



Helping Homeless Women - North East Christmas Campaign 2017

There was an overwhelming and most generous response locally to this campaign, which was hugely appreciated by the organisers. Many, many boxes and bags of soaps, creams, shampoos etc, were sent and most gratefully received. Thank you very much indeed to all who so kindly contributed.

As a number of donations for 2018 have been handed in at The Old Vicarage, Stamfordham, since Christmas 2017, it has been decided to keep the appeal on-going throughout the year until next Christmas! Any gifts for women could be left at The Old Vicarage, so please keep collecting!

Jacqueline Nicholson

☎ 01661 886272

Your letters...

Bad Weather and the Village Shop

With the recent bad weather, it has been great having a village shop to be able to get essentials like bread and milk. I'm guessing that there may have been a few village residents who ventured into the shop for the very first time during this poor weather. I hope that these people realise what a great little shop we have in the village, and continue to use it once the snow has gone.

Must also say a big, big thank you and well done to the staff at the shop and pub: Kody, Dick and Percy, who have kept the shop open and even managed to keep it stocked with those essentials.

Stuart Wilson

Village resident and shop user

+ + +

On behalf of us all in Stamfordham, a huge 'Thank you' to all at the *Swinburne* and The Village Shop (Kody and Kody Green's Dad and his tractor) for opening every day and keeping shelves stocked during the worst of the winter's weather so far.

Do we need a Village Shop?
We certainly do!

Charlotte Hancock

... I Was That Smart Officer. Part 2 *by John Aitkenhead*

I was stationed in the West Tyne at Prudhoe, when the Queen Mother was to visit Tyndale.

She performed numerous activities on the day, including, the opening of The National Trust, Thomas Bewicke Museum at Mickley.

Inspector Bill Scott at Hexham taps me up and gives me the blarney:

"We need a good Pointsman, somebody who knows what they are doing. I'll put you down for it, OK?"

Thanks...

I would just like to ask if it would be possible to mention in the newsletter a huge thanks to all the people who stopped to ask us if we needed assistance, when our Twingo got stuck in snow just outside of Stamfordham.

A massive thank you to the two tractors who came and dug us out and towed us back onto the road. May I just add that the kind farmer from South Ouston Farm came back and picked me up to take me to recover my car after digging out the road. I cannot thank him enough for his kindness.

Thank you very, very much

Ashley, Mick and Harriet

Kiln House

Stamfordham Bonfire & Fireworks
present

Comedy Night

Saturday 14th April 8pm

Swinburne Arms

FOUR ACTS: MC/host: Tony Basnett
Rob Mulholland
Danny Sutcliffe Bethany Black

Tickets £15 available online at

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/stamfordhambonfirefireworks/150387>

or scan the QR code with smart phone to take you direct to the ticket site.

All proceeds from the night are going to help fund the fireworks.

A limited number of tickets will be available in the Swinburne/shop.

Watch out for the flyer coming through your door!



[Cont'd on page 3]



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<http://dogwalkingnortheast.co.uk>



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Please contact  **07798 622923**
for an appointment.

Come the day, cometh the man! And I am standing on the A695 outside Mickley Club, on a Crossroads.

Fortunately Bill Scott's idea of suitable attire for a Traffic Pointsman was the same as my own: a nice pair of extra shiny boots, in honour of the day, crease in the trousers you could shave with, and a freshly laundered, brilliant white Market Coat - the style that Arkwright wore in "Open all Hours". Oh, and nice clean, white cotton gloves.

I had a grand day.

Apart from a Personal Radio I had another one, on a dedicated channel carrying radio traffic about the VIPs and where they were.

A lot of people turned up to see The Queen Mum. Lots of older women and lots of small kids from the local school. I had a good time having a laugh with the Old Girls, and keeping them all posted as to where she was and how soon she would be arriving, courtesy of my special radio. I don't think that that was what it was really meant for, but it certainly did the job.

Eventually she was minutes away. I got all the Old Dears primed; they in turn marshalled the little kids, and then she arrived! Give the Royals their due, in those days, and especially the senior ones such as Good Queen Mum Bess, they certainly knew how to do the job. The Royal Roller slowed right down, everybody got a tremendous view, and she seemed to wave at everyone individually. As she went past me on my point, I threw her up an inch-perfect salute. It's impossible, but - you know what? - she seemed to nod at me personally as she sailed past!

She was down at the museum opening for about an hour. I know that she overstayed her allotted time. While she was away, one of the old dears, who lived two doors away from the junction, nipped home and brought back a tray with a pot of tea and a plate of scones. For me!

All things come to an end, and in no time at all, the Royal Procession came back up the bank from Cherryburn, and I saw her out onto the main road and off on her way to Alnwick, where the Royal Party had booked B&B at Alnwick Castle.

As she turned onto the A695, I threw another one up and this time I was convinced she did give me a nod.

When it got to the de-brief, and I was handing in my Special Radio, Bill Scott buttonholed me and said "Hey, that was good, did somebody tell you to do that?"

"No, no", I said pointing to the Crown on my cap badge, "By Royal Appointment".

"Well," says Scotty, "It must have impressed her no end. She's supposed to have said to the Lady-in-Waiting, "That was a smart officer on the traffic point."

He always did tell a good tale did Bill Scott, but anyway.....This is very belated: Thank very much, Your Majesty, and no matter where you are, have one on me, because, I was that Smart Officer!

**STAMFORDHAM
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

**Wednesday, 18th April
ANNUAL MEETING
WI Adviser will attend**

**For details, please contact
Anthea on ☎ 886669 or Jane on ☎ 886214**

+ + +

Stamfordham WI was formed in 1918. We are still going strong and looking forward to our big birthday. If anyone has any memorabilia relating to our WI, we should like to hear from you. Please contact Lorna Telfer, Stamfordham WI, on ☎ 886275

+ + +

SWI calendar of events for may be seen at
www.stamfordhamvillagehall.co.uk/wi.htm

Prizes



Raffle

**STAMFORDHAM Wi
DOMINO DRIVE**

Friday 23rd March
7.00pm in the Village Hall
£5 entry includes refreshments.

All Welcome!



Crafty Reivers

Meetings at Stamfordham Village Hall.
Saturday 24th March at 10am - 3pm

All crafters welcome. Bring a packed lunch and your chosen craft. This is a supportive self help group.
Cost £3 to members and £6 for visitors to cover room hire and refreshments.

Ponteland Wildlife Group

Richard Prior will give a talk on *The Natural History of Howick* on Tuesday April 3rd at 7.30pm in St Mary's Hall, Thornhill Road.

For both above: Admission £2 including refreshments. Open to all.

- *Did you spot the new advert for Mobile Hairdressing on page 2 ?*

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Telephone: 07841 511674



Stamfordham Uniting Church

YOUTH GROUP

Weekly Tuesdays 7:30-9pm

For more information
Contact Helen or Philip on ☎ 825669



STAMFORDHAM ART GROUP

Meetings are in the Village Hall on Tuesday afternoons
from Noon until 3pm (to avoid driving home in the dark).

This year's sessions started on 3rd January.

It is a group of friendly artists of all abilities, who enjoy the opportunity and discipline to meet regularly to work, compare, discuss and learn from others.

There is no tutor, but anyone painting alone or wishing to rekindle the urge to paint again will be welcome and given encouragement and support if wanted.

The cost is £35 per 12-week session
(£2.90/ week, including tea/coffee)

Anyone interested should contact our Secretary
Norman Lees on ☎ 01434 633894

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☎ 07411 929616 *or*

✉ simonegdell@gmail.com

Advanced Notice



Care and support through terminal illness

This an invitation from The Friends and Supporters of Marie Curie, Newcastle to join The Yellow Ribbon Walk on 13th May to remember family and friends.

We are raising money for a new family unit at the Marie Curie Centre. The Yellow Ribbon Walk is for all ages and abilities and takes place at Kirkharle Courtyard starting at 2pm. There are three routes through lovely countryside that once inspired Capability Brown:

- 5k guided circular walk along the old coach road and farm tracks
- 1.5k shorter walk
- 1k lakeside path with nature trail.

We are hoping to raise as much as possible to fund a new, self contained unit allowing terminally ill patients to be cared for by hospice staff with their families around them. A similar one opened in 2013, funded by the Friends, is the only facility in the north east and is in continuous use. The project is a priority and costs £60,000.

To join the walk, a fee of £10 for an adult, £5 for 6-16 year olds and £20 for a family of 4, covers administrative costs, and participants are asked to invite sponsorship to help cover us reaching our target. Please come and enjoy a walk in the countryside!

For further details contact

✉ rsvpfriendsofmariecurie@gmail.com



friends of marie curie - yellow ribbon walk

☎ 01830 540395



The Northumberland County Council iNorthumberland team has responsibility for the deployment of superfast broadband throughout Northumberland.

As part of our demand stimulation and community engagement work, we regularly attend and host events throughout the county to provide information on broadband and digital inclusion.

We are hosting a number of events around Northumberland to provide this advice and information, and will be at Stamfordham Village Hall on Tuesday 10th July from 5:30 to 6:30pm.

The date and time of this event will be confirmed later.
NCC

Making Music in The Swinburne Arms

1ST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH FROM 8PM

STARTING 6TH FEBRUARY

Any instrument (including voice) Any abilities welcome.

Come and enjoy making music in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. We are open to any suggestions of types of music to play just bring along yourself and/or your musical instrument. Join in what you can. Music will be available for those that can read music.

Organised by Sally Hutt

Contact Sally for more information on 01661 886442 or sally.hutt64@gmail.com



Stamfordham's Got Talent...

.....is coming back for a second year and will be 28th April 7pm in the Village Hall. Please let us know asap if you or your children have a talent to share and it's not too early to book your seats! Last year it was a wonderful event and everyone had a great evening. We would love to hear if you have a talent - singing, dancing, karate, telling jokes, doing sketches or something we might not have thought of.

You can contact Revd Rachel on

✉ r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org or

☎ 01661 886853 or

Peter Lombard on

✉ pmj.lombard@googlemail.com or

☎ 01661 886331

YOU ARE INVITED TO
STAMFORDHAM'S GOT TALENT
28TH APRIL 7PM
IN THE VILLAGE HALL

FREE TO RESERVE A SEAT AND SAUSAGE IN A BUN SUPPER AND DESSERT - DONATIONS ON THE NIGHT

PLEASE CONTACT PETER LOMBARD TO RESERVE PLACES OR TO LET US KNOW YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE YOUR TALENT
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Stamfordham Bulk Heating Oil Purchasing

People who have signed up for the scheme
are reminded that their orders should be in
during the first seven days of the month,
except July when no orders are taken, to either

Roy Hollis ☎ 886343 ✉ royanhollis@gmail.com

or

Steve Noble ☎ 886223 ✉ consultsnoble@aol.com

NOTE: To reduce the chance of losses of messages,
emails should be sent to both e-addresses and
if telephoning an order, it is essential
you speak to Steve or Roy personally.



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Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday - 29th March
St. Mary's Church Stamfordham 7pm

Good Friday - 30th March
Church on the Green 10am

Easter Eve - 31st March
Matfen Village Hall followed
by Holy Trinity Church 7pm

Easter Day - 1st April
Holy Trinity Church Matfen 9am
St. Mary's Church Stamfordham 10.30am



The Swinburne Arms

Village Shop

31, North Side, Stamfordham, NE18 0QG
 ☎ 01661 886015 www.swinburnearms.com

Pop into the Shop or the Pub to find out about live bands playing at The Swinburne Arms over the next few weeks and months.....

The shop opening hours are

Mon – Sat: 7.00am – 1.00pm and 3.00 – 5.30pm Sun : 7.00am – 1.00pm

We sell a wide range of household goods: Daily papers, some magazines, greetings cards, bread (loaves, baps, etc.), tinned goods and toilet rolls, toothpaste and soap, soft drinks and sweets, crisps, tea, coffee and milk, locally produced eggs, and many others.

Call in to see the range of our goods, and remember us when you suddenly run out of the that commodity which won't wait till you next go to Ponteland or order the Tesco van!



PERSPECTIVES

CHRISTIAN VISION FOR MEN
TYNE VALLEY

8.30am, Saturday 24 March
Vallum Tea Room



Michael Urwin – The Journey

Coming from a family with marine connections Michael joined Swan, Hunter & Wigham Richardson Shipbuilders in 1958 and then studied naval architecture for five years to obtain his qualifications. As UK shipbuilding declined he joined a national contractor where he served for many years as Sales & Marketing Manager then as a General Manager. Eventually the collapse of major projects (mainly in the petrochemical and offshore industries) led to redundancy for many staff – including himself. However, he set up a consultancy and carried out work for an international contractor along with other clients in the UK and overseas. In January 1989 Michael was invited to join a global Christian organisation - Gideons International - as their National Field Development Manager. (He had become a Christian at the age of 11.) Despite the many practical challenges Michael sees this as having been the most fulfilling part of his career, involving work in the UK plus visits to countries around the world.

Perspectives. We usually meet on the last* Saturday of the month (Sep-Nov, Jan-Apr) at 8.15 for 8.30am, to 10am, for breakfast followed by a speaker and opportunity for questions. (*Or the next Saturday, to avoid school holiday clashes.)

Venue: Vallum Tea Room, East Wallhouses, NE18 0LL (www.vallumfarm.co.uk), on the B6318 Military Road near Corbridge. There is ample car parking.

Full English Breakfast - £10. Continental Breakfast - £8.

To book please email jonathan@perspectivesvcvm.org.uk. More information at www.perspectivesvcvm.org.uk

Thanks are due this month....

...for donations for advertising of £12 to V. Hutchinson and for £20 from Dissington Hall.

St. Mary's Church, Stamfordham

Easter Day All Age Holy Communion

10.30am followed by Easter Egg Hunt

BUGGY BOOT CAMP

AT Mowden Hall School

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TO BOOK CONTACT AMANDA AMANDA@DISHHOTMAIL.CO.UK TEL: 07750 630599 WWW.MOWDENHALL.CO.UK NEWTON, STOCKSFIELD, NE43 7TP

EVERY MONDAY 11AM - 12PM STARTING 9TH OCT. TERM TIME

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Items for £189 to Editor by Sunday 11th April, 2018, please.

☎ 886432 davidmstanley432@gmail.com [St. Quentin, Grange Ave. NE18 0PG](mailto:St.Quentin,GrangeAve,NE180PG)

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