
| Matthew Bell        | Agricultural labourer |     | 9  |
| Thomas Bell         | Agricultural labourer |     | 7  |
| John Molineux       | Page Boy              |     | 12 |

### **Red Houses**

|                   |                       |    |
|-------------------|-----------------------|----|
| Thomas Ridley     | Lead ore dresser      | 13 |
| George Bell       | Lead ore dresser      | 13 |
| James Hudspith    | Lead ore dresser      | 11 |
| Matthew Henderson | Coal miner            | 15 |
| Edward Henderson  | Coal miner            | 12 |
| Jane Anne Lowes   | Agricultural labourer | 15 |
| Matthew Lowes     | Lead ore dresser      | 13 |
| Christopher Lowes | Lead ore dresser      | 10 |
| Jane Dunn         | Agricultural labourer | 15 |

### Greyside/Stonecroft/Settlingstones

|                   |                       |    |
|-------------------|-----------------------|----|
| George Dodd       | Lead ore washer       | 10 |
| Hannah Armstrong  | Agricultural labourer | 14 |
| Hugh Hetherington | Lead ore dresser      | 15 |
| John Hetherington | Lead ore dresser      | 13 |
| William Lee       | Lead ore dresser      | 13 |
| John R Nixon      | Lead ore dresser      | 12 |
| Thomas A Brown    | Lead ore dresser      | 14 |
| John Harkness     | Lead ore dresser      | 13 |

## Stanegate local and family history section

If anyone has pieces of interest they would like to share for inclusion in this section of The Stanegate, please email the Editorial Team at **thestanegate@hotmail.com**

## July, From the Garden

Bulbs that can be planted now that will be ready for autumn are autumn crocuses, *Colchicum*, *Sternbergia*, *Amaryllis* and *Nerine*.

You can start cutting back your geraniums and delphiniums to encourage a new flush of flowers. If you have ever wondered when to divide those bearded irises now is the time. Prune June-flowering shrubs such as *Philadelphus* and *Weigela* after flowering. Prune deciduous magnolias, if necessary, too.

If you have been lucky enough to have had the space to have a wildflower meadow or area now is the also the time to cut back spring and early summer flowering wildflowers but do have a check first to see that they have indeed dropped their seeds first.

If we get very dry spells, try to not cut the lawn – you're only going to damage it further especially in drought. You can always just trim the edges to make it look neat. Also, the first cut after a drought is best to lift the lawn mowers cut height up further than you had it before.

Now is a good time to take cuttings of your fuschias and pelargoniums if you have the greenhouse space. Keep on top of your deadheading of repeat flowering perennials and your bedding plants as it is worth doing.

While we have time I thought I would talk about my favourite family of flowering plants which is the orchid. The Orchid family is known as Orchidaceae and is one of the largest plants groups with well over 28,000 to 35,000 species across about 900 genera and is also one of the oldest.

The seeds of orchids are almost microscopic and don't have all the ingredients of life in the seed itself. It is almost a little miracle that these seeds get to germinate in the first place as they need a fungal partner for germination. This means they need to have been blown in the wind to the exact place where there is the right amount of fungus for them to germinate.

The flowers themselves have bilateral symmetry known as zygomorphic. Basically, you can run a line down the centre of the flower, and each side is an exact mirror of the other.

Another bit of plant trivia for you if it ever comes up in a pub quiz, the word Orchid comes from the Greek word orkhis meaning testicle as it refers for to the shape of the root tubers in the species of the type genus, *Orchis*.

## Iain O'Brien

In middle English the name bollockwort was used, bollock meaning again testicle and wort meaning plant.

Vanilla that we all know about and have used for years is an orchid and originated from Mexico. It took until 1841 for a simple and efficient artificial hand pollination method to produce seeds to be created and was found by a 12-year-old slave boy called Edmond Albius using a bevelled sliver of bamboo and it's still used today. Again the seeds themselves need a mycorrhizal fungi to germinate.

The orchid that most people know about and have in their houses are the *Phalaenopsis*, or the Moth orchid. My favourite orchids are the *Dracula* orchids which flowers have a centre that can resemble animals or little faces such as the monkey face orchid.

There is also the bumble bee orchid (*Ophrys bombyliflora*) →

which looks like a smiling cartoon bumblebee.

The bumble bee orchid is a terrestrial orchid which just means it grows in the ground instead of up in trees or on wood.



Then there's the naked man orchid which looks like,,,,,, a naked man, (*Orchis italica*)

If you have a moth orchid they tend to do better with steady warm temperature and high humidity. Those long straggly roots that come out of the pots are air roots, so you don't need to keep shoving them back under the orchid mix or repotting them as they appear. Make sure they do not sit in water especially if you're using a cover pot. And they also don't like water sitting in the crown of the leaves. They do best not sat right in a window getting full sun but do better if they are set back somewhat from the window and can do well behind a net curtain. They would be under dappled shade and sun originally under a tree canopy. I had one on a table set back in a bay style window which only got late afternoon sun, and it did fantastically well with a few drops of water on an evening. Once the flowers start to drop off cut the flowering stalk off as far down as you can and the next flowers, after it has a rest, will be better than the ones that may start to grow on the same flower spike.

Talk again next month.

## Church Pages

### Who's Who

#### Church of England

Parishes by the Wall (East)  
The Reverend Ollie Dempsey  
The Vicarage  
Station Yard  
Haydon Bridge  
NE47 6LL

Tel: 01434 671649

#### Methodist

Reverend Michael Holland  
Tynedale Methodist Circuit  
Fern House  
Catton  
Hexham  
NE47 6QS

Tel: 01434 683732

#### Roman Catholic

Parish Priest : Fr Jeffrey Dodds  
Assisted by Fr Paul Kilduff  
St Mary's Catholic Church  
Hencotes  
Hexham  
NE46 3EB

Tel: 01434 603119

### From the Registers

#### Funerals:

*If we have been united with Christ through baptism into death, we will certainly be united with Him in his resurrection.*

On 9th June 2026, at St Peter's Church,  
Newbrough, Sheila Denham of Newbrough

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Search for: St John Lee, Northumberland;  
St Peter's Church and add Newbrough in  
postcode box; St Cuthbert's, Haydon Bridge.

### Support St Aidan, Fourstones, via Justgiving

Go to: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/4stones-st-aidans>

### St John of Beverley, Haydon Bridge

If you have any queries about service times  
please contact:

St Mary's Catholic Church,  
Hencotes, Hexham  
or call 01434 603119

## Letter from Reverend Michael Holland.....

Dear friends,

As I write the football world cup competition is just beginning and people across the world will be cheering for their teams. It's a time when some will be glued their televisions, hoping that this time, maybe this time our team will win. Maybe, just maybe it might be coming home. For others who are not interested, this festival that catches the world's attention will pass them by, but it is cause of excitement to many.

By the time the World Cup is over something else will have happened locally that will be marked by some, and we don't want it to pass you by. This month our Methodist chapel in Fourstones marks its 150th anniversary and also the end of its mission and ministry here in this place.

We're marking this on Saturday 11 July from 3.00pm to 4.30pm with a drop in for tea and cake and an opportunity to chat and to share memories of the role of the chapel in the community and in our lives over the years. There will be memories of weddings, funerals, baptisms, special moments and friendships; some might even be able to remember the Sunday School summer outings to the coast.

On Sunday 12 July at 3.00pm we shall have our last service in the chapel where we will give thanks to God for the life and ministry of the chapel in Fourstones and all it has meant to us and also pray for the future. You are all invited to come and share in this with us.

It is for us a time of celebration, a time of loss and a time of uncertainty as we step into a new future, with questions around where we shall worship and how we can continue to support one another in our walk of faith and service. Yet no matter what, we go into this future with the words of our founder John Wesley, who on his deathbed said, "the best of all, God is with us."

Please do join us as we mark this time in our chapel and village.

With grace and peace,  
Michael

Rev Michael Holland in the minister for Fourstones with Warden, Haydon Bridge and Allen Valleys Methodist Churches

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

#### St John Lee, Warden with Newbrough and Haydon Bridge

|            | 08.00       | 09.30        | 11.00                      |
|------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| 1st Sunday | St John Lee | Warden (BCP) | Haydon Bridge, St Cuthbert |
| 2nd Sunday | no service  | St John Lee  | Haydon Bridge, St Cuthbert |
| 3rd Sunday | no service  | Newbrough    | Haydon Bridge, St Cuthbert |
| 4th Sunday | Warden      | St John Lee  | Haydon Bridge, St Cuthbert |

#### Weekday Services

|                |                                |                                 |
|----------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Evening Prayer | 1630                           | Wednesday at Fourstones         |
| The Eucharist  | 1000                           | Wednesday at <i>St John Lee</i> |
| The Eucharist  | On festival days as advertised |                                 |

The Reverend Ollie Dempsey

Tel: 01434 671 649

email: [fr.oliver.dempsey@outlook.com](mailto:fr.oliver.dempsey@outlook.com)