

Upper Wansbeck News

*Benefice Newsletter
Of
St. Andrew's, Bolam,
St. Andrew's Hartburn,
St. John's Meldon,
St. Giles's, Netherwitton
St. Mary Magdalene, Whalton*



December 2024

Who's Who

Priest in Charge: Rev'd Elaine Jones

The Vicarage

Mitford

Morpeth, NE61 3PZ

Tel: 07521 106158

Email: revelainejones@gmail.com

Associate Lay Minister

Mrs Pam Walker MBE

The Tower House

Hartburn. NE61 4JB

Tel: 01670 772301

Email: Pam.hartburn@gmail.com

Administrator

Sadie Flanagan

Stable Room

Mitford Church

Tel: 01670 943414

Email: wansbeckvicarhelp@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor:

Roisel Thompson

The Clock House, Ogle

Northumberland NE20 0AU

Tel: 01670 775430

Email: roisel@btinternet.com

Roiselthompson12@gmail.com

Distributor:

Mrs S Stafford,

Thornton Moor Farm, Hartburn,

Morpeth. NE61 4JG

Tel: 01670 772313

Email: poohstafford@btinternet.com

Church wardens

Bolam:

Bobbi Goldwater bobbis.glass@sky.com

Hartburn with Meldon:

David Moon davidmoonmeldon@gmail.com

Tel: 01670 772636

Netherwitton:

Valerie Windle

valeriestanton@btinternet.com

Tel: 01670 772352

Whalton:

Lucy Bird: lucy.bird18@gmail.com

Wendy Sheldon: wendysheldon2@gmail.com

Tel: 01670 775 385

Facebook

Our page can be accessed via

<https://www.facebook.com/upperwansbeck>

You do not have to be a Facebook member to use this link. Service details, events and news can be found here, and reflections are posted daily.

Website

Contains service details news and events

www.mitfordandwansbeckchurches.com

Email wansbeckchurch64@gmail.com

Our Ministry Team

Revd. Elaine Jones



*Mrs Pam Walker -
Associate Minister*



Rachel Coundon - Lay Worship Leader



Editor's Note:



Roisel

Hello and welcome to the next edition of Upper Wansbeck News.

This will be a fairly light edition as I have just returned from New Zealand and I'm conscious I want to get this edition out as quickly as possible so that everyone can see the list of Christmas services.

I also apologise if some of the articles refer to dates that may have past, but I still wanted to include them as there may be words of thanks included in the article.

Mitford & Hebron

St Cuthberts, Hebron St Mary Magdalene, Mitford

Hartburn with Meldon & Netherwitton

St Andrew's, Hartburn St John the Baptist, Meldon St Giles, Netherwitton

Bolam with Whalton

St Andrew's, Bolam St Mary Magdalene, Whalton

Advent and Christmas Services

Sunday 1st December

Advent Carols by Candlelight

4pm St Cuthbert's Hebron

4pm St Andrew's Bolam

Friday 13th December

Community Carols - 5pm St Giles Netherwitton

Sunday 15th December

Café and Carols - St Helen's Longhorsley

Friday 20th December

Dickensian Carols by Candlelight - 7pm St Andrew's Hartburn

Sunday 22nd December

Christmas Celebration - 4pm St Mary Magdalene Mitford

Family Christingle - 4pm St Andrew's Bolam

Christmas Eve

Crib Service - 4pm St Mary Magdalene Whalton

Carols on the Green - 4pm Longhorsley

Carols and Journey to the Manger - 4pm St Cuthbert's Hebron

Midnight Holy Communion - 11.30pm St Mary Magdalene Mitford

Christmas Day

Holy Communion - 10am St Cuthbert's Hebron

Holy Communion - 10am St Helen's Longhorsley

Lessons and Carols - 10.30am St Andrew's Hartburn

Mitford & Hebron

St Cuthberts, Hebron St Mary Magdalene, Mitford

Hartburn with Meldon & Netherwitton

St Andrew's, Hartburn St John the Baptist, Meldon St Giles, Netherwitton

Bolam with Whalton

St Andrew's, Bolam St Mary Magdalene, Whalton

Events for December 2024

Sunday 1 December (First Sunday)	10.00 – 11.00	Holy Communion	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
	10.00 – 11.00	Holy Communion	St Helen's, Longhorsley
	10.30 – 11.30	Holy Communion (Traditional)	St Andrew's, Hartburn
	10.30 – 11.30	Family Service	St Andrew's, Bolam
	16.00 – 17.00	Advent Carols by Candlelight	St Cuthbert's, Hebron
	16.00 – 17.00	Advent Carols by Candlelight	St Andrew's, Bolam
Wednesday 4 December	09.30 – 10.30	BCP Morning Prayer & Community Café	St Andrew's, Hartburn
Thursday 5 December	09.15 – 10.15	Whalton School & Community Christingle Service	St Mary Magdalene, Whalton
Saturday 7 December	09.30 – 11.30	Prayer Meeting	Stable Room, Mitford
Sunday 8 December (Second Sunday)	10.00 – 11.00	Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's, Hebron
	10.00 – 11.00	All Age Worship	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
	10.00 – 11.00	Morning Prayer	St Helen's, Longhorsley
	10.30 – 11.30	Holy Communion	St Mary Magdalene, Whalton
Wednesday 11 December	09.30 – 10.30	Morning Prayer & Warm Hub	Mitford Village Hall
Friday 13 December	17.00 – 19.00	Netherwitton Community Carols	St Giles, Netherwitton

Mitford & Hebron
St Cuthberts, Hebron St Mary Magdalene, Mitford

Hartburn with Meldon & Netherwitton
St Andrew's, Hartburn St John the Baptist, Meldon St Giles, Netherwitton

Bolam with Whalton
St Andrew's, Bolam St Mary Magdalene, Whalton

Events for December 2024

Sunday 15 December (Third Sunday)	10.00 – 11.00	All Age Worship	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
	10.30 – 11.30	Holy Communion Joint Longhorsley & Netherwitton	St Giles, Netherwitton
	10.30 – 11.30	Celtic Morning Prayer	St Mary Magdalene, Whalton
	16.00 – 17.00	Storytime Church	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
	18.00 – 20.00	Hunt Carol Service	St Andrew's, Hartburn
Wednesday 18 December	09.00 – 10.00	Tritlington School & Community Christingle Service	St Cuthbert's, Hebron
	09.30 – 10.30	Morning Prayer & Coffee	St Giles, Netherwitton
	14.30 -16.00	Longhorsley School & Community Carols on the Green	Longhorsley Village Green (or church if inclement)
	19.00 – 20.30	Carols in The Plough	The Plough, Mitford
Thursday 19 December	14.00 – 15.00	Anna Chaplains	St Cuthbert's, Hebron
	14.30 – 15.30	Whalton School & Community Carols	Whalton Village (or in church)
Friday 20 December	19.00 – 21.00	Dickensian Carols by Candlelight	St Andrew's, Hartburn
Sunday 22 December (Fourth Sunday)	10.00 – 11.00	BCP Morning Prayer	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
	10.00 – 11.00	Café Church	Mitford Village Hall
	10.00 – 11.00	Morning Prayer	St Helen's, Longhorsley
	10.30 – 11.30	Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Bolam
	16.00 – 17.00	Christingle Service	St Andrew's, Bolam
	16.00 – 17.00	Community Christmas Celebration	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford

Mitford & Hebron

St Cuthberts, Hebron St Mary Magdalene, Mitford

Hartburn with Meldon & Netherwitton

St Andrew's, Hartburn St John the Baptist, Meldon St Giles, Netherwitton

Bolam with Whalton

St Andrew's, Bolam St Mary Magdalene, Whalton

Events for December 2024

Monday 23 December	18.00 – 19.30	Carols on the Green	Hebron Village (or church if inclement)
Tuesday 24 December	16.00 – 17.00	Carols & Journey to the Crib Service	St Cuthbert's, Hebron
	16.00 – 17.00	Carols on the Green	Longhorsley Village
	16.00 – 17.00	Crib Service	St Mary Magdalene, Whalton
	23.30 – 00.30	Midnight Holy Communion Service	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
Wednesday 25 December	10.00 – 11.00	Christmas Day Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's, Hebron
	10.00 – 11.00	Christmas Day Holy Communion	St Helen's, Longhorsley
	10.30 – 11.30	Christmas Day Carols & Lessons	St Andrew's, Hartburn
Sunday 29 December (Fifth Sunday)	10.00 – 11.00	Celtic Morning Prayer	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
	10.00 – 11.00	Morning Prayer	St Helen's, Longhorsley
	10.30 – 11.30	Holy Communion	St John the Baptist, Meldon

Service types may be subject to change according to minister availability.

Mitford & Hebron

St Cuthberts, Hebron St Mary Magdalene, Mitford

Hartburn with Meldon & Netherwitton

St Andrew's, Hartburn St John the Baptist, Meldon St Giles, Netherwitton

Bolam with Whalton

St Andrew's, Bolam St Mary Magdalene, Whalton

Events for January 2025

Sunday 5th January (First Sunday)	10.00 – 11.00	Holy Communion	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
	10.00 – 11.00	Holy Communion	St Helen's, Longhorsley
	10.30 – 11.30	Holy Communion (Traditional)	St Andrew's, Hartburn
	10.30 – 11.30	Family Service	St Andrew's, Bolam
	16.00 – 17.00	Evensong	St Cuthbert's, Hebron
Sunday 12th January (Second Sunday)	10.00 – 11.00	Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's, Hebron
	10.00 – 11.00	All Age Worship	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
	10.00 – 11.00	Morning Prayer	St Helen's, Longhorsley
	10.30 – 11.30	Holy Communion	St Mary Magdalene, Whalton
Wednesday 15th January	09.30 – 10.30	Morning Prayer & Coffee	St Giles, Netherwitton
Sunday 19th January (Third Sunday)	10.00 – 11.00	All Age Worship	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
	10.30 – 11.30	Holy Communion Joint Longhorsley & Netherwitton	St Giles, Netherwitton
	10.30 – 11.30	Celtic Morning Prayer	St Mary Magdalene, Whalton
	16.00 – 17.00	Storytime Church	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
Wednesday 22nd January	09.30 – 10.30	Celtic Morning Prayer & Community Coffee	St Cuthbert's Hebron
Thursday 23rd January	14.00 – 15.00	Anna Chaplains	St Cuthbert's, Hebron
Friday 24th January	09.15 – 10.15	Whalton School All Age Worship	St Mary Magdalene, Whalton

Mitford & Hebron

St Cuthberts, Hebron St Mary Magdalene, Mitford

Hartburn with Meldon & Netherwitton

St Andrew's, Hartburn St John the Baptist, Meldon St Giles, Netherwitton

Bolam with Whalton

St Andrew's, Bolam St Mary Magdalene, Whalton

Events for January 2025

Sunday 26th January (Fourth Sunday)	10.00 – 11.00	BCP Morning Prayer	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
	10.00 – 11.00	Café Church	Mitford Village Hall
	10.00 – 11.00	Morning Prayer	St Helen's, Longhorsley
	10.30 – 11.30	Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Bolam

Service types may be subject to change according to minister availability.

Sermon given by Revd. Elaine Jones on Safeguarding Sunday.

Whalton Church – Matthew 19:13-25

Today is Safeguarding Sunday, which feels especially ironic given the events of the past week. The shocking revelations of yet another failure to prevent and report abuse within the church have been devastating. I had prepared my sermon earlier this week, but then the news broke, and, well, I found myself starting over.

Archbishop Justin Welby's resignation, following a damning report that highlighted major failings in the church's safeguarding practices, was, unfortunately, not surprising. As the leader of the church, it is his responsibility to ensure there are clear channels for reporting and preventing abuse, and to make sure structures are in place to hold perpetrators accountable. The Makin Report made it clear that this responsibility was not met. I know there will be varying opinions on his resignation. Some will see it as the right step, while others may feel he has been unfairly scapegoated. Some may even see this as a political issue, tied to disagreements over issues concerning LLF and the Archbishop's statement about same-sex relationships.

For survivors of abuse, this news may be deeply painful—or perhaps, in some ways, validating. I want to affirm that whatever your perspective is, it's valid. Your feelings are real, and it's important that we make space for them.

But beyond our individual reactions, I hope we can create a platform for understanding, compassion, and grace. As a church, we are called to be a community that validates one another's experiences, offering care, not judgment. After all, isn't that what we are called to be as the body of Christ?

I wish I could promise that such abuses will never happen again, that the church will always be a place of safety. But I can't. What I *can* say is that safeguarding is all of our responsibility. Preventing abuse, reporting it, and holding those in power accountable is not just the responsibility of church leaders—it is on all of us.

This is not an easy call. Challenging power is difficult. It's tempting to stay silent, to hope someone else will take the lead. I know I have been in situations where I've asked myself, "Wouldn't it be easier to look the other way and let someone else deal with this?" But I'm reminded that it's my

duty—first, as a human being to honour and protect the dignity of every person and call out things that are harmful, but more importantly, as a Christian to live out Jesus’ command to love God and love my neighbour.

Even Jesus knew this would be challenging. Following him is costly. Kingdom living is counter-cultural, and it calls us to go against the grain of the world.

In our reading from Matthew, a rich young man asks Jesus how he can enter the kingdom of God. He has followed all the commandments—he hasn’t murdered, stolen, or lied—and he feels he’s done all the right things. But Jesus tells him it’s not enough. He must give up his wealth, his possessions, his security. For the young man, this was too much, and Jesus remarks that it’s easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven.

But wealth isn’t just about money and possessions—it can also take the form of power, authority, and control. When the powerful come together, it can feel like an impenetrable wall of influence. Those who have been abused feel powerless against this system, which often seeks to silence them.

The abuse cases we’ve seen within the church share a painful commonality: they were enabled by those who had the power to prevent them but chose not to. The protection of the institution, its reputation, and its leaders took priority over the protection of the vulnerable. Many who tried to expose these crimes were met with resistance from those in power, who chose to hide them in the shadows.

Jesus’ message to the rich man is clear: he must give away the things that hold value to him. For many of us, one of those valuable things is our voice. Our voice is a powerful tool that many people don’t have. Is this what we’re called to give to the poor? To use our voice to speak up for those who have none?

We have the responsibility to challenge systems that enable abuse. We must hold those in power accountable, shining a light on what others would rather keep hidden. Earthly wealth and power may seem significant, but in the Kingdom of God, they hold no value. What matters in God’s Kingdom is love, justice, and mercy. And the more we are willing to sacrifice our earthly treasures—our status, power, and privileges—in exchange for God’s justice, the more we will receive.

Safeguarding is not an add-on to our Christian life—it is at its very heart. Jesus welcomed everyone, saying, “Let the little children come to me.” We must ensure that our church is a place where people can come to know Jesus in safety, without fear of harm or judgment. This requires training, policies, and procedures, yes—but it should also be a joyful part of our worship, as we seek to live according to the commands of Jesus that lead to the Kingdom of God.

James reminds us that those who teach will be judged more strictly. Abuse, cover-ups, and ignoring the voices of survivors are all sinful—but so is judgment without mercy. Jesus held sinners accountable, but he also showed them grace. We must do the same. No one is free to be protected against the consequences of causing hurt to another, especially where there is significant and lasting harm done to another. Abuse of another person in whatever form is abhorrent and no one, absolutely no one, is above the law or should escape the consequences for harming another. It is wrong for anyone to protect those who harm another and there is absolutely no excuse for doing so. Showing mercy does not mean covering up their actions or protecting them from receiving the punishment for their crime. Showing grace does not mean ignoring the sin or allowing people to go unpunished. Showing mercy and grace means admitting our failures and our part, and not shy away from speaking truth into the situation as the instigation for change!

This is a deep wound for the church, and it will take generations to heal. But I pray that we all commit to making the safety of the vulnerable our highest priority. That the voices of survivors will be heard, that abusers will be brought to justice, and that those who lead us will be supported with grace and understanding. For those in leadership, we pray for strength and wisdom, because this is a heavy burden to carry. They may make mistakes, and they may do some significant things that instigate transformation. I pray that there will be significant changes and a catalyst to call out the imbalance of power in the hierarchical structures that plays a role in matters of justice. How? I don't know! But in all things, I trust that God's grace is sufficient to enable kingdom transformation. Amen.

From Rev.d Elaine Jones

Bolam Bonfire Tidy up Activity Afternoon - October 2024

Thanks to all the workers.



Meanwhile the children explored how energy comes through plants to animals, collecting evidence from the Munchroom. Then the fire was lit, and well earned refreshments enjoyed. Thanks for the food!



Refurbishment of the Bell at St.Giles Netherwitton



The refurbishment of bell at St. Giles Netherwitton is now complete.

Many thanks to everyone who helped to achieve this. There have been many and varied fund raising events and fund applications, which all helped towards the refurbishment.

The bell now “bongs” when the sally is pulled- something that didn’t happen before! The danger of the bell falling through the church roof has also been eliminated- the congregation is now out of danger.

Thanks to everyone

Val Windle

Whalton Village Show 2024

A huge thank you to everybody who supported this year's Whalton Village Show.

We are pleased to share with you that your support made it a very successful event, raising just over £16,000.

The aim of the show is to raise money to support some of our local charities.

Money has been split this year between:

Whalton Village Hall

St Mary Magdalene Church, Whalton

PAWS (Preschool and After School at Whalton School)

Whalton C of E Aided Primary School

In addition, this year's committee has decided to give a donation to the Great North Air Ambulance Service.

We are already starting to consider next year's village show.

(Saturday 20th September 2025)

If you are interested in being involved in this, the first meeting is to be held on.

Wednesday 27th November 2024

Whalton Village Hall (bar area)

7.30pm

It would be great to see you there!

Any queries about any of the above please send to Julie Potter at

Show@whaltonvillage.org.uk

Wansbeck Natural History Group

We are a small group of wildlife enthusiasts based in Northumberland who take part in activities both indoors, at Middleton Village Hall and outdoors, from the moors to the coast. Over the Summer the group enjoyed various walks, including visits to Clark's Bog, Throckrington and Greenleighton Quarry. We started our Autumn/Winter program with a fascinating talk on canoeing around St Kilda, learning about the history and wildlife. Our most recent talk by Alex Robinson from Northumberland Wildlife Trust, about the Northumberland Peat Partnership, gave an insight into the importance and ecology of peat bogs. We are looking forward to a Christmas curry and quiz in December and the New Year Flowering Plant Survey in January.



If you would like to join our small friendly group please visit our website: www.wansbecknaturalhistorygroup.weebly.com or contact the Chair hazeltinegate@hotmail.com



News from Cambo First School



Where has this term gone? Indeed where has 2024 gone? In school we are nearing the end of our autumn term projects and have had lots of fun finding out about Ourselves, The UK, South America and The Battle of Britain! Now we have to concede that Christmas is on the horizon. I can already hear the songs from our Christmas Play being sung as I write! We can hardly believe it! Any way at Cambo...



Well we were supposed to have some lovely new sash windows at Cambo that actually open! That retain the heat, whilst keeping the drafts out! Hmmm... As you guessed, they have still not been fitted. The first date for fitting was the summer holidays... We prepared the school. The windows weren't ready. The second date was the October half term. We prepared the school and all of the 17 windows didn't fit. You couldn't make it up could you? So fingers crossed all of the windows are being remade and are to be fitted over a four day period in November... Watch this space!



On a more positive note... I am so pleased to report that we were once again successful in gaining our Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM) at 'Gilt' level. This award recognises our effective science leadership and sustained and consistent impact on science teaching and learning across the school. Well done Mrs Wilson; who led on this initiative, and well done to everyone in school and the community! Fantastic job, although I would expect nothing different! To celebrate we are going to the Centre for Life and 7 Stories taking part in several workshops and events. We can hardly wait!

On Wednesdays this term we welcomed Michelle Hankinson back into school to teach dance. The children have learnt lots of moves and have thoroughly enjoyed all elements of the routines developed with our topical themes! We have continued to swim on Tuesdays across the school and Kate has led our tag rugby sessions with great enthusiasm and vigor!



News from Cambo First School Cont.



On the 8th November 24 we held our Remembrance Service at Cambo Church War Memorial. Our children thought about remembrance and created hand holding poppies in commemoration of those who died to keep us free and safe. Our service was led by Rev Janet Parker and lots of the community came to join us. Many thanks to Christine and Gillian for all their hard work with the children! The wreath was very effective in sharing our message!



In November we held our annual Anti-Bullying week. The theme this year was 'Choose Respect'! The children thought about the small changes we could make in our lives which could make the biggest difference in breaking the cycle of bullying. Empowering them to do something positive to counter the harm and hurt that bullying causes. We agreed we can challenge bullying when we work together!



November 14th also heralded Children in Need. A day earlier than usual as Class 2 were out on a visit to Bellingham as part of the 'Being Human' project! This year's theme for dressing up was: 'as much yellow and spots as possible. We had some fabulous individuals! What photographs they made! We also completed several activities e.g. we created our very own Pudsey and Blush bears using the autumn leaves that 'Leaf Club' had collected! We also held a community assembly with refreshments for all!. More importantly we raised funds for a very worthy cause, helping those less fortunate than ourselves.

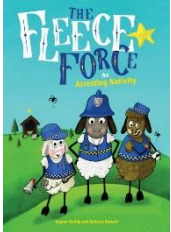


A trip to the Theatre Royal for the pantomime, will kickstart our Christmas season. The Little Mermaid is this year's theme! We also plan to visit the Great North Museum, a firm favourite with the children!

In December we are also looking at our local history with a visit to Wallington to see the House at Christmas and find out about Christmas traditions within our own families and within the Trevelyan family.



News from Cambo First School Cont.



Speaking of Christmas, you will be glad to know that our performance this year will be: 'The Fleece Force'. We will be performing at the village hall on Thursday the 12th of December at 6.00pm. Everyone is welcome to attend; the children work very hard in rehearsals and love an appreciative audience; refreshments will be available!

Dawn will also be cooking another delicious Christmas lunch on Wednesday the 18st December and then it will be our final celebration for Christmas. The Christmas service will take place in Cambo School this year, at 2.00pm on Friday the 20th December. As always, we welcome everyone to join us; we do like a good sing and when better to do this than at Christmas!

School closes after the service for the Christmas holidays; So it only remains for us to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from everyone at Cambo!

Paula Cummings





WHAT'S ON AT THE HALL

MONDAY

NEW CLASS - Chair Yoga, starting Monday 20th January 2025 at 9.30am. Come and join this 45 min class and enjoy yoga movement to strengthen, mobilise and relax the body. Suitable for those with limited mobility and physical impairments. For more details contact Barbara Swan, email [barb swan@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:barb.swan@hotmail.co.uk) or call 07535631387.

Jewel in the Lotus Yoga (Evening) Last session Monday 9th December, restarts Monday 6th January 2025. Open to everyone. For all classes, booking required, please bring your own Yoga mat. Contact Debbie on 07812 124888.

Whist 7.00pm – Everyone welcome, just turn up on the night to have some fun or contact Karen on 07974405178 for more information.

TUESDAY

Morpeth Art Group 10am-2pm. Last session Tuesday 10th December, restarts Tuesday 7th January 2025. For further details on joining this group visit the Morpeth Art Group Website on: www.magart.org.uk

Ringcraft training and socialisation for dogs. 6.30pm - 8.30pm. Restarts Tuesday 7th January 2025. For more information contact Joanne Graham on 07771616144

WEDNESDAY

Seniors keep fit 9.00 am. Last session Wednesday 11th December, restarts Wednesday 8th January 2025. Just turn up on the day, no booking required.

Chiropodist (Every 2nd month) - To book an appointment call Joanne Leiper on 07890322719



WHAT'S ON AT THE HALL

WEDNESDAY

Carpet Bowls 7.30pm. *Last session Wednesday 12th December, restarts Wednesday 8th January 2025.* Just turn up to find out more and give it a try.

THURSDAY

Post Office 9:15am – 10:15am – In the Bar Room. Post parcels and letters, withdraw cash, pay bills and all the usual things that you do in a Post Office.

Whalton Toddlers 9.30am till 11.30am. *Term time only.* Visit facebook @whaltontoddlers for more information or just turn up on the day.

Kirkley Carvers 1pm – 3pm. *Last session Thursday 19th December, restarts Thursday 9th January 2025.* Join this mixed gender group of self taught hand tool woodwork enthusiasts always happy to welcome anyone interested in fashioning something out of a piece of timber. Please contact Bob 01912671930

Gardening Club (*1st Thursday of the month, not January*) Mixture of external visits, practical sessions and speakers – contact Anna Sill 01670 775375

Women of Whalton WI 7pm (*3rd Thursday of the month*) For more information and details on joining email WhaltonWI@hotmail.com or just turn up on the night.

FRIDAY

Jewel in the Lotus Yoga 9.00-10.30am. *Last session Friday 6th December, restarts Friday 10th January 2025.* Booking required & please bring your own Yoga mat. Contact Debbie on: Tel: 07812 124888



EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

20th December. 6pm. Informal Carol Singing at the Village Hall.

21st December. 7pm. Winter Solstice sound Bath. To book a slot visit soundroomhealing.co.uk/shop

If you require further information please phone 07856 176358 or Email: bookings@whaltonvillage.org.uk

Family Crib Service

4pm Christmas Eve
St Mary Magdalene Whalton

"Follow the Star to the Manger"



Middleton Village Hall

**Fool's Gold
The Christmas Show.**

Thursday 19 December at 7.30pm



Fool's Gold is an acoustic duo - Steve & Carol Robson from Co. Durham. They play lots of different instruments and sing live - and so do their audiences! They present their Christmas Show to very many halls & venues throughout the UK. The theme is a good solid dose of Christmas - all the songs and stories are either well-chosen Christmas songs (with a few popular carols in there too) or fun, family songs from their folk and original repertoire. The show is suitable for all and singing along is virtually unavoidable! It's a perfect evening-out in the run up to Christmas for all the family. It could well be very popular so please book early to ensure seats.

Hear and see them in action on YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/@foolsgold552>

Bookings: 07855 444719 or email: georgecourtice@btinternet.com



Dickensian Carols by Candlelight
Friday 20th December 7pm
Hartburn St Andrews Church, NE61 4JB

Join us for an evening of Traditional Community Carol
Singing and Readings, including excerpts from Charles
Dickens
A Christmas Carol
Featuring the Ravenswood Singers
With Mulled Wine and Mince Pies



Diary Dates



let's do
lunch

Hartburn Community Lunches
St. Andrews Church Hartburn

Tuesday 17th December – 12:00 – 12:30 at Hartburn Church - £8.00

Tuesday 14th January – 12:00 – 12:30 at Hartburn Church - £6.00

Contact Pooh Stafford to book – poohstafford@btinternet.com

Phone: 01670 772313



FILM NIGHT

WICKED LITTLE LETTERS
Friday 31st January 2025 (7.00-7.30pm)
Middleton Village Hall



Refreshments Available
Entry by donation



FILM NIGHT

CONCLAVE
Friday 28th February 2025 (7.00-7.30pm)
Middleton Village Hall



Refreshments Available
Entry by donation

KIRKHARLE *Courtyard*

Christmas at the Courtyard

We are delighted to bring you an exclusive festive Christmas event here at Kirkharle.

A Festive Concert and Lunch - a fabulous seasonal event to get you into the festive mood.

Wednesday 11th December at 11.30am

The concert given by the Da Vinci String Quartet in the beautiful grade 1 listed St Wilfrid's Church begins at 11.30am. The church will be joyfully dressed in seasonal decorations and to keep you warm the heating will be set to 'cosy'.

For this year's concert, unfortunately we are unable to serve refreshments in the church, so if you would like a cuppa before the concert, be sure to get a takeaway from Brown's Larder. Delicious barista made coffee and Running Fox traybakes along with lots of other gifts and goodies are available in the shop.

Book either for the concert only, or add your ticket for the exclusive Festive Lunch provided by [The Running Fox](#).

Tickets

1. £15 for the concert only
2. £32.50 for the concert and cafe lunch
3. £40 for the concert and exclusive Festive Loraine Room Lunch

To book please contact The Running Fox at Kirkharle Courtyard on 01830 540362.

Da Vinci String Quartet

**Alexandra Raikhlina - violin; Iona Brown - violin; Mike Gerard -
viola; Gabriel Wait - cello.**

After their mesmerising concert to open our summer season, the string quartet return to help get us in the mood for the festive season. Their programme will include some wintry classical pieces as well as some of your favourite carols. We might even sing along with them!

We look forward to welcoming you this festive season - be quick
tickets are limited!

See you soon,

The Kirkharle Team



Wallington Demesne Parish Council

The next meeting will be held on Monday 27th January 2025 commencing at 7:30 pm in Middleton Village Hall.

Members of the public are welcome to attend and participate under Public Questions.



Whalton Parish Council

The next meeting will be TBA
commencing at 7:30 pm in Whalton Village Hall.

Members of the public are welcome to attend and participate
under Public Questions.

[Link to Whalton Parish Council](#)



PCC Meeting Dates

Bolam

PCC Meeting – 7pm – 9pm	13 th January 2025
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Whalton

PCC Meeting – 7:00 pm	14 th January 2025
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Netherwitton

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Hartburn and Meldon

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Longhorsley

PCC Meeting – 7.00 pm	22 nd January 2025
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Mitford & Hebron

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Deadline for the next Newsletter Submissions is 10th January
with publication planned for 15th January 2025

All future newsletter articles please email to:

roisel@btinternet.com

roiselthompson12@gmail.com

The Newsletter has been checked and verified by the Ministry
Team