

# The Stanegate

Newbrough, Fourstones, Warden  
and surrounding hamlets

## IT'S BACK! OH YES IT IS!!

The Village Panto Committee is delighted to announce that the world's greatest panto (well, the best in Newbrough and Fourstones, at least) is back on.

Recent productions had to be scrapped due to the pandemic but the show must go on and the panto in all its glory is heading back to the Town Hall.

An introductory meeting for anyone interested in taking Part, either on stage or backstage, will take place at the Town Hall at 3pm on Sunday, October 1st.

If anyone has any questions or would like any further information ahead of the meeting please email : [newbroughpanto@gmail.com](mailto:newbroughpanto@gmail.com)

Rehearsals will start towards the end of October with the shows themselves taking place in February, 2024 - exact dates to be announced later.

Everyone needs a laugh after the last few years and hopefully the panto will once more put a smile on people's faces.

Just don't expect any new jokes.

Robin Perrie

Please send material to the editorial team  
*Janice Baylis, Dave Spearman, Sophie Straker &  
Chris Tolan-Smith*

at  
**thestanegate@hotmail.com**  
The deadline for the October issue is  
**Friday 15th September 2023**

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## Letters.....

### from the editors

Many thanks to those who have chatted or written to us with feedback and support regarding the future of Stanegate.

We've had quite a few offers and also ideas for alternative sources of funding which we're pursuing, and will update in a couple of months.

Kind regards  
The Stanegate Editorial Team

### to the editors

#### Newbrough churchyard and digitizing the grave index

It was very pleasing to see the article. Thank you for asking me and thank you for publishing it.

Some of the data is already available on our Parish website :

<https://sjlwn.org/parish-records>

and more will gradually be migrated that way in due course.

Reverend Jeremy Thompson

On behalf of The Rotary Club of Hadrian's Wall, many thanks to the Town Hall Committee and all who popped in to the Town Hall on Saturday 15th July and made a few book purchases.

Funds raised will go towards the food voucher scheme we've been running for 3 or 4 years with West Northumberland Food Bank and local independent businesses.

Janice Baylis



The Stanegate editorial team welcomes your letters. Please write to us with news and views from the community.

The Stanegate, 8 Broadacres  
Fourstones, Hexham, NE47 5LW

or

email the editorial team at:  
thestanegate@hotmail.com

### Calendar of Events

#### SEPTEMBER

- 4th Warden Parish Council  
Town Hall, 7pm
- 5th WI Committee meeting  
Town Hall, 1.30pm
- 6th Newbrough Parish  
Council, Town Hall  
7pm
- 9th Coffee morning,  
11am - 2pm  
Methodist Chapel
- 9th Parish Produce Show  
Town Hall  
2.30 - 3.30pm
- 12th Messy Vintage, 2.30pm  
Methodist Chapel
- 14th WI monthly meeting  
Town Hall, 7pm
- 16th WeFibre Open Day  
Town Hall, 10am - 2pm
- 21st WI Federation Evening,  
Town Hall, 7pm
- 23rd Coffee morning,  
11am - 2pm  
Methodist Chapel
- 28th A Woodland  
Opportunity  
Town Hall, 7pm
- 29th Quarter Day
- 29th Film & Food Night  
Town Hall, See p 10
- 30th Macmillan Cancer  
Care Coffee morning,  
11am - 2pm,  
Methodist Chapel



SAVE THE DATE  
SUNDAY 1st OCTOBER

Panto meeting at the  
Town Hall, 3pm

## Newbrough Tidy Up

The Stanegate editors very much express their appreciation to local residents for the Newbrough tidy up.

Below are some of the helpers. Many thanks to all the others who contributed their time.

I to r

Barry Hodgson, Bev Hall, Diane Dixon, Gillian Hall, Janette Johnstone, Tommy Charlton, Shane Charlton, Irene Charlton



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## WeFibre open day, Newbrough Town Hall 16th September

Come for a coffee and save £120 on your broadband

Join Linda Jamieson from WeFibre at Newbrough Town Hall between 10am and 2pm on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September and get 33% off your ultrafast broadband

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**Can't make it to the Town Hall?** Don't worry, you can still get the £20 per month offer online at [WeFibre.com](http://WeFibre.com) between Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September and Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September.

Friday 18th August

This month, a mix up with bookings meant we had to cancel our usual August coffee morning, instead our members met today for an informal get together.

October this year marks the 100th Anniversary of the inaugural meeting of Newbrough Womens Institute and this morning's meeting gave our members the opportunity to discuss and plan for our forthcoming "Birthday Party" in October.

As part of our Anniversary celebrations, we donated a Maypole to Newbrough School and it was a delight, despite the awful weather,

to watch the children enthusiastically demonstrating their Maypole dancing skills at the July School Fair.

The next meeting is Thursday the 14th of September at 7pm. Our guest that evening is Michael Gatherer and he is speaking about "Local Murders".

The Hostesses are Ann Wodzinski and Catherine Grant.

The Raffle Prize will be donated by Jenni Cutter and the Competition is the colour Pink

Judith Kirby  
President

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## Warm Wednesdays Return

Nick Springham

Warm Wednesday, the weekly Town Hall warm space initiative returns this November! It was hugely successful last year with up to 30 people a week coming along for warm company, a bowl of delicious soup, homemade warm bread, tea, coffee and the occasional cake.

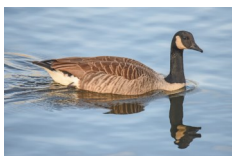
It is run by a handful of dedicated volunteers and we can always do with a bit of extra help! So if you fancy occasionally volunteering, roles include helping out on the day (11-3) serving, clearing away, washing up or even just meeting and greeting our 'customers'. In addition, we could do with people who wouldn't mind preparing the occasional large pan of soup - ingredients paid for by the Town Hall.

If you fancy joining in the fun, and it is fun, contact Nick on 07533 356443 or [nick.springham@btinternet.com](mailto:nick.springham@btinternet.com). Looking forward to hearing from you.

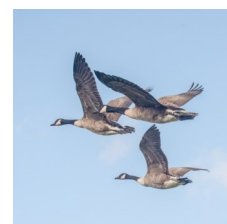
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## Just Passing Through

Seen there before in winter, a huddle of around two dozen Canada geese stood up to their knees in a shallow Warden Dewpond on the 18th of July.



Necks were then bent as they stooped to graze on pondside grass; and refreshed, they moved on.





# Green Notes

## Are weather extremes getting more frequent and more intense?

By Malcolm Newson on behalf of Climate Action Newbrough-Fourstones.

In a multi-media, 24-hour, news world we need to be careful that our perception of the world is not just based on the image-laden 'feed' we get from our news suppliers. Fire, flood, frost and famine are rarely 'mis-' or 'dis-' information but they are delivered to us in a form and at a rate determined by those suppliers. At present, weather extremes are big news because there's always the, hitherto controversial, link to man-made climate change.

Imagine the weighty responsibility of scientists working on 'attribution', a new term meaning the search for cause (alright: 'blame') for any extreme weather event, or cluster of them together, such as heatwaves followed by wildfires. The Met Office now has a whole team of such scientists; they work to explain whether an event represents just variability or is worse or more frequent due to global warming.

What's their credible methodology? You might almost add, 'and will it stand up in court?' because loss and damage from climate extremes is now subject to attribution studies, especially when it occurs in nations which have **no** history of polluting the global atmosphere.

Firstly, attribution asks what the **laws of physics** tell us, notably about Earth's atmosphere. Average annual rainfalls increase 1-2% with every degree of atmospheric warming, daily heavy rain by 6-7%. From historic global records of temperature and moisture, it's clear they're both increasing; we can expect more intense and more frequent rainstorms.

Because the Arctic is melting, increasing the ocean temperature contrasts in the North Atlantic, we get the Jet Stream 'stuck' (remember July?) and, within it, the extra moisture can form 'atmospheric rivers', as happened in Storm Desmond (2015).

Next, attribution scientists use **statistics** for the long meteorological data sets available. They calculate the 'natural' range of variability in temperature, rainfall, snowfall etc. *before* and *after* the rise in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> (during the Industrial Revolution and since World War II). That way they can detect any increased weather variability.

Thirdly, meteorologists have the world's biggest, fastest computers. They construct huge **mathematical models** of the behaviour of each level and cell of the atmosphere. These models are designed for the forecasts we get every day but can be 'warmed' to simulate the effects of climate on extreme weather at ground level.

The Met Office web site will guide you to attribution for a variety of 'rare' events (except they're not so 'rare' now!). If extremes *are* getting worse we will need to spend public money on *adaptation* measures, as well as the *mitigation* ('Net Zero') agenda. If the world is fair we will also be subbing the UN's Loss and damage Fund for our past carbon wrongs!



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## More Charltons

Rob Tindall and David Penn

In July we told you the tragic tale of William Charlton. This month we look at his equally adventurous brothers and sisters.

William Charlton was the son of George and Margaret Charlton. George, was the son of John and Mary Charlton and was christened at Newbrough on the 28<sup>th</sup> December 1794. On 17th February 1817 George married Margaret Heslop in Hexham. They settled in Newbrough and had a large family – at least eight.

George was a shoemaker and lived in Crossgate House, Butt Bank. In 1841 he described himself as a shoemaker and in 1851 as a master shoemaker. He retired sometime between 1855 and 1861. He died on 13th June 1869 aged 74 and was buried in St Peter's churchyard on 16th June. Margaret lived on in Crossgate House after George's death and in the 1871 census is listed as leaseholder of 2 acres of crop land. She died on 23rd July 1877 and her will shows that she left less than £60 which is a little surprising as when probate was granted to His executors in 1869 George's estate had been valued as being 'under £800'.

In 1851 sons John (born October 28th 1818) and George (born February 1823) were both journeyman shoemakers and younger brother Robert (born 1834) was an apprentice shoemaker. If that weren't enough Newbrough shoemakers, lodging with the Charltons were Thomas McCracken a journeyman shoemaker from Ireland and William Scott an apprentice from Haltwhistle.

John married Elizabeth Hindmarsh by licence on 25th April 1853 in Warden. Elizabeth apparently came from the Rothbury area since her address in the Marriage Register is given as Lee. The couple migrated to Australia where John possibly followed his trade, but it is more likely that he was part of the Australian goldrush. He died on April 23rd aged 76 in Greater Bendigo City, Victoria. There is a headstone in Bendigo with his details but saying that he is buried in Newbrough. Elizabeth (b. April 26th 1822) died in Australia on November 29th 1886.

George was baptised on 18<sup>th</sup> February 1823 in Warden. On 14th June 1854 he married Sarah Pearson of Hexham at Gretna Green. Their son,

George was born in 1858 and Robert followed in 1851. Sarah died in the summer of 1863. George's next move is interesting as he is shown in the 1871 Census as being married to Elizabeth and besides George jnr. and Robert there is also Thomas (b. 1865) and Mary Jane (1867). Business thrived. In the 1871 census he is master cordwainer employing two men. (One of his employees is George Allis a cordwainer but also a local Methodist preacher). He moved from the Newbrough village into the family home of Crossgate House before 1881 when his and Elizabeth's brood has increased by Elizabeth (1872), John William (1875), Polly (1877) and (another) Robert (1879).

On 20th March 1884 there is an entry in the London Marriage Bonds and Allegations documentation where George, a widower of Christ Church Parish, Mayfair seeks a marriage licence for matrimony to Elizabeth Harris George, aged 21 of Hanover Square. The marriage register records "George Charlton widower of Halfmoon St. son of George, shoemaker married Elizabeth Harris George of Halfmoon St. daughter of George George, game-keeper" Elizabeth was born in Woodbury, Devon. Why did they delay marriage and why were they living in Halfmoon St., London? George's business changed – in 1881 he was a carrier and owner of carts and horses, and later a contractor. George died on 23rd June 1902.

In his will he left £1192 4s 6d to his wife, Elizabeth Harris Charlton. As a tailpiece to George, the 1911 Census has his widow running a lodging house in Torquay helped by their unmarried daughter, Jane Haswell Charlton.

William Charlton was July's subject. We know that he was born in 1826 and left home between 1841 and 1851, presumably to go to sea. Elizabeth, William's sister (b 1827) appears in the 1841 Census as a 13 year old but cannot be traced in 1851 or 1861. In the summer of 1860, she married John Holmes in Chester-le-Street. John had been a shipwright born in Bishopwearmouth. They emigrated to Australia possibly immediately after their marriage, where they had a daughter, Elizabeth, who died in infancy in 1869. Elizabeth (senior) is buried in Melbourne General Cemetery having died on April 14th 1873, aged 45. John died on September 21st 1905 aged 74.

*continued.....*



Margaret Charlton, Elizabeth's younger sister (b.1830) was christened in St. Peter's on 17th October 1830 and married James Holmes (b.1829), the younger brother of John. They emigrated to Australia and appear to have had no children. Margaret died on 10<sup>th</sup> October 1895 and James on 19<sup>th</sup> December 1905. Both are buried in Melbourne General Cemetery.

Robert Charlton was born in Newbrough in 1834 and progressed from apprentice shoemaker in 1851 to qualified status in 1861. We don't know where he was practising his trade. He subsequently joined his siblings in the great exodus to Australia where he lived with his wife, Mary Ann. They had four children but only one survived to adulthood. Robert's grave, and that of his children is in White Hills Cemetery, Greater Bendigo. He died on 31st December 1878.

Jane Charlton was born in 1836 but didn't join the Charlton diaspora. When the 1861 Census was taken she was unmarried and had no occupation. Her parents had taken in a boarder - William Haswell from Morpeth who was the National School

Teacher at Newbrough School. On 30th August 1861 William and Jane married. Ten years later they were still in Crossgate House living with Margaret who was now a widow. In 1881 Butt Bank House was their home and Jane was a teacher whilst it was made clear that William was at Newbrough Boys' School. Their residence in 1891 was recorded as 'Boys' School' but William was stated to be "living on his own means" even though he was only 53. William died on 10th February 1893 and is buried in St. Peter's. Jane survived him by 15 years and in her later years was living in Butt Bank with a domestic servant and supporting herself on her own means. Probate was granted after she died on 28th May 1908. She left £2846 16s 8d and is buried with William in Newbrough.

The last of George and Margaret's children was Thomas. He was baptised in St Peter's on 14th April 1839 but sadly his death was etched on the family gravestone following his burial on 28th February 1847 at the age of 8.

Truly a remarkable and adventurous family

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## It's on the 9th

Rob Tindall

You will already know which classes you are going to enter in the Parish Produce Show which takes place in the Town Hall on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2.30pm - 3.30pm.

Entries must be received by Michelle (for industrial and children's classes) or Vicki (for fruit vegetables and flowers) by midnight on 7<sup>th</sup> September. There can be no entries on the day. Schedules are available from the Garage or on the village website.

It's been a funny year in the gardens but there are some classes where gardening skill is almost irrelevant. Even you could produce the heaviest apple or potato, the ugliest possible vegetable, or the biggest sunflower head.

An error in the first printing of the schedule suggested that when making the Coffee and Walnut Cake which is this year's standard recipe, you should include 100g coffee. This was quickly

amended to 10g but not before some local wag claimed on Facebook to have made his first batch which tasted strongly of coffee!

Why don't you print off one or two of the photos you post on Facebook to enter one of the photographic classes?

There is a class, open to all ages, for an animal made from fruit or vegetables; go on, use your imagination.

Get your entry in, now. Be in it as well as being at it!



## A Superb Day Out

Rob Tindall

Funded again by the Tom Benson Charitable Trust, participants on the annual Senior Citizens' Outing hunted out their passports and dusted off their credit cards for their trip over the border to 'Bonnie Scotland'. Even before the luxury coach was put into gear at the Red Lion there were compliments about the cleanliness of the coach and smart uniform of Peter, our driver. Passengers came from a' the airts - Newbrough, Butt Bank, the Green Church, Broadway and Hardhaugh, but curiously none this year from Warden.

As we climbed, and crested Carter Bar the weather looked a little 'iffy' with clouds on the top of Cheviot and shadows of clouds scooting over the fields and woods around Jedburgh. By the time we reached smart, sophisticated Kelso however, all threats of rain disappeared and it was possible to stroll around in shirt sleeves, or whatever is the ladies' equivalent. Unlike many other burghs and towns, Kelso has managed to retain a good number of small specialist shops and is a delightful place to spend an hour or two.

The journey to Hawick took about three quarters of an hour through arable countryside rich in potatoes, and wheat and barley stubble, although there were some un-harvested fields and occasional stands of oats, still green. Hawick, for me personally, was disappointing with a fair ration of boarded-up shops and generally seemed down at heel. There were opportunities to visit outlet and mill-shops by the river where some items would have caused my credit card firm to question the validity of my purchase. I was warned by one store manager about the difference on the labels between X of Hawick 'Designed in Hawick', and X of Hawick 'Made in Hawick'.

Peter gave us the choice of returning the same way we had come or returning via the A7. We chose the latter, and what a happy choice it was. We followed the Teviot towards its source and after the watershed accompanied the growing Border Esk on its journey towards the Solway. The scenery of hump-backed hills was awe-inspiring.

Thank you to Amble Coaches for giving us a great day out and very importantly thank you to our local Tom Benson Charitable Trust for financing the trip.





## Film and Food Night - Friday 29th September

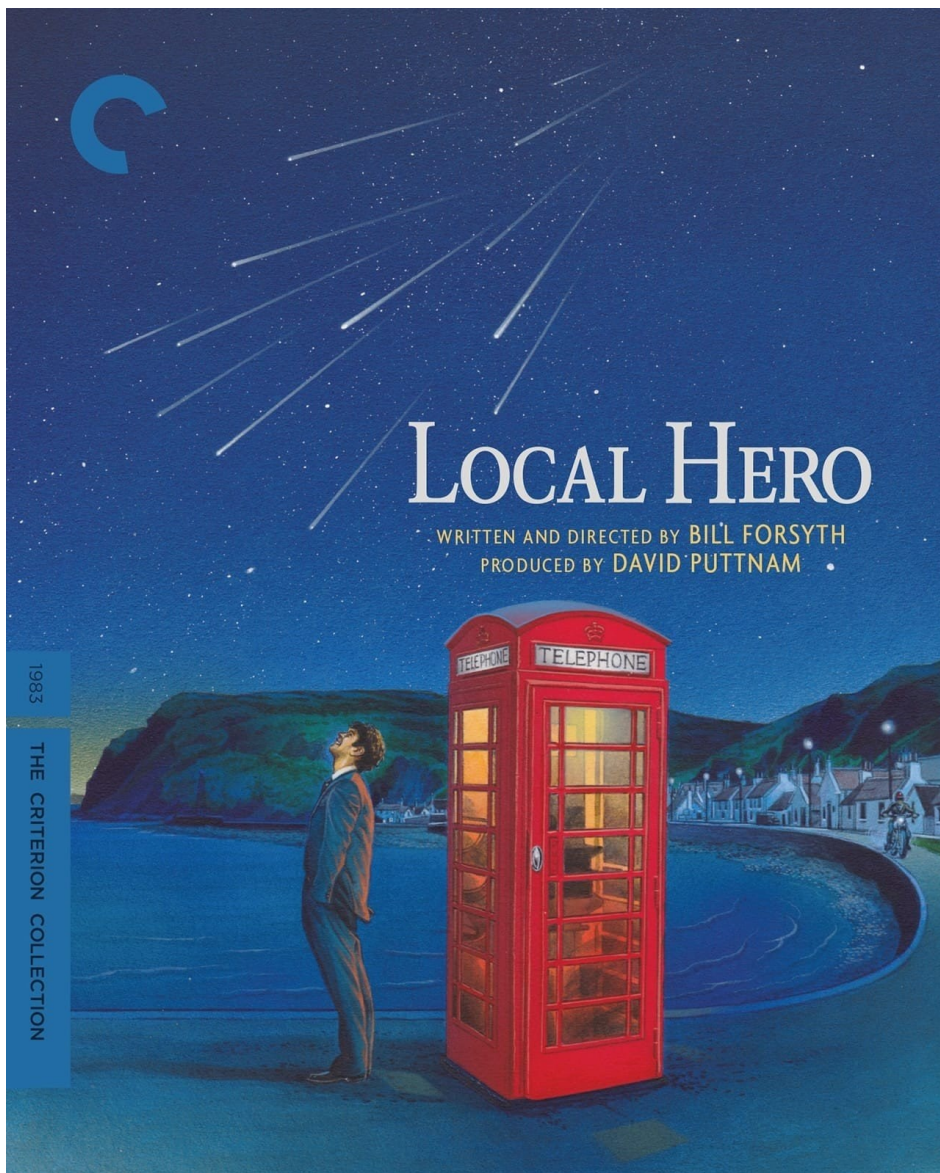
The film will be *Local Hero* -[1983] This is loving, funny, understated portrait of a Scottish fishing village under threat from US oil money, reminiscent of Ealing comedies with the film theme music by Mark Knopfler.

We will be offering a two course film-themed meal before the film at 7pm with the film showing at 8pm. The bar will be open from 6.30pm and there will be a bottle raffle during the film interval

Under new arrangements with the film distributors entry to see the film will be FREE with a charge of £10 for the optional meal. Meals must be booked at least 3 days in advance and a vegetarian meal option will be available.

But for seating reasons you **must** obtain a ticket to view the film with a separate £10 ticket if you choose to have the meal.

Tickets available from Ticketsource (search for Newbrough) or from Fourstones Garage.



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## Nature Notes

*Clever cranesbills & fabulous foxgloves*

Despite scant rain in May, grass in local roadside verges ran riot and was high enough to be mown at the beginning of June. Early verge mowing is often frowned upon for preventing wildflowers setting seed, but the scalping of those around the staggered junction at Whinny Hill provided an ideal opportunity for meadow cranesbill to flourish. Besides grass, no coarser plants such as common hogweed, dock and sorrel were left to compete for growing space which allowed an enterprising clump of meadow cranesbill to flower on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Many more sprang up in the following days and before the end of the month by now green verges there were liberally bespeckled with meadow cranesbill's distinctive violet-blue flowers. Vigorous grass growth stimulated by late-June rain and early July warmth led to a second cut of the verges up the road from St. Aidan's Terrace on the 12<sup>th</sup> of July. In mid-August, again displaying what has been called : "a special skill", fresh clumps of meadow cranesbill were flowering in the verge just below the turn off to East Fourstones.

In the third spring since the felling of its conifers the Allerwash Mill Plantation took another step in its new life as a broadleaf wood with the removal of several protective tree tubes revealing thriving mountain ashes and aspens. A number of young elder bushes displayed creamy-white flowerheads through June. A new incomer, a single broom, was covered in bright yellow flowers in mid-May; perhaps growing from seed wafted along from the roadside broom bushes in Caponscleugh in the slipstream of vehicles. Also in mid-May more new colonists, a small group of bluebells, were flowering not far below the burn footbridge. Similar bluebell groups that occupy spots in the north end of Crow Wood were introduced some years ago by a regular Crow Wood walker. In mid-June yellow-petalled wood avens or herb bennet, rangy nipplewort and hedge woundwort or hedge nettle were also noted for the first time.



Ever an early colonizer, tall rosebay willowherb, which arrived in the summer after the felling, was in flower on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June.

Its flowers were first noted in a small stand in a Whinny Hill verge on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June, some ten days earlier than it first flowered there last year. Soon afterwards wasteland and many roadside verges across the parishes were painted with splashes of strong pink-purple. Colour gradually drained from flower spikes and by mid-August they were draped in white strands of seed-bearing down.

Spumy heads of meadowsweet were first noted by the edge of the stream that runs through Park Shield on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, a couple of days earlier than first seen last year in a verge of the lane leading from West Boat. As a lover of damp soils it prospered after the drought breaking rains of late June and in early July a line of frothy clusters of creamy-white flowers stretched up the roadside ditch alongside the Long Bank up to Tower Tye, before fading in mid-August.

A block of conifers in the Whinny Hill Plantation over the road from the National Grid Fourstones electricity substation was felled recently, but as with the Allerwash Mill Plantation the ground did not stay bare for long.

On the 21<sup>st</sup> of June hundreds of tall purple-pink spires, plus a pure white individual, stood out in a background of green. However, these were not those of the arch-pioneer, rosebay willowherb, but belonged to an impressive stand of foxgloves. It seems that these must have grown from seed that had lain dormant since the felled trees were planted sometime in the middle of the last century.



# Iyengar Yoga

Norah Phipps

There are many types of yoga and each has its own focus and approach. Iyengar yoga has its names from Mr Iyengar an Indian gentleman who found yoga helped his own health problems and who studied the practice throughout his life.

The Iyengar yoga system of teaching is methodical and progressive, emphasising detailed correctness and absolute safety.

When necessary, it uses supports called 'props' that allow students to progress in their practice of postures safely at their own pace, to suit their body. Beginners work in a basic way on simple postures according to their capabilities. As they develop they then move on to more refined ways of working as well as to more complex postures.

- Iyengar yoga is suitable for all types of people, abilities and levels of fitness
- You'll learn through a carefully graded and systematic programme of Asana (posture), suited to your ability
- Teachers gradually introduce Pranayama (breath control) once students have a firm foundation of Asana practice
- Practice helps you to relax and energizes the body and mind, bringing vitality, flexibility, strength, concentration, self-confidence and mental calm

- Iyengar yoga can help you overcome and prevent many stresses, strains, aches and pains. It promotes a firm foundation for health and well-being

September is a good time to think of getting back to things or starting new ones. If you want to try it there are classes of Iyengar Yoga at Naturel at Warden and at Humshaugh Village Hall

Classes from September are:

**Monday** 9.30-11:00 at Naturel (Warden)

5:45-7.15pm at Humshaugh

**Wednesday** 10:00-11:30 at Humshaugh Village Hall & at Naturel 5.30-7pm & 7.15-8.45pm

**Friday** 12:00-1.00pm at Naturel

You are very welcome at a class and can pay each week or pay for a block. I am still asking people to book before turning up, this has the benefit of knowing who is coming and we aren't ever overcrowded.

If you want to try yoga or want to know more please email [yoganorah@gmail.com](mailto:yoganorah@gmail.com) or ring on 01434 674249.

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# Recipes from an Orchard Kitchen

Iain Bennett

Autumn is upon us, and I have two autumnal recipes for you, Bara Brith and Dorset Apple Cake. Bara Brith comes from Wales and translates as “speckled bread”, funnily enough Barm Brack from Ireland is exactly the same recipe and also translates from Gaelic as speckled bread. In fact, a variation of it can be found in Argentina where it is known as Torta Negra. Welsh settlers took the recipe when they emigrated there in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Traditionally both are yeasted breads, and it is a yeasted recipe that I give here.

More recently both Bara Brith and Barm Brack have changed into cakes usually made by soaking the dried fruits in cold, sweet tea. Interestingly enough the supermarket chain Morrisons removed Bara Brith from the shelves of 19 of its Welsh supermarkets due to lack of sales. Barm Brack in Ireland is associated with Halloween and there is a tradition of inserting objects in the dough before baking.

The objects tell the recipient their fortune for the coming year. The objects baked in were a pea, a stick, a piece of cloth, a small coin (originally a silver sixpence), a ring, and a bean. The pea meant no marriage in the following year, the stick would be an unhappy marriage, the cloth meant bad luck, the coin meant riches, the ring a wedding and the bean meant a future without money.

Dorset like much of the West country is famous for apples and cider. There are many different recipes for apple cakes; I could have done a Somerset recipe instead, but this recipe makes a lovely moist cake with a nice hint of spice and lemon. If you want it makes a great dessert by serving it still warm with either ice cream or clotted cream.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Bara Brith (makes 2 1lb loaves)

### Pre-ferment

Strong White Bread Flour	150g
Water at 38°C	275g
Fresh Yeast	30g or two sachets of dried yeast
Caster Sugar	90g

### Final Dough

Ferment from above	
Strong White Bread Flour	350g
Butter	15g
Salt	7g
Egg	70g - 1 very large egg
Mixed Spice	7g

Because the yeast has to work extra hard to overcome the egg, butter and spices in this recipe, a pre-ferment is necessary. This gives the yeast a running start in the battle. Whisk together all the pre-ferment ingredients, cover the bowl with either a clean shower cap, cling film or a moist tea towel and stand it somewhere warm for ½ hour. At the end of this time mix the pre-ferment, final dough ingredients and the fruit together. This will be quite a sticky dough so I would recommend using a food mixer with a dough hook.

Mix slowly at first to incorporate all the ingredients and then on a higher speed until the dough starts to come away from the sides of the bowl and form a smooth silky ball. You may have to stop the mixer



### Fruit

Currants	140g
Sultanas	140g
Raisins	140g
Mixed Peel	70g

a few times and scrape the dough back down to the bottom of the mixer bowl. When the dough is ready place it in a greased bowl, cover as before and leave it somewhere warm for 40 minutes. After 40 minutes, divide it in half. Roll each half into a ball and place in a pre-greased 1lb loaf tin. Cover the loaves with a floured or coarse-grained cloth and leave somewhere warm for 40 minutes to 1 hour (I use the top of the stove). After half an hour start to pre-heat your oven to 180 C Fan.

When the bread is finally proved place it in the oven and cook for 40 minutes or until the loaf sounds hollow when tapped on the base. Leave to cool on a wire. Serve well buttered and with honey or a preserve of your choice.

## Dorset Apple Cake

Bramley Apples	2, about 300g
Self-Raising Flour	225g
Baking Powder	1tsp
Ground Cinnamon	½ tsp
Ground Mixed Spice	½ tsp
Butter	125g plus 25g melted.
Light Brown Sugar	125g
Lemon	1, zested
Eggs	2, beaten.
Demerara Sugar	2tbsp.



Heat the oven to 180 C/160 CFan and grease and line either a 20cm/8in, loose based cake tin or two 1lb loaf tins. Sieve the flour, baking powder and spices into a bowl. Rub in the butter. Stir in the sugar and the lemon zest. (Tip – don't waste the rest of the lemon, after zesting slice it, wrap the individual slices in cling film place them in a container and put them in the freezer. They are then ready to add to your G&T and will chill without diluting it like a melting ice cube).

Peel and core the apples. Slice one in half and then slice it into 8 slices. Dice the remaining apple and add to the cake mixture.

Bring the batter together by beating in the eggs and place it in the cake tin or divide between the two loaf tins. Smooth the batter and lay the apple slices on top. Brush with the melted butter and sprinkle over the demerara sugar.

Put the cake/cakes in the oven for 40-50 minutes or until they are risen and firm and a skewer can be removed cleanly from them. Leave to cool in their tins.

If there are any recipes that you would like to share or if you would like a suggestion for a recipe, please contact me via e-mail at [orchard.kitchen@orchardkitchen.co.uk](mailto:orchard.kitchen@orchardkitchen.co.uk).

## Fourstones with Warden Methodist Church

Fourstones Chapel would like to welcome  
Reverend Michael Holland as our Minister

\*\*\*\*\*

Coffee Mornings at the Methodist Chapel, Fourstones

Saturday 9th September, 11am - 2pm  
Tea, coffee and sandwiches

Saturday 23rd September, 11am - 2pm  
Macmillan Cancer Care coffee morning : usual refreshments

All are welcome to support this charity.

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## July Weatherwatch

After a hot, dry and sunny June, July was disappointingly cool, dull and wet. Very unusually June was warmer than July in parts of the country, as was marginally the case at the Butt Bank weather station, although the Park Shield July was fractionally warmer. However, this meteorological nicety aside, temperatures were very similar at both locations, with neither registering more than a handful of days of mid-summer heat. Of the previous eighteen Park Shield Weatherwatch Julys only three were cooler.

In an unsettled start to the month the first three days were particularly breezy, although until the 6th temperatures remained close to the seasonal average. The month's mildest overnight minimum of 15.4C early on the 7th ushered in a brief, very warm spell of weather. Sandwiched between the 25.3C daily maximum on the 7th and the 24.3C of the 9th, the 25.6C recorded on the 8th made it the hottest July day. Four June days were hotter than this. Despite the warmth, bright sun only shone in the evenings of the 7th and 9th; otherwise the days were largely clouded, as they too often were in July.

Cloud carried cargoes of rain in a succession of frontal systems that moved eastwards across the country. In all, rain fell in varying amounts on twenty-six days in July, including sixteen consecutive days from the 8th to the 23rd. Along with rain, thunder rumbled briefly on the 12th, 19th, 15th and 21st. On the 15th it was distant and to the east, where the Tyne and Wear Metro suffered flooding. Luckily, in our locality there were none of the downpours that brought more than twice the average July rainfall to some places such as Lancashire and parts of Devon and Dorset. Nevertheless, there were several days

when rainfall amounted to more than the odd millimetre or two. The 23rd was the wettest day of the month and the year to date, with a fall of 15.4mm that was less than a millimetre short of the total February rainfall. July ended with a reasonably substantial 11.2mm on the 31st, contributing to a Park Shield total of 85.4mm. This was in line with a twenty-six year July average, but it was still one of the wetter Park Shield Julys.

The second half of July was fractionally less warm than the first half and contained the month's lowest daily maximum and minimum of 14.5C and 8.0C on the 23rd and 25th respectively. The 17.4C Butt Bank daily maximum on the 19th was a world away from the record shattering 37.8C recorded there on the 19th last year. The 26th and 28th managed to top 21C, but overall temperatures in the month were generally subdued and in the Weatherwatch years only three Julys were cooler.

### July Weatherwatch Factfile.

*Temperature.* Park Shield mean monthly maximum : c.19.1C. Mean monthly minimum : c.10.7C. Monthly mean : c.14.9C. E&NE England monthly mean : 15.5C and -0.2C below the 1991-2020 average. UK maximum : 30.2C (86.4F) at Chertsey (Surrey) on the 7th. UK minimum : 1.2C at Glascarnoch (Highland) on the 11st.

*Rainfall & Sunshine.* Park Shield average rainfall : c.80mm. 24 hour Maximum : 15.4mm on the 23rd. E&NE rainfall and sunshine : 178% & 85% of the 1991-2020 average. Jet stream

*Winds.* Predominantly westerly. Breezy at times. Maximum Park Shield gust : 26 mph on the 1st and 16th. UK maximum gust : 79 mph at Needles Old Battery (IOW) on the 1st.

### 200 Club

#### JULY

1st	Dave Spearman	197
2nd	Malcolm Hull	81
3rd	Christine Blunt	50

### Bonus Ball Draw

#### JULY

15th	Saffron	30
22nd	Robert Watson	2
29th	Billy Garth	25

#### AUGUST

5th	Robert Watson	2
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## Quarter Days

In British and Irish tradition, the quarter days were the four dates in each year on which servants were hired, school terms started, and rents were due. They fell on four religious festivals roughly three months apart and close to the two solstices and two equinoxes.

The significance of quarter days is now limited, although rents for properties in England are often still due on the old English quarter days.

The quarter days have been observed at least since the Middle Ages, and they ensured that debts and unresolved lawsuits were not allowed to linger on. Accounts had to be settled, a reckoning had to be made and publicly recorded on the quarter days.

The traditional English quarter days are March 25th (Lady Day), June 24th (Midsummer Day), September 29th (Michaelmas) and December 25th (Christmas Day).

## Chuckle Corner

1. I almost had a psychic girlfriend, .... But she left me before we met.
2. OK, so what's the speed of dark?
3. How do you tell when you're out of invisible ink?
4. If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.
5. Why do psychics have to ask you for your name



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## Church Pages

### Who's Who

#### Church of England

Rev'd Canon Jeremy Thompson  
Rector of St John Lee and Vicar of Warden &  
Newbrough  
St John Lee Rectory  
Hexham, Northumberland  
NE46 4PE  
tel: 01434 600268

website : [www.sjlwn.org](http://www.sjlwn.org)

#### Methodist

Reverend Michael Holland  
Fern House  
Catton

#### Roman Catholic

Parish Priest : Fr Jeffrey Dodds  
Assisted by Fr Luke Wilkinson  
St Mary's Catholic Church  
Hencotes  
Hexham  
NE46 3EB  
Tel: 01434 603119

### From the Registers

## AUGUST

#### Christenings

*In baptism you have been raised with Christ  
through your faith in the power of God*

There were no Christenings in the Parish in  
August.

#### Weddings

*Jesus said "As the Father has loved me,  
so I have loved you: remain in my love"*

On Tuesday 1st August, at St Aidan,  
Fourstones by Archbishop's Special Licence:  
Glen Smith and Tracey Bishop of Dursley,  
Gloucestershire

#### Funerals

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

There were no Funerals in the Parish in  
August.

### St John of Beverley, Haydon Bridge

If you have any queries about service times  
please contact:

St Mary's Catholic Church

Hencotes, Hexham

or call 01434 603119

### Fourstones with Warden Methodist Church Preachers for September

3rd 3pm  
Welcome service at St Andrews  
Church, Corbridge

10th Mrs Sheila Holland

17th Mr Norman Fullard

24th Mrs Ruth Johnson

All services are at 10.30am  
Everyone welcome

## Letter from Reverend Jeremy.....

Dear Friends,

I am writing to you today from South West France. Yes, the sun is shining (perhaps a little too warmly), the cheese is as good as ever, and the red wine... well, goes without saying. For pretty much every year for the last 30 years, we have come to this part of France for our annual holiday. It is a chance to stop, relax, unwind and recharge. Parts of life that are so very, very important. Time for recreation and re-creation.

Recreation and re-creation, are two intertwined concepts that unveil the intricate dance of renewal within our lives. As we tread the path of existence, the importance of these elements becomes strikingly evident.

Recreation, often seen as leisure and play, grants us moments of respite from life's unyielding demands. It is the gentle pause that allows our weary souls to catch their breath, and our minds to unfurl from the clenches of routine. Just as a tired body finds solace in sleep, our spirits find rejuvenation in the simplicity of recreation. It's a chance to rekindle the flames of creativity, reconnect with forgotten passions, and savour the sweetness of being.

Yet, in this cycle of rest and revival, lies a deeper truth – that of re-creation. Just as nature's seasons unfurl in perpetual cycles, so too do our lives go

through phases of growth, decline, and rebirth. We are not static beings; we are in constant flux, evolving with every experience and encounter. Through challenges and triumphs, we transform. The essence of re-creation lies in shedding old skins, embracing change, and forging new narratives.

In a world ever-churning with demands, it's crucial to remember that recreation and re-creation are not mere indulgences. They are vital components of the human experience and enablers of holistic well-being. Just as a caterpillar must cocoon itself to emerge as a butterfly, we too must allow ourselves moments of cocooning – a time to retreat, reflect, and emerge renewed.

So, forgive me if it is raining where you are today (I believe Storm Betty is about to be unleashed on the UK) but let us celebrate recreation as a canvas for self-discovery, a canvas where our innermost aspirations and joys can flourish. And let us embrace re-creation as an ongoing journey, an evolution of the self that adds depth and richness to our story. In this dance of rest and renewal, we find the threads that weave our lives into a tapestry of growth, and our existence into a symphony of purpose.

with all good wishes,  
Jeremy

### Parish of Warden with Newbrough Church Services for September 2023

#### Sunday 3rd Trinity XIII

- 8.00 am Holy Communion at St. John Lee
- 9.30 am Matins from the BCP at St. Michael & All Angels Warden.
- 10.00 am Morning Prayer at St. Aidan Stagshaw
- 11.15 am Zoom worship

#### Sunday 10th Trinity XIV

- 8.00 am Holy Communion at St. Michael & All Angels Warden
- 10.00 am Parish Eucharist in person and live-streamed from St. John Lee

#### Sunday 17th Trinity XV

- 8.00 am Holy Communion at St. John Lee
- 9.30 am Parish Eucharist at St. Peter Newbrough.
- 11.15 am Zoom worship.

#### Sunday 24th Trinity XVI

- 8.00 am Holy Communion at St. Peter Newbrough
- 10.00 am Parish Eucharist broadcast live from St. John Lee