



Next deadline 31st October 2020

email: stamfordhamcommunicator@gmail.com

Due to the current pandemic, this publication is mainly available in digital format to ensure that those who normally deliver each edition stay safe and well at home. If you know of anyone who would like a paper copy, please email their name and address to:

stamfordhamcommunicator@gmail.com

Dates for your diary: See the notices

Friday 2nd October – **Frosts Fish and Chips** 4.30 – 7.00pm

Monday 5th October – **Scots Gap Medical Group Flu Clinic** – Village Hall (booking required)

Mondays – **Indoor Bowls** – Village Hall 7-9pm

Wednesdays – **Karate Club** – Village Hall 6.30pm

FOR SALE SECTION: See page 3.

If you wish to advertise items for sale, please email to the above address.

STAMFORDHAM CARPET BOWLS CLUB

Our new season started on Monday 7th September

Covid secure procedures are in place.

Club nights are Mondays 7.00 - 9.00 p.m in the Village Hall.

For more details contact Steve Edwards (886310).

*****The Pop-Up Cafe in the village hall is cancelled until further notice*****

The café will be re-instated when it is safe to do so.

The hot meal service provided by the Upper Pont Kitchen will continue on Thursdays. All meals must be pre-ordered by calling **Rev Rachel 886853** or emailing r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org

Charlotte Hancock

Thank you again to those who have made donations to the Stamfordham Communicator. These will be held in the account until such time that we revert to the printed and delivered editions.

Advertisers and supporters:

You can now make your donation via online banking:

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SCOTS GAP MEDICAL GROUP FLU CLINIC

for patients registered at Scots Gap and Stamfordham Practice

Flu season 2020 is nearly upon us and we're coming to a village hall near you!

After extensive planning we are ready to book eligible patients (over 65, pregnant, certain long term conditions, carers) into our 2020 flu clinics. We have had to make changes in our usual flu clinic arrangements to protect patients and staff according to COVID guidelines. Flu appointments will not be available at either of our surgery sites, unless you have a face to face appointment already pre-arranged with a clinician. **This year we are planning our flu clinics to take place within local village halls.** We would like to sincerely thank all the village hall committee members for their support and making this plan achievable.

The dates and locations are –

Stamfordham Village Hall - 5th October

Cambo Village Hall - 13th October

Middleton & Todridge Village Hall –12th October

Kirkwhelpington Village Hall - 19th October

Elsdon Village Hall – TBC

Please can you observe the following guidance to protect us all:

- Do not attend if you are unwell or have any of the COVID symptoms.
- Only patient with appointments will be seen (no walk-ins). This is for flu vaccination only. If you wish to discuss anything with the clinicians this must be arranged at another time.
- Please wait outside or in car until schedule appointment time. Appointment times are staggered to ensure minimum people in the village hall as possible.
- On entering the building a mask is mandatory and use the hand gel provided.
- Tell the receptionist at the entrance that you have arrived.
- We will have a one way system in place so please adhere to this.
- Wear clothing that ensures left arm is easily accessible.
- Come alone if possible or with household member if they are also receiving a flu vaccination.

If you do not wish to have your flu vaccination please could you let the surgery know by telephoning or emailing us at norccg.scotsgapsurgeryadmin@nhs.net . This means we can give that vaccine to another person.

Patients aged 2 - 17 years who are eligible for flu vaccination will be contacted and an appointment will be made at the surgery.

50-64 year olds will be included in this year's flu vaccination program. **Please note that people in the 50-64 year old age group will not be vaccinated until November and December, providing there is sufficient vaccine, and no appointments will be offered for this age group until then.** This is to ensure that those who are most at risk are vaccinated first. If you are 50-64 and you are in one of the other groups eligible for the flu vaccination, for example you have a health condition which puts you at risk from the flu, you will be invited earlier.

Sir Thomas Widdrington (Educational) Trust
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STUDENTS CRITERIA

Grants for educational purposes may be available to students under the age of 25 who are resident in the area comprising the parishes of Stamfordham, Belsay, Capheaton and Matfen or have a parent or parents so resident or who have at any time attended as a pupil at a school in Stamfordham or Belsay who are in need of financial assistance towards the costs of their education.

Please obtain an application form from Mr I Lawson (ianphiliplawson@hotmail.co.uk) and the Trustees will consider your application and, if appropriate, a grant may be made.



Request to all the gardeners in the village

Do you have spare plants? These are being requested for the churchyard, so if you are dividing your plants, preferably taller ones, that have grown too large and have some left over please contact Anna Trevelyan (886225) or Peter Lombard (886331). Thank you.

Ponteland U3A

Due to the current situation we cannot meet on the first Wednesday of the month at St Mary's Church Hall until it's safe to do so.

However, thanks to Zoom we are able to give our monthly talks which will commence at 1400 on the first Wednesday of each month. These talks are available for members and non-members alike as long as they have access to the internet.

Apologies to those members who do not have internet access but we can only hope that the situation changes before too long.

For more general information on U3A please visit u3asites.org.uk/Ponteland or contact (01661) 824953 for membership information.

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KARATE CLUB – STAMFORDHAM VILLAGE HALL



Karate lessons have now resumed on a **Wednesday evening at 6.30pm** and Steve is looking for a fresh influx of students. The class is very friendly and caters for all ages and abilities, it doesn't matter whether you are 6 years old or 60 years old as we currently have students that span that age range! Steve is a senior instructor within SRKA and is particularly keen to get more women into karate because, as you can see from the black belt grading results...they are very good!



Why not come along and give it a go, it's great for all sorts of reasons, whether you want to improve your fitness, increase your confidence, learn self-defence, get some discipline into your life or simply want to get a black belt!....SRKA can help you to reach those goals!

For more information on the Stamfordham karate club and SRKA, or to book a place in the class, get in touch with

Steve on 07456 657308

He will be more than happy to have a chat, give you more details and chat about your needs.

New Traffic Restrictions in and around Stamfordham



Residents will be aware of the new double yellow lines around Stamfordham Primary School. Northumberland County Council also propose to introduce new speed restrictions in and around the village. Dave Stanley has kindly summarised the (slightly complex) detail of the highways order:

“Using the original 30mph signs as reference:

20 mph limit is for everywhere in the village, including all side roads, within those 30mph signs.

EXCEPT

30mph remains in all of Dark Lane and Hawkwell;

40mph is introduced starting at the existing 30 signs and outwards: on the Matfen Road to just past the entrance to Mainsbank; on the Heugh Bank to about the end of the lay-by just beyond Chapel Farm entrance; on the Whittle Dean road to just past the Playing Field and on the Newcastle road to just beyond Lane House.”

Full details are available on the NCC website at

https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/NorthumberlandCountyCouncil/media/Roads-streets-and-transport/roads%20highways%20and%20pavements/Traffic%20Management/Prepared%20orders/Stamfordham-Village-20-40mph-Publishing-notice-TROM_195.pdf

Hi Folks, we are back and we have some great news....

Stage 2 of **The Loaf Shack** is happening!

From next month, we will be back at the The Village Hall at our new monthly slot of the **first Saturday of the month (7th November) at 11.00am** But....

This time we're doing things a little differently...

We've moved inside the Village Hall and we're operating a tea shop style pop-up with seating available for those who would like to sit down with a tea or coffee with their baked goods or if you're taking a rest from your cycling.

We'll have recyclable takeaway cups available too for those on the move.

We'll also have a counter service which is great as we can make some lovely things we were not able to before.

I hope you can make it, please feel free to share the Loaf...



Graham Herford DIY/HANDYMAN & Gardening Services

Coronavirus

I would like to let everyone know that I am still able to offer a reduced Gardening service & carry out certain DIY jobs during these very difficult times.

I take my own & everyone else's safety extremely seriously and would only consider carrying out work if I can meet stringent conditions set out by myself and the UK Government.

Last updated on 29th March 2020 this is the statement on Gov.Uk website (I will be checking daily for any updates)

"Work carried out in people's homes, for example by tradespeople carrying out repairs and maintenance, can continue, provided that the tradesperson is well and has no symptoms. Again, it will be important to ensure that Public Health England guidelines, including maintaining a 2 metre distance from any household occupants, are followed to ensure everyone's safety"

Therefore if you would like to discuss possible work please contact me and we can talk about your needs.

Also if you are planning jobs for the future please let me know and I will provisionally take the details ready for when things get back to normal....let's hope that is not too far away!

I would like to wish everyone well in our community and further afield.

Thank you and stay safe.

Graham Herford, Fenwick Lodge
Stamfordham, NE18 0QR

01661 886882

07834 608751

Email: graham.herford@btinternet.com

Town and Country Canine

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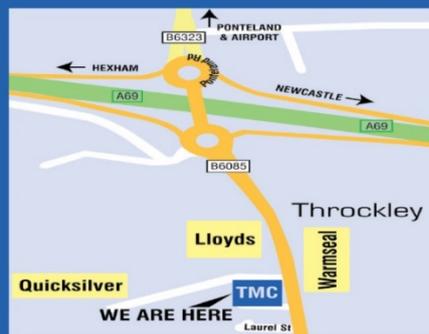
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Neither Stamfordham Parish Council nor the editor endorses any advertisement in SC. No anonymous correspondence will be published or entered into. Any notices for the next edition should be sent to me by **31st October 2020** preferably using the SC email address, please.

Gill Blissett



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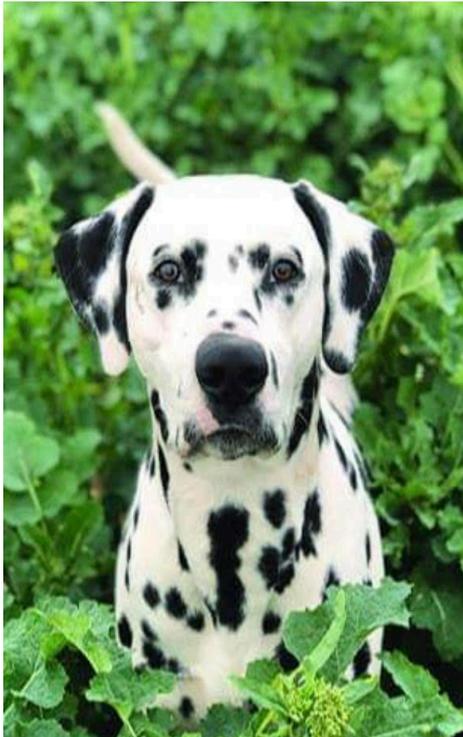
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From the County Council...

Council scheme extended to 15,000 free trees

A pioneering new initiative launched by the council has received phenomenal response from residents, schools and community groups in Northumberland.

Northumberland County Council is one of the first local authorities in the country to launch a scheme that works with its own residents to help tackle climate change through planting more trees.

The scheme, which offers residents, schools and community groups the chance to claim free trees to plant on their own premises, received a flurry of orders, with tree bookings reaching capacity in just four days.

Cllr Glen Sanderson, cabinet member for Environment and Local Services, said: “The public’s response to this scheme has been absolutely amazing, with thousands of our residents showing their support to tackle climate change.

“Because of this we’re delighted to extend the scheme to offer an additional 5,000 trees to our residents, schools and communities across Northumberland.”

Nine different species of trees are available, which are suitable for small, medium and large gardens, with hedge, copse or native harvest packs available for schools and community groups.

Residents that do not have areas where they can plant a tree will be offered a small cell grown shrub which they can plant in their own container and will be suitable for properties with limited garden space, balconies or rented properties.

Collection points are currently being established, but will open in Autumn/Winter and will follow social distancing guidance and be held in easily accessible areas to help minimise residents’ travel and reduce their carbon footprints.

The trees are small cell grown plants, sourced from the UK and provided along with a biodegradable shelter guard, cane and an electronic link to planting and aftercare instructions.

The free trees are being offered on a 'first come, first served basis' and once all of the available trees have been ordered, the Council will then just take contact details for anyone applying for a free tree who will receive priority when the scheme is launched again next year.

To find out more, please visit www.northumberland.gov.uk/climatechange

To order your free tree go to: <https://bit.ly/NCCFreeTrees2020>

Time limited browsing offered in some libraries

Northumberland Library members will now be able to browse for a new book as the service introduces time limited browsing at some of its libraries.

From this week time limited browsing will be available at Rothbury, Bellingham and Wooler libraries with further libraries offering the service in coming weeks.

Customers will have 15 minutes to browse and make their own selection. At smaller libraries, where space is more restricted, members who are concerned are advised to contact their library prior to their visit to discuss social distancing measures in place.

Family groups will be admitted as one unit but members are again asked to bear in mind the size of their local library and to avoid disappointment, ring ahead to discuss their visit with staff. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

The Select and Collect service continues to be available at Amble, Alnwick, Bedlington, Berwick, Blyth, Haltwhistle, Hexham, Morpeth, Ponteland and Prudhoe.

Again members can request books either by contacting their local library or via the mylibrary.co.uk website. They will then be allocated a date and time to collect their requested books.

If a specific book which has been requested is not available staff will choose a similar option. The service also includes children’s books.

Books can be returned without a pre-arranged appointment, although members are advised to contact the library in advance to ensure this facility is available. Books which are returned are quarantined for 72 hours.

Cllr Cath Homer, cabinet member for library services at Northumberland County Council said: “Time limited browsing is the next step in our phased approach to being able to offer physical library services to our members.

“We have had some fantastic feedback from members about the select and collect service and we hope that the time limited browsing will further support members.

“For those members who are not able to, or do not wish to access these physical services, we continue to offer a comprehensive digital offer with our online library giving members access to hundreds of ebooks and audiobooks. We are also continuing with our home library service for those more vulnerable members of the community.”

Please ensure you contact your local library or go to mylibrary.co.uk to discover what services are available.

Library service offers digital helpline for all

Northumberland Libraries is now offering a digital helpline for anyone who is struggling with IT at home.

Members of the public can now request a call back from staff to help with anything from getting online to setting up an email account or accessing digital books to read or listen to.

The Digital Helpline is open Mon-Thurs 8.30am-5pm and Fri 8.30am-4.30pm. All help is free, private and done by staff and is open to all public, not just library members.

A member of the team will call you back once you have requested a call back appointment. They can help with:

- Getting online (connecting to existing WiFi at home)
- Using the internet.
- Setting up a free email account.
- Accessing free digital books to read or listen to.
- Supporting access to all digital NHS services.
- Setting up Zoom, Skype and other video chats.
- Online shopping.
- Troubleshooting other basic problems.

Call 0345 600 6400 or fill out an [online form](#) to request help. If you're not already a member of the library and would like to access the digital library from home you can still sign up at mylibrary.co.uk and start accessing hundreds of eBooks, eAudio and eMagazines today.

Library recipe book launched for Macmillan Coffee morning

When staff at Northumberland Libraries realised they wouldn't be able to host their annual Macmillan Coffee morning this year they decided to come up with another way of raising money for the charity. Staff from libraries across the county have submitted their favourite recipes which has now been turned into an e-Book. The e-Book is available to download for free on BorrowBox, the library service's digital library. Any member downloading the recipe book will be asked to give a donation to Macmillan Cancer Support via www.macmillan.org.uk/donate. The tried and tested family favourites include everything from warming soups to delicious sweet treats like buttermilk scones and a coconut and lemon cake.

There is also a gluten free Rainbow cake and quick tea ideas like lamb kofta kebabs and bacon and chorizo frittata. Macmillan has also added their own recipe for a Sticky Toffee Cake. Lorraine Bewick, Senior Library Assistant at Blyth Library who came up with the idea said: “We were really disappointed when we realised that we wouldn't be able to host our Macmillan Coffee morning this year, as it's always such a lovely event which people from the community enjoy coming along to. “So, we got our heads together and came up with the idea of this recipe book which would allow people to continue to support the charity from their home, whilst getting a few nice, new recipe ideas at the same time. “It is available for anyone who has an online library account and we are asking people to make a small donation to Macmillan Cancer Support when they download it.”