



Corbridge Matters is published periodically by Corbridge Parish Council and distributed free of charge in the village. Any comments or opinions expressed in this or any edition of Corbridge Matters do not necessarily represent the views of the Council. The display of advertisements for services and products does not indicate that they are endorsed, approved, recommended or promoted by the Council.
Editor: Ian Wylie (ian.wylie@btconnect.com)

CORBRIDGE MATTERS

December 2020 Issue 57
www.corbridge.ukpc.net

:: DESIGN : © 2020 PETER RODGER : 07550011001 ::: PRINT : ROBSONPRINT : 01434 602975 ::

Most photos from Ian Wylie



St Andrew's Church Christmas Tree

Parish Council **INFORMATION**

Clerk of the Council: Mrs Mandy Senior
Tel: 07950 297634

www.corbridge.ukpc.net

Corbridge Parish Council is currently using videoconferencing to hold its meetings. Dates of forthcoming meetings will be published on the web site

Council Notes



News of a new national lockdown in November came as a blow. As we enter the winter season many of us had hoped the unprecedented measures taken in March and April were a one off. Alas, the coronavirus remains with us along with its injurious effects on health and society at large. As we emerge from the national lockdown into regional Tier 3 status it is vital that the advice is followed - whatever view you have of the government's measures.

The closing of the Parish Hall in the spring, reopening in the summer and its recent second closure has disrupted community activities along with the groups who organise them. Of the 35 clubs and community groups which frequently use the Parish Hall I am concerned that some may not reassemble after this further period of shutdown. Some may be lost for good. This is regrettable and shows how vulnerable our social systems can be to interruption and disruption. Once things have stopped it can be very difficult to get them re-started. On the brighter side, Parish Clerk Mandy Senior has received quite a lot of interest from brand new groups wishing to hire rooms in the newly refurbished Parish Hall. Let's hope that continues.

The fact that assembling for religious worship was curtailed for a period is a forceful reminder as to how unusual and unprecedented these times are. Under instruction from both the British Legion and the government, the village was unable to conduct its usual Remembrance Sunday parade - a further reminder of the impact of the virus. In fact, the act of remembrance did take place, albeit in several different locations throughout the village. Wreaths were laid but a large communal gathering was simply not permitted in 2020. The news that places of worship could reopen for socially distanced congregations from December 2 was welcome although limitations on permitted numbers for weddings and funerals will apply.

For the five days between the 23rd and 27th of December the option is available for us to mix with up to two other households to celebrate Christmas. We should all think very carefully about gathering together at this challenging time and exercise discretion and care in doing so.

Looking more broadly, I hope that as many as possible of our businesses and community organisations hold things together and remain intact as we re-emerge from this torpor next year. The news of several Covid-19 vaccines emerging across the world is most encouraging news.

Although the pandemic has been brutally harmful to people and places we must try to see silver linings where we can. Lockdowns have been a challenge but, at the same time, have allowed many to reconsider what is really important in life. This often turns out to be family and friends rather than more material things - although anyone struggling to pay bills as a result of the pandemic knows all too well how vital a steady and reliable income is.

Finally, as I've mentioned before, whatever challenges we face in Corbridge I hope we face them together and take heart from the fact that we live in one of the finest places in the kingdom.

A Happy Christmas to all.

William Clouston (Parish Council Chairman)



When you read this we will be in Tier 3 with a review later this month. I feel for those whose businesses remain closed and I hope that if we all follow the guidelines carefully then we may soon move to Tier 2. Residents and traders have all made their contribution to helping slow down the spread of this awful disease - it really is a joint effort.

Thanks to everybody who put up with the diversions recently as the roads around the Styford (Brocksbushes) roundabout and Priory Gardens were resurfaced. Both needed doing. I have just received proposals for a pedestrian footpath connecting Farnley to Corbridge after the only off-road path collapsed into the river after Storm Desmond and I am hoping this work will be programmed in for next year. Work is also being done looking at how we reduce traffic speeds in the centre of the village. In particular on the busy Newcastle, Aydon and Stagshaw Roads. More information to follow.

We have just had word from the Environment Agency that work will begin in the spring on improved flood defences at the Devil's Water - the final step in a series of protection measures.

Remembrance Sunday this year was unusual to say the least but thanks to the Royal British Legion Corbridge branch for doing what they could to mark this important commemoration with staggered wreath laying at St. Andrew's Church and a socially distanced lowering of the Legion standard on The Riggs.

Recently the County Council allowed Coronavirus Community Support group volunteers from the first lockdown so if you do need help collecting a prescription or groceries or just need somebody to talk to then Mandy can be contacted on 07519 599474 and will make arrangements. Thanks to all those volunteers and particularly to Mandy.

May I wish you all a Merry Christmas. Please stay safe and as ever don't hesitate to contact me **nick.oliver24@outlook.com** or **07779 983742**.

Nick Oliver (Northumberland County Councillor)



in the Tower

Ever wondered what it looks like behind the St Andrew's Church clocks? Here's a glimpse of some of the mechanism in the church tower. Church warden Michael Collins is one of the team who regularly make the climb to wind the clocks. Also ascending to the very top of the Saxon tower when flags have to be raised or lowered. The church has plans to install an automatic clock winder, which will leave Michael and the team with more time on their hands.





Christmas Tree Festival 2020

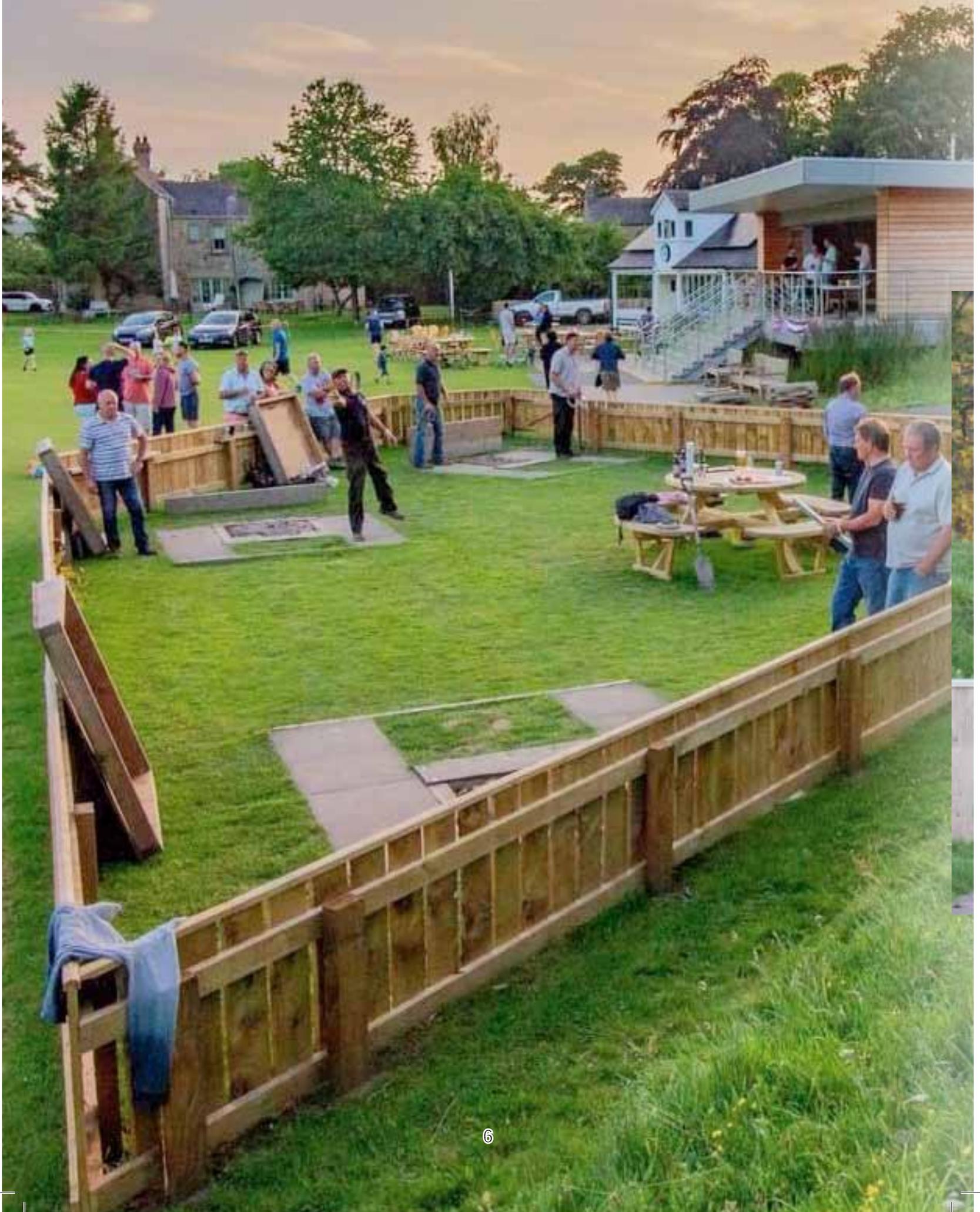


As you know, current restrictions have made it impossible to hold the St Andrew's Church Christmas Tree Festival this year. We are really disappointed about this but, like you all, are looking at ways of doing things in a different way. We still want people to experience a Corbridge Christmas Tree Festival but with a difference. So in 2020 it will be via social media. We would really appreciate your help. It would be good if you have a space in your shop / hospitality venue / business to display a decorated tree. We know this may not be possible for everyone. While we are asking households to posts photos of their trees online too as well as businesses.

Please search for the dedicated Facebook page: 'St Andrew's Church Christmas Tree Festival.'

Could you then please post a photo of your tree on that Facebook page. It would be really great if you could. While we look forward to the return of the festival inside the church next December. (Images on this page from the 2019 festival)

Linda Hunter, St Andrew's Church



Corbridge Quoits Club

Corbridge Quoits Club was formed three years ago and is part of Corbridge Cricket Club. The cricket club was keen to build on its aim to get more village people involved and saw quoits as a way of attracting new people to the club. It also provides a natural pathway for retiring and / or injured cricketers looking to expand their sporting activities.

There was sufficient local interest at that time to enter a team in The Allen Valley Quoits League which is a three division league with a long rural history, based mainly at local pubs such as The Boatside Inn at Warden, the Rose & Crown at Slaley, the former Errington Arms (now Errington Coffee House) and the Carts Bog Inn at Langley.

Two quoits pitches were prepared at the cricket ground by the members in time for the commencement of the league. The first season was in the third division when the 'Batters' team finished at the bottom of the league with one win all season. They picked up the coveted 'Toilet Seat Trophy' for finishing 'bottom!'

After that season much interest was generated and there were 20 plus members, enough to enter two teams in the league: The 'Batters' and the 'Bowlers'.

During this period improvements were made to the pitches, making them fully enclosed. We are fund raising for materials to double the size of the quoits area over this winter, with installation being carried out by club volunteers.

One of the strengths of the Quoits Club has been the amount (and indeed quality) of the voluntary effort that has gone into both setting it up and running it.



In their second season in the league the 'Batters' gained promotion to the second division while the 'Bowlers' gained valuable playing experience. As well as playing league games the club has also held its own competitions of singles and doubles and also played hosts to a number of league competitions.

Due to the pandemic it was not possible to commence the Allen Valley League this year so the club organised its own Summer League singles competition with 18 entries. The league was won by Mike Robinson, with Paul Barber and Rod Meek making up the top three.

A lot of fun has been had by members since the club's formation. With a current membership of around 30, quoits has become a well established activity in Corbridge and we look forward to the future with optimism.

If you are interested in learning more about playing quoits and perhaps joining the club please get in touch with our Secretary Mike Robinson: 64robinson.mike@gmail.com Phone: 07775 503872 who will provide you with all of the information you need.



Shop Local

How We Can All Play Our Part

David Crompton, chairman of local community organisation Visit Corbridge, looks to the future.

Since the first national lockdown I have heard many predictions for the future of retailing. The facts are that no one really knows. We are in uncharted territory. In Corbridge it feels like everyone is trying to adapt to the changes, while rightly still nervous of the threat of the virus spreading.

With Corbridge 'non-essential' shops now open again, we await - at the time of writing this - a promised review later this month of whether the region can be moved out of Tier 3. Allowing our pubs, cafes and restaurants to also reopen to customers. Hospitality venues then only allowed to serve alcohol with substantial meals.

Taking into account how narrow most of the pavements are in the village, social distancing is impacting on how people move around Corbridge. Shops have a different feel as everyone conforms to coronavirus regulations. Visit Corbridge's 'Come Home To Corbridge' campaign was appreciated by visitors as the village was seen as a safe place to visit.

The biggest impact has been on pubs and cafes. A cafe that could once seat 30 can now - when allowed to open - seat 10. Every business has a minimum turnover it needs to survive and hopefully all of the businesses in the village will come through these challenging times.

As residents, your support for local businesses could be the difference between them staying open or closing.

It has been a time to reflect, reassess and look to new ways of working. Owners of businesses are surviving on a monthly basis as they reinvent their business model. How businesses adapted to offer takeaways is a good example of change.

Technology is impacting on shops. In the last year online sales in the UK have increased from 20 per cent to 30 per cent of all sales. It is now vital that businesses in the village embrace technology and also sell online as well as in a physical shop. There are some excellent examples of how businesses have adapted to the new ways of selling. Retail may be 20 per cent down but you can replace those lost sales by also selling via a website.

Even how local businesses communicate with customers has changed. Visit Corbridge supports businesses and the village via all of the main social media formats. I always feel proud when I see everything that is happening here on Facebook,

Instagram or Twitter. Everyone appreciates how special Corbridge is and Visit Corbridge is all about collaboration. Our membership is made up of the vast majority of local businesses but also representatives from local organisations, charities, churches and other groups.

Most visitors do not come to Corbridge to visit one shop. They come for what the village has to offer. The Parish and County Councils are key to making this happen and have already helped with signage around the village. Local organisations are as much part of Visit Corbridge as the businesses. It is important that everyone wherever possible supports all of the local organisations. As a community we are fortunate to have such a diverse set of groups. From the Youth Initiative to the churches to the Village Trust, your support is appreciated by every organisation.

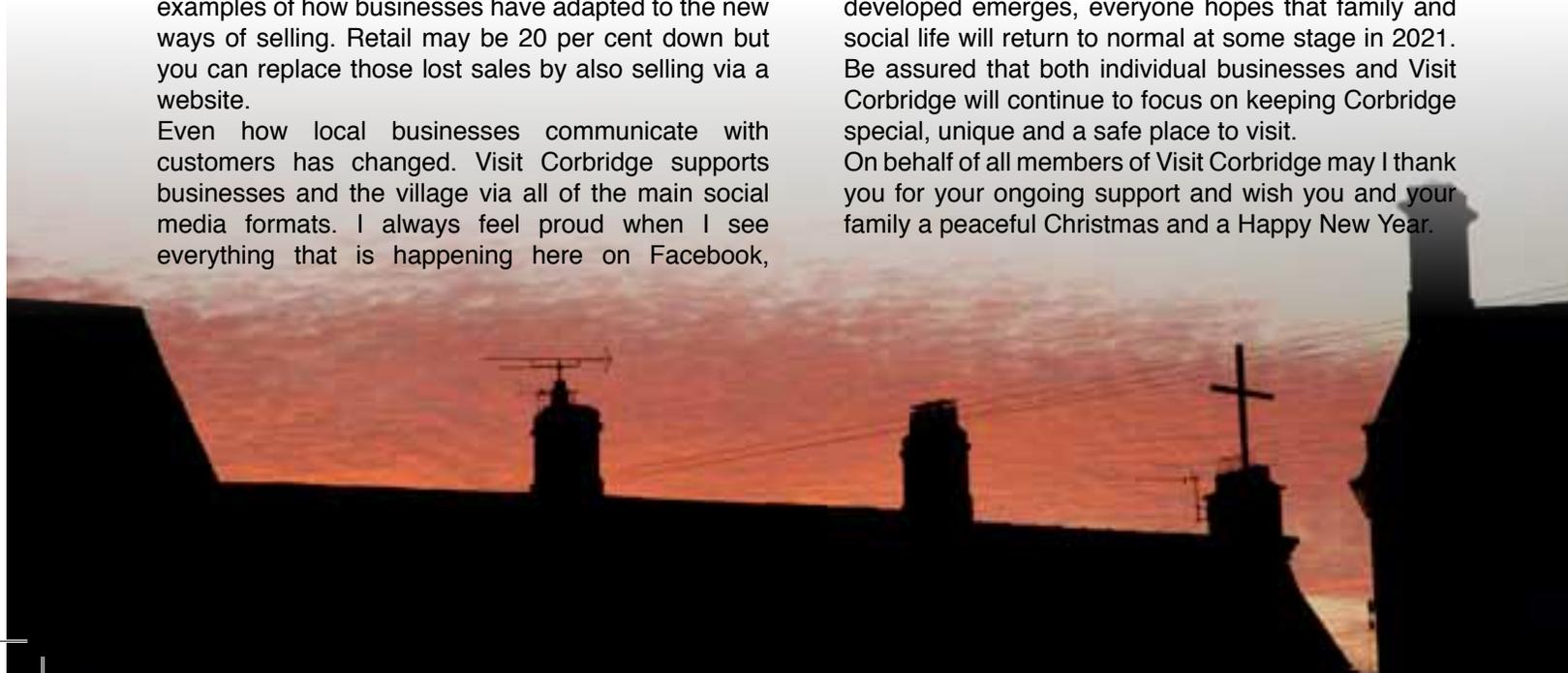
I am certain people want to support local independent businesses as they value the diverse range of products and the friendly customer service. The government grants and contributions to staff wages were a lifeline we really appreciated and, combined with residents shopping locally, are key to the long term survival of local businesses.

As we all know, this Christmas will be different. With difficult decisions to be made by households about whether or not to risk mixing with up to two other households under the 'Five Days of Christmas' rules. In Corbridge there is no Christmas Tree Festival inside St Andrew's Church or annual Christmas In Corbridge event. But there are Christmas lights and a virtual Christmas Tree Festival. Both are featured elsewhere in this edition of Corbridge Matters.

Instead of shopping online or visiting the city, please shop local in our unique independent shops and use our pubs, cafes and restaurants when they are allowed to open, as well as their takeaway services. Remember how lucky we are to have so many acclaimed indie businesses in the village.

As the promising news of various vaccines being developed emerges, everyone hopes that family and social life will return to normal at some stage in 2021. Be assured that both individual businesses and Visit Corbridge will continue to focus on keeping Corbridge special, unique and a safe place to visit.

On behalf of all members of Visit Corbridge may I thank you for your ongoing support and wish you and your family a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.





A Corbridge School

remembered

David Waugh looks back at the fascinating history of Corchester School.

Although it is 45 years since Corchester School closed there are still reminders of it in the village. Originally built as a private residence with six acres of land, its first mention was in the 1881 census when it was called , as it is again today , Corchester Towers . The name derived from the feature which adorned the roof on the south facing side of the building.

When the school opened in 1891 the tower was taken down and moved to the west side of what was to become the school's rugby pitch. Used initially as a cricket pavilion it still stands there today but currently in rather a sorry state. The present Parish Council, however, has plans to restore it to its former glory.

When longer living residents have been asked what they recall about the school the most common answer has been Sunday mornings. This was when the boys, who were boarders and aged between eight and 13, were led in pairs in crocodile file in their school uniform chattering away (locals referred to them as 'the geese') through the village to St Andrew's Church where some swelled the church choir and the remainder sat in the north transept. The school was forced to close in 1975 when, according to the last headmaster's widow, rising costs outweighed the income despite a still increasing number on the school's roll.

The following year the large stained glass window above the entry to the clergy vestry in St Andrew's Church was unveiled. It was designed by Leonard Evetts, Master of Design at Kings College, now Newcastle University, who also designed windows for many churches in the north east, and paid for by Michael Fisher, the last headmaster. It shows St Christopher carrying the young Jesus on his shoulder and with the inscription, 'The Boys and Staff of Corchester School worshipped in this church from 1891 to 1975.' It is also known as the 'kingfisher' window after the bird in its bottom right corner - a symbolic memory of the last headmaster.

The initial plan was to demolish the whole school building and replace it with several houses. Fortunately it was purchased at the last minute by Hamish Nicholson who converted it into the seven luxury apartments that exist to-day. His daughter is Lizzie Davison who, with the help of

her husband Marcus, runs the Dyvels Home & Lifestyle business in Station Road.

Two of the earlier occupants were Geraldine and Peter Carr. She relates how during the conversion a war memorial naming former pupils who died during the two world wars was found in a pile of rubbish waiting to be burned. Of the 11 who fell in the Great War, three had been awarded the Military Cross. A further 21 names are recorded for World War Two - the number twice that of the earlier war. Presumably a reflection of the larger size of the school. The memorial is now located in the main entrance hall.

It was in 2017 that Miles Middleton, a former pupil, put David Waugh in touch with Freda Fisher, the last headmaster's widow. She was living, with her family nearby, on the Dorset coast with a gate from her garden on to the beach.

She had in her possession all of the school records and memorabilia which had been taken south and asked if we would like them returned to Corbridge. The answer was obvious. And so David and his wife Judith visited her. Returning to Corbridge with a car filled with irreplaceable historical information most of which is now back where it belongs in Corchester Towers.

Included are school admission books from 1901 to 1973; a complete set of bound copies of 'The Corcestrian' (the school magazine) from 1909 to 1956; photos of the inside of the school as well as pupils and events between 1895 and 1970; various school prospectus and a reel of film made by French TV. The film resulted from Mr Fisher upping the school, 72 pupils and 10 staff, when with no coal for heating during the miners' strike of 1972, they spent the winter sharing a school in Brittany with local French children and their teachers.

Those having personal memories include George Hall, whose grandfather was the gardener and who lived in the school lodge, Muriel Bowman, who still lives where she was born in Front Street and who was the school's last secretary. As Muriel Young, hers is the last name on the honours board in the Parish Hall of Corbridge children who gained scholarships to the grammar school in Hexham. And both Miles Middleton and Richard Hart-Jackson, two old boys still involved in Corbridge affairs - the Village Show and Village Trust respectively.

continued on page 10

History of the School

1891: The Rev John Archibald Scott bought Corchester Towers and founded the school.

1895: A prospectus had, on the ground floor, a big schoolroom and other classrooms, the school hall and lavatories, and on the two upper floors, the Master's and Matron's rooms, dormitories, bathrooms and linen cupboard. Outside there was a sports field, tennis court, a vegetable garden and an isolation sanatorium.

1900: Mr George Stephenson Smart bought the school and became headmaster. His stated aim was to prepare boys for entry to public schools at the age of 14.

1906: Subjects included Classics, Maths, French and English.

1911: The Census records Mr Smart, two assistant teachers, four domestic staff (matron, cook, laundry and house maids) and 28 pupils, five of whom were from overseas.

1915: Additions included changing rooms, a carpenter's shop, music room and an open air unheated pool where pupils swam in ancient Greek style (I.E. naked).

1919: School roll numbered 49.

1928: Mr Smart retired (he died in 1931 and is buried, according to a tombstone in St Andrew's Church yard, with his wife and mother). He was succeeded by Roderick Meyrick.

1965: Mr Michael Fisher became Deputy Head but within a term succeeded Mr Meyrick who died. He, Michael, with his wife Freda, modernised the school by brightening the dormitories, adding more comfortable beds and re-planning both the kitchen and dining room. A science laboratory, Art room and library were also added.

1966: This prospectus lists seven sports that were played and several after school clubs including a Scout troop (2nd Corbridge) that held an annual camp by Ullswater in the Lake District. The school was to perform an annual play, written by Mr Fisher, in St Andrew's Church just before Christmas.

1975: The school closed with pupils being transferred to other public schools.



19/0
8

Every boy is required to bring with him to School the following articles of dress, &c.:-

1 Suit of Etons	4 Woollen Jerseys or Combinations
2 Suits of Tweed Knickerbockers	3 Pairs of Small Sheets
1 Dressing Gown	3 Pillow Cases
1 Great Coat	3 Pairs of Strong Boots
4 Flannel Shirts	1 Pair of Slippers
4 Night Shirts	1 Pair of Dress Shoes
8 Pairs of Stockings	1 Pair of Tennis Shoes
2 Pairs of Socks	6 Towels (2 Bath)
12 Eton Collars	12 Pocket Handkerchiefs
3 Fronts	1 Large Holland Bag
1 Rug	1 Silk Hat
3 Dinner Napkins	1 Black Bag
2 Flannel Cricket Shirts	2 Pairs of Blue Serge Knickerbockers
2 Pairs of Flannel Trousers	1 Clothes Brush
1 Brush and Comb	

Caps and neckties of a special colour are supplied at School. Black ties are worn on Sunday.
It is particularly requested that each article be distinctly marked with the boy's name in full.







A Corbridge Christmas 2020



A Corbridge Christmas 2020: The Video.
Scan the QR code to watch the short film.
Or go to: <https://vimeo.com/479244186>





Forum Books Festive 2020 Picks

It's that most wonderful time of the year when we have every excuse to curl up by the fire with a good book and for making lists and checking them twice ... so here are a few of our festive favourites, new finds and old friends. A seasonal selection from 2020 which might find a way under your tree this Christmas. Including picks from both me and Forum staff members.



There has been some unforgettable fiction this year. Leading our list, Booker prize winner **Shuggie Bain** by **Douglas Stewart** which is a great read - tough but tender and fits the 'every right to break your heart' category as **Betty** by **Tiffany McDaniel**. Both novels inspired by loving, flawed parents, both beautifully, sparingly written.

Boy Parts from Newcastle's **Eliza Clark** is unflinchingly funny, fierce and messed up. **Homeland**, the Basque epic by **Fernando Aramburu**, is immersive. The story of two childhood friends on opposite sides of the ETA conflict with all of the greys and honesty of real life.

Antoine Laurain's The Reader's Room combines intrigue and charm in this dazzling novel of mystery, love and the power of books, so of course we can't help but love it. **The Vanishing Half** by **Brit Bennett** is an utterly mesmerising novel. It seduces with its literary flair, surprises with its breathtaking plot twists, delights with its psychological insights, and challenges us to consider the corrupting consequences of racism on different communities and individual lives.

Christmas is a perfect time for crime fiction - a body in the snow and an English country house are what you'd traditionally expect and the latest Vera **The Darkest Evening** by **Ann Cleeves** delivers it all in this perfect crime read. **Trevor Woods' The Man on the Street** won a Crime Writers Association Dagger Award for a debut novel. It gives us a great page turner while reminding us that this is the season for goodwill to all and to be kind.

The Eight Detectives by **Alex Pavesi** is satisfying, clever and beautifully bafflingly. And I simply can't think anyone who wouldn't love **Richard Osman's The Thursday Murder Club**. Bags of charm, wit and a wonderfully plotted murder mystery. Finally **Christmas is Murder** by **Val McDermid** is a collection of evocative, atmospheric tales which will shock and delight. This is the perfect book to curl up with as the frosty winter draws in and each night gets darker than the last.

An utterly beautiful book on British baking I've been smitten with all year is **Regula Ysewijn's Oats in the North, Wheat from the South**. Joyful food writing with each workable recipe complemented by its history and stunning photography. It would be nigh on impossible to be more comprehensive - or more mouthwatering - on Grasmere gingerbread, Yorkshire Parkin, Eliza's 18th century gingerbread, Aunt Betty's gingerbread and Cornish farlings. Our own regional star the stotty is brilliantly featured too - glorious!

The book I've cooked from the most this year is **Everyday Fresh** by **Donna Hay** which is packed with super-fresh, super-fast recipes aiming at simple made special. **The Little Library Christmas** by **Kate Young** is a festive delight, collecting over 50 festive recipes from edible gifts to cocktail parties plus reading recommendations. It saw me coming! Proving its worth, Northumbrian author **Pauline Beamont's Bread Therapy: The Mindful Art of Baking Bread** is both timely and heartfelt, a love letter to the art of baking bread and its joyful, calming antidote to this year's stresses and strains.

And if you've room for more, let us suggest **Famished**, a collection of 17 short, chilling tales by **Ann Vaught** - and Forum staff member **Glynis'** pick, "Perfect for autumnal evenings and warm fires. Just be careful what you eat and who you share it with. Ann writes beautifully and spookily - I loved it," she says. Other favourites with a chilly, gothic edge - **Andrew Michael Hurley's** book **Starve Acre** and **The Only Good Indian** by **Stephen Graham Jones**.

As ever there are some books which are just perfect to gift - or treat yourself. **The Penguin Book of Christmas Stories** is out this year in paperback and is a wonderfully, generous anthology of great festive stories. From frozen Nordic woods to glittering Paris, a New York speakeasy to an English country house

- classic tales from Truman Capote, Shirley Jackson, Dylan Thomas, Saki and Chekov featuring Santas, ghosts, trolls, unexpected guests, curmudgeons and miracles.



Fifty Words for Snow by **Nancy Campbell** is an exquisite little book that sparkles and dazzles with new meanings and old magic. From mountain tops to city park, the

writer and Arctic traveller delves into the meanings of city words for snow from Japanese Yuki-onna, a snow woman who drifts through the frosted land, to Icelandic



Hundslappadrifa - big as a dog's paw. Magical. While **Twelve Nights** by **Urs Faes** is a hymn to the winter landscape and the power of storytelling, a beautiful novella of the natural world and our place in it.

For sports fans, local lad **Harry Pearson** knocks it into the back of the net with **The Farthest Corner**. His earlier book **The Far Corner** was a vivid portrait of the sport in the north east and of the people who bring such passion to it. Now, a generation later, Harry returns to discover how much things have changed... and how much they have remained the same.

No curmudgeonly grinch should be without one of our books of the year **Humankind: A Hopeful History** believing that human kindness and altruism can be a new way to think - and act as the foundation for achieving true change in our society. And **Barack Obama's A Promised Land** is nearly 800 pages of riveting, deeply personal account of history in the making from the president who inspired us to believe



in the power of democracy. The first volume of his presidential memoirs. The outdoors without leaving the house is made possible by **Rory's** 2020 favourite **Native** by **Patrick Laurie**. Also a fave of authors James Rebanks, Raynor Winn, Dara McNulty, Robert Macfarlane We are spoilt with the selection of children's books: **Emma**

Yarlett's Santa Post is irresistible. Santa receives post from all over the world. But when Amy sends him a letter he just can't work out what she wants as her gift. With hilarious letters and parcels to open, this is a sparkly and surprise packed read.

The Twelve Days of Christmas or Grandma is Overly Generous by **Alex T Smith** is a fab, festive and fun new take on the festive classic. Grandma's presents may start off sensible but her generosity soon gets wildly out of hand. A perfect present in itself.

The story of a life-changing friendship, a lost puffin, a lonely artist and how one event can change a life forever: From master storyteller **Michael Morpurgo** and brilliant illustrator **Benji Davies** **The Puffin Keeper** is a magical new story. A gorgeously illustrated and engaging guide **A World of Art** by **James Brown** and **Helena Hunt** is an outsized outrageously brilliant gift. The brand new **David Almond** is **Brand New Boy**... when a new boy joins the class everyone thinks he's a bit strange. But he's brilliant at football and loves crisps - and that's all that matters.

Sarah Crossan's Here is the Beehive topped **Tamzin's** list - a tale of love, betrayal and loss told in verse. It's a visceral look at the beginning, middle and end of a very toxic affair. New collections **Home** by **Rupi Kaur** and **Tiger, Tiger, Burning Bright** an animal poem for every day of the year are fabulous too. **James** has gone for **Kae Tempest's** stunningly distilled series of essays **On Connection** which examines the impact



of creative human interaction. Similarly, explore the arts and positivity in **Olivia Laing's Funny Weather**.

And in everyone's Christmas stocking this year should be a copy of **Corbridge From Romans to Coronavirus** - not just because £5 from every book goes to Charlotte Straker but because it's a beautiful collection of old local

postcards brilliantly compiled by local historian **David Waugh**. A must

Dear reader,

I hope you've managed to get this far as I'd like to extend a huge and heartfelt thank you! In a year when it's been less than straightforward to support us, you really have - we honestly wouldn't be here without you. Thank you so much. Not only do you keep us on the 'high street', in our beautiful home at The Chapel in Market Place, but it means we can continue to sponsor youth football, bring authors into our local schools and to our lovely part of Northumberland.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and here's to a brighter New Year!

Helena Stanton

A Special Thankyou

We would like to say a special thank you to our kind friends and neighbours; Maureen Purdy, Anne Maltby, Beryl Stoker and Lynne and Michael Cunliffe at Westfield House, who have been so kind to us during this pandemic. We wouldn't have managed without them.

From Betty Wealleans & Audrey Hufton, Manor Cottages.

DMc Gardening Services



- Grass cutting
- Hedge cuttings
- Weed control
- Garden maintenance
- Tidy ups
- Green waste removal
- Trees and shrubs
- Fencing

Free quotes and best prices - Call 07534945828

Find us on Facebook @DMc Gardening services

BRIAN GOOLE & SON

EST 1967

PAINTERS & DECORATORS

All aspects of Painting & Decorating
by Time-served Tradesman
Call

Graeme Goole

for prompt attention
Tel: (0191) 4138652
FREE ESTIMATES

Thrive Fit Personal Training

Individual, paired and small group training

Private indoor and outdoor facilities in Slaley

Mobile Personal Training

Nutrition Coaching, plans and support

Contact Niamh - 07553511684 or
hello@thrivefitne.com

www.thrivefitne.com



Fun, varied, inclusive fitness for all. Beginners welcome!



CORBRIDGE PRESCHOOL

GOOD QUALITY, AFFORDABLE CHILDCARE AND
EDUCATION
FROM TODDLERS TO RECEPTION AGE

T: 01434 622947

E: corbridge.preschool@gmail.com



All Aspects of Joinery Undertaken

Cameron Urwin

07506 583138

urwinjoinery@outlook.com

The Barber Bus

is in Corbridge
on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month
Beside Corbridge First School, St Helen's Lane
2.30 to 5pm

OAPs & Under 6s £6.50 Haircuts £8 Clippers £6.50

By appointment only, phone: 07712 609057
Find me on Facebook for other times & places



Healing hands

Leanne Charles
Self Practitioner
Charlene10@gmail.com
01706 44050



PERSONAL TRAINING - PRIVATE FACILITY IN HEXHAM

Training to improve/prevent lower back pain
To return to life after cancer treatment
To improve general strength or appearance
Tailored weight loss plans available

Contact Steph for more information:
07557342928 s.92.wood@gmail.com

Why not join the many local businesses who already advertise in Corbridge Matters - delivered to every home in the village and available in shops too. To advertise please phone Mandy Senior today.
07950 297634

**Nick Judson
Jungian
Psychotherapist**

Creative Therapies - Sand Tray, Waking Daydream Therapy, Guided Imagery, Active Imagination.
Workshops and Training
Online and phone consultations available

"Often the hands who a intellect has struggled with in vain."
C. G. Jung

Aydon, Corbridge NE45 5PL
contact: 07948125035
nickjudsonpsychotherapy@gmail.com

- Gas & Oil Central Heating Installations
- Oil Tank Replacement
- Complete Bathroom Refurbishments
- Complete Kitchen Refurbishments

dw
Darron Wilson

PLUMBING AND HEATING CONTRACTOR

safe
SAFECIT

m: 07971 236109
e: darronwilson@rocketmail.com

**CHRIS SEWELL
Local Dairyman**

Daily deliveries of Fresh Farm, Pasteurised Whole, Semi-Skimmed and Skimmed Milk. Also Cream, Fruit Juice, Farm Fresh & Free Range Eggs, Mineral Water and Soft Drinks

Tel: **600939** or **07776241357**



Stephen Rutherford
Window Cleaner

Corbridge resident, friendly, enthusiastic and hardworking using traditional window cleaning methods.

Services include:

- External window cleaning
- Internal window cleaning
- Gutter cleaning

Stephen Rutherford
17 Synclen Avenue
Corbridge
Northumberland
NE45 5JF

Mobile: 07725670089
sruthie75@yahoo.co.uk

Stocks most spirits as well as other alcoholic beverages.

Let the sun be Gin!
GIN & TONIA
Mobile Gin Bar

Tel: 07876 753115
email: tonia@ginandtonia.co.uk
web: www.ginandtonia.co.uk

Perfect for Weddings . Corporate Events . Festivals . Anniversaries . Parties . Anything you like ...



THE HAYES

Newcastle Road,
Corbridge
Telephone
01434 632010

◆◆◆ Accommodation
☆☆☆ Self Catering Cottages

www.hayes-corbridge.co.uk
Overnight Accommodation
email:
ctmm18@gmail.com

FORUM Books.
Nothing like a real bookshop

The Chapel, Market Place, Corbridge, NE45 5AW | www.forumbooksandkids.com | 01434 632 931



*** Operation Corbridge *
Secret Santa ***

2020 has been a tough year due to Covid and Christmas will be more difficult for some. If you know of anyone who will be on their own this year, has been adversely affected by Covid or who has gone the extra mile to help out friends and neighbours during lockdown, the people of Corbridge would like to give them a Christmas Gift.

We are looking for donations of gifty items to include and also of cash. We are also looking for nominations of people to receive these gifts.

Please submit your nominations (in writing) and donations to either **Vintage at the Tower** or **The Corbridge Larder**.

Thank you!

Serving its members better

Corbridge Tennis Club is about to embark on the latest exciting phase in its development. The club was only formed in 2012. Since then it has erected three all weather floodlit tennis courts at Tynedale Park for the community at large.

Thanks to the cooperation of our landlords, hard work from the club's directors, committee and club members, their fund raising efforts have raised £85,000 to build a modern purpose built clubhouse / pavilion. The bulk of the financial support has been sourced from Sport England, NCC 106 housing, Northumberland County Councillor grant contributions as well as the club's own funds.

The building contract has been awarded to LRD Associates of Tinklers Yard, Corbridge. Construction work is to start imminently with a ceremonial 'cutting of the first sod'. Corbridge county councillor Nick Oliver has kindly agreed to be present.

Nick Steenberg, Chair of Corbridge Tennis Club

A BOOKSHOP LIKE THIS...

<p>Is a Wealth Creator</p> <p>Every £1 spent in a bookshop like this generates a further £3.81 to the local economy</p>	<p>Is a Jobs Creator</p> <p>24,000</p> <p>A bookshop like this contributes to the employment of 24,000 people in UK bookshops...</p>	<p>Pays its Taxes</p> <p>£0</p> <p>A bookshop like this receives no government subsidies and pays its taxes in full</p>	<p>Is a Cultural Asset</p> <p>A bookshop like this provides authors...</p> <p>... champion reading for pleasure...</p>
Shop Local			
<p>All the bookshops like this together contribute £1.8 billion to the UK economy</p>	<p>22,000</p> <p>...and supports a further 22,000 jobs in the publishing industry</p>	<p>5,000</p> <p>All the bookshops like this together contribute enough in taxes to pay the salaries of over 5,000 fully qualified nurses</p>	<p>... works with the community...</p> <p>...and brings vitality to its High Street</p>

#ChooseBookshops



Litter

Pick

'September Clean Campaign' took place in Corbridge over a two week period with volunteers kindly coming forward to offer their services after posters were placed around the village. This year was different due to Covid-19 restrictions which meant individuals had to tackle areas on their own instead of in groups. However we managed to cover large sections of our community and cleared several bags of litter. The county council has also been instrumental in taking larger items away.

This campaign runs at least once a year and is instigated by the Keep Britain Tidy group. We believe Corbridge to be a delightful place to live and continue to support this campaign at every opportunity. So please watch out for any Spring 2021 events which will be advertised by posters in the village or in local press and social media.

Pictured is Evie Willings, a young volunteer who lives in Corbridge and has been assisting our litter picks over the last few years. She managed to clear these bags of litter from one of the riverside walks. A big thank you goes out to Evie and all of those who helped.

Fay Meek (Campaign Co-ordinator)

**Excellent Eyecare.
Stylish Eyewear.**

- OCT - State of the art eye scan technology
- Wide choice of carefully selected frames, including designer eyewear
- Convenient appointment times.

Optometrists
croft & graves

Woodburn House, Hill Street, Corbridge
01434 632289 www.croftandgraves.co.uk

A BEATTIE & SONS
COAL MERCHANTS

ALSO SUPPLIERS
OF FUELS FOR
MULTI AND WOOD
BURNERS

Tel: 01434 632104



Psychotherapy
Supervision
Shamanic healing,
workshops and training
Traditional acupuncture

Simone Silver Path
BACP (senior accredited), BAcC



The Hut
Fawcett Farm Cottage
Colwell, nr Hexham

contact: 07891 351665

simoneofcragwell@hotmail.com



Corbridge Tandoori

Bangladeshi Restaurant

Tel: 01434 633669

Everyday dining :: Takeaway service
Private functions :: Corporate bookings
Special occasions :: Outside catering

8 Market Place, Corbridge, NE45 5AW
Open Fri & Sat 5pm to 11.30pm | Sun to Thurs 5pm - 11pm
www.corbridgetandoori.com



- * All types of chimneys swept - open fires, stoves, gas fires & Rayburns/Agas
- * Stoves Serviced
- * Bird Nest Removal

* Insurance Recognised Certification

Your First Call For A Clean Sweep
Please call Simon: 0191 268 3147 or 07595 622 020

www.premierchimneysweepingservices.co.uk
premierchimneysweepingservices@gmail.com

Proud member of the Guild of Master Chimney Sweeps



Keith Sanders

FOR

ALL TYPES OF JOINERY AND UPVC FITTINGS

4 GLEBELANDS : CORBRIDGE :
NORTHUMBERLAND : NE45 5DS
HOME: 01434 632560 MOBILE: 07973 850245

DEREK
BIRD Established since 2002
Decorating Services

- Free estimates •
- No jobs too small •
- Friendly, professional service •



Tel. 01434 633356 / 07904 559952

Massey's
Traditional tea room

Open 7 days a week
for home-made soups,
scones, quiches & cakes
and we cater for gluten-free diets

26, Middle Street
Corbridge

T: 01434 633330



Follow us on Facebook



finale shoes and accessories

Love shoes as much as we do?

Visit our Corbridge shop for a truly personalised service!

www.finaleshoes.com

Monday - Saturday : 10am - 5pm
 Telephone: 01434 634 195
 8 Middle Street, Corbridge, NE45 5AT

RED DRAGON HANDYMAN

Corbridge Resident for 24 years
 Reliable, trustworthy retired Police Officer

Multi skilled. No job too small

From a tap washer to fully fitted kitchen or bathroom:
 Joinery, hedge cutting and much more.

If you can't fix it or build it, I probably can.

Reasonable rates.

Call Dave on 07709 914586

Philip Dixon – Tree Surgeon

- Tree surgeon / climbing to felling
- Pruning to dismantling
- Hedges to topiary
- Lawns to reurfing
- Fencing
- Stone walling to patios
- Garden tidy ups
- Storm damage
- Clean sheds and garages
- Hardwood and softwood logs

24 hour call out



Licensed waste removal
 Contact: Philip
 Mob: 07766532841 Tel: 01434 632916

A. THOMAS
 Window Cleaner
 Established in Corbridge for 28 years
 11, Beak Street, Quaking House, Corbridge, NE45 7JH
 Telephone: (01434) 283 141
 Mobile: 07766 145 6041



HANDYMAN
 No job too small Indoor or Outdoor



Fully Insured & Police Checked

I'll do your DIY for you

Phone Steve 01661 844421 or 07788316866

DODDS of HEXHAM 

Complete Funeral and Cremation Service

PRIVATE CHAPEL OF REST

A.J. DODD
 MITFORD HOUSE
 41 HENCOTES, HEXHAM
 TELEPHONE: HEXHAM 603362



ANTON ESTATES
 REAL ESTATE

WHY CHOOSE US

- We are a local, family owned & managed agent
- We sold & let more properties in Corbridge than any other agent in 2019
- We give honest & reliable advice
- We do not over promise or underachieve
- Our standard fee is fully inclusive of professional standard photography, brochures and marketing on property portals
- We don't ask for payment upfront; we are confident in our ability to sell your property
- We spend time nurturing relationships and leads as well as negotiating for the best price on your behalf
- We will do more and work harder to sell your property; as this is our business, we only get paid when we finish the job!

01434 632080 | @antonestates
www.antonestates.co.uk | home@antonestates.co.uk



Burn Brae LODGE

CARE HOME

Prospect Hill, Corbridge

The hidden gem



Enjoying an excellent reputation, Burn Brae Lodge is a small, friendly and family owned Care Home set in magnificent surroundings.

High quality care is provided and we now provide a respite bed that can be booked in advance. This will help carers have a much needed break or holiday.

For an informal visit or further information please contact: Paul Howard (owner/manager) on

01434 632022

www.burnbraelodge.co.uk

Burn Brae Lodge has no connection with Burn Brae Medical Group or Burn Brae Care Ltd.

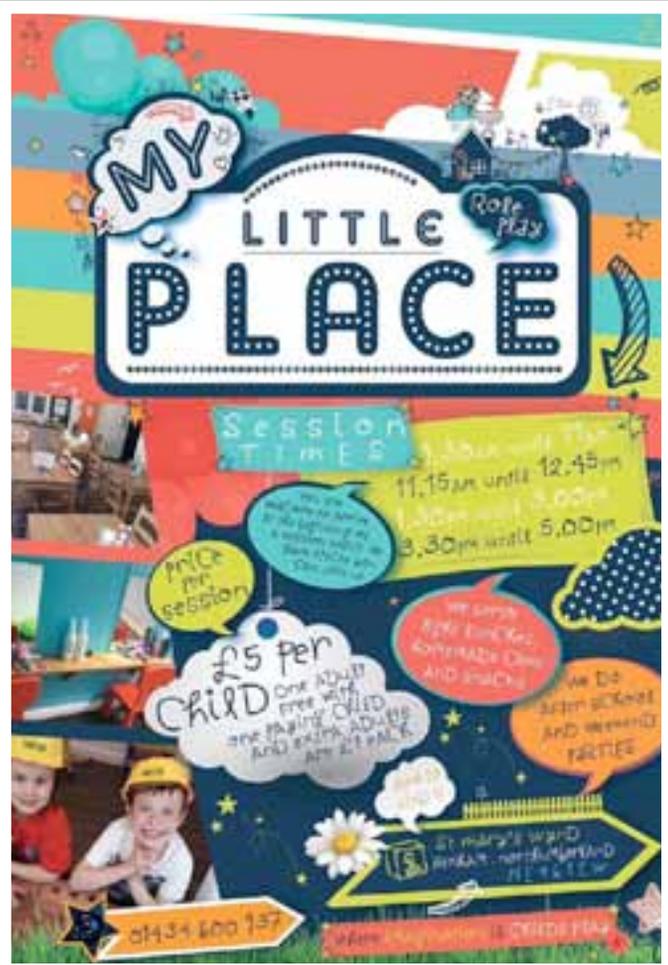
Tyne Valley Foot Care

Foot care in the comfort of your own home

- General foot care
- Nails trimmed
- Thick nails reduced
- Callus reduction
- Corn removal
- Fungal infections
- Verruca treatment
- Ingrowing toenails
- Foot healthcare advice for diabetics



Karen McCarthy S.A.C. Dip.
Registered Foot Health Practitioner
Email: tynevalleyfootcare@gmail.com
Telephone: 07841 511674



COVID19 PANDEMIC ISOLATION UNIT APPEAL

We are fundraising for our Isolation Unit within Charlotte Straker House in order to keep our staff and residents safe during the Covid crisis. Care will be provided by our dedicated and trained staff, using infection control best practice.

We need your support to keep our vulnerable residents safe. All donations – large or small – are most welcome.

For more information and to donate please visit <https://charlottestraker.org.uk/isolationunit/>





jessie juniper
Formerly Katie Kerr

- Mama B.
- Sahara
- Indi & Cold
- Neirami
- Ralston
- Two Danes
- EMU Australia
- Alembika
- Gabor



20% Off
*all orders over £50**

*Not including Sophies Wild Woollens, Erbe or sale items

22 Hill St, Corbridge | www.jessiejuniper.co.uk

Join us in our **Slimming World Virtual Group**

we're here for you!

No matter what, our groups will remain **OPEN**

Booking essential

at our **VENUE** or **VIRTUALLY** to you in your own home

Thursdays Corbridge
Corbridge First School
St Helen's Lane, NE45 5JQ
Contact JANE 07814 805464

visit **Corbridge Slimming World** info for more information
slimmingworld.co.uk

Microsuction Ear Wax Removal



During this pandemic, the safety of our customers and staff is essential. Working practices have been reviewed and altered to reflect current guidelines from the UK's audiology professional bodies to ensure a safe method of practice for both patients and staff.

Please refer to our website www.lisagrahamhearingcare.co.uk COVID-19 Our Response, to understand our new way of working.

SINGLE EAR
£50*

Lisa Graham
HEARINGCARE

BOTH EARS
£75*

Croft and Graves Optometrists: Hill Street, Corbridge, NE45 5AA
Email: info@lisagrahamhearingcare.co.uk
www.lisagrahamhearingcare.co.uk

*Prices correct at time of printing. There is also a temporary Peace of Mind Surcharge of £20 for each face to face appointment.

YOGA WITH NATALIE

Classes
Corbridge Youth Initiative

MONDAY	THURS	SUNDAY
7PM	7PM	11AM

07874 891 371
hello@yogawithnatalie.co.uk
[@yogawithnatalie](https://www.instagram.com/yogawithnatalie)



Corbridge Christmas Lane