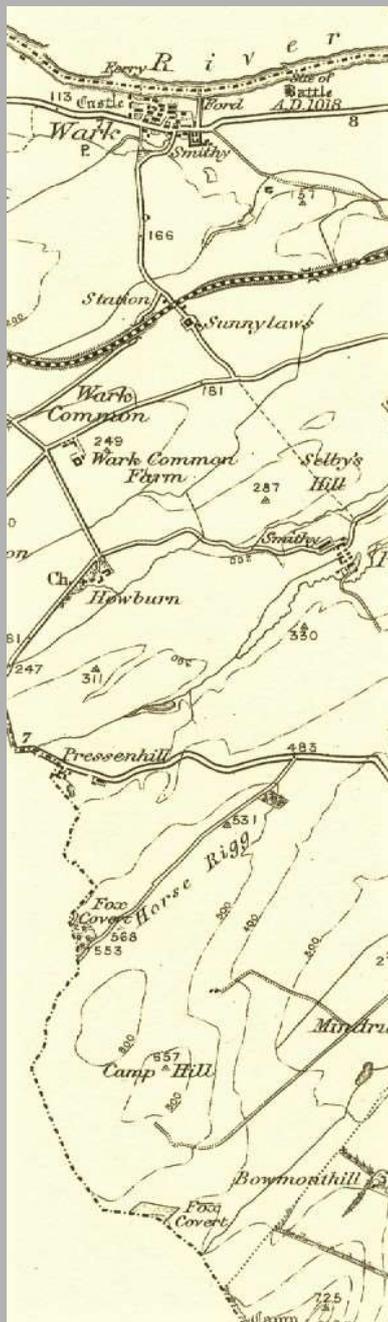


Carham Parish Council Newsletter

No 7 ~ December 2020



When the last newsletter was published in May, it was hard to believe that we would still be under Covid-19 restrictions at the end of the year. This continues to be a difficult time for everyone, but it has been heartening to hear how neighbours have been helping each other over these long months, and we know that there is now light at the end of the tunnel in the form of vaccines and improved methods of treatment for the virus. We very much hope that parish life will begin to return to normal in 2021. Until then we wish you a happy Christmas, however modest the celebrations may have to be this year.

Carham Parish Council

Home Alone?

We hope that no-one in the parish will feel isolated over the Christmas period. If you are unable to be with friends or family this year and are worried about being alone, or if you need help with practicalities such as shopping, please contact the Parish Clerk.

William Potts

After more than 50 years' service on the Parish Council, Councillor William Potts stood down in September. Mr Potts, who farms at **Shidlaw**, became a councillor in 1967, vice chair in 1991 and chair in 1993. He served as Parish Clerk between 2003 and 2014. His knowledge and his long experience have been invaluable to the Parish Council and we all owe him a huge debt of gratitude for his dedication to the parish.

Christmas Church Services

There will be a carol service at St Cuthbert's church, **Carham**, at 11.00 am on Sunday 20 December, and a Communion service there at 9.30 am on Christmas day. Both services are open to all people, of any faith or none. For further information, including details of Covid-19 precautions, contact the Church Warden, Peter Straker-Smith, on 01890 830 316.

Parish Council Records

Records held by the Parish Council go back one hundred years, to 1921. We have started scanning these minute books and will begin publishing the pages on the website next year, starting with the 1920s. If you would like to be alerted when the first batch of pages is available on the website, sign up to follow our posts:

- ❖ Go to the website 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 with a link for you to confirm your subscription.

Lost and Found

Having lost our play park inspector, Alan Cater, who decided to step down after six years of diligent service (see last newsletter), we have fortunately found someone to replace him. Councillor John Court of **Howburn** has volunteered to inspect the play park on a regular basis, to ensure that it remains a safe place for children to play. He will not be paid for carrying out the inspections.



Contact Us

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Carham Parish Council

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01890 850 336

Email
clerk@carhamparish.org

Website
www.carhamparish.org

Footpaths Group

No group walks have taken place this year, because of the stop-and-start nature of Covid-19 restrictions. Instead, the footpaths group's organiser, Janet Chubb, has decided to revisit some of the group's earlier walks, to check that the rights of way are still passable, and identify any problems. Her report on the first of these solo excursions, which started and finished in **Wark**, is on our website www.carhamparish.org/walks.

Carham 1018

We have a few copies available of *Carham 1018: The Battle, The Border & The Dawn of Two Nations*, written by The Battlefields Trust trustee Clive Hallam-Baker. The book's publication follows the millenary of the Battle of Carham that was marked by a successful battle re-enactment event in 2018. If you would like a copy of *Carham 1018* (subject to availability), please contact the Parish Clerk.

Covid-19 Tales

Healthwatch Northumberland is an independent organisation that exists to make sure that people's views on health and social care are heard. It would particularly like to hear about people's experience of accessing health and care services during the Covid-19 pandemic, but you can contact it about any experience you have had with NHS, health or social care services in the county. To contact Healthwatch Northumberland, call 03332 408 468 or email info@healthwatchnorthumberland.co.uk. The equivalent service in Scotland is Healthcare Improvement Scotland.

Free Trees

Northumberland County Council's offer of a free tree for every household was so successful when it was launched that all of the 15,000 available trees were ordered within a matter of days. The Council has said that it will take contact details for anyone who missed out and will give them priority when the scheme is repeated next year. If you do not have anywhere to plant a tree you will be offered a small cell grown shrub which you can plant in a container. Packs of trees are available for schools and community groups. To be added to next year's waiting list for a free tree contact climate@northumberland.gov.uk.

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