

March 2025

# The Pelican

THE CHURCH AND COMMUNITY MAGAZINE  
ACKLINGTON, GUYZANCE & WARKWORTH

£1.25 per issue OR £10 per year



Sunset over the Cricket Club - Yvonne Goddard

## **Reverend Helen writes:**

I might seem a little odd that just as we come out of the long gloom of winter and everything is springing into life, Christians turn their focus to death! As we enter into Lent on March 5th we commemorate Ash Wednesday when during the services we are marked with the sign of the cross in ash and are told;

*'remember you are dust and to dust you shall return'*

You might not find that terribly reassuring! But for Christians across the world it is a timely reminder, as life begins to pick up pace again, that we need to be careful about how we are living, and what we are living for.

Lent is traditionally a season in which we try and avoid the things that we might like but aren't that good for us - chocolate for example. This seasonal practice of avoiding temptation (matching the days that Jesus faced temptation in the wilderness) plays an important part in a lifetimes practice for Christians of conforming our lives to Christ's. Living for others rather than for ourselves; and in that self sacrifice to find a peace that passes understanding through the fullness of life this brings.

As we examine our conscience and recognise our frailty we begin to understand more fully our need of one another and of the grace which we believe comes from God.

If you would like to join us on that journey all our welcome to our services.

March 5th

9.30am Celtic Holy Communion with Ashing - Acklington

7.00pm Sung Holy Communion with Ashing - Warkworth

We pray this prayer every day in Lent

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.

## **From the Registers**

We give thanks for all those recently baptised and pray for all those recently married or preparing for their marriage.

Our prayers are with all those recently bereaved, amongst them the family and friends of Cynthia Moore, John Howliston and Alf Groome and we remember those whose years mind falls at this time.

## **Baptisms and Christenings**

A baptism (often known as a Christening) is a moment of celebration and commitment and is open to anyone at any age. Whether you have recently had a baby, have older children or are thinking about baptism yourself we'd be delighted to explore this with us.

## **Weddings**

At the heart of every wedding service is a couple who love each other and want to make a commitment to one another before God. Weddings do not need to be big, elaborate or expensive. In whatever way you wish to celebrate your relationship we would be delighted to work with you to create a special and very personal ceremony.

## **Funerals**

A Church of England funeral is available to everyone regardless of whether they attend the local church; offering support before, during and after the service. Whether held in the church building, at the crematorium chapel or at the graveside – our ministers will be pleased to talk with you about planning and personalising your own or another's funeral service.

## **Open Church**

Our churches are open daily for individual prayer, please call in. For more information or to discuss anything further please get in touch with Reverend Helen O'Sullivan email: [aswvicarage@gmail.com](mailto:aswvicarage@gmail.com) or telephone: 01665 712002

## PELICAN SUBSCRIPTIONS WERE DUE IN JANUARY

Your Pelican subscription was due in January, (print £10, digital £5). Thank you those who have already paid! If you have not yet renewed your subscription this may be the last Pelican issue you receive. Payments can be made by transfer to St Lawrence Church Pelican Account , Sort Code 20-58-17, Account Number 20471577, the reference will be your house address with no gaps. Alternatively, payment can be made in cash left in the deposit box at St. Lawrence church in a sealed envelope marked PELICAN and with your name and address. If any Acklington subscribers wish to pay by cash please contact our Subscriptions Officer Julie Green by telephone on 07721 402073 or by email to [thepelicandistribution@gmail.com](mailto:thepelicandistribution@gmail.com), and she will advise how to pay.

## THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

The Pelican team would like to thank St. Lawrence Church, St. John The Divine Church, the Parish Councils, Warkworth War Memorial Hall, Acklington Community Trust, The Highlights, Warkworth Art Group and other community organisations and private individuals for their on-going financial support.

## THE PELICAN WEBSITE

The Pelican magazine has a supporting website which is available on **<https://thepelican.info>** which you can also visit by scanning the QR code shown here.



The site aims to support the magazine and its subscribers and supporters. It offers an easy route for people to subscribe or renew their subscriptions using the subscription page and also information for those wishing to submit an article or advert.

Digital back copies of the magazine are also available for download, around six weeks after the issue was published. There is no 'live' on-line version of the magazine.

Both print and digital subscriptions are available which are due in January, or pro-rata if signing-up part way through the year.

# THE PELICAN MAGAZINE FRONT COVER ART COMPETITION



Youngsters of a maximum of 11 years of age are invited to submit artwork for the cover of the April edition of The Pelican on the theme of “Easter”.

Artwork should be a maximum size of 10.5cms high by 12.5cms wide on an A4 sized sheet of paper or card and can be in any medium.

**Deadline for entries is 12.00 midday on March 10th.**

Entries can be left in St. Lawrence’s or St John’s church in an envelope addressed to The Pelican Magazine and must include a note with the name, address, age and contact details of the artist.

## WARKWORTH RELAXATION AND COFFEE HOUR

Where can you enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and a guided relaxation to round off a busy week – and all for just £3?

The answer is our Friday morning coffee and relaxation meetings at Warkworth Memorial Hall from 11 to 12 on Friday.

Our drop-in sessions started last September and are now continuing in the new year with the added bonus of refreshments and time to chat.

For the last half of the session we practise some easy breathing and stretching exercises, then sit back and allow the gentle music and guided visualisation to relax mind and body.

Everyone is welcome and there’s no commitment – just come when you can.

If you want to find out more, contact me at [pruheathcote@hotmail.com](mailto:pruheathcote@hotmail.com).



St Lawrence Church, Warkworth

First Sunday of the month 4pm to 5:30pm

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April**

Everyone welcome - children must be accompanied by a parent or carer

For more information contact us at [aswmessychurch@gmail.com](mailto:aswmessychurch@gmail.com)

## Warkworth W.I. Meetings

**President Marion Jones 01665 714177**

**Secretary Judith Hebron 01665 799164**

[warkworthwi.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:warkworthwi.secretary@gmail.com)

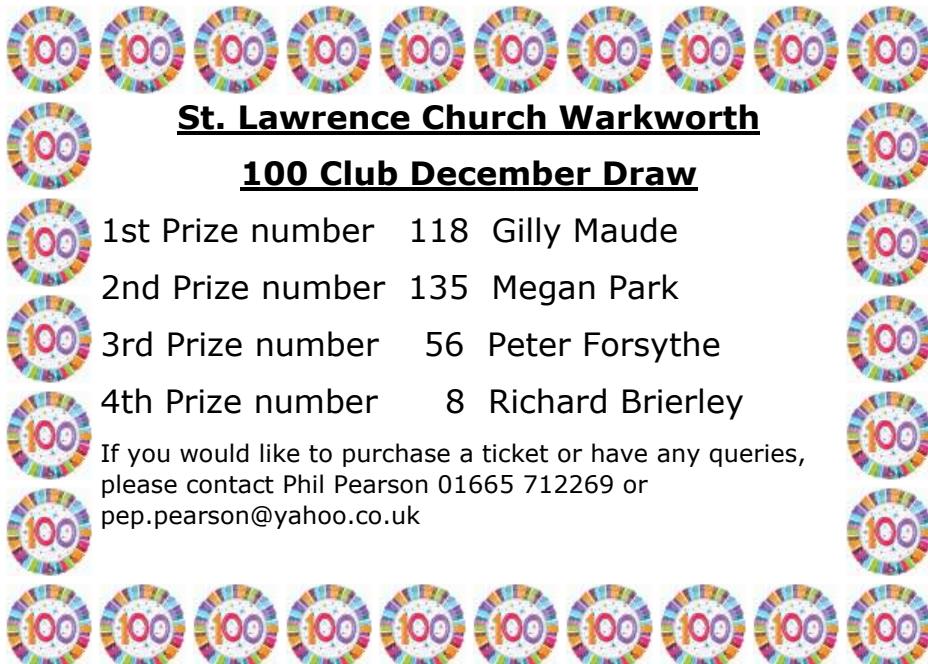


**March 4th** 'Locks, stocks and conmen' Lisa Gladstone from Newcastle Building Society  
Competition – an old coin or banknote.

**April 1<sup>st</sup>** 'Shoes!' Susan Howard  
Competition – a pair of jazzy / colourful socks

**April 12<sup>th</sup>** Easter coffee morning with stalls and activities! 10 – 12  
Memorial Hall

**Guests and new members very welcome! All meetings start at 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall, Castle Street.**



## **St. Lawrence Church Warkworth**

### **100 Club December Draw**

1st Prize number 118 Gilly Maude

2nd Prize number 135 Megan Park

3rd Prize number 56 Peter Forsythe

4th Prize number 8 Richard Brierley

If you would like to purchase a ticket or have any queries,  
please contact Phil Pearson 01665 712269 or  
[pep.pearson@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:pep.pearson@yahoo.co.uk)

## **Warkworth Parish Council**

**Warkworth Parish Council will be holding a Parish Meeting  
on Thursday 20th March 2025 @ 6.p.m. in the Memorial Hall**

### **What is a Parish Meeting:-**

A Parish Meeting is an informal gathering of all the registered electors in the Parish to discuss Parish affairs, to give the Parish Council and other local organisations an opportunity to let local residents know what they have been doing over the past year. The meeting is also an opportunity for electors to have a say on anything they consider valuable to the people of the Parish and can pass resolutions on matters of local concern. However, a Parish Meeting has no legal powers or duties and cannot make legally binding decisions or take actions on behalf of the Parish.

Ann Burke

Chair of Warkworth Parish Council

## Warkworth Memorial Hall

There's been a flurry of new activities at the Hall and hopefully more to come. A new Yoga class starts in March with a trial 1 hour session at 17:30 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March. Other recent developments include Sword Dancing, IT support, song & music afternoon and a Relaxation class. See the hall's website ([wwmh.uk](http://wwmh.uk)) or contact Peter Burnham for details.



The hall is available for hire for recreation, social and fund raising events, craft fairs, local societies, wedding receptions and family gatherings, the Hall can accommodate groups from 5 to 140, 7 days a week. It is managed as a charity for use by local inhabitants without distinction of political, religious or other opinions.

**For Hall Bookings:** Email: [warkworthwmh@gmail.com](mailto:warkworthwmh@gmail.com)

Or contact Yvonne Stoddart on 07803 204436.

**For other Hall matters:** contact Peter Burnham Email: [peter.burnham@gmail.com](mailto:peter.burnham@gmail.com) Tel: 01665 711388.

## ALNMOUTH CROQUET

TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS  
VISIT US AT ALNMOUTH CRICKET CLUB OR PHONE:  
MICK LOCK (SECRETARY): 07549 938172

## The Odd Job Man



07483429430



[dsmailes124@gmail.com](mailto:dsmailes124@gmail.com)

Please give me a call for any of those small and irritating jobs that you need completing inside or outside.  
I'm based locally and happy to call in to see if it's something I can help you with.

12/25

## OUT & ABOUT



Uncovered at the beach



New signboard at the dunes



Damage from storm Eowyn



New gates & posts at the cricket club

## Warkworth Then & Now



Castle Street circa 1900 above, by an unknown photographer, and below in the modern day by Len Smith.



## THE HERMITAGE LUNCHEON CLUB

The **HERMITAGE LUNCHEON CLUB**, incorporating the Warkworth & District Probus Club, are looking for **NEW MEMBERS**. We would welcome **ALL** to join us from our local communities. We meet **MONTHLY**, on the **THIRD THURSDAY** 12 noon for 12.30pm at the **HERMITAGE INN, WARKWORTH**. Our format is relaxed and friendly, while enjoying a 2-course meal. We normally engage a local speaker to provide a talk on a wide range of topics. Historically, we have organised a Summer trip out, as well as a special Christmas luncheon for members and partners.

Interested? Questions?

Contact Clive Purdy 075 0220 2726

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04/25



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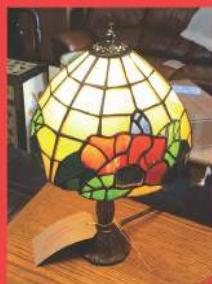


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## **County Councillor's Report**

The work at the pedestrian gate to the R O Way beside the cricket field from Morwick Road has been completed. I understand the Farmer is to install a new field gate at the site ,this is his responsibility, it is not owned by Northumberland County Council as it only has the R O Way .

In the last issue of the Pelican, I gave readers the information that the Morwick Farm road area would be improved in March this year.

Unfortunately, I am now informed when pre inspection of the area took place recently the job was seen to be a bigger one than originally planned for and there was not enough money in the budget to do it this year.

I apologise for the previous information being incorrect.

I have had discussions and arranged for this much needed work to be carried out (all being equal weather wise) on the 12 May with a much-increased budget of approximately £120,000 which will come from next year's Transport Plan.

Staying on the subject of highways, I have been informed that work on the road at Stanners area is due to take place on the 13 and 17 March, I am not sure how this will work with Northumberland water being on site. Also, c100 Hartlaw to Guyzance resurfacing work due to take place on the 24 March.

I have been receiving complaints about residents parking vehicles on NCC grass verges and pavements particularly in Warkworth and in some cases blocking pedestrian and disabled access. Please be considerate and remember that a penalty notice could be issued by Traffic Wardens if the footpath is blocked.

As you will know, we are fast approaching a local election on the first of May. I am delighted to have been selected to stand again for the Amble West with Warkworth Ward and I hope to continue to represent the area that I live and work in.

Under election rules I will not be writing a report for the next edition so I would like to encourage everyone to utilise your vote whether it's for me or not!

I am always available on

[Jeffrey.watson@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Jeffrey.watson@northumberland.gov.uk)

07802385367

*Jeff Watson*

I see spring is springing and daffs are starting to sprout!



## Rotary update February 2025

The new year has started with a number of interesting lectures and social events.

Karen Park gave a very interesting and informative talk about the challenges of setting up and running her business, SeaBanks. The lecture was open to the general public and was held at the New Harbour office in Amble. In front of a packed audience Karen outlined how the business has developed over recent years with a unique line of rapeseed oils and more recently fruit



infused vinegars. These products have received a number of awards, as well as received recognition on national television after being highlighted on the James Martin Saturday show.



During the course of the evening audience members also enjoyed the opportunity to taste some of the

SeaBanks products that had been featured in Karen's talk.

The weather in January has inevitably had some impact on the Rotary programme. In particular Storm Eowyn with its high winds brought down trees on the road to the Warkworth Golf club resulting in the postponement of the Burns night celebrations. Undeterred, the Burns night celebration went ahead successfully a week later on the 31<sup>st</sup> January.

In early February local Rotarians enjoyed an entertaining after dinner talk by Phil Derry on his experiences of the challenges and pitfalls of selling military communications equipment in the international market.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> February, the Lord Lieutenant of Northumberland Dr Caroline Pryor, attended the RAW meeting at the Hermitage. Again, this evening was open up to the public and featured a buffet followed by a talk by Caroline on her unique role and responsibilities as the Kings representative in Northumberland.



Later in the coming month, there are plans for another fun social event involving an escape room challenge in Morpeth!

Looking further ahead, the RAW Charity Golf Day will be held at Alnmouth Golf Club (Foxton Hall) on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2025. Teams of 4 (Gents, Ladies, or mixed teams) £155 entry per team includes tea/ coffee and a bacon roll. For further information contact Phil Derry [philderry@hotmail.com](mailto:philderry@hotmail.com)

On a sadder note, the club has seen the passing of yet another long serving member, Mr Alf Groom. Alf was an established member of Amble and Warkworth Rotary who had served the local community well both in his professional life as well as through his Rotary membership.

If you are interested in finding out more about what the Amble and Warkworth Rotary club has to offer you, contact us via either our website [www.ambleandwarkworthrotary.org](http://www.ambleandwarkworthrotary.org) or the club Facebook page, Rotary Amble & Warkworth.

We are also looking to increase and promote corporate membership of the club, so if you have a business and are looking at ways to increase your community impact, please feel free to contact us to discuss further.

Richard Booth

# Village VOICES

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Acklington Village Hall  
Acklington  
NE65 9BW

£5 per person



Village Voices Northumberland



**Chameleon Buddies lunch at St Lawrence Church**  
**Thursday 20th March 12noon-1.30pm**

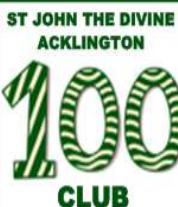
Another opportunity to help fundraise for this incredible charity supporting people with a stoma to overcome stigma, embarrassment and practical challenges. The charity's founder, Gill Castle, the first person ever with a stoma to swim the English Channel, will be here to give a talk and tell us more about the charity's work. Everyone is welcome, just turn up. Home made soup and bread lunch is free, donations for the charity are very welcome. For more information contact Anna on 07758 253104.

**Music & Song Afternoon**  
**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm**  
**Warkworth War Memorial Hall**

Our initial session in February was so well attended that future sessions are booked in the Main Hall.



2pm on the 2nd Monday of the month. Come and have a sing, play a tune or just listen in. There's no bar, but you can help yourself to tea and coffee in the kitchen. You are welcome to bring your own refreshments. To cover costs there is a £2 entrance fee. For further details contact [peter.burnham@gmail.com](mailto:peter.burnham@gmail.com) or telephone Peter on 01665 711388.



**St John the Divine, Acklington**  
**JANUARY DRAW WINNERS**

<b>1st</b>	<b>£25</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>Barbara &amp; Audrey Lamb</b>
<b>2nd</b>	<b>£10</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>Louise Wood</b>
<b>3rd</b>	<b>£5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Joanne Wilkinson</b>

## THE GREEN PAGES

**The Green Pages are dedicated to environmental and conservation articles from the neighbourhood and local community. Anyone and any group can post a relevant article, photos or questions on these pages, just send them to the editors, see the back page for details.**

We'd like to thank everyone who came to our Annual General Meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> February, and to all of the people who supported us in our first full year. We look forward to another year of Green projects and helping nature in any way we can. A special thanks to Sheila Pearson who is leaving us. Sheila will be sorely missed for her enthusiasm, diplomacy and commitment to getting a job done well.

### **Warkworth Village Litter Pick**

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March**

Join us at 10am at the Market Cross for our annual village clean up in conjunction with Keep Britain Tidy's Great British Spring Clean.

All equipment will be provided, but please bring your own gloves. Any queries, please message Lynne on 07547 071197.

### **CRAG rivers update**

We had an excellent turn out on 3<sup>rd</sup> February at the cricket club, with an update from Julia Chambers and Jamie Day on how the Coquet River testing is going. We also had Angela Woodburn, commercial and legal manager at Warkworth Harbour



Commissioners, talk about her responsibilities. Warkworth and Amble testers have collected a lot of data, which is being analysed for trends. There are more exciting projects to come, so watch this space !



**“Holiday Flight” by Len Smith**

### **Amble Bowling Club Open Day**

Amble bowling club will be holding Open Days on Saturday the 19 April and Saturday 26 April 12am to 4pm and is inviting anyone young or old, new to the game or played before, to come along and give it a try. Equipment and coaching will be provided by the club, all we ask is for you to wear flat bottomed shoes/trainers.

The club can be found on the High Street next to the dentist. For more information please call Kev on 07768808038.



### **Head and Sole Mobile Reflexology and Indian Head Massage**

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[www.headandssole.com](http://www.headandssole.com)

07/25

## Grateful thanks

Our father, Alfred Grenfell Alexander Groome, died peacefully on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025 aged 94 years. Positive to the end, he loved the village of Warkworth and its people.

Our family would like to thank everyone for their care and concern for our father and grandfather. So many people in the village helped him in his later years, especially Bertram's, The Hermitage, Abbeyfield House and the United Reformed Church.

We are so grateful to everyone for their kind thoughts, wonderful messages and comforting words.

Elizabeth Howliston and Catherine Groome MacKay

## WELL DONE N.C.C.

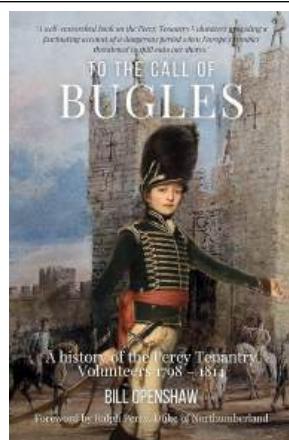
I informed Northumberland County Council in the autumn of last year that the rail fence to the north side of the old Warkworth Bridge was in a poor state of repair. Christmas came and went without any action. However, last week I was delighted to see workmen completing the task. It is seldom you have the opportunity to praise your local authority for a job 'Well Done'.



Clive Purdy

## Warkworth History Society

Our next talk is on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March: 'Warkworth-in defence from Napoleon' presented by Bill Openshaw. Bill is author of '*To the call of the Bugles*'- a history of the Percy Tenantry Volunteers.



## WARKWORTH FILM CLUB

### On Saturday 1st March - The Critic

Set in 1930's London, this is a thrilling tale of ambition, blackmail, and desire with a dazzling anti-hero at its heart. When the most feared and vicious theatre critic in town Jimmy Erskine (Ian McKellen), finds himself suddenly in the cross hairs of the Daily Chronicle's new owner David Brooke (Mark Strong), he strikes a Faustian pact with struggling actress Nina Land (Gemma Arterton) who is desperate to win his favour. (2024 Cert 15, 1 hour 34').

### Saturday April 5th - Another Round

A black comedy that follows four middle aged schoolteachers disillusioned with their jobs, who decide to test a theory that life can be so much better if you are constantly intoxicated. Each man has his own way of sneaking alcohol during the working day, and we watch the highs and lows from the experiment, the impact on their lives, families and students as the film elapses. Warning; This is VERY funny. Winner of an Oscar and a BAFTA for best international film (2020 Cert 12, 2 hour 57'. Danish with English subtitles).

No need to book - just turn up. Doors and cash bar from 7pm.

Film starts at 7.30pm.

£5 per person

Warkworth War Memorial Hall, 40 Castle Street, NE65 0UN  
For more information, or to be added to our email list, call Anna on 07758 253104 or [anna.willey@cantab.net](mailto:anna.willey@cantab.net)



## The Tea & Talk Group

The **Tea** and Talk group meets every Monday 2.30pm to 3.30pm; the first Monday of the month in Abbeyfields, the remaining Mondays in the Hermitage.

It is a good opportunity to meet up with others and have a chat, along with a cuppa and biscuit, or sometimes even home made cake! If you want some company for a while come along and give us a try!



## ACKLINGTON HISTORY SLOT - The March snow storm of 1886

By the meteorological calendar, spring always starts on 1st March. We should always be aware, however, that winter can often have a sting in its tail. That was certainly the case in 1886 when an extreme weather event resulted in Acklington making the national news.

It all started in the early hours of Monday 8th March when the inhabitants of Acklington parish witnessed one of the most severe snow storms that has ever occurred in this part of the country. *“The storm raged with unusual impetuosity. As the evening approached the wind seemed to increase in violence until it assumed the character of a wild hurricane whirling the blinding showers of snow in all kinds of fantastic shapes and huge drifts.”* The snow was so bad that the main London to Edinburgh railway line was blocked at Acklington.

A Pullman train (trains that operated with first-class coaches and a steward service, provided by the British Pullman Car Company from 1874 until 1962, offering more luxurious accommodation than ordinary mainline trains) that was travelling on the line got stuck and the cold, unfortunate passengers had to be dug out. A number of villagers helped with the rescue operation. Word about the trapped train and the rescue of passengers soon spread throughout the land.



The two illustrations in this article were taken from wood engravings of the event which were printed in an edition of the Illustrated London News in 1886. The second illustration, on the next page, shows some rescuers digging out the engine from the snowdrift.

Among the passengers on the Pullman stuck near Acklington were Mr Barclay Holland and Mrs Holland of Aberdeen, with their four year old daughter (the only child on the train). The passengers left Aberdeen at 4.40pm on the Monday for London and were on the Pullman attached to the “Scotch Express” and were stuck in the drift near Acklington on



the Tuesday morning. *“There we were”, said Mrs Holland, “stuck in the middle of two fields of snow for 17 hours with little food, except what some cottagers were kind enough to bring us”*. The provisions provided were shared equally amongst the travellers and consisted of a cup of tea a slice of bread and butter and a bit of cheese. The tea of course was cold by the time they got it, but they were very grateful.

Eventually the passengers managed to get safely from the train and plough waist deep in snow towards the inn at Acklington, not too far from the railway line. They got there on Tuesday night around 8pm and had ham and eggs, bread and butter. There were only 4 rooms in the house and many slept on the floor, others sat in chairs around the fire and dozed the night away. The inn keeper wasn’t prepared for the influx of 45 guests as well as 80 navvies working on the railway. *“We had nothing but ham in the house and had to cook 12 hams and managed to get some loaves of bread. Once the bread was all eaten up on the Wednesday morning we only had ham and biscuits.”*

Thankfully nobody seemed the worse for the experience and the inn-keeper was highly praised for the way he had ransacked the place for provisions and done his best to make everyone comfortable. Quite an adventure, and one which brought the name of Acklington to many people across the country who had never heard of the place before.

John Davison

## John Howliston, a Warkworth Boy



John was born in Warkworth on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April 1928 to William and Irene Howliston. The family lived in 20 Bridge Street but when he married Edith, they moved into 5 Diamond, now Birling North, Cottage.

John had 3 great loves; his family, his Church and his village. He demonstrated his love through dedicated service in his many roles during his life including being a founder member of Warkworth in Bloom.

John enjoyed music and singing, he was a member of the Church choir with his father William and continued to sing with the village and church choirs for many years.

He joined Alnwick District Council in 1976 as a Clerk of work, making many friends with colleagues and tenants around the county. He loved driving across to Rothbury and up to Elsdon in the course of his duties but, his favourite view was on Alnwick moor looking across to the Cheviots.

John spent many hours in St Lawrence's Church, greeting visitors and assisting relatives enquiring about long-lost family and would happily take them to a former family home or to the cemetery to show them the family grave.

John was also an avid gardener and always had plenty of fresh produce for the family. However, his pride and joy were his peach trees and grape vines. Often winning prizes in the Warkworth Show, he even won a prize at last year's show for his peaches!

After retirement in 1993 he and Edith became involved in Warkworth in Bloom being active in the group for many years, during which they achieved a Silver Gilt award for the village and many prizes for his own garden in Birling.

John longed to travel and was eventually able to visit several countries and places including Warkworth (New Zealand), meeting and making friends old and new.

Being born and bred in the village John had a wealth of anecdotes about village characters and history which he would spontaneously relate at any gathering.

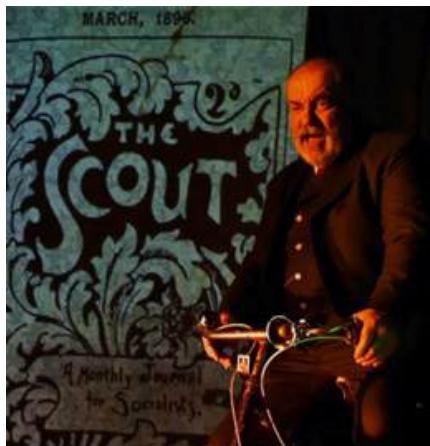
John had a long and happy life in the community he loved, he was one of very few 'old' villagers so he will be much missed. May he rest in peace. John's family were moved by the many expressions of condolence and sympathy received and would like to thank everyone for their support at this sad time.



**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March**  
Starts 7:30pm (Doors and  
bar open at 7pm)

## **Behold Ye Ramblers**

An entertaining celebration through Music Hall, poetry and song of the birth of The Clarion newspaper and the movement that grew in its name. This is the story of the beginnings of the struggle for the right to roam freely across open moors on ancient paths and to enjoy the benefits of outdoor activities.



The Clarion movement from the 1890s encouraged and celebrated healthy community activity such as cycling, music, choral singing, drama groups and handicrafts, whilst collectively building Clarion Houses as rural community centres to enable people to escape the daily grind of work and cramped city living. There are active Clarion Cycling Clubs and Choirs to this day!

Find out how this happened, who fought for our Right to Roam and have a thoroughly entertaining evening at the same time.

*Book tickets (£15) by email to  
[peter.burnham@gmail.com](mailto:peter.burnham@gmail.com) . Alternatively telephone Peter  
Burnham on 01665 711388.*

## WARKWORTH UKRAINE SUPPORT GROUP

It is difficult at this time to write about the future for our friends from Ukraine, owing to the international politics surrounding the war. It is possible that by the time this is printed there will be a very different scenario going forward. Perhaps what we can do, both individually and collectively, is to lobby MPs and sign up to national petitions asking that the interests of Ukraine is the prime factor in any peace talks. We need to keep our Government strong in its deliberations.

It was good to get a response from the minister to our questions, which were taken by our local members of the House of Lords to parliament.

The minister reiterated the basis for our guests to apply for continuation visas and that is being done now before their original visas expire. We have underlined the need to work with local council representatives to ease the process. It was good to note that for young people moving on into Higher Education that they would be classed as home students. This status would continue if they were still at university when present visas expired, at which point they would be able to claim student visas.

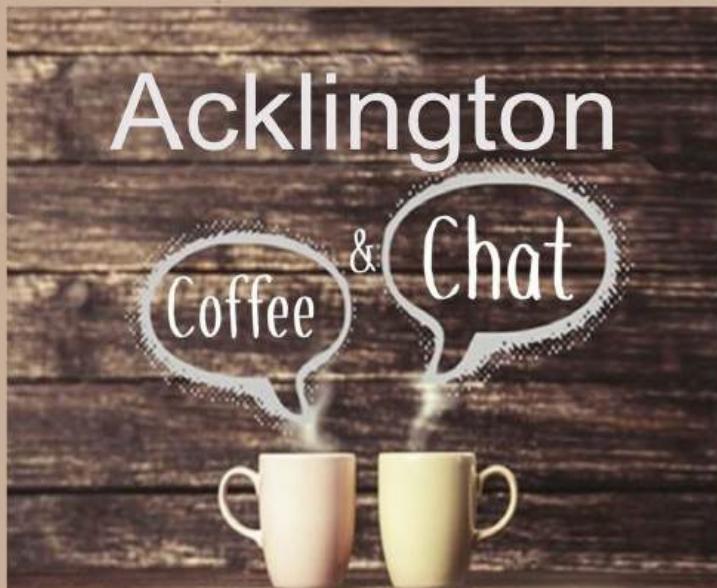
We also asked about the provision of English support. Although courses are provided through the local authority they do not necessarily fit the needs of our guests. We are therefore working alongside the Alnwick support group to prepare additional English support for special purposes in a practical learning environment.

We continue to support activities in the area where guests and residents can join together in friendship - much needed during these particularly stressful times.

If you would like to help please be in touch—Also, please join us for our Lent Lunch on April 10<sup>th</sup> at St. Lawrence's church in aid of the Ukraine Support Group.

John Hobrough - [warkukr@gmail.com](mailto:warkukr@gmail.com)

# Friday 14th March



11 am - 12 noon

Held in the Guyzance Room  
at Acklington Village Hall

Please come and join us! All are welcome.



**Rotary**  
Amble & Warkworth



# CHARITY GOLF DAY @ Foxton Hall

25th September, 2025 (by kind permission of Alnmouth Golf Club)

Teams of 4 (Gents, Ladies or Mixed) - Entry fee £155

(Includes tea/coffee & Bacon Roll)

For further information, including sponsorship opportunities, contact:

Phil Derry on 07710 423550      email: [philderry@hotmail.com](mailto:philderry@hotmail.com)

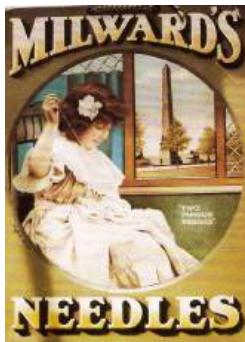


## Warkworth History Society ~ February

**'There's more to a needle than meets the eye!'** This was the intriguing title of Barry Mead's talk on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

Barry was the former curator of the Forge Mill Needle Museum in Redditch, centre of the needle making industry from the early C17th. Needles and pins of all kinds, from sewing and knitting needles, dressmaker's and hat pins, to surgical, hypodermic and even gramophone needles were manufactured here and distributed world wide. The museum is housed in an old mill, complete with water wheel and mill pond. A tour around its various buildings reveals the various stages (and there are many!) in the production of the humble needle.

The wire arrived in a coil which was straightened and stretched to the desired thickness and cut to an appropriate length. The needle was then sharpened to a point on a stone wheel. 'Pointer's rot' was an unpleasant lung disease suffered by the men performing this task whilst breathing in the fine dust. Stamping and eyeing the other end of



the needle was a job done as a home cottage industry. The needles were then returned to the factory where the soft steel would be hardened in furnaces. But this would cause the metal to bend, so local women were employed to straighten the needles which had now also become blackened by the furnace. The next stage, then, was to polish, a process

which took between 1 and 5 days depending on the quality required. The needles were first scoured under wooden runners, then washed in soapy water followed by a second polishing and washing before being dried in barrels of hot sawdust to prevent rusting. Finally they were laid out trays to separate the sawdust from the needle before being sent for packing in acid free paper or canvas.

In 1851 working hours were 6am – 7pm Monday to Saturday in summer and 7am – 8pm in winter with half an hour for breakfast, an hour for dinner and a half hour for tea. Boys were paid 2 shillings a week, women between 8 and 12 shillings and pointers up to 1 guinea, with 10 full days and 7 half day holidays a year.

Barry's talk was illustrated throughout with pictures of every stage of this remarkable process. It was also peppered with anecdotes in his own unique style which kept the audience both amused and engrossed. *Needle-less* to say our eyes were well and truly opened.

**Lent Lunches**  
at St Lawrence, Warkworth

**WEDNESDAYS**  
at 12 noon

**13th March**  
*Teenage Cancer Trust*

**20th March**  
*Chameleon Buddies*

**27th March**  
*Cancer Research UK*

**3rd April**  
*Alzheimer's Society*

**10th April**  
*Ukraine Support Group*

A simple soup & bread lunch -  
donations to nominated charities



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## ACKLINGTON ART GROUP

We are a small friendly social group who meet on a weekly basis at Acklington village hall.

We have a number of tutors throughout the year, and have a range of monthly motivational projects run by members of the group.

This month's painting is watercolour of a storm over Long Stone lighthouse by Jan Calderwood.





# **Ash Wednesday**

## **5th March**

**Celtic Holy Communion**  
**St John the Divine, Acklington**  
**9.30am**

**Holy Communion**  
**St James, Shilbottle 9.30am**

**Holy Communion**  
**St Lawrence, Warkworth 7pm**

***Services include the imposition of ashes***

## Warkworth Art Group Diary

A highlight for Warkworth Art Group recently was a demonstration and workshop with local artist Clifford Blakey. Clifford showed us his approach to a painting and some of the techniques he uses to get the effect he is aiming for, including using layers of paint or spattering paint on the surface of the canvas. This was followed by our attempts to use these techniques in our own version of the painting. Thanks to Clifford for sharing his time and showing us new ways of applying paint. The afternoon was very much enjoyed by all. See here for some of the resulting efforts.



Exciting times lie ahead for the group this year beginning with a visit to Edinburgh to see the Scottish Colourist exhibition in partnership with the Fleming collection. Following on from this, taster sessions with two professional artists using unfamiliar mediums. Watch this space!

Congratulations from the group to two of our members whose paintings have been accepted for the upcoming Woodhorn Exhibition which opens soon.



Our painting of the month is Dunstanburgh Castle by Tony Burns.

If you are interested in joining Warkworth Art Group, please contact Linda Gaskell on 07812 567 637, or email [warkworthartgroup@gmail.com](mailto:warkworthartgroup@gmail.com)

## Lily Neill, Harp, Warkworth Memorial Hall, Wednesday 8th January 2025

Absolutely magical gig by Lily Neill at Warkworth Memorial Hall. The variety and cultural diversity, from Celtic to Klezmer, from original compositions to Finnish tango, the delicacy, the strength, the phrasing, the articulation, the dynamic range, the flow, the beautiful tone, the complete mastery. Who would have known a whole evening of solo harp could be so engrossing? If you ever have chance to see her, do so. She's worth a long journey.

Declaration of interest: Lily is a friend, and I promoted the concert so this is more of a report than a review.

However, some audience comments following the event: -

*'Absolutely stunning, I'm glad I was there.'*

S. S.

*'Lily was exceptional, we all enjoyed the concert.'* P. S.

*'I didn't know what to expect. I was very pleasantly surprised.'* A. G.

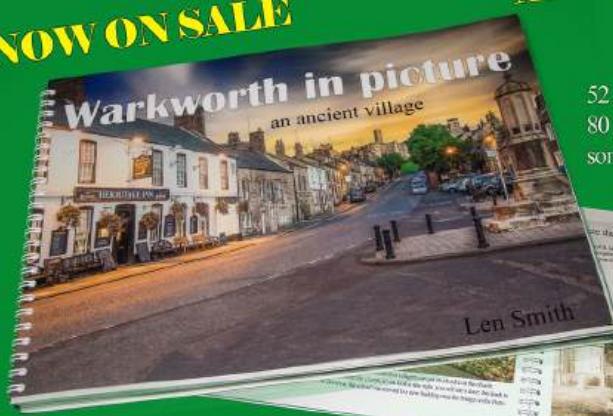
*'She takes it to a whole new level!'* Clarsach society member.

Brian Arthur.



## Warkworth in picture an ancient village

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03/25

## **The Warkworth Craft Group**



Initially set up by the Warkworth WI, the Warkworth craft group is a community based group that meets once a month in the supper room of the Memorial Hall. We chat, drink tea, eat biscuits (occasionally cake!) and do our own thing – knit, crotchet, sew or continue with whatever project we have on the go. In the past we have had group endeavours – the poppies for the

bridge, sanitary products for African school girls and tiny hats for premature babies but mostly we just enjoy the company. Please do join us – even if it's just for the tea! We meet the third Tuesday of the month 2 – 4 and ask for a small fee to cover the cost of the room booking.

Any queries contact Marion [mandbjones@btinternet.com](mailto:mandbjones@btinternet.com) or phone 01665714177.



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## **Extracts of the minutes of the Warkworth Parish Council meeting held on 6 February 2025**

### **Parish Council Elections**

Parish and County Elections take place on 1 May 2025. If you wish to stand as a Parish Councillor, nominations must be submitted by 4.00 pm on Wednesday 2 April 2025. Information about the elections can be found here:-

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/elections.aspx>

### **Parish Meeting**

A parish meeting will take place in the Memorial Hall on Thursday 20 March 2025 at 6.00 pm. Everyone is welcome.

### **Keeping our Village Clean**

The Parish Council would like to encourage everyone – residents, businesses, and visitors – to keep the area immediately outside their property clean, tidy and well maintained. Everyone can make a small contribution to keeping our village looking cared for by picking up stray litter and by clearing up after their dogs and disposing of it properly when they are out and about.

### **Village Projects**

Work continues to progress these. The Parish Council are liaising with both NCC and the contractor about the detail of the improvement works to both the Ember Path and the path at the cricket field. The Parish Council have also agreed to contribute towards a feasibility study for a proposed boardwalk from The Butts to Rotary Way in order to apply for grant funding. This was an idea which came out of Neighbourhood Plan consultation, as the current public right of way is not accessible.

Full details of the meeting are contained in the draft minutes available on the Parish Council noticeboards, and on the Parish Council's website at <https://northumberlandparishes.uk/warkworth>

### **Next Meetings of the Parish Council**

Meetings of the Parish Council are open to everyone.

Thursday 6 March 2025 at 6.30 pm

Thursday 3 April 2025 at 6.30 pm.

Any correspondence to Warkworth Parish Council should be directed to:

Karon Hadfield (Clerk) 30 Rothbury Drive, Ashington, Northumberland,  
NE63 8TQ.

Email: [warkworthparish@gmail.com](mailto:warkworthparish@gmail.com) Telephone: 07841 650640



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## *Acklington St John the Divine and Warkworth St Lawrence*

Both of our churches are open each day for everyone including dogs, come in and have some quiet time. As well as our regular Sunday worship we have something on offer every day— so why not join us and try something new.

### *Warkworth*

Monday 9am Time to Pray  
Thursday 5.30pm Adoration of  
the Blessed Sacrament  
Saturday 4pm BCP Holy  
Communion

### *Acklington*

Tuesday 11.30am BCP Holy  
Communion  
Wednesday 9.30am Celtic  
Prayer

**Needed:**  
**HEDGEHOG CARERS**

Could you give one morning a week  
to help sick & injured hedgehogs?

Join our committed volunteers at  
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# Acklington

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12/25

## Recycling for Charity 2024

### - stamps, coins, spectacles and printer cartridges -

Thank you for all your donations to  
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Please just ring James Cox on 01665 714 758 to arrange delivery or collection of these items

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06/25

## WHAT'S ON IN 2024

**PELICAN SUBSCRIPTIONS WERE DUE ON JANUARY 1st  
PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU RENEW TO AVOID MISSING AN  
ISSUE! SEE PAGE 4 FOR DETAILS**



### **March 2025**

1 <sup>st</sup>	10am-2pm	Warkworth Memorial Hall. Green Matters Community Day
1 <sup>st</sup>	7.00pm	Warkworth Memorial Hall. Film Club 'The Critic'. (p21)
2 <sup>nd</sup>	4.00pm	St. Lawrences. Messy Church
3 <sup>rd</sup>	7.00pm	Warkworth Memorial Hall. History Society 'In defence from Napoleon'- Bill Openshaw
4 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Warkworth Memorial Hall: WI 'Lock, Stocks and Commen'
10 <sup>th</sup>	12.00am	Pelican Front Cover art contest deadline (P.5)
10 <sup>th</sup>	2pm	Warkworth Memorial Hall: Music and Song Afternoon
13 <sup>th</sup>	12-1.30pm	St. Lawrences. Lent lunch (for Teenager Cancer Trust)
14 <sup>th</sup>	11-12am	Acklington Village Hall. Coffee & Chat
20 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Warkworth Memorial Hall: Parish Council Meeting
20 <sup>th</sup>	12-1.30pm	St Lawrences: Lent Lunch (for Chameleon Buddies)
27 <sup>th</sup>	12-1.30pm	St. Lawrences. Lent lunch (for Cancer Research UK)
28 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Warkworth Memorial Hall: Behold Ye Ramblers
29 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Warkworth Market Place: Green Matters Litter Pick

### **April 2025**

1 <sup>st</sup>	7.30pm	Warkworth Memorial Hall: WI 'Shoes!' with Susan Howard
3 <sup>rd</sup>	12-1.30pm	St. Lawrences. Lent lunch (for Alzheimer's Society)
5 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Warkworth Memorial Hall. Film Club 'Another Round' (p21)
6 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm	St Lawrences Messy Church
7 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Warkworth Memorial Hall. History Society, The Delavals
10 <sup>th</sup>	12-1.30pm	St. Lawrences. Lent lunch (for Ukraine Support Group)



## PHOTOGRAPHS OF CHILDREN & ADULTS

As part of our safeguarding, any photographs in which a child or adult can be identified can only be printed if the Editors have their (or their parents) permission.

Vicar of Acklington, Shilbottle and Warkworth:

Revd Helen O'Sullivan Tel: 01665 712002

United Reformed Church Revd Joan Grindrod-Helmn Tel: 01665 798290

Amble Sacred Heart Catholic Church Fr Stephen Watson Tel: 01665 602012

Amble Methodist Church Revd Christopher Wood-Archer Tel: 07729 258671

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**The next publication is for April 2025**

**The absolute deadline for articles & adverts is -**

**NOON ON THE 15<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2025**

**But submit as early as possible as space is limited!**

**No submissions after the deadline will be accepted.**

Articles can be submitted handwritten, or typed, or in  
Word or Publisher format

Paper size is A5 portrait (approximately 400 words per page)

Images can be supplied in jpg or png format

Contact the Editors for advertising prices and submission guidelines

**[thepelicaneditors@gmail.com](mailto:thepelicaneditors@gmail.com)**

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