



# Chatton News

The Newsletter for Chatton and Surrounding Areas

Issue 78 April / May 2025



## Chatton Village Hall Kitchen Launch



Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February saw a combined event at Chatton Village Hall when the regular Coffee Morning was partially hijacked to formally mark the successful completion of the Hall's kitchen refurbishment project.

Fundraising for the project started in 2021 which raised nearly £500. Over the following years, various events were held, not least coffee mornings, which raised further funds that enabled the Trustees to start to apply for grants in early summer 2023. In many cases, bodies that award grants only show interest in projects where local volunteers have already started to raise money and can

provide a starter fund for their project and so these early events were critical to the eventual success of the kitchen refurbishment.

Over a period of 12 months, the project received grants from the National Lottery Community Fund totalling £29,000 and a further £5,000 from the Platinum Jubilee Village Hall Fund which was funded by DEFRA and run by ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England). With these funds and those raised locally, the project was completed in two phases towards the end of 2023 and then in late summer 2024 by Henry Prytherch at HPHP and his team.

The coffee morning cum launch



was very well attended and the hall was able to welcome to the event Tracey Morgan from Community Action Northumberland, who has been instrumental in helping guide and coach the Trustees through the various grant applications they made for the project.

With the kitchen now complete, the Trustees hope that many people will now make use of these wonderful facilities as they move on to new projects for the Hall to refurbish and improve the Hall's toilets, heating, lighting and leaking roof.

More updates to follow later this year!

### VE Day

Bank Holiday **Monday May 5<sup>th</sup>** 3:00 - 6.00(ish)  
Chatton Village Hall.

#### **BYO Afternoon tea party.**

BBQ will be lit, tables decked, and bring your own sarnies, cakes or goodies to BBQ.

No bar, so bring your own drinks.

Games for the children, young and old!

#### **VE Day - Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>**

We invite you to an informal gathering around the Chatton War memorial for two minutes silence at **11am**. Gather from 10.50am

### Welcome

We give a warm welcome to

**Les Wilkinson & Judith Price** who have moved into Chatton Mill Hill from Eglington

### Our Sponsor



**TCL Data** and their principal, Barry Shambrook, are once again delighted to

sponsor the printing of this edition of Chatton News.

TCL Data have provided design and other professional advice to the property and construction sector for over 20 years.

[www.tcldata.net](http://www.tcldata.net)

Banner picture of daffodils adorning the verges through the village planted by the Chatton in Bloom team last autumn.

## Chatton Bridge

It will not have gone without notice that the Grade II Listed bridge on the eastern approach to Chatton has again been damaged by a vehicle. This act has brought forward a



Northumberland Highways plan to bypass and preserve the bridge in its current form by building a modern replacement – these plans were previously mothballed when road investment cuts were announced by the current government, along with dualling of the A1.

This work will commence in three stages:-

1. The bridge will be closed to all traffic with immediate effect, and become a pedestrian route with cycleway only. Diversions will be put in place via Chillingham and the Lyhams
2. To ease congestion on the diverted routes a temporary bridge will be erected at Fowberry Tower to permit two way traffic flow alongside the narrow bridge; and the Kings Road (currently an unmetalled track between Chillingham and Warenton, constructed in 1841 for the Prince of Wales visit) will be metalled to accept vehicles up to 3.5 tonnes
3. A mini roundabout will be installed at the junction of Old Road & New Road with a new section of road be constructed as a direct route from the junction to Chatton Park Farm across the current cricket pitch. A new bridge, constructed from reclaimed wind turbine blades, will cross the River Till 200m downstream of the current bridge.

Once opened, to mitigate the cost of construction, this new bridge will become a toll road operated by TT2 who currently manage the Tyne Tunnel payment system.

Any objections should be sent to the Freedom Of Objection & Litigation department [fool@ncc.gov.uk](mailto:fool@ncc.gov.uk) by 1<sup>st</sup> April.

## Quiz Nights

### Chatton Village Hall

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 7:30pm**

£2 per head. Bring own refreshments

### The Percy Arms

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April, 7:00pm**

£10 per team (up to 6)

## Broadband Event

Come to GoFibre's Broadband event in Chatton Village Hall on

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 6:00 - 7:00pm**

**Prizes up for Grabs!**

Independent broadband provider GoFibre is coming to Chatton to host an event for the community.



It's a great opportunity to meet the GoFibre team and find out more about the benefits of full fibre, about the build in the village, or to register your interest with the company.

People who come along will get the chance to win a terrific hamper of local goods. And any attendees who register their interest with GoFibre will automatically be entered into a prize draw to win two years' free broadband.

Refreshments will be available.

## Changes to voting

**You must bring photo ID to vote at a polling station**

- Need more information?
- Don't have photo ID?

Find out more at:

**[Electoralcommission.org.uk /voterID](https://electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID)**

**Voting by post and proxy**

- To apply you now need to prove your identity
- You can now apply online
- Limits to how many people you can vote on behalf of as proxy

Find out more at:

**[Electoralcommission.org.uk /waystovote](https://electoralcommission.org.uk/waystovote)**

**Not registered to vote?**

Recently moved address?  
Register to vote online:

**[gov.uk/register tovot e](https://gov.uk/register tovot e)**

If you require further information, contact the elections team at:  
**[elections@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:elections@northumberland.gov.uk)**



**Northumberland**  
County Council

The next scheduled elections taking place will be held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025 which are for

**Northumberland County Council and  
Tillside Parish Council Councillor elections**



## Murder Mystery

Once again Chatton Village Hall was transformed into something special on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March. It was another Murder Mystery Evening when, this time, the theme was the *Chatton Gold Cup Steeplechase – Ladies Day*. Who would have thought that our village hall could become Chatton Racecourse, just for one night only. It was an opportunity for our ladies to dress up in their finest millinery and the gentlemen accompany them in their finery as if going to this prestigious event, many sporting binoculars.

The event, originally scheduled for 15<sup>th</sup> February, had to be postponed as a crime had been committed at the start of the race programme so the whole stables area was closed down as a police crime scene – this was still evident by the blue police tape blocking off the entrance to that area. All guests, now transformed into racehorse owners, were ushered into the 'Unsaddling Enclosure' to deposit coats, have a cup of Pimms, and have their portrait photograph taken against a green screen that would, later, show them actually at a racecourse. (Portraits may be viewed at <https://murder.chatton.uk/photos2025/>)

They were then led into the main hall (now the Owners Lounge) with each table adorned with actual racing silks for their horse. An announcement about why the last event had to be postponed (the on-course Vet had been killed in suspicious circumstances) was given and an apology that the Pimms had to be served in plastic cups – all part of the storyline for those who were paying attention.

A six course menu was served by the six suspects, all with a story to tell, as they visited each table in turn. But, could the owners work out who the culprit was from what they were hearing?



The race itself was played out on a table top race track and the owners were to be able to purchase betting slips with a chance to win the star prize, kindly donated by Paul Robson from South Hazelrigg Stables. As has become customary, everyone was able to nominate a charity - the evening made a modest profit of £630 which was equally divided between Chatton Village Hall, Blood Bikes and Great North Air Ambulance Service.

Finally, each table recorded whom they thought was the perpetrator then the evening concluded with a final reveal in true Agatha Christie fashion. Who did it? You should have been there...

*Ian & Mary Catchpole*

## Mighty Hikers are Back

Feeling full of enthusiasm following last year's Macmillan Mighty Hike, Vicki and Trish have signed up to do the marathon all over again in 2025! This year they will be walking 26 miles along the beautiful Antrim Coast in Northern Ireland to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Care. They will be joined by Trish's two sisters and five friends from Sheffield and Northern Ireland. The Northern Belles are on tour!

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the Macmillan coffee morning at the Percy Arms on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> which raised a staggering £800. What a fabulous, generous community we live in! Thank you also to the Percy Arms and their



team who provided the venue and hot drinks to support our event. Your generosity is incredibly motivating for Vicki and Trish who will be powering round the 26 miles of the Antrim coast in June!

A Mighty BBQ at Chatton Village Hall outdoor area is planned on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May** from 18.00. Tickets will go on sale shortly at £10.00 to include a meat or veg option and salad. There will be a cash bar. Bring your own picnic chair or blanket so you can settle in for a fun evening with friends and family.

There will be a raffle (naturally!) so if anyone has any prizes they wish to donate, please drop them off with Mary Catchpole at The Old Manse.

Last year we raised over £3,000 and you were all incredibly supportive and generous. Help us reach our fund raising target again by supporting our events and having fun and catching up with friends and neighbours at the same time. You can find our team and fundraising information at:

<https://www.justgiving.com/team/northernbelles>

*Trish & Vicki*

## Tillside Parish Council

Tillside PC ask parishioners to remember that if they, or people they care for, are on the priority list with their power provider they must renew / re-register every year to remain on the priority list.

Tillside PC would also encourage parishioners to report issues with footpaths, streetlights and other issues that are the responsibility of the council via Fixmystreet, a mobile app that can be downloaded from both Google and Apple app stores

*Isabel Hunter*

## Coffee Morning - CVH

Chatton Village Hall

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

at 10:30 am



**Entrance £2.50**

(inclusive of coffee/tea & a slice of cake)

**Bacon Butties £2.50**

Proceeds to

**Chatton in Bloom**

## BYO Socials

Third Friday Get-Togethers resume on

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 6:00pm**

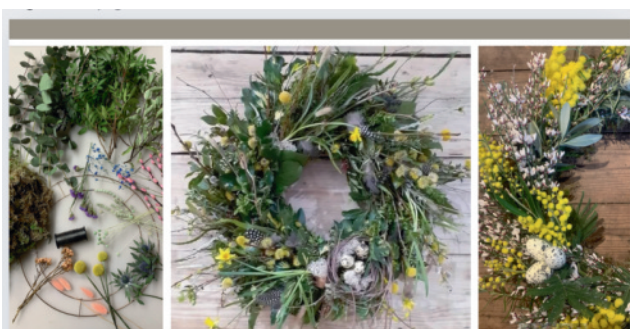
outside by the Village Hall BBQ area.

Then third Friday of the month throughout the summer.

6pm for a couple of hours chat and friendship.

The BBQ will be lit, bring yourselves, plus whatever you might want to eat or drink.

All welcome for a chatty catch-up session meeting friends, old and new.



### Spring/Easter Wreath Workshop

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2025  
10am Chatton Village Hall

£32 to include refreshments

All materials and tuition provided

For more information, contact Emma (28 Mill Hill) on 07969 356316.



Camelias  
Floral Design

Thanks to our band of 'paper boys & girls' who deliver our paper copies: Ian Nixon and Andy Pigg in Chatton; Ed Ginns in Chillingham; Ruth Gibson at Hepburn & Maggie Pinsent in Hazelrigg.

## Parish Church Services

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April 10.00 - Holy Cross, Chatton

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April 9.30 - St Peter, Chillingham

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> (Good Friday) 2pm, Old Bewick

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April (Easter) 10.00 - Holy Cross, Chatton

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May 10.00 - Holy Cross, Chatton

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May 9.30 - St Peter, Chillingham

## Chatton Angling Association Day

The CAA AGM was held on the 25<sup>th</sup> February and the new committee are keen to increase local membership, especially juniors and whole families. If you live within the Parish of Tillside, you can join for a nominal charge, and the fee for juniors is just 50p! If any junior members would like to learn fly fishing, we may be able to help with some tuition. We have several miles of double and single bank fishing for wild brown trout, grayling, sea trout and the occasional salmon.

The Jim Nesbit Trophy competition will be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> July, and all members are welcome to have a go. In recent years we have had great prizes for the winner courtesy of Hardys of Alnwick.

The Atlantic salmon is now a designated endangered species, and CAA are fully supportive of the efforts of riparian owners, farmers, and the Tweed Commission in trying to maintain and improve our river catchment.

Please contact Dorothy Douglas, myself, or any committee member if you would like to join.

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

*Richard Tebay (Chairman) & Dorothy Douglas (Secretary)*

## Corny Corner

I installed a new stairlift but, to be honest, it's driving me up the wall.

**Northumberland Water are putting water rates up.  
I'm sending out Get Well Soon cards**

*I bought a dog from a blacksmith.  
As soon as we got home he made a bolt for the door.  
I just got hit with a violin, flute, and clarinet today.  
I think it was an orchestrated attack!*

Two fish are in their tank. First fish looks at second and says "You drive, I'll man the gun!"

**What do you get when you cross an elephant and a rhino? Ell-if-I-know**

If you would like to include something in the June / July newsletter please get in touch with us by email to **news@chatton.uk** or contact any of the editorial team by Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025 please