



CORBRIDGE MATTERS

October 2023 Issue 73

www.corbridge.ukpc.net

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Council Notes

It's quite unusual for both channels of the Tyne upstream of the bridge to be full of beery-coloured river water all summer - but that's what we've had. Normally, the weaker southern section of the river bed dries out, revealing the pebbles below together with a few intermittent rock pools. The weekly bouts of heavy rain we've endured prove the point. The summer of 2023 has been a bit of a wash-out. However, despite this I've enjoyed the season and it's been lovely to see the village so consistently busy. While village residents have to accommodate day trippers and holiday makers there is no doubt that a bustling village is better than the alternative.



A highlight of the season was the series of wonderful concerts held in St Andrew's Church. For me, this started way back in April when The Bishop's Consort performed Bach's St John Passion. I took a friend along - an Australian librettist whose works have been performed in Sydney Opera House and Carnegie Hall - who closely followed the entire proceedings from the accompanying booklet - in German. As someone who can just about order a coffee in Germany I was suitably impressed. The Corbridge Chamber Music Festival programme in late July was, yet again, outstanding and it was a privilege to attend the two-piano recital by the young Ukrainian Khrystyna Mykhailichenko and her colleague, the American-born pianist Cristo Harijan. Magnificent music in majestic surroundings.

I'm glad to report that work on the refurbishment of the pavillion at Corchester Field is now close to completion. It has taken some time to get the necessary legal matters in place - such as the extension of the lease the Parish Council enjoys from the Secretary of State. The Parish Council used to hold the field on a short term Licence agreement. However, taking into account our

substantial financial investment in repairing and upgrading the pavillion we thought it sensible to obtain a new 25 year lease - which is what we've done. Once the work is complete I hope to present a fuller report with photographs in a future edition of Corbridge Matters. At long last, Corchester Field is coming back to life.

I wish all of you the best in the run into Autumn.

William Clouston
(Corbridge Parish Council Chairman)

My comments about the weather in the last column turned out to be unwise because we then had a prolonged spell of rain but, despite this, I hope everybody had a great summer and is enjoying autumn.

The Family Fun Day at the cricket club raising money for Charlotte Straker and Corbridge Youth Initiative was sadly a bit of a washout with incessant rain but over £1,000 was raised. The cricket club has also reached the first fundraising milestone to secure a grant from Sport England for new practice nets. The Village Show was once again a success with increased visitors on last year. These important community events are all organised by volunteers who contribute a lot to village life.



I was pleased to attend a lunch with the volunteers of Corbridge in Bloom following their well-deserved recognition at the Northumberland County Council celebration at Alnwick Gardens. They do so much to make our village look beautiful as you can see on the opposite page.

Much of Corbridge was not designed for the motor car and as the village has expanded there has been increasing pressure on car parking, particularly in the centre of the village. We've been hoping to expand the Village Car Park on the south side of the bridge for some time but there has been a complicated legal barrier to that. I'm pleased to say that we have managed to overcome that at last and I'm hoping Northumberland County Council can progress this much needed project in the near future. As soon as I know more, I will share details.

The proposed 20mph zone in the centre of the village will go ahead but as I write it's currently with council officers for sign-off. Attempts to widen the area covered by the zone have so far fallen flat but I will keep trying. My main concern is that we already have a 20mph zone on St Helen's Lane and

people will drive out of that back into a 30mph area and then back into central 20mph zone. That might be confusing.

I was hopeful we might have seen progress on more areas in and around Corbridge being able to access full fibre broadband services but the main providers seem to have gone quiet. I've written to them requesting an update and have asked the iNorthumberland team at County Hall if there is anything they can do to help make this happen.

As ever please contact me on 07779 983742 or nick.oliver24@outlook.com if I can help.

Nick Oliver
(Corbridge County Councillor)

Corbridge In Full Bloom



A glimpse of some of the results of the Corbridge in Bloom 2023 summer planting at The Coigns.





Rain failed to dampen spirits at the 2023 Family Fun Day at Corbridge Cricket Club. Although the barbecue was not lit and a soggy pitch put paid to most of the cricket action, those attending were not going to miss out on some fun. Taking shelter from the sometimes torrential rain and with some quoits matches played in a break from the downpours. Along with under cover stalls, refreshments and a bouncy castle. With a sociable open quoits competition staged at the club the next afternoon to help finish the beer from Hadrian Border Brewery and finally eat the burgers. All in aid of the cricket club, Charlotte Straker Project and Corbridge Youth Initiative.

Family Fun Day 2023

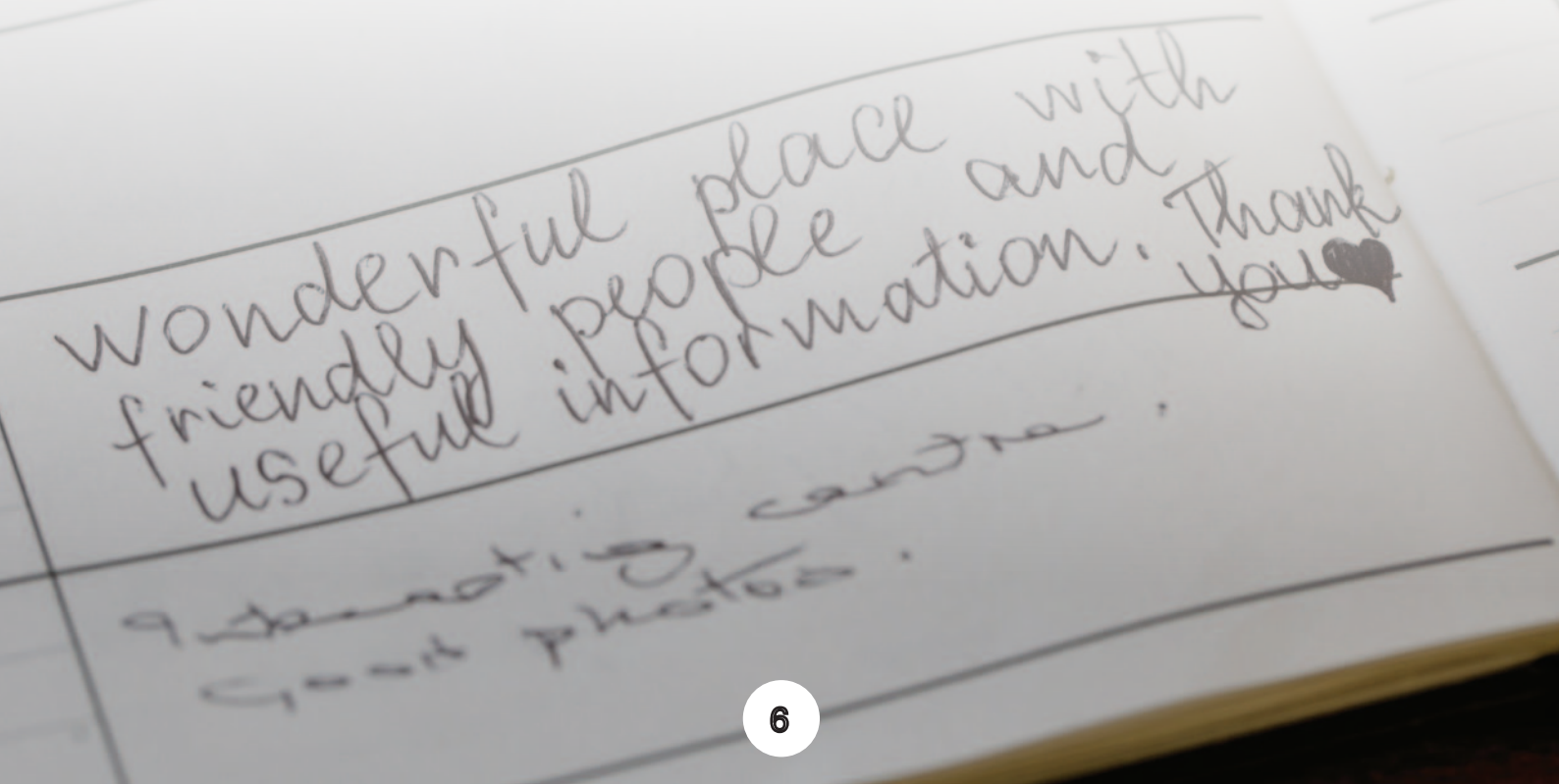


“A Great Asset To The Village...”



Corbridge Heritage Centre has been receiving glowing comments since it opened in April. Staffed by a friendly team of 22 volunteers - all local residents - on a rota of two hour shifts. Visitors have come from near and far. And not just from the rest of the UK but Europe, the USA, Canada, South America and Australia. With the National Lottery Heritage Fund also visiting recently. Praising both what has been achieved so far and the “very positive and ambitious plans for Corbridge Heritage Centre in the future”. The centre is open between 10am and 2pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Located at the Corbridge Community Hub (former Methodist Church building) in Princes Street. Walk down the alley to the left of the building and enter via the green door on the left at the end of that lane. Admission is free. Here are just some of the comments made to date:

“A wonderful addition to Corbridge’s attractions.” / “Fantastic visit, so informative. Lovely volunteers, so knowledgeable. We will be coming back!” / “An Aladdin’s Cave!” / “A must when visiting Corbridge. Excellent.” / “Really enjoyed. Great resource.” / “What an interesting place to go to! Great initiative. Thank you.” / “Visiting from Orlando, Florida. Delightful historic town of Corbridge. David Waugh gave us a wonderful history of the town. Just marvellous!” / “Given us ideas for our week here.” / “A fantastic exhibition and lovely place to visit.” / “A wonderful collection and a great tribute to the many people who have contributed to historic Corbridge.” / “Very interesting. Thank you for the memories!” / “Excellent compilation of Corbridge history with pictures and artefacts.” / “Thank you for a wonderful display of photos and history. Very interesting. Lots to see in one visit.” / “A fantastic collection - we will need several visits to read all the information. Well done!” / “Wonderful tribute to a truly historic location and so many generous and talented volunteers. Heart-warming.” / “Wonderful place with friendly people and useful information. Thank you. / “A great asset to the village.” / “Congratulations of what you have achieved and I look forward to future developments.”





NOTICE BOARD

St Andrew's Church

Parish Communion at 10am Sundays.

Evening Prayer at 6pm Sundays.

Holy Communion at 10am every Wednesday.

Messy Church: 3pm on Sunday October 8.

RIVER: 4pm on Sunday October 22.

Village Remembrance Day Service: 10:40am on Sunday November 12.

Corbridge Methodists

Thursday October 12 at 10am: Service at St Andrew's Church.

Thursday October 26 at 10am: Service at St Andrew's Church.

Tynedale Christian Ministries

Welcome to our Christian Church at Corbridge Parish Hall.

Each Sunday 10:30 Coffee followed by 11:00 Service Ring 633532

Weekly House Groups

Follow us on Facebook – Tynedale Christian Ministries

Corbridge Tea and Chat: All welcome. This informal social gathering meets at 2pm on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month - October 11th and 25th this month - at the Corbridge Community Hub (former Methodist Church building) in Princes Street. All are welcome to come along, have homemade cake, tea or coffee and to join in the conversation.

Corbridge Heritage Centre is open between 10am and 2pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Located at the Corbridge Community Hub (former Methodist Church building) in Princes Street. Walk down the alley to the left of the building and enter via the green door on the left at the end of that lane. A friendly team of local volunteers staff the centre and would be delighted to see you. Admission is free.

St Andrew's Church Christmas Tree Festival

2023: This year's event will be held between Friday December 1 and Tuesday December 5 inclusive.

Local organisations, businesses and others are invited to enter a tree. Entry forms and further information can be found on the church website at: <https://www.corbridgechurch.org.uk> The email contact is: corbridgetreefestival@btinternet.com. Scan the QR code for a full gallery of photos from last year's twinkling event.



All listings on this page and in the Parish Hall diary are subject to change.

2023 diary dates



Tea and Chat

Come along for a cup of tea,
conversation,
an opportunity to meet new people

at
The Community Hub
formerly
Corbridge Methodist Chapel

2nd and 4th Wednesdays

2.00pm to 4.00pm

All welcome

Organised by St. Andrew's Church, Corbridge



"Held by the Ears"

a Half Century of English Music with an Italian seasoning

Works by Purcell, Handel, Avison, Festing, Boyce, Geminiani, Matteis

Saturday 28th October, 2.30pm

St. Andrew's Church, Corbridge

NOXWODE BAROQUE

Conor Gricmanis; Rebecca Köhler Baratto - violins

Miriam Nohl - cello, John Green - harpsichord

Homemade cakes included!



All proceeds in aid of Corbridge Community Partnership

Tickets £15.00 (young people in full time education free of charge)

<https://www.wegotickets.com/event/589048/>

Forum Books (cash only) or at the door

Tynedale Rugby Club

Formed in 1876, Tynedale Rugby Club has called Corbridge home since 1976. As well as offering opportunities for all ages and abilities get involved in the game, it's the home of the Tynedale Beer & Cider Festival, which has raised over £1 million for charities and good causes in the North East since its inception in 2002. The club is looking forward to celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2026 and we predict a long and prosperous future.

The 2023-24 season is now in full swing and the club offers opportunities for all to get involved, young and old. As well as senior men's rugby, the club has a hugely popular youth section for both boys and girls and women can try their hand at both touch and contact rugby. There's something for everyone, even if you've never picked up a rugby ball in your life or spectating is more your thing. Come down to Tynedale Park and see what we have to offer.

Youth Rugby - Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship



Youth Rugby at Tynedale is thriving. The 23/24 season is now here. Our Minis start with a county festival and our first club tour of the season sees the Under 10s and Under 12s touring in the Scottish borders in October. We have rugby for all ages: Under 6 (5 and 6 year olds) right up to our Girls Under 18s team. So why choose rugby for your children or why should they choose rugby? Last season we had over 350 players in our minis, junior and Panthers (girls) teams. We believe every player should get a fair chance and all of our teams use the half game rule which means all players get a chance to play. We believe strongly in the Rugby Football Union (RFU) core values and also in allowing our players the chance to grow and learn in creative fun games. Players become great friends and many will stay friends as adults. Our teams tour together - a chance for parents to get to know each other but also for the players to experience freedom and fun with their teammates in a new town or city. But most of all choose rugby because it's fun, creative and will challenge everyone involved with the game.

Last season was one of our best. The minis had a great time at festivals held at Percy Park, Morpeth and Newcastle Falcons. Some got to meet Newcastle players and Flash the Falcon. We also held our own festival at Tynedale in the spring, an outstanding day which saw over 800 players at Tynedale Park



and teams coming from all over the North and Scotland. Again Falcons players came for photo ops together with Flash the Falcon. The rugby mentality of the coaches, using creative games rather than drills to give the best learning environment and working with opposition teams to have close fun matches rather than one sided win at any cost



games, has paid off. Our under 13s won the County Plate, our Under 16s won the County Cup and our Under 14s won the County Cup and SG Petch 7s in the Darlington Arena. All of our Junior sides grew their membership with the Under 15s getting up to 38 members - all enjoying some



Tynedale Rugby Club

amazing coaching and a great experience. Our Junior sides were also very well represented at County and Falcons Development level showing how far those players have come and how hard they have worked.



The Panthers (Girls) sides continue to grow, Our Under 18s made the quarter finals of the national cup with a great experience taking an executive coach and many supporters down to Liverpool where they narrowly lost to St Helens. The Under 16s paired with Novos and had a very strong season while the Under 14s numbers grew to be big enough to play matches with only Tynedale players - a huge success Their season also ended at the Sevens in Darlington where they finished third, only losing all day to the eventual champions and Hosts DMP. The biggest success though was the start of our first ever Girls Under 12s team who visited a festival at Newcastle Falcons and also joined our Junior festival for the first time.

We are a welcoming club and always want new players to come and join our team. We are also on the lookout for team admins, first aiders, referees and most importantly coaches. Coaching is hugely rewarding and no experience of rugby is needed. So don't be shy to come and have a go. There are RFU courses and we will help your journey. Anyone who would like more information on players joining or on helping out please email tynedalerfuyouth@gmail.com

Ladies Contact and Touch Rugby

Tynedale RFC has a thriving and passionate ladies touch team. Touch rugby is a non-contact, fun and easy to learn game. It is inclusive and a great way to develop transferable movement skills. Our main goal as a team both in training and playing games is to focus on having fun and supporting



each other. We have a wide range of ages and abilities playing and would love to welcome new players. We train on Monday evenings at Tynedale RFC from 6:30pm to 7:30pm with an optional fitness session from 6pm to 6:30pm in the club gym. Please contact Becky Stewart (07532 036002 / beckystewart.bss@gmail.com) and join us for a taster session.



Aside from touch rugby, Tynedale RFC has been keen to start up a women's contact XV team for some time. In November 2022 a few women got together at Tynedale RFC and started rugby training together. Some had played before, others had never played, some played as kids, some played at uni and then work got in the way. Lacking in numbers at this stage, we joined with other developing women's teams to play matches and gain experience and we loved it.

Roll on to the 23/24 season. We now have a regular group training and have joined an RFU Development League called Inner Warrior. This league is set up to help women start playing, learn the game and for teams to develop. There are 10 women's teams in the North East Inner Warrior League.

Tynedale Rugby Club

We have an all women leadership and coaching team with guest coaches to boost experience and skills training. So many women tell us they would love to have played but never got the chance - so here is that chance. There is a place on the rugby field for everyone, big, small, fast, slow, fit, not so fit, experienced, brand new and so on. If you fancy coming along to give rugby a try you will be welcomed with open arms by Tynedale Ladies RFC. Remember, you do not have to have played before. Training Sessions are 7:15pm to 8:30pm on Wednesdays. Feel Free to contact Annie Lees if you would like more information: annlees@hotmail.com

Senior Men's Rugby



There really is something for everyone in the senior men's division. We're always on the lookout for new players, regardless of age and ability, so why not give it a go? The Colts are the future of the men's game at the club, and cater for under 18s, competing in the SRU Borders league. The 1st XV compete in National 2 (North), the fourth tier of English Rugby. This is a highly competitive league involving games against teams from as far away as Manchester, Sheffield and Hull. The home games attract a good crowd who enjoy watching high quality rugby and the first class facilities the club has to offer. Playing at a high level attracts players not just locally but from across the North East and North West. Many players have come through our ranks and gone on to play in the Gallagher Premiership and represent their country and the British and Irish Lions. Through its



relationship with Newcastle Falcons the club also features Falcons academy players as part of their development in the game. It's not all about the first team, however. The club regularly fields three senior Saturday teams. The Tynedale Raiders and Centurions play locally in the Candy league and Northumberland cup games and offer rugby for all abilities. If you're interested in getting involved, please contact tynedalerfcmanager@gmail.com

The Social Scene



The social scene of Tynedale Rugby Club on a Saturday is focused on the 1st XV, who regularly attract a good crowd for their home matches on Saturday afternoons. The bar is open and food is available, so come on down. Fixtures are listed on our website: tynedalerfc.co.uk. We also host a number of special events such as Oktoberfest, which for those who receive an early copy of this edition is on Saturday September 30th. Check out our website and social media pages for further information about both this event and others during the year. Our clubhouse is also available to hire for events, whether social or corporate. We have a fully stocked bar and in house caterer. Please contact stephen.hull@hotmail.com for more information.



Corbridge Village Show

This year's Village Show at the Parish Hall and grounds was blessed with a gloriously sunny Saturday and an increased number of visitors. The main trophies were presented by BBC Radio Newcastle Breakfast Show host Matt Bailey whose day job skills also came in handy when reading out the marathon list of raffle prize winners. Scan the QR code for a full photo gallery.



Corbridge Village Show



Trophy Winners

Village Show Cup (up to aged nine): Aidan Clegg

Village Show Medal (age nine and over): Freya Foster

Best Vegetable Exhibit (George Inns Memorial Trophy): Elsie Joyce

Best Flowers Exhibit (Ken Johnson Memorial Trophy): Elsie Joyce

Best Industrial Exhibit (Tyne Tees Trophy): Rowena Horne

Best Art and Photography Exhibit (Walton / Charlton Memorial Cup): Hazel Marshall

Leeks (James Hardy Memorial Cup): Miles Joyce

Best Leek In Show (Sun Trophy): Miles Joyce

Three Onions Dressed (Tom Joyce Trophy): Miles Joyce

Best Collection of Vegetables (Bill Hardy Memorial Trophy): Miles Joyce

Three Round Beetroot (Smallholder Champions Medal): Barry Noble


Three Onions As Grown (John Hardy Challenge Trophy): Michael Gaughan

Six Onions Grown From Sets (Sir George Blackett Challenge Cup): Colin Campbell

Best Exhibit In Flowers (Patricia Jameson Cup): Brian Nixon

Corbridge Village Show




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A Truly Rare To The Market Offering...



The Garden House in Wallington is an exquisite country home built in 1766 and originally formed part of The Wallington Estate until 1970; whereupon it has been owned by the same family ever since. It is a most attractive stone-built Grade II* Listed detached property of distinction and set within beautiful private grounds of around 1.25-acres. It includes the former coach-house, now used as a double garage with two adjoining pavilions, an enclosed 0.5-acre paddock with stabling, a tack room, hay store and a number of additional outbuildings.

The main house has a driveway approach and an abundance of space for vehicle parking. The light, spacious and versatile accommodation retains many of the attractive period architectural features throughout and also includes a cellar. The established gardens incorporate a gravelled courtyard and a choice variety of mature specimen trees, carefully chosen shrubs and thoughtfully planted borders.

The idyllic position enjoys a high degree of privacy and captures extremely pleasant views of the surrounding countryside. It is also very well placed for access to Newcastle and Newcastle Airport, Ponteland and Morpeth and a variety of local walks, cycle routes and bridle paths. This is genuinely a sale not to be missed and viewings are highly recommended - there is no forward chain.



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or gareth@agpropertyagents.com

Guide Price: £1,000,000.

Forum Books

Hello Readers

Writing this in the damp and dying embers of a disappointingly wet summer, it's comforting to think of cooler October nights, lighting the fire and popping on a cosy cardigan - and, naturally, of autumnal colours, of nights drawing in and an excuse to stay in with a good book. The Autumn always brings a hectic events' calendar and this year is no different.

One of 2022's highlights was the launch of Sara Davies' memoir at The Biscuit Factory in Newcastle. A befittingly glitzy affair for the Strictly star, it was a gloriously funny and candid meander through her North East upbringing, her stint on Dragon's Den and her love for Strictly. Sara returns to the same venue on October 17th to talk about her abiding passion - craftwork with The Crafting Bible. Expect another night of laughter, learning and, in all likelihood, some juicy celebrity titbits.

Another returning author is Kerri Andrews who joins us in Corbridge with Annie Worsley to talk about their books *Way Makers* and *Windswept* respectively. Kerri's *Wanderers* has been a firm Forum favourite since it hit our shelves in 2020 and now we get to explore her latest book, the first anthology of women's writing about walking. Annie joins us from the Scottish Highlands and her book takes us straight there. With vivid descriptions that captivate the imagination, evoking a place where nature reigns supreme and humans must learn to adapt. Join us on Wednesday 25th October if you can.

The following evening, Thursday 26th October, we have an evening in Corbridge with Ella Risbridger and Kate Young, two award-winning food writers. Kate's 'Little Library' books feature food inspired by beloved works of literature, while Ella's best-selling debut - *Midnight Chicken* - was a genre-defying work of memoir, recipes and watercolours. They are a terrific pairing and in *The Dinner Table* they serve up a deliciously moreish collection of the 100 finest pieces of writing on food, glorious food. This big, beautiful anthology presents their ultimate fantasy dinner party. Here you'll find authors, cooks and poets from Laurie Colwin, Salman Rushdie and Jack Underwood, to Rachel Roddy, Audre Lorde and Nigella Lawson. We can't wait to tuck in!

Talking of food, I should mention that the wonderful Rick Stein will be joining us at The Biscuit Factory on Thursday November 2nd to talk about his new book *Simple Suppers*. An absolute delight and as Rick writes: "These are my simple suppers. Recipes that are straightforward and informal - yet effortlessly delicious."

Bookshop Day 2023 falls on Saturday October 14th - as the saying goes, ask in store for details - and is a national celebration of bookshops on the high street. We'll have authors popping by to sign their books - Wild Guide's Sarah Banks among them - plus cake and makes from a few of our new favourite books. As ever we'd love to see you there...and, again, from myself and all of our lovely booksellers, thanks for your continued support.

Francesca Peacock's *Pure Wit* celebrates the pioneering yet often forgotten Margaret Cavendish, Duchess of Newcastle. 400 years since Margaret's birth, Francesca brings this radical figure back to life for a modern audience. Kate Mosse describes it perfectly as 'A gripping read, wonderfully researched and puts Cavendish back into the literary history books where she belongs. I loved it.'

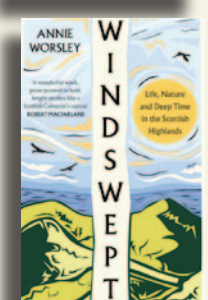
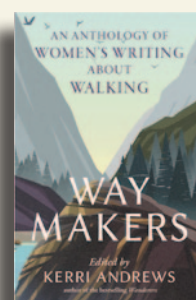
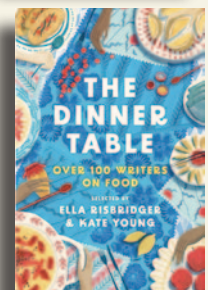
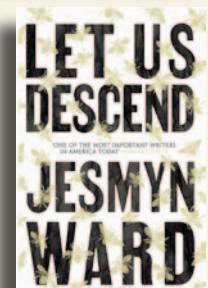
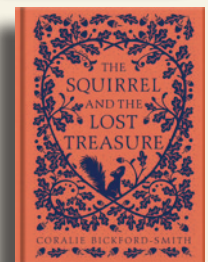
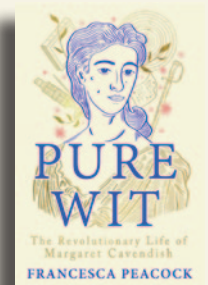
It is a rare thing to be hooked from the opening line but Jesmyn Ward's *Let Us Descend* does just that 'The first weapon I ever held was my mother's hand.' A reimagining of American slavery, as beautifully rendered as it is heart-wrenching, it is simply stunning and one of my books of the year. Searching, harrowing, full of love, the novel is a journey from the rice fields of the Carolinas to the slave markets of New Orleans and into the fearsome heart of a Louisiana sugar plantation. Annis, sold south by the white enslaver who fathered her, is the reader's guide as she struggles through the miles-long march, she turns inward, seeking comfort from memories of her mother and stories of her African warrior grandmother. Magnificent.

Another new favourite is the latest from Coralie Bickford-Smith: *The Squirrel and The Lost Treasure* which starts so beautifully: "As the sun set over an ancient forest, a young squirrel watched the shadows grow. Autumn leaves surrendered to the wind and acorns fell to the ground..."

Read on, dear readers, read on...

Happy reading!

Helen



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- You often ask people to repeat
- You want the television louder than the family want it
- The television is loud but its still difficult to make out what people are saying
- It seems like people are mumbling, or have poor diction
- You are more reliant on looking at people when they talk
- You are having to concentrate to hear what people are saying



If so, a Hearing Health Check would be beneficial. This will check the health of your ears, and highlight if your hearing is within normal range or otherwise.

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T	Forest Yoga 09:30 - 10:30	Vinyasa Flow Yoga 18:00 - 19:00	Yin Yoga 19:15 - 20:15
W		Ground & Flow 18:00 - 19:00	Forest Yoga 19:15 - 20:15
TH		Pilates (inc. Core Strength) 07:30 - 08:30	Forest Yoga 09:00 - 20:15
F	Vinyasa Yoga 7:00 - 8am	Restorative Yoga 09:30 - 10:30	
S	Vinyasa Flow Yoga 09:30 - 10:30		
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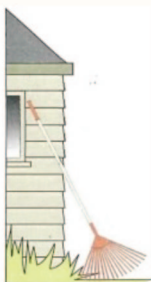
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The 2023 Generations Rally passed through Corbridge earlier this year. Organised by the Rally The Globe Vintage and Classic Car Club, it featured crews of drivers and navigators from different generations in each of the 75 entries. With a route through Cumbria, County Durham and Northumberland. The 1974 Ford Escort of Paul Taylor and god-daughter Sophie Haslam - No 77 pictured here passing St Andrew's Church - took top honours in the Classic category.



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