

# *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*



*May / June 2025*

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**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](http://www.mitfordandwansbeckchurches.com)

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## *Our Ministry Team*

*Revd. Elaine Jones*



*Mrs Pam Walker -  
Associate Minister*



*Rachel Coundon - Lay Worship Leader*



### *Editor's Note:*



Hello and welcome to our spring edition of Upper Wansbeck News.

I hope everyone is well and enjoying the beautiful sunshine. Todays front cover photo is of Bluebells in my garden.

Roisel

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

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

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

## Services for May, June, July 2025

Sunday 18 May (third Sunday)	10.00 - 11.00	Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's, Hebron
	10.30 - 11.30	Holy Communion (joint with Netherwilton)	St Giles, Netherwilton
	10.30 - 11.30	Celtic Morning Prayer & Baptism	St Mary Magdalene, Whalton
	16.00 - 17.00	Café Church	St Helen's, Longhorsley
	16.00 - 17.00	Storytime Church	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
Wednesday 21 May	09.30 - 10.30	Morning Prayer & Coffee	St Giles, Netherwilton
Thursday 22 May	14.00 - 15.00	Anna Chaplaincy	St Cuthbert's, Hebron
Friday 23 May	09.15 - 10.15	All Age Worship	St Mary Magdalene, Whalton
Sunday 25 May (fourth Sunday)	10.00 - 11.00	Morning Prayer	St Helen's, Longhorsley
	10.00 - 11.00	BCP Service	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
	10.00 - 11.00	Café Church	Mitford Village Hall
	10.30 - 11.30	Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Bolam
Wednesday 28 May	09.30 - 10.30	Celtic Morning Prayer & Community Coffee	St Cuthbert's, Hebron
Sunday 1 June (first Sunday)	10.00 - 11.00	Holy Communion	St Helen's, Longhorsley
	10.00 - 11.00	Holy Communion & Baptism	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
	10.30 - 11.30	Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Hartburn
	10.30 - 11.30	Family Service	St Andrew's, Bolam
	16.00 - 17.00	Evensong	St Cuthbert's, Hebron

**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

## Services for May, June, July 2025

Saturday 7 June	09.30 - 12.00	Monthly Prayer Meeting	Stable Room, Mitford Church
Sunday 8 June (second Sunday)	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
Sunday 15 June (third Sunday)	10.00 - 11.00	Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's, Hebron
	10.30 - 11.30	Holy Communion (joint with Netherwitton)	St Giles, Netherwitton
	10.30 - 11.30	Celtic Morning Prayer	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
	16.00 - 17.00	Café Church	St Helen's, Longhorsley
	16.00 - 17.00	Storytime Church	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
Wednesday 18 June	09.30 - 10.30	Morning Prayer and Coffee	St Giles, Netherwitton
Sunday 22 June (fourth Sunday)	10.00 - 11.00	Morning Prayer	St Helen's, Longhorsley
	10.00 - 11.00	BCP Service	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
	10.00 - 11.00	Café Church	Mitford Village Hall
	10.30 - 11.30	Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Bolam
Wednesday 25 June	09.30 - 10.30	Celtic Morning Prayer & Community Coffee	St Cuthbert's, Hebron
Thursday 26 June	14.00 - 15.00	Anna Chaplaincy	St Cuthbert's, Hebron
Friday 27 June	09.15 - 10.15	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

## Services for May, June, July 2025

Sunday 29 June (fifth Sunday)	10.00 - 11.00	Morning Prayer	St Helen's, Longhorsley
	10.00 - 11.00	Celtic Morning Prayer	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
	10.30 - 11.30	Holy Communion	St John the Baptist, Meldon
Saturday 5 July	09.30 - 12.00	Monthly Prayer Meeting	Stable Room, Mitford Church
Sunday 6 July (first Sunday)	10.00 - 11.00	Holy Communion	St Helen's, Longhorsley
	10.00 - 11.00	Holy Communion	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
	10.30 - 11.30	Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Hartburn
	10.30 - 11.30	Family Service & Baptism	St Andrew's, Bolam
	16.00 - 17.00	Evensong	St Cuthbert's, Hebron
Sunday 13 July (second Sunday)	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 16 July	09.30 - 10.30	Morning Prayer and Coffee	St Giles, Netherwitton
Sunday 20 July (third Sunday)	10.00 - 11.00	Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's, Hebron
	10.30 - 11.30	Holy Communion (joint with Netherwitton)	St Giles, Netherwitton
	10.30 - 11.30	Celtic Morning Prayer	St Mary Magdalene, Whalton
	16.00 - 17.00	Café Church	St Helen's, Longhorsley
	16.00 - 17.00	Storytime Church	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford

**Mitford & Hebron**  
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**Bolam with Whalton**  
St Andrew's, Bolam    St Mary Magdalene, Whalton

## Services for May, June, July 2025

Wednesday 23 July	09.30 - 10.30	Celtic Morning Prayer & Community Coffee	St Cuthbert's, Hebron
Thursday 24 July	14.00 - 15.00	Anna Chaplaincy	St Cuthbert's, Hebron
Sunday 27 July (fourth Sunday)	10.00 - 11.00	Morning Prayer	St Helen's, Longhorsley
	10.00 - 11.00	BCP Service	St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
	10.00 - 11.00	Café Church	Mitford Village Hall
	10.30 - 11.30	Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Bolam

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



## ***What did history ever do for us?***

### ***By Paul Stott – Organist at Hartburn***

We are blessed in the Benefice with some rich history in the church buildings and their stories and legends. Researching those histories can be highly rewarding: start with a look at John Hodgson's *History of Northumberland, Volume 2* (available in the Lit & Phil), a visit to the archive at Woodhorn to view any records or past research that may have already been written, and perhaps consult more modern sources, such as *Reading the Fabric* by Peter Ryder. But, beware! Expect contradictions and inconsistencies and expect to go in circles. Just when you think you have got a clear view, something will turn up to upend that view and you will have to carry on burrowing. A visit to *Archaeologia Aeliana*, the archive of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne, can be very beneficial: if it is of interest to you, there is a good chance that somebody has researched it before you. But remember, above all, that serendipity is always important in research: look for the “angels” who are often present in archives and libraries – helpers that know their way around and who can save you a lot of time and point you to sources you might not have considered.

St Andrews, Hartburn, has around 900 years of recorded history with relics relating to the Norman conquest, the Crusades, witch trials, the Civil War, Waterloo and plenty more. We are fortunate to have prior research (a booklet on the history published by Canon Ferg Donnelly, vicar of St Andrews 1965 to 1983, and a previous version written by Canon RC MacLeod, Rural Dean of Morpeth 1910 to 1928), which gave a flying start and pointed to some interesting lines of enquiry – but they also raised many questions: who were the occupants of the De Wotton chantry (incorrectly recorded in the prior research as the Long Witton Chantry)?; who were the skeletons in the tower?; what is the real meaning of the crosses carved in the porch and on the door frame?; why did John Sharp create the grotto in Hartburn Dene?

Researching that history has become something of an obsession. The Knights Templar was the first rabbit hole I ventured down (those crosses on the door post), taking me, inter alia, to the Temple Church in London and into contact with the incumbent *Valiant Master of the Temple*. Research can be a lot of fun! How often do you get to meet some with the title *Valiant Master*?

The latest rabbit hole has been the world of John Sharp DD, our vicar between 1749 and 1792. I had a head start on that one too, through the book *The Good Sharps* by Hester Grant: the story of an astonishing family from Rothbury whose portrait hangs in the National Gallery, and of which John Sharp was the first born. My view of the grotto in Hartburn Dene quickly changed from it being the whim of a wealthy 18<sup>th</sup> C. vicar with too much time on his hands, to a project of a significant philanthropist who used his personal wealth, as his father had done before him in creating the Sharp Tower, a folly in Rothbury, to make work for under-employed labour. Re-distribution of wealth in a very practical way.

John Sharp is now predominantly celebrated for his work at Bamburgh Castle, undertaken in his role as the Perpetual Curate of Bamburgh. The role centred on marshalling the significant financial resources of the Lord Crew Charity for good works – including establishment of a hospital, a school, a home for the destitute, the world's first lifeboat and a store for circumventing the hardships of the corn law. My interest was more prosaic, however. The Sharp siblings were accomplished musicians, forming a sort of 18<sup>th</sup> C. Osmond Family who can be seen, with their instruments, in Johann Zoffany's portrait in the National Gallery. They played for George III on their barge on the Thames and Johann Christian Bach was a personal friend. The Sharps were instrumental in bringing Handel's music to the North-East, specifically to Durham, Handel's work being effectively vetoed in Newcastle by Charles Avison, because he disagreed with sacred music being performed in concert halls. My initial idea was to try to organise a concert to celebrate the Sharps' musical activities.

Contact with the Lord Crewe Charity took me to the musty archives of Durham Cathedral library to view the Sharp Music Archive. I got to look at the Sharps' music, which was in itself a thrill, but what I came away with was a new rabbit hole to go down, largely due to one of those "angels". As I was about to leave, having looked at what I thought I wanted to see, a librarian said: "we also have these". What the librarian directed me to was two boxes containing John Sharp's handwritten sermons. It is exciting enough to be looking at the personal hand and thoughts of someone from 250 years ago but in the top of the first box was a scribbled note from a previous researcher: "*The slavery sermon is number 3*".

What had the Sharps to do with slavery? The youngest of the siblings, Granville Sharp, is now the most famous: known by the epithet "the father of abolition". Granville appears to have been a little odd: possibly neuro-divergent in some way and, initially, appeared to be destined to be the least successful of the brothers. An encounter with a 16 year-old slave boy in London, however, changed that destiny in a very significant way. The story is too long to recount here (you can read it in the St Andrews History section of the Benefice web site), but it has a plot worthy of a Dickens novel or a major motion picture. The Sharp brothers rescued Jonathan Strong, who had been beaten almost to death by his owner and turned out into the street to die. They brought him back to health and found him a new free life in London only for him to be kidnapped by his former owner and re-sold and imprisoned to await a ship to transport him to Jamaica. Against all odds, Granville used the law to rescue Jonathan Strong and subsequently to take on the entire slave-owning establishment to outlaw slavery on British soil. No lawyer would take on the cause, because it appeared hopeless, so Granville, a draper by training, taught himself the law and took a case before the Lord Chancellor, which he won: slavery was not a status compatible with Common Law.

Granville then set about working for the abolition of the slave trade: the first step on the road to full abolition. With his friend Thomas Clarkson he established the Society for the Purpose of Effecting the Abolition of the Slave Trade in 1787, with members including William Wilberforce and Josiah Wedgwood. The Society needed money and set about raising the modern equivalent of £350,000 in very short order. Older brother John used his influence in Northumberland, Durham and Cambridge to support the cause and to raise significant funds. He did this by preaching a very effective anti-slavery sermon throughout

the region in 1788 and 1789. The words are magnificent and make arresting reading: you can read them for yourself on the web site: it is well worth the effort to do so. In our parishes he preached the sermon:

- In Hartburn on March 16<sup>th</sup> 1788;
- In Meldon on April 6<sup>th</sup> 1788;
- In Bolam on April 13<sup>th</sup> 1788;
- In Mitford on April 27<sup>th</sup> 1788;
- In Netherwitton on May 23<sup>rd</sup> 1788.

And, so, to the point of this essay. At one level, research into the history of our buildings is a trivial pursuit. It gives me a lot of fun and interest. At another level, however, it can be a resource to add richness to our communities. I am hoping that the churches listed above, along with all the other churches in our region where the cause was preached, can use the sermon in some way to celebrate a connection with which we in Northumberland should be very proud. In Hartburn we are planning a festival this October to include a lecture from Hester Grant, author of *The Good Sharps*, a concert of early music and an 18<sup>th</sup> Century evensong to hear John Sharp's words read to us from the pulpit. The evensong will be sung in St Andrews by Newcastle Cathedral Choir and the event will raise money for the Oswin Project - a cause that I am sure the Sharp family would have wholeheartedly supported.

## ***The Roost – Nurturing Spirituality and Wellbeing with Young Adults in Northumberland***

Eight years ago, a small group of Christian young adults met together for the first time in Morpeth to talk about life & faith & hopes & challenges of living in Northumberland and being 18-30 ish. We had dinner, pondered a short passage from the bible, had some quiet space to pray and to reflect, and decided that we'd like to do it again. And again.

In the years that followed we enjoyed camping retreats in a field & hiring village halls for evenings of worship & creative prayer. We began work in a local 6th form, formed friendships and got to know other young adults. Here we are now, registered as a charity with a base in Netherwitton, and reaching out across Northumberland. We are 'The Roost' - our name says what our hope is; that anyone who comes across us would find 'a place of rest to help them fly.'

There are 3 strands to what we do; we have **a community at the heart of the charity which explores contemplative Christian spirituality** - it's primarily for young adults but all ages are welcome. We gather each month in person, and in between times online. We also have smaller groups meeting to explore life & faith, and days dotted throughout the year like retreats, and pilgrimage. We serve as **chaplains to 6th formers in schools**, and have a big dream to serve in all of them across the region. And we have **a half-acre outdoor space in Netherwitton that we've cultivated to be a community garden** with a cabin. People come here to switch off, get muddy, cook by the fire and experience the beauty, the wild & the healing that can come through spending time in the natural world.

Being a young adult (16 - 35 ish!) isn't easy and there is so much to navigate, and although living rurally is beautiful, it can be difficult to meet people, hard to get around, and getting access to services such as mental health support is really tough. Our hope is to be a presence for all young adults here - creating safe spaces, indoors & out, where they will find love and support, whoever they are.

The story of Jesus walking alongside the two on the Emmaus Road is a constant inspiration to us - He came alongside, gently stirred their hearts, waited for their invitation and then revealed who He was. We are privileged in our work to span the breadth of the encounter we see here - offering spaces of gentle listening, as well as spaces for prayer & worship.

If you would like to hear more do get in touch. We often experience people saying that they just feel drawn to The Roost - and then they become a precious part of us. Check out our website, follow our instagram, sign up to our newsletter & come over to the cabin for a cuppa. And if you do know of young adults whose home is Northumberland point them to us - we'd love to meet them!

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## ***The Roost – Nurturing Spirituality and Wellbeing with Young Adults in Northumberland - Cont.***







## *News from Belsay Primary School*

Buzzing into a Busy Summer at Belsay Primary School!



There's a real buzz in the air this summer term at Belsay Primary School and not just because of our exciting trips and events! We've got a packed calendar of activities to keep our pupils learning, exploring and enjoying the final term of the year.

One of the most exciting developments is the upcoming arrival of a colony of bees to our school. Mr. Atkinson has been working tirelessly over the past few months to prepare for their arrival. As part of the preparations, we held a special "Bee Breakfast," where pupils enjoyed locally sourced honey on toast during morning break. The funds raised from this event went toward buying wildflower seeds, which Willow Class helped to sow across the school grounds to make our environment more bee-friendly.

We can't wait to welcome our new buzzing friends and will share more about their impact on our school community in the next update.

We've also been taking part in the **Kaleidoscope Project** — a trust-wide celebration of the arts. Each class has created a fantastic piece of artwork inspired by their recent topics, which will be proudly displayed at Ponteland Leisure Centre. One class chose to design and sculpt clay models of their spirit animals, pouring creativity and thought into every step. Our school choir will also be performing at Ponteland High School, while a group of Year 6 pupils will be showcasing their dance talents at the Tyne Theatre. It's a wonderful celebration of creativity and collaboration across our Trust.



We also recently marked a very special occasion — the 80th anniversary of VE Day. Our pupils enjoyed a street party-style lunch out in the school yard, with bunting, balloons and Union Jack flags proudly displayed. Classic 1940s music played via a very modern 'gramophone' (our trusty Bluetooth speaker!) while children tucked into a choice of homemade fish and chips or corned beef pie. The day was topped off with beautifully decorated cupcakes, courtesy of Mrs. Hayes in the kitchen. It was a wonderful way to remember and reflect, and the atmosphere was as joyful as it was respectful.



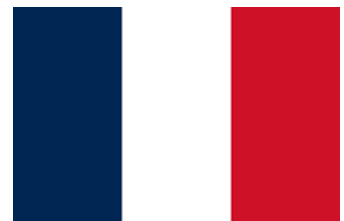
### *News from Belsay Primary School Cont.*

**Never a school to shy away from getting out and about**, we have a long list of trips and activities planned right up to the summer break. Our annual day out at Belsay Hall and Castle is, of course, on the itinerary. We're also looking forward to numerous sporting events, including a swimming gala, basketball tournament and the County Quad Kids athletics competition for Years 4 and 6.

Maple Class will be heading to the **Laing Art Gallery** as part of their Linking Project. They've been corresponding with pupils from Hawthorn Primary School in Elswick and this trip is a chance to finally meet in person and enjoy a day of creative workshops and activities together at the Gallery.

Meanwhile, some of our pupils will also be visiting the **Discovery Museum** to explore the *Steam to Green: A North East Revolution* exhibition. This exciting display, which looks at the region's journey from industrial power to green energy innovation, is closely connected to the Ray Wind Farm — a long-time supporter of Belsay. The children attending are especially excited to get hands-on with the new interactive exhibits!

The highlight for our eldest is our biggest residential of the year — the Year 6 trip to France, happening at the end of June! Pupils will join others from across the Trust for a week of French fun as part of their transition journey to High School. They'll meet with a local French school, hopefully put their language skills to the test and make some new international friends. There's even a visit planned to a local *l'escargotière* for the adventurous — and a *boulangerie* for those with a sweeter tooth! We always love hearing their stories (especially after they've caught up on sleep!).



Finally, **Sports Day** is set for mid-June and as always we'll be making a full day of it. While plans are still being finalised, we know it will be packed with fun, friendly competition and fantastic support from our families. We look forward to seeing you all on the field! Stay tuned — it's going to be a fantastic summer term!

Mr Shaw





## *News from Cambo First School*

Where has this year gone? and what a short half term this has been! The summer term has come around very quickly this year and as I write the weather is indeed lovely; the temperature being 23 degrees and the sun is shining! But oh dear there is always a downside... As Donald Aynsley said 'we do need some rain desperately'. [Through the night if possible] . Mind they do say 'Don't cast a clout until May is out! So maybe, just maybe, keep that spring wardrobe at the ready!



Our focus area for learning this half term is the 'Egyptians', focusing on their civilization, the Nile River, the pyramids, and the pharaohs, along with their beliefs about the afterlife and everyday life. We can hardly wait! We have lots of visitors, experiences and a visit to bring our topical area to life! AND even a sleepover! Hmm!

In May our Y4 children took part in our annual residential to Robinwood, along with the Y4s from Longhorsley, and Whalton. We had three days of OAA activities. The foci were: challenge, resilience, cooperation, collaboration and problem solving. What fun we had canoeing, climbing, orienteering and lots, lots, more! with wonderful weather from rain to sunshine. Who could ask for more? With transition on the horizon, and our Font Alliance Sports Day in June. It was a brilliant opportunity to also meet new friends and rekindle old friendships!



Over the term the children have taken part in cricket sessions with Matthew Senior, football with Joe from All Stars and athletics with Mrs Armstrong. They have also taken part in many festivals and tournaments including quad kids, multiskills, and cricket, with lots of enthusiasm and success and we still have skipping and hula hooping to come!

Our cookery classes are still going strong with Year 4 children taking their turn this term. Their preparation, mixing, stirring, chopping, cutting skills and menu planning are excellent. These skills were put to good use when they planned and cooked a lunch for the school staff; quiche, rainbow couscous, minted potatoes and salad! We can honestly say it was yummy! Our Year 4 parents are in for a treat as their children are currently developing their menus for the Y4 parents meal. And what are they making? Well ... that would be telling... the menu is only to be divulged on the day!





### *News from Cambo First School Cont.*



Paul and Vanessa from North Academy continue to come into school to deliver drama sessions during lunch time with children across the school. The children are really enjoying the experience and the fun!

Kathy Anderson and Anne Hedley continue to work with us along with Peter Brown. The music and singing is very thematic with the children learning songs/music linked to the Egyptians. With the support of Peter, the children will put on a performance for our community later this term. The children have also fine tuned their arts portfolio which will be sent to Arts Council this July for assessment. Hopefully all of the children will gain their award at the end of the year.



It's all go at Cambo!



## The Federation of Longhorsley and Whalton C of E Schools

*Love your Neighbour as yourself so we can all aspire, believe and achieve to be the very best that we can be...*

*Hope - Honesty - Forgiveness - Friendship - Trust - Love*

### **Welcome to our Whalton News!**

We ended our Spring Term with a Football Tournament for the Font Alliance at Ponteland Community Primary School, a Disco in school, an Easter Egg Hunt in the school grounds and finally our Easter Service in Church. The children all received a chocolate Easter egg to take home, kindly donated by the PTA, many thanks go to them.



We all returned to school refreshed and ready to learn again for a very short summer half term.

This term we will be taking part in skipping with Skip4Fit, the annual SATs, Robinwood Residential visit for Years 4 and 5, Walk to School week (Monday 19<sup>th</sup> to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May) and a Federation Day with our friends from Longhorsley on an eco-theme. Busy, busy!

We have also celebrated the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day by leading a special service in Church with Reverend Elaine and our local community and parents...and this is all before half term!



In Summer 2, we will then be taking part in Cricket coaching sessions, hosting an outdoor adventurous activities festival, attending our Leavers' Service at Newcastle Cathedral, staging our annual Sports Day, and having Transition Days for our next school year for children in Years 4 and 6 when we return to school after half term. Preparations are underway for the return of the annual Maypole dancing - a Whalton tradition enjoyed by all - showcased before our Sports day. Also, on Friday 4th July, we will be joining our Village Community for the annual Bale fire - you are more than welcome to come along!



### **Learning in Class 1**

As part of their History topic, they have been learning about Rosa Parks and were very shocked about the way she was treated.

In Design and Technology, the children are looking forward to creating a masterpiece (a kebab/plate design/smoothie) with fruit. Before this can happen though, they need to plan what they will make and what utensils they will need; along with designing their product for an intended consumer. They will have to think of all of their senses when they are in the planning stage, as well as ensuring good hygiene along the way!



Science has got off to a tricky start, as we are delving further into spring-like weather. We have made some rain gauges and are waiting patiently for rainfall!

We continue to learn more about Makaton and the focus this half term is fruits and the weather. 'Singing hands' and 'Talk to the Hand' are our inspiration, as well as the ability of our children remembering what they have been taught so well and sharing it with their friends and family too.

### **Learning in Class 2**

This half term in Art, the children are enjoying learning about Kehinde Wiley and how he changes the narrative of portraits by European Old Masters and medieval Christian icons, by including figures of black men and women that he enrolls from the street. His art draws attention to the lack of diversity seen historically and also references bright and bold backgrounds.



Meanwhile, in Science, we will be investigating electrical circuits. Sometimes it is just best to have a go! So we will be taking our wires, buzzer, switch and bulb and see what we can create!

### **Learning in Class 3**

What a different half term this is with the children in Year 4 off to Robinwood for a three day/ two night visit, taking part in a variety of outdoor adventurous activities with their friends in Year 4 from Longhorsley, and joining the Year 4 from Cambo too. While Year 4 are away, the mice will not play, sorry Year 6, you will be sitting your SATs but will reward you well!

So, lots going on and if you would like to know more about all things Whalton, please do not hesitate to give us a call on 01670 775216 or visit our website at [www.whalton.northumberland.sch.uk](http://www.whalton.northumberland.sch.uk) - we still have a few places remaining for September and would love you to come and have a look around our hidden gem of a school anytime!



If anyone would like to contribute any cakes, plants or tombola prizes they would be most appreciated. Please just bring them to the Church on the open day.



let's do  
lunch

*Hartburn Community Lunches*  
*St. Andrews Church Hartburn*

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June – 12:00 – 12:30 at Hartburn Church - £6.00**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July – 12:00 – 12:30 at Hartburn Church - £6.00**

**Contact Pooh Stafford to book – [poohstafford@btinternet.com](mailto:poohstafford@btinternet.com)**

**Phone: 01670 772313**





**Open Day Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2025 12:00 – 16:00**

Refreshments in aid of Hartburn Community Project

Admission – Adult £8.00 Children – Free

Owners Michael & Louise Spriggs

[Click link for further information and to book tickets:](#)

[Link to Longwiton Hall](#)



# Middleton Village Hall

Reg.Charity No. 522088

**Ian Millar & Dominic Spencer**  
**saxophone & piano duo from Scotland**  
***Jazz in the Village at Middleton***



*"Very cool music played in a magical atmosphere - this will appeal to jazz novices as well as hardcore enthusiasts."* Three Weeks Magazine

**Appearing live at:**  
**MIDDLETON VILLAGE HALL, NE61 4RA**  
**Friday 30th May at 7.30pm**

**Tickets: £12.00**  
**Accompanied Children: Free**  
**Pay bar and raffle**

**Not sure? Have a listen to their music at [www.millarandspencer.co.uk](http://www.millarandspencer.co.uk)**

Booking: Tel 07855 444719 or email: [georgecourtice@btinternet.com](mailto:georgecourtice@btinternet.com)

# Mitford



# Mitford



# Whalton Village Show



The date is now set for this year's Whalton Village Show and planning is well underway.

The Make, Bake and Grow schedules have been printed - we hope you feel inspired to enter some of the classes.

Keep an eye on progress by going to the show website.  
Visit [www.whaltonvillageshow.com](http://www.whaltonvillageshow.com)

## WHAT'S ON AT THE HALL May-June 2025

### MONDAY

**Chair Yoga 9.30am-10.15am.** 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).** Open to everyone for all levels. For all classes, booking required, please bring your own Yoga mat. Contact Debbie on 07812 124888.

**Whist 7.30pm** – 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.** For further details on joining this group visit the Morpeth Art Group Website on: [www.magart.org.uk](http://www.magart.org.uk)

**Ringcraft training and socialisation for dogs. 6.30pm - 8.30pm.** For more information contact Joanne Graham on 07771616144

### WEDNESDAY

**Seniors keep fit 9.00am-10.00am.** Just turn up on the day, no booking required.

**Chiropodist (Every 2<sup>nd</sup> month)** - To book an appointment call Joanne Leiper on 07890322719

**Carpet Bowls re-starts September**

### 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.** 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 (*Usually 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month*)** Mixture of external visits, practical sessions and speakers – contact Anna Sill 01670 775375

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

#### FRIDAY

**Jewel in the Lotus Yoga 9.00-10.30am.** Booking required & please bring your own Yoga mat. Contact Debbie on: Tel: 07812 124888

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIAR

**May 18<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> June** Sound Bath. To book a slot visit [soundroomhealing.co.uk/shop](http://soundroomhealing.co.uk/shop)

**May 25<sup>th</sup> Whalton Art Fair. 10.30-4pm, free entry.** Original art, prints, glass, ceramics, jewellery plus cakes, teas and coffee.

**If you require any further information please phone 07856 176358 or Email: [bookings@whaltonvillage.org.uk](mailto:bookings@whaltonvillage.org.uk)**





## Wallington Demesne Parish Council

The following meeting will be held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2025  
commencing at 7:30 pm in Cambo Village Hall

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





## Whalton Parish Council

No confirmed date at the time of going to print  
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 – 7.00 pm	1 <sup>st</sup> July 2025
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## Whalton

APCM Meeting – 7:00 pm	29 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
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## Netherwitton

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## Hartburn and Meldon

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## Longhorsley

PCC Meeting – 7.00 pm	4 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
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## Mitford & Hebron

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Deadline for the next Newsletter Submissions is 14<sup>th</sup> July with publication planned for 19th July 2025

All future newsletter articles please email to:

[roisel@btinternet.com](mailto:roisel@btinternet.com)

[roiselthompson12@gmail.com](mailto:roiselthompson12@gmail.com)

The Newsletter has been checked and verified by the Ministry Team