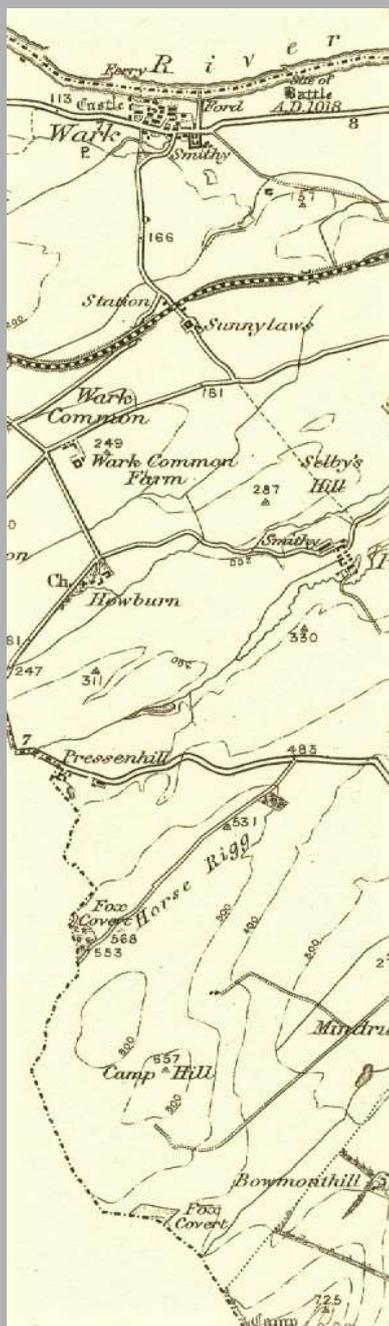


# Carham Parish Council Newsletter

No 6 ~ May 2020



This issue of the parish newsletter comes to you at a time when the country is still in lock-down, as a result of the Covid-19 virus. We hope that everyone is keeping well and managing to cope in these very changed circumstances. In a small parish like ours we all look out for each other, and we know that many people are helping their more vulnerable neighbours with practical tasks such as shopping. If you feel you could do with a little help of this kind, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Carham Parish Council

## High Sheriff of Northumberland

Tom Fairfax of **Mindrum** took up his appointment as High Sheriff of Northumberland at the end of March. We asked him to write a piece especially for this newsletter. Here is what he has to say:

"High Sheriffs in Nomination are always told that our job-spec is a blank canvas! This is truer than ever this year as much of the job traditionally involves face to face engagement – something which is not currently an option under current rules! As a result, I have spent some time with a hot towel over my head to establish new ways to serve my term in as effective a manner as possible. Against expectations, the current conditions have actually been liberating ... having listened in awe to the exploits of many of my predecessors – a number of whom are from this parish – it became clear that everything and anything is possible.

"The role of High Sheriff is not really about uniforms and swords; it is about finding amazing people who are doing incredible things. The exciting thing is that these incredible things are happening all around us. Whilst the current conditions have made direct contact with people challenging, they have provided perfect conditions for people to step forward and be exceptional. We are surrounded by brilliant folk who are quietly doing the jobs that are in front of them, and who are stepping forward to add value.

"This year we commemorate the 75th anniversary of both VE Day and VJ Day, which mark, respectively, the end of the Second World War in the European and Far East theatres. Some will remember those days, but most of us can only imagine what it must have been like. It is, perhaps, ironic that we commemorate the end of one global crisis whilst in the grip of another. The 1939-45 world war had a profound effect on the world and particularly this country. Whilst it carried with it a huge cost in many areas, it was a time when the country pulled together and prevailed. It re-enforced the resilience that this nation has repeatedly shown in times of crisis.

"As we face the current period of uncertainty, a deliberate focus on the positive outcomes around us enables us to overcome the negatives, and whilst there are things we cannot control, there are many that we can. All we have to do is to be live to the opportunities that present themselves and to seize them when they arise. We are surrounded by folk who are seizing these opportunities and doing amazing things – we can but try to live up to their example!"

## Parish Council Business

The parish's Annual Assembly, which would normally take place in May, has been postponed. This is to comply with UK Government measures for the control of Covid-19. We hope to hold it later in the year. Parish Council meetings have been suspended, but please contact the Parish Clerk as usual if there is a matter you want to bring to the attention of the Parish Council.



## Contact Us

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Carham Parish Council

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## Play Park Inspector Needed

The children's play park in **Wark** is managed by the Parish Council, which pays for regular inspections as well as any repairs that are needed. Until now the play park has been inspected by Alan Cater, but after six years of sterling service he has decided not to renew his licence. The Parish Council is therefore looking for a play park inspector who can take over from him, from August onwards. For more information, please contact the Parish Clerk.

- ❖ Because of UK Government measures for the control of Covid-19, the play park in Wark is closed for the time being.

## Phone Box Resource

Parish Councillor Lynda Allan has given the phone box in **Wark** a spring clean and replenished its contents, thanks to a loan of jigsaws and books from the Borders Pet Rescue charity shop in Kelso. That initial loan has inspired parishioners to empty their attics and fill the phone box with still more books, puzzles, DVDs and games, for anyone to borrow. If you are house-bound and would like to borrow something from the phone box, the Parish Clerk can arrange for someone to deliver to you.

## Sign Up for Parish News and Information

Carham Parish Council publishes this newsletter twice a year, but if you have an email address you do not have to wait until the next issue to receive news and information from us.

- ❖ Go to the website [www.carhamparish.org](http://www.carhamparish.org)
- ❖ Find Follow News + Events on the right-hand side of the page
- ❖ Enter your email address in the box, and click Follow

You will receive an email from Carham Community Website with a link for you to confirm your subscription.

You will only receive information that is relevant to the parish that we think may be of interest or that you need to know. Visit the News + Events section of the website to get an idea of the kinds of items we post and how often we do so.

Carham Parish Council is an elected body in the first tier of local government. It is responsible for representing the interests of the whole community. Among other things, it is concerned with community safety, street lighting, common land, play areas, litter, tourism, traffic calming, seats and shelters, rights of way, and some aspects of planning and highways.

The Parish Council meets six times a year. Meetings are in alternate months beginning in May, on the second Tuesday of the month, in St Cuthbert's Church, Carham at 6.30pm. Anyone living or working in the parish can attend a meeting.

For the minutes of Carham Parish Council meetings, go to [www.carhamparish.org](http://www.carhamparish.org)