

Next deadline 30th May 2021

EMAIL: [stamfordhamcommunicator@gmail.com](mailto:stamfordhamcommunicator@gmail.com)

**This publication is mainly available in digital format. If you know of anyone who would like a paper copy, please email their name and address to:**  
[stamfordhamcommunicator@gmail.com](mailto:stamfordhamcommunicator@gmail.com)

As lockdown is gradually eased, it is hoped that activities will restart. Communicator recipients will be emailed as and when information becomes available.

**Dates for your diary:**

- Friday 7th May—Frosts Fish and Chips—Stamfordham 4.30 –7.00pm
- Tuesday 18th May—Walking Group—see page 2
- Saturday 22nd may—Wayside Stall, Stamfordham Village Green—see page 5

**\*\*\*\*\*POST OFFICE\*\*\*\*\***

Just to let you know that the Post Office will now close at 1.30pm and next week the Main Hall will be out of use for all going to the Post Office as it is being used for Election purposes.

Please would all wanting to use the Post Office enter by the West End door and leave by the same door. Please make sure you adhere to 'one in, one out' and maintain distancing. Thank you. *C Hancock*

# HOLIDAY CLUB

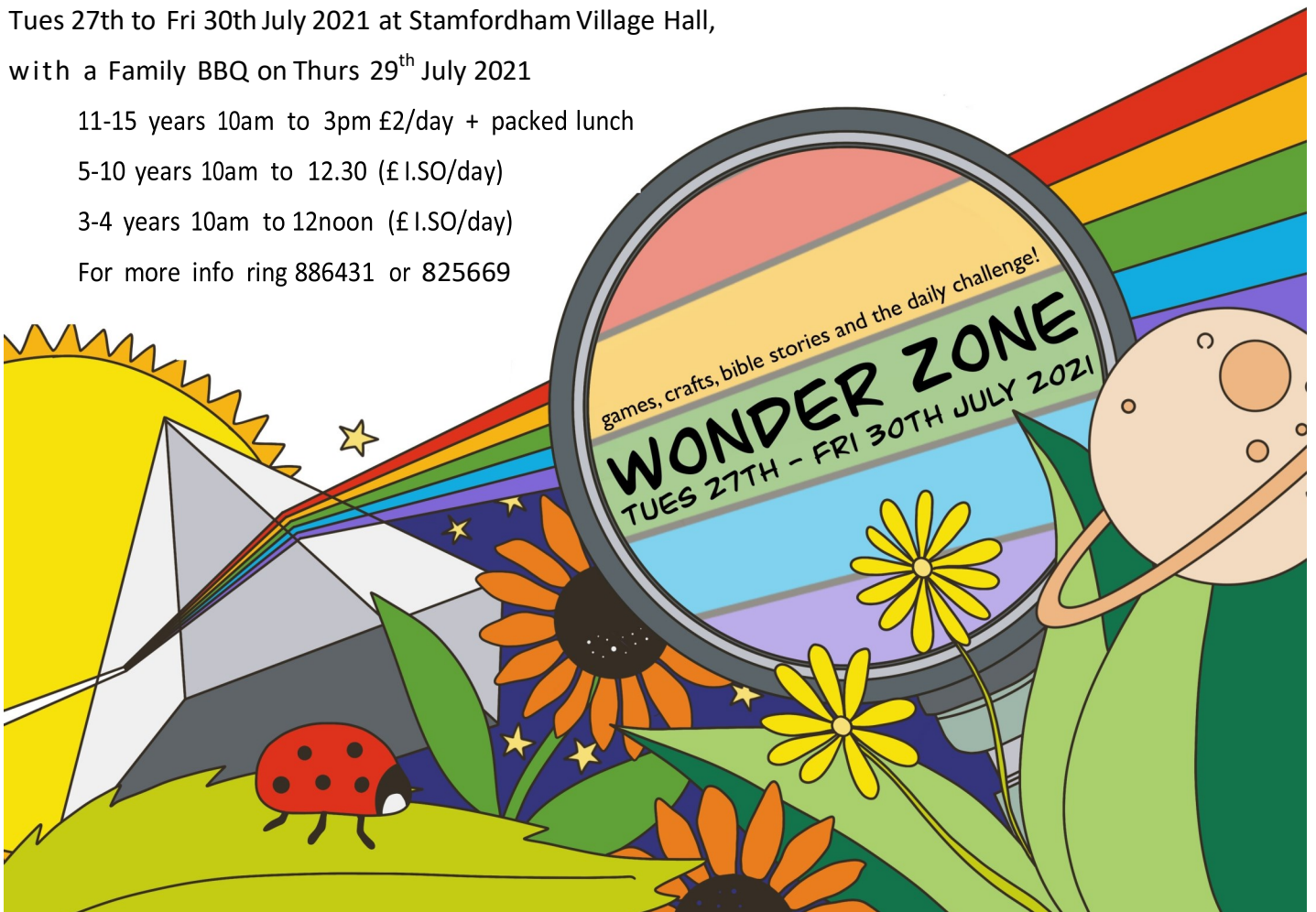
Tues 27th to Fri 30th July 2021 at Stamfordham Village Hall,  
with a Family BBQ on Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> July 2021

11-15 years 10am to 3pm £2/day + packed lunch

5-10 years 10am to 12.30 (£1.50/day)

3-4 years 10am to 12noon (£1.50/day)

For more info ring 886431 or 825669



## Virtual Exercise Class Mondays and Fridays at 10am

Why not spend some of those lockdown hours doing something beneficial?

Each Monday and Friday 'Karate' Steve runs an exercise class using the Zoom platform, each class lasts about 45 minutes (including a warm up and warm down).

There is no need for any specialist equipment, all you need is a place where you can see your screen whilst lying down! If you're doing the class on a hard floor Steve suggests using a towel or yoga mat.

He has also said that you don't have to be super fit to join this class, just willing to work at improving your fitness.

Each class costs £2.50 is open to both adults and children, will improve your stamina and core strength as well as working your arms and legs.

Why not give it a go...you have nothing to lose (apart maybe from some excess Covid weight!)

Just download the Zoom app from Apple store or Google Play store, install it on your device and you're good to go!

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7680272536?pwd=Z3pmOFNWSktXK0tTZFNHeXFhMWh6Zz09>

**Meeting ID: 768 027 2536    Passcode: karate**

## **NEW TIMES THE POST OFFICE— THURSDAYS 11.30AM—1.30PM NEW TIMES**

Please note the following rules when visiting the Post Office.

- Wear a mask the whole time you're in the hall
- Use the MAIN entrance
- Sanitise your hands on entering – sanitiser dispenser is on the wall in the entrance lobby
- Walk across the hall and go to the West Room
- Use Post Office
- Leave by the West Room entrance

**All services you would normally find available at a full time Post Office will be provided.**

**Cash withdrawals can be made from most bank accounts.**

## **Stamfordham Walking Group Proposal?**

I have enjoyed exploring the local footpaths during lockdown and would like to share my walks with others. Now that 6 people can meet up outdoors, I am proposing to lead (at your own risk) a walk of up to 6 people on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month starting at 10am from the Cross on Stamfordham Green.

My first walk on the 18<sup>th</sup> May will be a 2 hour walk to Matfen over the fields where we can stop for a snack (bring your own or order at the café) and a shorter 1 hour back – total of 12.5km (7.7 miles). No hills involved but there are a few stiles to cross.

If you would like to join me, please email or phone – [sally.hutt64@gmail.com](mailto:sally.hutt64@gmail.com) or 01661 886442 – first come, first served!

Sally Hutt

**WANTED—small plant pots**

Does anyone have any spare plant pots that I could use with the children at school as we grow seedings for the school garden?

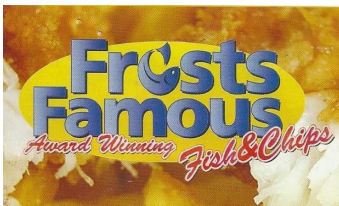
I'm happy to collect any you might have. Thank you.

Please call: Pip Forsyth 07921843732

**Stamfordham Parish Council**

There are vacancies on the Parish Council so if you are interested, please email your details to

The Clerk, Claire Miller, at  
[clairemillerparishclerk@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:clairemillerparishclerk@hotmail.co.uk)



**Frost's Fish and Chips**

**Stamfordham Friday 7th May 4.30—7.00pm**

**Great Whittington Friday 7th May 7.15pm**

**Medburn Friday 14th May 4.30—7.00pm**

I have managed to arrange for a fishmonger to visit the village each Friday afternoon. He takes pre-orders and the feedback has been amazing.

The company is called **Rockpool Fish & Shellfish ([www.facebook.com/Rockpool-fishshellfish-ltd](http://www.facebook.com/Rockpool-fishshellfish-ltd))** and I have created a messenger group for orders. There is quite a bit of interest in the village already and I just wanted to put it out to a wider audience.

If people would be interested, they can email me and I will add them to the messenger group and they can place their orders there.

Thanks

Rich Hunton, The Loaf Shack

[richhunton@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:richhunton@yahoo.co.uk)



**Stamfordham Oil Buying Group**

**\*\*\*\*\* IMPORTANT \*\*\*\*\***

Please note that orders will be taken up to the end of the previous month i.e. for June 2021 deliveries, orders should be placed by 31st May 2021 and similarly thereafter.

Please also remember that orders should be sent to both Steve Noble ([consultsnoble@aol.com](mailto:consultsnoble@aol.com) – tel. 886223) and Roy Hollis ([royanhollis@gmail.com](mailto:royanhollis@gmail.com) – tel. 886343). You will always receive an acknowledgement from one of us.

## Stay connected to your community

Are you living with sight difficulties and finding it hard to read the local newspaper? Perhaps you know a relative or friend who is visually impaired who might enjoy listening to local news?

The Tynedale Talking Newspaper (TTN) sends out a free audio recording of local news each week, courtesy of the Hexham Courant. Every month there is also a new recording of The Tynedale Talking Magazine or The Northumbrian.

Recordings arrive by post on a USB memory stick which can be listened to on a computer or Smart TV. No computer? No problem. TTN also has easy-to-use audio players to loan out to people who are not on the internet.

To find out more please contact Ed, the Registrar, on 07400 096937 or [www.ttnweb.uk](http://www.ttnweb.uk) or check out Facebook.

TTN is a charity (1034087 ) run entirely by local volunteers, helping people to stay connected and feel part of the community.

**"Long term tenancy required locally. 2 or 3 bedroom, must be dog and cat friendly.**

**Excellent references. All options considered. Tel: Alan: 07808 726595".**

## *Ponteland u3a*

Due to the current situation we cannot meet at St Mary's Church Hall until it is safe to do so.

However, using Zoom, we are able to give our monthly talks on the **first Wednesday** of each month at 2.00pm.

The next two talks are:

**Wednesday 5th May – Audrey Hepburn & Her War Years by Howard Slater**

**Wednesday 2nd June – Virtual u3a Day (please see local Facebook groups for details)**

Links to these talks will be placed in the relevant Ponteland Facebook groups and on the Ponteland u3a website.

These talks are available for members and non-members alike.

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

We welcome enquiries from anyone wishing to join Ponteland u3a. The contact number for the membership secretary is 01661 824953.

In the meantime keep safe and well.

# Stamfordham Wayside Stall

22nd May 10.30am on the Village Green  
Garden Plants and Cakes for sale  
Fundraising for St. Mary's Church  
Development Fund



## Graham Herford

### DIY/HANDYMAN

**Some garden work undertaken.**

If you need help with anything please call.

Small jobs also welcome.

Graham Herford, Fenwick Lodge, Stamfordham, NE18 0QR

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Email: [graham.herford@btinternet.com](mailto:graham.herford@btinternet.com)

**\*\*\*WANTED\*\*\***

If anyone has any old pictures of 'Sport in Stamfordham' gathering dust, we're on the lookout for pictures to join the Stamfordham Cricket Club and Stamfordham Football Club pictures already at the pavilion. Please contact me via the Communicator email address. Thanks.

*Gill Blissett*



## The Cyclone Festival of Cycling .....

.....is looking forward to making a return to its spiritual home, the village of Stamfordham, in early July. If the Government's plans to remove Coronavirus restrictions go to schedule, the Festival will once again bring cyclists of all ages and abilities back to the beautiful Northumberland countryside and its distinctive villages and nowhere is more synonymous with the festival than Stamfordham.

On Saturday 3 July, the village hall will be the focus of attention, with riders in the Cyclone's Challenge Rides, homing in on the food and drink that will be available for them. With four different routes (all passing through the village in their latter stages) the Challenge Rides bring in thousands of riders of all abilities, many of them raising money for charity. Stamfordham is their last official "feed" of the day and many will linger to enjoy the huge range of cakes, teas, sandwiches and snacks that the village hall volunteers put on.

This wonderful coming-together of hungry and thirsty riders and the matchless home baking skills of Stamfordham brings in a lot of welcome funding to the village hall.

Stamfordham will be at the hub of the action on the Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> July, when it is the host village for the women's Curlew Cup and men's Beaumont Trophy races. Both events are part of British Cycling's national series and will feature professional riders who have competed at the highest level. Previous winners include Olympic medallists Bradley Wiggins and all-time Paralympic great, Sarah Storey.

The races start on the road in the village centre and take in multiple laps of a anti-clockwise loop to the North of the village. The village hall will again be an important component in the day's activities, acting as the HQ for the races and once again putting out food and drink all day long for hungry officials, riders and spectators.

Those spectators also fan out through the village and into the surrounding countryside, visiting pubs and shops and, in many cases, sampling the ice cream cart that is always parked at the top of the Ryals climb, a few miles up the road.

Cyclone organiser, Peter Harrison, is looking forward to July: "Having fallen victim to the pandemic in 2020, we have been determined to bring the Cyclone Festival of Cycling back in 2021. We have always been incredibly grateful for the support of the people of Stamfordham who allow us to take over their village for a weekend every year. This time we're looking forward to celebrating a return to normality with our many friends in the village and we'll be encouraging all our riders and spectators to come into the village and enjoy the hospitality its famous for!"

If you fancy a crack at one of the Cyclone's six public rides yourself, perhaps raising money for a local charity, or just want to know when and where to watch the big races, visit the event website [www.cyclonecycling.com](http://www.cyclonecycling.com)

*Phil Ingham, 07582086091*

## **WALKING NETBALL**

**Tuesdays 10.30am—11.30am** at Stamfordham Village Hall. Everyone welcome!

Just turn up or contact me for more details.

*Gill Blissett, [gill.blissett@btinternet.com](mailto:gill.blissett@btinternet.com)*

**Heather Hughes | Director**

[h.hughes@homeinstead.co.uk](mailto:h.hughes@homeinstead.co.uk) | [w: www.homeinstead.co.uk](http://www.homeinstead.co.uk)

**t: 07786 968080**



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### **Northumberland gets set to 'change gear'**

Northumberland County Council is asking residents to slow down and 'change gear' as part of a new campaign to encourage more people to ditch their cars in favour of walking and cycling.

'The Big Northumberland Gear Change' is the council's battle-cry to save the environment and health of residents by encouraging people to adopt more sustainable ways of getting around the county.

Packed with tips, advice and stories from fellow residents who have swapped petrol for pedals, a dedicated new website has been developed to convince residents to reduce their reliance on cars, which is crucial to achieving Northumberland's net zero carbon emissions target by 2030.

Stuart McNaughton, Strategic Transport Manager at Northumberland County Council said:

"With lockdown measures starting to ease and many people looking to continue the good habits they formed when their cars were not needed as much, there is no better time for Northumberland residents to lead the way and commit to an ongoing change in their travel habits.

"With only 13% of all journeys in Northumberland made on foot or by bike and with a third of all trips made in the county less than 5km, there is plenty of potential for us all to ditch the car some of the time in favour of healthier, greener and happier ways of getting around.

"Our campaign is not asking residents to become an endurance cyclist or the next coast-to-coast finisher, we are simply asking people to take an honest look if there are ways to leave the car at home and walk and cycle more often in exchange.

"The sun is shining, the birds are singing, so let's slow down, change gear and get out there to fully enjoy the best county in England!"

Sandra Kerr who stars in one of the campaign films that shows her getting around Warkworth on her electric bike with her partner David, said:

"Whenever we take off on our electric bikes, it's customary for me to say 'It's good to be back in the saddle' (groans from my cycling companion). But it's true; cycling is good for health and well-being, great for exploring our lovely county and finding its secret beauties, and it does no harm to our extraordinary planet. So it doesn't 'cost the Earth!'"

*Cont.....*

Jonah Morris, Partnership Manager at Sustrans, who are one of the campaign partners said: "As custodians of the National Cycle Network we know there is no better way to see Northumberland than by foot or bike. Sustrans is all about creating healthier places to make happier people and the Big Northumberland Gear Change campaign is essential in helping to drive that message forward and one in which we are delighted to be a partner in."

The campaign asks residents to sign up to complete a range of challenges and habit-forming activities that are suitable for all ages and abilities.

Sign up now at [www.northumberlandgearchange.co.uk](http://www.northumberlandgearchange.co.uk)

## The Midnight Library

Northumberland Libraries are thrilled to be receiving copies of *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig from Canongate Books to distribute for World Book Night 2021. Presented by The Reading Agency in partnership with Specsavers, World Book Night is the annual celebration of books and reading held on 23 April.

About *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig

Nora's life has been going from bad to worse. Then at the stroke of midnight on her last day on earth she finds herself transported to a library. There she is given the chance to undo her regrets and try out each of the other lives she might have lived. Which raises the ultimate question: with infinite choices, what is the best way to live?

First published in 2020, *The Midnight Library* is a *Sunday Times* number one bestseller, winner of the GoodReads and Wordery Fiction Book of the Year 2020 and a Spring 2021 Richard and Judy Book Club Pick.

Copies are being distributed to people who don't regularly read for pleasure or have access to books by library community partners across Northumberland including Rural Us in North Northumberland, Being Woman, Northumberland Communities Together Children's Centres, West Northumberland Food bank and the Community Bank

Media Contact: Media contact: Hayley Quarmby, communications officer, Northumberland County Council, Phone: 01670 622428 or email: [Hayley.Quarmby@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Hayley.Quarmby@northumberland.gov.uk)

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*Gill Blissett, 26 North Side, Stamfordham, NE18 0QG*



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**30th May 2021**

preferably using the SC email address, please.

*Gill Blissett*



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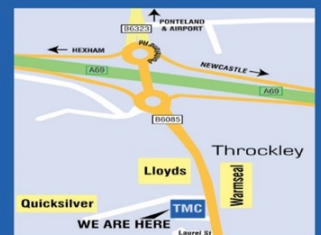
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*Gill Blissett*

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