

# *Whinstone Times*

Community magazine for Embleton and Christon Bank



**March/April 2021**

**Edition No. 72**



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## Editorial

Welcome to the 72<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Whinstone Times.

With the longer days and some sunshine, lockdown doesn't feel quite so bad, and every day now there seems to be good news about the pandemic – fewer cases, fewer deaths and more people vaccinated. In this new spirit of optimism, the WT team is once again looking forward to being able to hold some fundraising events to help the bank balance, beginning with the Plant Sale at the end of May. Fingers crossed!!

We have been pleased and very grateful to receive several kind and generous donations, some from second-home owners who are missing Embleton and hoping to be able to visit again soon.

Sarah took the photograph that appears on the front cover of this edition. It is somewhere in and around Embleton and Christon Bank. Do you know where it is? See page 15 to find out! If anyone has a 'spot the place/object' picture they would like us to feature, let us know and we'll try to include it. As always, thanks to everyone who supports the Whinstone Times, with articles, letters, photographs, advertising, and the donations, which help pay for the printing costs of the magazine.

We welcome letters, articles and any ideas for content and for fundraising from our readers. Contact us at [whinstone.times@gmail.com](mailto:whinstone.times@gmail.com) or telephone Jan Ainsley, 01665 576019.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions there are no entries for 'What's On' this time, but if you have anything planned for later in the year, please send the information to Shelagh Coxon, tel. 01665 576791

**The deadline for material for the next edition is Monday 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2021.**

*N.B. The editors reserve the right to alter or reject material and the views expressed within these covers are solely those of the contributors.*

**Earlier editions of the WT are available on the internet and can be found on the Embleton community website:**

[www.embleton-northumberland.co.uk/publish.html](http://www.embleton-northumberland.co.uk/publish.html)

The PC continues to meet via Zoom, in line with the current government regulations resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic. Currently the PC elections scheduled for 6<sup>th</sup> May are still due to take place.

The traffic management plan for Embleton and the installation of the interactive speed indicators at Christon Bank have been programmed to commence in February by NCC.

The meeting heard from residents of Dunstan Steads on the problems experienced with parking and speeding on the road leading down to the hamlet. The issues of the overnight parking of campervans and wild camping in the dunes was also raised. It was agreed to establish a task force to identify possible solutions to these and other issues resulting from tourism in the wider Parish. In the interim it was agreed to mark out parking bays at Dunstan Steads to maximise the use of the available space. The introduction of the 30mph limit as part of the traffic management scheme should reduce the level of speeding and the effectiveness will be assessed before any further reductions are proposed. It was recognised that the PC had limited powers to take any action and any proposed solutions would need to be agreed with and implemented by NCC.

Following suggestions from Parishioners the PC agreed to suggest the name 'Priest Moor Close' as the name for the new development in Christon Bank.

Gateway Cottage (previously Cemetery House) has now been rented out as an affordable home. The tenant was born in Embleton before moving to Low Newton and so met the objective of renting the property to a local family. Although technically the rent could be increased in April it has been agreed to defer this as the tenant has only just moved in.

An e-mail from a local resident concerning dog fouling in Embleton, and in particular the quarry, was discussed and it was agreed to raise the issue highlighting the hazards via an article in this magazine.

Three councillors have formed a sub-committee to investigate how the parish could become more environmentally friendly. Ideas will be discussed at the next meeting.

An application has been sent to NCC to allow the trimming of the tree at the top of Front Street as it is in the conservation area.

## Embleton Quarry



Whilst this is naturally a quiet time for activity in the quarry this year has been exceptionally so due to the current restrictions. This has meant that the construction of a school classroom area and a platform for pond dipping have been postponed until later in the year. It was also planned to improve access to the site and improve some of the footpaths to make it easier for disabled groups to be able to enjoy the quarry but again this has been put back to later in the year.

Readers may recall the picture on the front of the last issue of the night skies taken from the quarry. We are working

with the AONB to see if the quarry can be given Dark Skies status, which would make it the first site on the coast to be given this.

The two Exmoor ponies have been working hard at grazing the quarry and they will be moving to the field to the south of the playpark by mid-April to allow ground nesting birds and wildflowers to thrive in the paddock area.

We hope to resume work in the spring and are always on the lookout for volunteers to help us maintain the quarry. If you are interested in joining us, please contact us via email: [embletonquarry@gmail.com](mailto:embletonquarry@gmail.com)

(Thanks to Sarah Coxon for the photograph of icicles in the quarry during the recent cold weather)

### **Rates for Advertising in the Whinstone Times**

The cost per issue is **£15** for a quarter page, **£30** for a half page and **£50** for a full page. A discount of 5% is applied for 3 editions and 10% for 6 editions. If you would like to place an advert, please contact us (details on page 3)

## County Councillor Wendy Pattison's report

E-mail: [wendy.pattison@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:wendy.pattison@northumberland.gov.uk)

Tel. 01665 579137 – 07979 067321 – 077799 83072

Facebook – Cllr Wendy Pattison

### **Northumberland Libraries**

The Library Service are organising doorstep deliveries to the most vulnerable customers in partnership with the Support Planning team. If you know a resident who might welcome a doorstep delivery of books, please let the library service know.

Unfortunately the mobile library will not operate its normal schedule, however the library service will be reinstating befriending telephone calls. Alnwick Library is to remain closed. Fines on overdue books are currently suspended.

The digital library continues to be available and members can access hundreds of eBooks, eAudio and magazines. The Digital Helpline is also still available for anyone who needs help and with getting online or accessing online services. Call 0345 600 6400 and request a call back.

Library website [www.mylibrary.co.uk](http://www.mylibrary.co.uk)

Facebook - [www.facebook.com/northumberlandlibraries/](https://www.facebook.com/northumberlandlibraries/)

Twitter - [twitter.com/NlandLibs](https://twitter.com/NlandLibs)

Instagram [www.instagram.com/nlandlibs/](https://www.instagram.com/nlandlibs/)

### **Northumberland Community Bank**

Northumberland Community Bank is very different from a traditional high street bank.

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than they need to. If their circumstances change, we look to help them navigate trickier times by being flexible and understanding. We are not a 'computer says no' organisation!

We offer loans from £300, unlike a lot of high street lenders who only offer much higher amounts or provide a credit card or overdraft as an alternative.

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- Loans to Individuals and micro businesses (including start-up loans for entrepreneurs).
- Loans to individuals via employer payroll deduction schemes.
- Provision of bank accounts and debit cards to individuals (coming soon).
- 3rd party secured loans for targeted disadvantaged groups.
- Signposting financially vulnerable individuals to appropriate support services.
- Provision of basic bank accounts (coming soon) and loans to support Universal Credit roll out.
- Financial Education for young people and junior saver accounts

To find out more visit [www.northumberlandcommunitybank.co.uk](http://www.northumberlandcommunitybank.co.uk)

## **Planning Applications**

The Parish Council would like to make sure that all parishioners are aware of current planning applications in the Parish so that they are able to review and comment on them. For a list of current planning applications please visit [www.northumberlandparishes.uk/embleton](http://www.northumberlandparishes.uk/embleton) OR the

Embleton Parish Council Facebook page

[www.facebook.com/embletonparishcouncil/](http://www.facebook.com/embletonparishcouncil/)

These lists are updated weekly, and all planning applications are discussed at the monthly Parish Council meetings.



## Embleton School News

### **An update from the Chair of Governors, Sir Alan Craft**

As we have done since Covid descended on us we have kept the school open for some children and throughout the current lockdown have provided a mix of in-school education and on-line. This has been quite a challenge for the teaching staff and the children too have sometimes found it challenging. All children now have access to an electronic device at home due to the generosity of many including the Parish Council. The only negative aspect recently was that the Authorities decided that Beach school was an external visit so that has been cancelled for now.

We are grateful to all of our teachers who have continued to work throughout this crazy time. Not surprisingly they are tired but seem in generally good fettle. The children I have seen in school seem their usual happy and delightful selves.

No one knows what the future will bring but it is good to see that the mood is to get schools reopened as soon as possible and maybe by the time you read this they will be back fulltime.

The Governors have not had the opportunity to go into school much in recent times but we still meet via the dreaded Zoom and give what support we can to the headmistress and her team.

### **School 100 Club**

The key worker children from Puffin Class have drawn the first ever Embleton Primary School 100 Club numbers. Our January 2021 winners are:-

**1st Prize - £50 - Ann Craft**

**2nd Prize - £25 - Karl McGow**

Next draw is on the 26th February - good luck everyone.

# Time for Embleton to discover the ‘Magic’ of ‘Right Living’?

## William Sutherland

Embleton, with its beautiful beaches and dunes, is a magical place. I realised this 70 years ago, growing up as a traditional farmer's son at Dunstan Steads. Keeping this magic is now a challenge for all of us. I must confess to being shocked just the other day as I cycled from Christon Bank to Ellingham. Believe it or not I counted 77 discarded drink cans dumped on the roadside. It was the sight of all those cans that has prompted me to write. What on earth are we going to do about all this waste and pollution? Frankly I am sick to death of hearing that all will be well if only we can live “sustainably”. I find the negativity of “green warriors” and the disruption caused by those like “Extinction Rebellion” depressing.

The answer, I believe, lies in the concept of “right living”. If each of us changed our lives for the better (and surely we can do this – indeed many of us already do!) then the planet would certainly be better too. My vision is not of an Embleton merely able to survive “sustainably” into a sterile future dominated by consumerism and greed. We can do better than this – and magical Embleton is well placed to do so. There are dozens of activities which can form a part of “right living”; they do not require huge inputs of energy or money. And these activities can indeed be “magical” if we have the wit to see it. I am talking about walking, swimming, surfing, cycling, gardening, dancing, training your dog, cooking, sewing, playing music, composting your organic waste, playing games (football, bowls, golf, tennis, cards....), educating your children, brewing your own beer and wine, helping your neighbours and, of course, having parties! Learning to enjoy “right living” in these ways can quickly displace the attractions of TV escapism and hollow joys of the shopping mall. Perhaps all the desperate dislocations of the lockdown can prompt us to explore such new activities?

*This is an abridged version of William Sutherland’s article. For the full version please contact him at [wllmsutherland@gmail.com](mailto:wllmsutherland@gmail.com) or via his website at [www.self-sufficiency.net](http://www.self-sufficiency.net)*

## Man Overboard?

Sarah Coxon

This was the first question that crossed my mind when staring down at a large, bright orange lifebuoy on the beach at Football Hole.



It was a cold and blowy morning in early January and there were no other people in sight, it was just me and my loyal hound. Having never come across such a thing before, I really didn't know what I should do. Meanwhile all sorts of grave scenarios flashed through my mind, after all I've watched 'Titanic' enough times to know that the sea is not a kind or caring environment. I scanned the sea in front of me for either a wrecked ship, or a body floating in the dark grey swirling sea. I paced up and down a bit but could see nothing

out of the ordinary on the water, or up and down the beach. Satisfied that there was no disaster unfolding in front of my eyes, I did the thing any self-respecting beach comber would do and heaved the find up onto my shoulder and carted it off home.

Once back at base I had a good look at 'my trophy'. The rope that would normally be attached to the lifesaving ring, to enable the rescuer to throw it to someone in difficulty and then haul them back in, was neatly cut close to the ring itself. This reassured me that it had most probably been deemed as no longer needed and jettisoned into the ocean as, sadly, so much maritime equipment is. True, the lettering emblazoned upon the ring declaring it was from the 'Princess - Antwerpen' (as in registered in Antwerp) was well worn but otherwise looked in good condition.

I decided to find out more and consulted the oracle known as Google. It turned out that the ship the ring had belonged to at some stage was, and I quote, 'an anchor handling vessel'. Never heard of such a thing. Turns out that it's a big, powerful type of tug. I am now somewhat of a self-proclaimed expert on all things maritime so listen up readers: an anchor

handling tugboat's job is to either tug or tow an oil rig, or other large vessel, to a location out at sea. They also have a system that allows them to moor rigs and other vessels in place once they reach their destination, hence the "anchor handling" in their name. Simples...

AHTBs (anchor handling tugboats) are classified as 'supply vessels' because



as well as supplying this anchoring service, they can also be used for storing fuel, water, dry goods etc. They need to be large enough to accommodate space for all that towing equipment, plus anchors and crew members, so are much larger than traditional tugboats (the 'Princess', for

instance, has berths for 26). They're built to withstand harsh conditions out on the water and typically harder than traditional tugboats. Fascinating stuff.

I was even able to find out exactly where the 'Princess' was working in real time. Turns out that my ex-sister-in-law, who lives up on the Black Isle, could wave to 'our' tug because she's currently ploughing the waves up on the Cromarty Forth. Lots of portable oil rigs up there, I've seen 'em.

Prompted by sensible editors to check with Royal Boskalis, the Dutch company who technically owns the ring, I've sent them an email asking if they're happy to donate it to the Whinstone Quarry working group as a life preserver, to be sited by the new pond dipping platform due to be erected as soon as Covid will allow. No response as yet...

I did have a vague idea that I could claim the ring as salvage, but it turns out that *'the law of salvage is a **principle of maritime law** whereby any person who helps recover another person's ship or cargo in peril at sea is entitled to a reward commensurate with the value of the property salvaged'*. About two and six pence then...

N.B. No humans were drowned in the making of this article.

## Olivia – an update

## Gary & Olivia Woodburn

What an incredibly hard and stressful year it has been. We hope that you are all continuing to keep as well as you can at this very difficult time.

It's been 16 months since Olivia had emergency surgery at the Hypermobility Unit in Barcelona, Spain. During this time Olivia has been very slowly recovering at home and we have been monitoring her progress. We want to update you. First of all though, we need to say THANK YOU to Embleton and the surrounding communities who came out in our time of need, offering support and kindness. We will be forever grateful.

As many of you know Olivia has Ehlers Danlos Syndrome (EDS). It is a complex and poorly understood condition, a genetic collagen disorder that can affect all of the systems in the body. Olivia's EDS affects her in many ways, most symptoms are very unpleasant and disabling but we were learning to manage them the best we could. However, things became serious last year with the weight of her skull compressing her brain stem. We were forced to take emergency action and seek out experts to help her. There are only 3 neurosurgeons in the world specialising in treating EDS patients with brain and spinal complications, two are in America and the other is in Spain.

Olivia's neck issues had been slowly getting worse over the last few years but we were not prepared for the pace at which she suddenly declined. In late September 2019 she was admitted to Hospital, completely paralysed down her left side and unable to move without bringing on life threatening neurological symptoms. She spent 5 weeks in hospital in a full body and neck brace, dosed up on heavy pain medication, while we tried to fundraise £100,000 to pay for an air ambulance and emergency surgery with the EDS neurosurgeon in Spain.

It's fair to say that those 5 weeks of frantically trying to raise money while she lay in hospital with an uncertain outcome were the most stressful weeks of our lives. We didn't like having to ask for help, we had no choice, but the response from the local community was overwhelming! Such a positive response and so much support helped us through a very difficult time and kept us firmly focused on getting Olivia the help she needed.

To cut a very long story short, with your help, we did it! We reached our target in 5 weeks and Olivia had neurosurgery on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019. The fusion surgery stabilized Olivia's spine from her skull to the bottom of her

neck. It was major neurosurgery and there were some scary complications whilst she was in hospital but she made it through. Recovery has been slow and hard but with total rest and adjustment things have settled down.



So how is she now? Well, we are pleased to report that since the surgery Olivia has not suffered any further life threatening symptoms. Better than that, after years spent virtually bedbound Olivia is now able to spend good periods upright. She is active in her wheelchair and on really good days she is able to walk a few steps within the house too which is just amazing. As well as improved mobility the surgery has helped Olivia greatly with cognition. A compressed brain stem gave Olivia 'brain fog', she was often unable to think clearly and sometimes not even able to talk. This has improved massively since surgery, it's like having the old Olivia

back again.

The surgery was amazing for Olivia and many things have greatly improved. It has helped to fix her worst neurological symptoms but a few symptoms remain and we are in the process of getting further investigations to try and diagnose the cause(s). We know that many of you kindly donated to the 'Life for Liv' fund. It is difficult for us to thank each of you personally but we just wanted to you to know how much we appreciate your kindness, we couldn't have done this without your support and it has made a huge difference to our lives.

Due to her condition Olivia has barely left the house for years, she feels guilty that she doesn't really know many people locally even though you all stepped up to help her. If you see us out in village please do introduce yourself and say hello, Olivia would love to meet you and thank you personally for your support. If you do say hello please be aware that Olivia's neck is now totally rigid where the neurosurgeon has bolted her up. If she isn't looking directly at you she is not being rude, she's just unable to turn her head.

**Once again, THANK YOU!**

## An Unusual Visitor to the Churchyard!



Thank you to Andy Cowan for this photograph - perhaps the same deer that had to be rescued from a field near the golf course at the beginning of February! Deer have been spotted in many locations in the area over recent weeks.

### Alnwick Food Bank

### Rev Alison

The Food Bank is now open and accepting donations which can be left in the church porch and delivered on a regular basis.

We are collecting toiletries - soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste and brushes, hand-wash and shower gel.

### Postage Stamps for RNIB.

### Shelagh Coxon

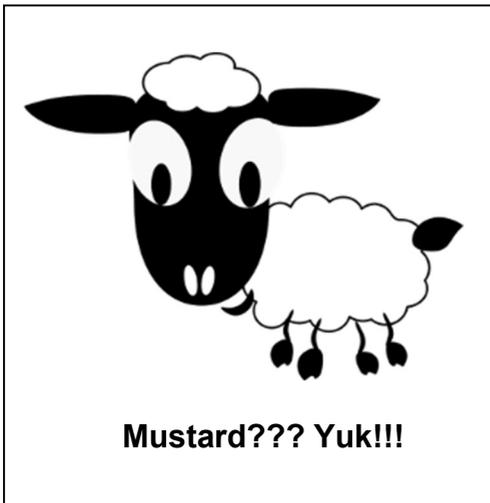
Thanks to everyone who collected stamps for the Royal Institute of Blind People. The final count- all local - is approximately 10,000 plus 400 foreign stamps. A special thankyou to Beth and everyone at the shop for allowing the shop to be the collecting point. We are looking for someone to take over the co-ordinators job from Rosalind Malthouse who has done it for a great many years.

Contact Shelagh Coxon, 576791 if you would be interested in taking on this role.

Farmers love to talk about the weather as everyone knows. My farming neighbour, who has been recording rain levels for the Met Office since 1991, let me know that January 2021 was the wettest month in the last 30 years here in Northumberland. He recorded 6.5 inches, and since then it has barely stopped raining and more is forecast. We have to adapt our farming systems to cope with these increased extremes. The best thing to do when the arable ground is waterlogged is leave it well alone.

Maintenance and jobs in the workshop are ongoing and the time spent is invaluable. We are lucky in this part of the county to be so well served by lots of local firms in the Alnwick area that have remained open throughout these Covid lockdowns.

We have been doing some thinning in the woods recently. This is chainsaw work, by hand, removing some of the softwood trees, such as Norway spruce, that are planted alongside hardwoods as a 'nurse crop' to help them get established. The trick is to remember to take them out before they smother the slower growing oak and beech.



We have put some of our neighbour's sheep to graze the stubble and cover crops between Embleton and Christon Bank, which will help to prepare these fields for sowing in the spring. These cover crops are an experiment and for some reason the sheep are not very keen on the mustard and so we are going to have to work out how to get rid of it before we sow. As organic farmers we can't spray it off, as conventional farmers would.

**Front Cover** This bug-house is on the lane between the first green and the third tee on the Dunstanburgh Castle Golf course.

More records broken: five times more rain fell in the first two weeks of December than in the whole of November: January was nationally the coldest month for ten years; January in Northumberland had three times the average rainfall for the month; the first real frost on the coast was not until December 28<sup>th</sup>; there were forty two hours of continuous rain from 19<sup>th</sup> January. And yet, between all these extremes of weather, we had glorious sunny days with crisp blue skies and calm seas. The Cheviots, visible from the village, seemed rounder, softer and whiter than ever. These are the days to walk on empty roads and empty coast paths by the empty golf course and wonder why there are still so many cars at Dunstan Steads and in the village during Lockdown 3...

The weather also has something to do with the number of stranded and dead seals washed up down the length of our coastline. It is not uncommon



for a mother seal to leave her offspring on the beach while she goes fishing (not to be recommended generally!) but rough seas and winds could make it difficult for her to return, leaving the little one helpless. They can haul themselves out but often seem to go in the wrong direction. The number to ring if you

find a live seal obviously in trouble is 01825 765546. This will put you through to the national helpline of Marine Life Rescue, but it is highly likely that it will be a local volunteer who comes to the rescue. To report a dead seal, there is a number at the Natural History Museum for the Cetacean Stranding Investigation Program – 0207 4496672. The splendidly titled Living Seas Officer at the Northumberland Wildlife Trust on 0191 2846884 also collects information but judging by the number of corpses this year, recording does not unfortunately mean removing dead bodies, so tempting to dogs.

The last weekend in January saw the annual RSPB Garden Birdwatch. We were disappointingly quieter than usual: not a single finch (in fact no greenfinches or siskins for years) nor our resident nuthatch. Last year there was a flurry of activity as the long-tailed tits arrived; all was still this year.

Four moorhens and six mallards were some recompense. It would be interesting to see what experiences other people had.

Other sightings: regular little egrets, especially at Long Nanny, and a goosander on the Shirewater. This is a grebe-like diving duck, ours (a female) with a distinctive brown head and white throat. The Embleton Burn is obviously healthy as there is also a regular heron fishing here. As it reaches the sea, the Burn is certainly now most dramatic, having carved steep cliffs in the dunes at the mouth, revealing well over twenty hitherto hidden concrete tank traps. This is an ever-changing world, moulded daily by nature, always fascinating, always awe-inspiring – somehow symbolic of the times.



### **Some sightings in February....**

Lapwings in the big field at the bottom of Sea Lane, masses of Field Fares in the fields along the munitions road, Skylark - is it too early or are they always here just keeping quiet over winter? Three amorous pairs of Kittiwakes on the vertiginous cliff face on the east side of Dunstanburgh Castle, a kestrel hunting, pink footed geese, smaller skeins but still very busy up there and finally, a lone hare - all spotted during one walk on the 11<sup>th</sup> of February.

***Please send any sightings to [whinstone.times@gmail.com](mailto:whinstone.times@gmail.com) for inclusion in the Nature Notes***

### **And more about seals from Andy Sisson, BDMLR.....**

A great many of you enjoy walking our beaches and I have had quite a few requests from folks asking when they come across a live seal on the beach who to contact for advice etc. In the first instance please contact the 24hr helpline at British Divers Marine Life Rescue (see above). This also includes live strandings of dolphins, porpoises and whales. For dead seals contact needs to be made with the landowner of the beach - NT, AONB, Northumberland Estates, Bamburgh Estates or the local council - to effect removal.

If anyone has any old towels they no longer need, any you can spare would help the British Divers Marine Life Rescue medics with helping injured sick or abandoned seals they are called to rescue. If you need any advice or assistance regarding seals, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Email [andysisson1@sky.com](mailto:andysisson1@sky.com) . Call 07753659759

## Music Quiz

Who are the following musicians better known as?

1. Reginald Kenneth Dwight
2. Cherilyn Sarkisian
3. Marshall Mathers III
4. David Robert Jones
5. Farokh Bulsara
6. Paul Hewson
7. Michael Ebenazer Kwadjo Omari Owuo Jr.
8. Harry Webb
9. Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta
10. Richard Starkey



These are the first line(s) of well-known songs, but can you name the song and the artist(s)?

11. We skipped the light fandango. Turned cartwheels 'cross the floor.
12. Look into my eyes, you will see. What you mean to me.
13. Sittin' in a sleazy snack bar suckin' sickly sausage rolls.
14. Let me tell you now. Here we go. It might seem crazy what I'm about to say; Sunshine she's here, you can take a break.
15. Just a castaway, an island lost at sea, oh. Another lonely day, with no one here but me, oh.
16. Rising up, back on the street. Did my time, took my chances.
17. I feel so unsure. As I take your hand and lead you to the dance floor.
18. Today is gonna to be the day that they're gonna throw it back to you.
19. Is this the real life? Is this just fantasy?
20. Young man, there's no need to feel down; I said young man pick yourself off the ground.

(answers on page20)

## Dog Fouling

The Parish Council is aware that dog fouling in the villages, quarry and surrounding areas is on the increase. In reality there shouldn't be a problem - you own a dog, it eats, it poos, you clean it up. Failure to do so is not just anti-social behaviour, it is against the law. Not only does it look awful and smell horrible, but it also causes a nasty mess if you step in it, cycle through it, push a wheelchair or pushchair through it or, even worse, slip and fall in it. The school are planning to hold outdoor lessons in the quarry once they re-open. The thought of a child getting poo on their clothes or shoes and then having to spend the rest of the day like that is simply too awful to contemplate. Councillors recognise that the failure to pick up poo is the action of a small minority of owners. There are numerous waste bins within the villages and free poo bags are provided at both entrances to the quarry and the field off Station Road. The Parish Council is raising the issue with the local dog warden and will support any prosecution arising. However, this needs photographic evidence so if you witness any instances you can help by providing this along with the time, date and location to the Parish Clerk at [embletonpc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:embletonpc@hotmail.co.uk)



## The Net

**Shelagh Coxon**

A belated 'Happy New Year' to you all.

There will be no more Nets until the end of lockdown when hopefully life will return to some sort of 'normal'.

The 100 club as a result of both that and the fact that the slips can't be printed as normal at school means that it is not possible to run the club this year. However, anyone still wishing to support the Creighton Hall whilst wanting to try and win some money can support by going online to the Northumberland Lottery website - [northumberlandlottery.co.uk](http://northumberlandlottery.co.uk) - and follow the link to the Creighton Hall.

Hopefully this will be the last of any interruptions in Net production due to Covid. (At least you don't have to do any deliveries when the weather is at its worst). Take care everyone.

## From Christmas Tree to Tree of Light.

**Rev Alison**



I'm very aware that because of the current lockdown people may not see this wonderful illuminated cross which stands in the garden of the Parish Room as a beacon of light and hope in these dark and troubled times. It has been made from our Christmas Tree and imaginatively continues the message of Christmas – that for Christians Jesus is the Light of the World, a light no

darkness can quench. The Cross itself is a key Christian symbol of hope - that there is the possibility of new life even in the midst of death.

**Thanks to Chris Horner for making the Cross of Light for the village.**

## Books by the Sea

**Tony Rochester**

I don't know if like me you are getting near to the point where you have read all the books you wanted to in Lockdown and don't know what to do. The Mobile Library isn't coming just now. I prefer to read a book I can touch so a kindle isn't the answer. I don't want to buy new books on Amazon every week. Then I remembered our little Library Boxes and I have found the answer. Why not join u? There is a box half way down Sea Lane in Embleton and another outside St Mary's Church in Low Newton. Bring a book you have read, borrow a book someone has left. The system is very simple but it works, hand sanitiser in each box.

<https://emble.org/books-by-the-sea> or <https://littlefreelibrary.org>

## Music Quiz Answers:

1. Elton John
2. Cher
3. Eminem
4. David Bowie
5. Freddie Mercury
6. Bono
7. Stormzy
8. Cliff Richard
9. Lady Gaga
10. Ringo Starr
11. Whiter Shade of Pale – Procol Harum
12. Everything I Do (I do it for you) – Bryan Adams
13. Fog on the Tyne – Lindisfarne
14. Happy – Pharrell Williams
15. Message in a Bottle – The Police
16. Eye of the Tiger (theme from Rocky) - Survivor
17. Careless Whisper – George Michael
18. Wonderwall – Oasis
19. Bohemian Rhapsody - Queen
20. Y.M.C.A – Village People





## **DOG BOARDING SERVICES**

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**FB: Patterson's Cottage Boarding Kennels**

**Web: [www.pattersonskennels.com](http://www.pattersonskennels.com)**

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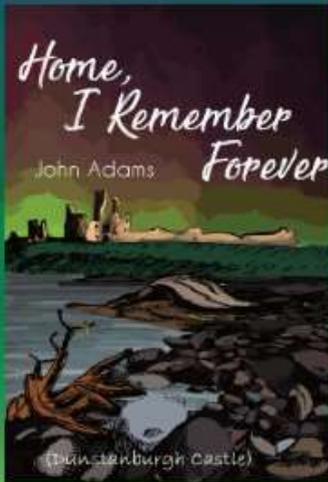
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