

# NGH Monthly Digest

May 2026

## News, Events, Updates and More!



### 1. NGH & Steering Group News

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Lots of us are busy with active projects and interests over the bright days of summer. Many with eye catching stalls and campaigns, helping people consider what their environment gives to their life. Beginning to change outlooks and choices is a challenge. Environment films such as Plastic Warriors, Derek v Derek are being broadcast within our communities, stimulating debate and challenging views. They are very welcome.

Let us know about your stalls and ideas. What works, how to grab attention and what messages you want to take home. It s good to share and will help us all do better. Either email NGH or stick it on one of our WhatsApp groups.

The next in person NGH event will take place on September 12th and is being organized by Ali Elly and Mike Powell. It aims to explore the use of art as a means of engaging people whilst at the same time promoting

reflection on water and all its many impacts on our local environment from the highest tarn to offshore regeneration. If anyone is interested in contributing to the event on some aspect of water, please get in touch with Mike on [m.powell@pop3.poptel.org.uk](mailto:m.powell@pop3.poptel.org.uk)

#### New Members

A big welcome to new members Jane, Helen and Kate – we hope you enjoy being part of NGH.

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### 2. Press Release: What a Wonderful World Festival 2026

The 5th annual Festival celebrating the Earth in arts, science and nature will take place from 25 - 28 June 2026 at Alnwick Playhouse and beyond.



The What a Wonderful World Festival brings a wide range of interesting events indoors and in the wild for every age to Alnwick, Rothbury, Hauxley, Berwick, Hepple and the College Valley.

*We aim to make sure people in our communities find lots of ways to help create a safer future for our children in light of the damage being done to our environment”* says Liz Anderson, Festival Co-Director.

Our festival weekend kicks off on Thursday 25th June with poetry and music in Rothbury led by Katrina Porteous. Friday sees Alnwick Youth Theatre and local sea scouts hit the stage with *All In the Same Boat* showing us how young people want us to manage the planet's future. On Saturday events will also take place in Berwick with *Green Fingers*, a theatre show for 4-11 year olds, a tour of Greener Berwick and a Repair Cafe. In Alnwick highlights include a talk and discussion when Dr Alan James, who featured on *Guy Martin's House without Bills* on Channel 4, and a panel of experts will explore how we can have lower energy bills and have warmer, healthier homes.

In Saturday evening's specially devised concert Jon Boden, winner of eleven BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards, presents *A Floodplain Trilogy*” weaving together contemporary reflections and sung narratives with light and hope amongst the darkness.

Exhibition Two professional artists (Anna Corbett and John Craggs) will work with local schoolchildren and adults to create artwork to be displayed around the Playhouse. John Craggs will help pupils at two primary schools design and create mosaics reflecting their thoughts on the natural world. Anna Corbett will help adult workshop participants create beautiful lanterns and garlands all from natural materials.

The annual Sing for the Planet workshop led by Alison Rushby followed by a concert will round off the festival on Sunday with Alnwick All Stars, Berwick's Golden Square Singers and Village Voices.

With the film *It'll Never Work*, *Poets Go Wild*, an Alnwick performance of *Green Fingers* and a range of exciting visits before the festival weekend, this year's event continues to show there are constructive and hopeful ways into the future.

This year we are inviting the public to send us a short poem they have written about the environment for publication in the Gazette and elsewhere. Whether it is a celebration of nature or concern for the future, we would love to share your poetry with our followers.

Send the poem to [info@whataww.com](mailto:info@whataww.com) by **16 June**.

For information on more of the Festival's exciting events and visits go to What a Wonderful World website [www.whataww.org](http://www.whataww.org) and follow us on Facebook @whatawwalnwick and Instagram [alnwick\\_www](https://www.instagram.com/alnwick_www)

Tickets and information from Alnwick Playhouse [alnwickplayhouse.co.uk](http://alnwickplayhouse.co.uk) 01665 660550

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### 3. Future Friendly Gardens: Wild Ideas We Should All Be Thinking About

Pip and I were inspired by the other speakers at the March NGH event—and by the number of people who came along, listened, and hopefully have already started trying out some of the ideas. If you couldn't be there, here's a short summary; more detail will be available soon on the NGH website alongside the presentation.

Our aim was to explore how gardening is evolving in response to climate change, ecological pressures, and shifting cultural values. We wanted it to feel both challenging and thought-provoking, combining our experiences with ideas gathered from recent national conferences in Sheffield and Manchester—and to leave a sense of inspiration as well as urgency.

We found that starting with our own gardens was an easy way into the conversation. We talked about Cath's small urban garden, developed over nearly four decades without a lawnmower, where wildlife



thrives through minimal intervention in a largely rented area. What some might see as neglect, we see as opportunity—a space of continual adaptation. Pip then shared her experience of a much larger former kitchen garden, now rich with wildlife, including barn owls. The contrast helps ground the ideas and reinforces a key message: future-friendly gardening isn't about scale; it's about mindset and approach.



We emphasised why change is necessary now. Drawing on ideas from leading horticultural thinkers, we challenged traditional priorities such as neatness, control, and uniformly fertile soil, instead highlighting resilience, biodiversity, and thoughtful resource use. Fertile topsoil, for example, can be seen as a limited resource best

prioritised for food production. Success might be measured less by visual perfection and more by ecological vitality - especially the presence of insects and other invertebrates.

We also explored the idea of rewilding (or 'wilding', as raised at the Manchester conference) in a practical way. Rather than abandoning gardens, it's about intentional design - working with natural systems. Lawns were gently critiqued as resource-heavy and limited in ecological value, with alternatives such as meadow planting or layered vegetation offering more sustainable options.

Climate adaptation was another key theme. Gardens were framed as important spaces for responding to environmental challenges, from extreme weather to biodiversity loss. Cath's work with green roofs helped extend the idea of what a "garden" can be, particularly in urban settings.

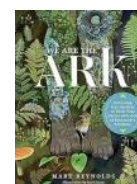
We finished with practical, accessible ideas: reducing soil disturbance, embracing less controlled aesthetics, planting for year-round ecological value, and rethinking how resources are used.

For further inspiration, **One Garden Against the World: In Search of Hope in a changing Climate** by Kate Bradbury offers a compelling and hopeful perspective.



These two are compelling reading as well.

**We Are the ARK: Returning Our Gardens to Their True Nature Through Acts of Restorative Kindness** by Mary Reynolds.



**Sustainable Garden :Projects, insights and advice for the eco-conscious gardener - Sustainable Living Series.** Marian Boswall(Author) Jason Ingram(Author)



Overall, we wanted to leave the impression that gardening is undergoing a necessary transformation. By shifting from control to collaboration with nature - and thinking in terms of stewardship rather than maintenance - gardens can play an active role in ecological recovery, making the future of gardening not only more sustainable, but also full of possibility.

Pip Sharp & Cath Basilio

## 4. Cleaner local beaches

The Marine Conservation Society (MCS) reported that from the 1,192 beach litter surveys submitted in 2025 by its volunteers, the three most common items found across the UK and Channel Islands were:

- Small plastic fragments, found on 86% of beaches;
- Single-use plastic wrappers, such as crisp, sweet and sandwich packaging, recorded on 80% of beaches;
- Plastic caps and lids, present on 83% of beaches.

*(First published in the Marine Conservation Society Your Ocean Magazine Spring Edition 2026.)*



### What can we do?

Every little action helps:

- Try and avoid on-the-go food packaging;
- Tie bin bags before putting into wheelie bins and use bin clips on wheelie bins to stop litter blowing away and littering the environment, or escaping down drains that lead eventually to the sea;
- Never flush single use wet wipes or other sanitary items - always put them in the bin;
- Come and help litter pick on the beach and collect data to support the MCS national survey.

A couple of MCS beach cleans will be organized over the summer. Keep an eye out in NGH /the Ambler / the Pelican for dates and locations.

### Did you know?

#### Northumberland County Council support Informal Volunteer Roles

Once you are signed up as an environmental volunteer, you will be covered by Northumberland County Council (NCC) insurance while you are out litter picking. For safety reasons, volunteers should not pick litter alongside roads where the speed limit is in excess of 30mph, as insurance cover does not apply in these locations.

They can provide all the equipment you need, including:

- Litter pickers
- Hi-visibility vests
- Gloves
- Litter bags

This is a flexible, informal volunteering opportunity that you can fit around your own time, helping to make a positive difference to your local environment.

[Volunteering | Northumberland County Council](#)

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## 5. Rural Heating Costs Continue to Rise

The heating oil crisis is continuing to hit rural communities hard, according to Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE).

Across its network, it has heard reports of real hardship, with many households seeing monthly heating oil bills more than double since the start of the war in the Middle East. ACRE has now submitted evidence to the **Competition and Markets Authority** to support its study into rising prices and is calling for targeted support.

If you or someone you know is **struggling with heating costs**, our **Energy Team** can help.

Contact [energy@ca-north.org.uk](mailto:energy@ca-north.org.uk) or 01670 517178 for advice and support.



## 6. Environmental projects receive financial boost

Good news: Seventeen groups and organisations are receiving funding of up to £5,000 from a pot of £50,000 to help them make sustainable changes; tackling climate change and improving their local environment.



- Alnmouth Village Golf
- Amble Youth project
- Ashington Town Council
- Choppington Parish Council
- Climate Action Wansbeck
- Cowpen Quay Community Association
- CPRE Northumberland
- Friends of Newbrough Primary School - Polytunnel
- Friends of Swansfield Park - Wild Swansfield: Growing climate stewards at Swansfield Park
- Go Local Food - Go Local food storage
- Grow Hexham (Hexham Town Council) - Fruitful Goings On
- Hexham Farmer's Market - Tynedale Local Food
- Morpeth Repair Café
- Northumberland Wildlife Trust - College Valley Peat and Climate Education Programme
- Prudhoe Community Partnership - Prudhoe Pollinators project
- Solidarity Farm CIC - Active travel for climate and community
- Whittingham PTA and Friends - Bike shed

For more details see:

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/news/environmental-projects-receive-financial-boost>

## 7. Updates from Groups

### Rothbury CAN

Rothbury CAN hosts events throughout the year to raise awareness and engage with our community. From workshops and seminars to tree-planting events, and community cleanups, there are many ways to get involved. Keep an eye on our calendar for upcoming events. We would love you to join us in our efforts to protect the environment.

Next meeting Thursday 21st May 7.00 pm Venue to be confirmed – see website

<https://rothburycan.co.uk>



### Greener Berwick

Join us for a screening of the film People's Emergency Briefing on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June, bringing together some of the UK's leading experts on climate and nature risks, and the implications for all of us.

Plus

- Volunteer Fair, Berwick Library, Friday 5 June, 10am-12 Noon
- Big Green Week 6-14 June

If anyone would like to help on the Greener Berwick stall at one of the above, for a one or two hours, please contact: [info@greenerberwick.org.uk](mailto:info@greenerberwick.org.uk)

You will be with other experienced Greener Berwick volunteers - we are very friendly and will help you with what to do!





### Coquet River Action Group

Last year we created a map plotting patches of Japanese Knotweed, Skunk Cabbage, Giant Hogweed and Himalayan Balsam throughout the Coquet river and its tributaries. Two volunteers are being trained up to tackle the difficult process of knotweed management. If you are aware of any patches of any invasive weeds please get in touch. We have an app you can use to help us [coquetriveractiongroup@outlook.com](mailto:coquetriveractiongroup@outlook.com)

Surfers against Sewage selected CRAG as one of only 3 River Groups in England to test for PFAS or Forever Chemicals at a point on the river. Forty PFAS chemicals indicated by the EA will be looked at. There is very little public information on testing of these chemicals in Northumberland rivers and we welcome this chance to add to the data. The EU has just bought in guidelines for PFAS levels. The UK are looking at developing these in the future .



### Amble Big Splash Bathing Water Status Celebration – 24th May

10.45am for 11am start Little Shore, Amble.

Fenwick Ridley ICE Viking will lead us into the Big Splash! Please come along and celebrate all the hard work and positive planning with CRAG Little Shore Bathing Water Status. Swimmers, Paddlers, Kayakers Paddle Boarders, Walkers and Admirers all welcome.

We also have Sandcastle competitions, Puffin kites and fun all afternoon.

See the Puffin Festival for details. Please come and join us and celebrate with a splash.



### Climate Action Wansbeck

CAW s project group Is the Wansbeck Alive is making good progress after receiving funding for water testing kits from Northumberland County Council. The group have been well supported with advice and on the 19th May a number of volunteer members will take part in a training session given by the Environment Agency. Over the coming year there will be other opportunities for CAW members to get involved with the project.

CAW has been invited to have a stall at the Ashington Tuesday Market (9th June) during Big Green Week. We will be talking about water quality and the Wansbeck and having the regular plant swap.

The CAW reading group at Morpeth Poetry library (first Tuesday of the month 7.00-8.30pm) will be discussing a chosen podcast from the BBC The Climate Question in May. We will also be joined by In June we will be reviewing The Green Ages by Annette Kehnel - a book about sustainability in the Medieval ages. If you re able to, come and join our sessions, there s always lively chat and a cup of coffee.

- Our regular monthly meeting in will be changed to Thursday 21st May at the White Swan (check for venue confirmation) as the river training will be on the 19th May.
- Our June meeting will be as usual on the third Tuesday (19th) at the White Swan.

## Greener Amble Network

Greener Amble Network are exploring how we develop and set up as a group. One of the options is to become a Local Action Group of Friends of the Earth. We are currently recruiting a steering group and developing a formal constitution.

If anyone is interested in helping us develop our group, please come to the next meeting on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May when Carla Doran the North-East Organiser for Friends of the Earth is joining us to answer questions etc. If you would like more information, please contact [Sue.greeneramble@gmail.com](mailto:Sue.greeneramble@gmail.com)

On 17th June: Martina from the Stronger Shores project will be giving an update.

Stronger Shores <https://strongershores.com> has been working in our area and supported creative projects in Amble linked to their exciting work. This is to make the British Coastline and communities stronger in the face of flooding, coastal erosion and climate change.

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## Full Circle Food Project

Full Circle Food Project have an award winning community garden based in Hirst Park Ashington. We hold 4 weekly garden groups -

- Mondays 10 - 1 and 1-3
- Wednesdays 10 - 12 and 1-3



We are always looking for volunteers to come along and help us grow tasty fruit & veggies.

<https://fcfp.org.uk/>

### **Urgent**

We are looking for speakers or organizations for our Sensory Garden open day which is being held on Tuesday May 26th 11 – 3. Please get in touch if you'd like a space or know someone that can give a talk on bees/butterflies/wildlife/biodiversity/ natural spaces etc. Email: [info@fcfp.org.uk](mailto:info@fcfp.org.uk)

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## DID YOU KNOW?

### **Alnwick Area Friends of the Earth have been busy!**

- We've run an environmental question time, a networking event - Plant for the Planet- with other Northeast environmental groups, and several hustings for local and national elections
- We regularly lobby local and national politicians on environmental and nature issues
- We've shown several environmental films, planted thousands of tree saplings, done litter picks and beach cleans
- We supported the successful Save Druridge Campaign against a proposed open cast site in Druridge Bay
- We work with schools and young people on environmental and nature projects
- We campaign nationally and internationally as part of Friends of the Earth National



**We are a small group with big ideas – we've done a lot but want to do more and need more people to be involved..**

**This is where you come in..**

Do you have ongoing concerns about the climate emergency, the environment and nature and want to do something about it?

If so, come and join us


**Contact us on [contact@alnwickfoe.org.uk](mailto:contact@alnwickfoe.org.uk) or see <https://www.alnwickfoe.org.uk/>**


## 8. Events

### Amble Women s Workshop – Wednesday Environment Group

We use our community garden and outside structures as a space where women can work together and relax in therapeutic surroundings. We are sowing, growing, harvesting and cooking together as well trying out practical skills like woodworking, laying foundations, using willow. Everyone is welcome on Wednesdays from 11am-3pm if you need any further info contact Angela on [angela@womensworkshop.net](mailto:angela@womensworkshop.net) for more information or an informal chat.

 **Date:** Wednesdays

 **Time:** 11am – 3pm


 **Venue:** Women s Workshop, Coquet Enterprise Park, Amble

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### Guided walk at Wallington: River Walk

Find out where the Great Wallington Railway ran and learn how we re creating homes for wildlife across the estate. The walk is 2.6 miles (4.2km) and will take roughly 1 hour 30 minutes. A leisurely walk suitable for beginners/ intermediate level of fitness.

 **Date:** Tuesday 12th May

 **Time:** 11-12.30pm

 **Venue:** Wallington Hall


<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/north-east/wallington/events/efb1dfa2-e60c-496f-9a64-fc09f7e804f2>


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### Botany walk on Holy Island

Acclaimed author Carole Wilson will lead a 2 hour walk highlighting the distinctive flora of Holy Island

 **Date:** Thursday 14th May

 **Time:** 10am

 **Venue:** the Glebe field, Lindisfarne, see link below

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1HsrGRoJrm/?mibextid=wwXlfr>


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### Hauxley Wildlife Talks: Cetaceans in North East England

Join Dr Martin Kitching, North East Cetacean Project Coordinator to learn about the 21 different species of cetacean in North East England



 **Date:** Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May

 **Time:** 3.30-5pm

 **Venue:** Hauxley Wildlife Discovery Centre, Low Hauxley, Northumberland, NE65 0JR

Talks are free but a donation could be considered.




<https://www.nwt.org.uk/events/2026-05-16-hauxley-wildlife-talks-cetaceans-north-east-england>

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### Making Peatlands Work for Lepidoptera ID & Survey Training Day

This training session is for volunteers who would like to carry out peatland butterfly and moth surveys on North Northumberland sites this summer, as part of the Making Peatlands Work for Lepidoptera project. These sessions are ideal for those new to peatland butterfly & moth identification and timed count/transect surveys.

-  **Date:** Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May  
 **Time:** 10.30 – 2.30pm  
 **Venue:** Bowsden Village Hall with site visit to Ford Moss

Booking essential - register your interest email Charlotte: [crankin@butterfly-conservation.org](mailto:crankin@butterfly-conservation.org)




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**Northumberland  
Wildlife Trust**




### Conservation grazing event

How livestock can be used as a tool for nature recovery on land, small nature reserves and larger landscape projects. There will be a series of talks from Flexigraze, Monil, Lifescape, Wild Kielder, Juliet Rogers and NWT's Lee Rankin, followed by some time for questions and networking

-  **Date:** Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026  
 **Time:** 17:30 - 20:30  
 **Venue:** Longframlington Village Hall, Northumberland  
<https://www.nwt.org.uk/events/2026-05-21-conservation-grazing-event>
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### Tumbling Tomatoes Workshop


Learn how to grow juicy, homegrown tomatoes in a hanging basket

-  **Date:** Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026  
 **Time:** 1 - 2:30pm  
 **Venue:** Full Circle Project, The Growing Zone, Hirst Park, Ashington  
<https://fcfp.org.uk/> Booking essential
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### Rockpool Rookies






Save our water, come along to sample simple ideas that will save you pennies and improve your impact on water quality.

-  **Date:** Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May  
 **Time:** 3pm  
 **Venue:** Newbiggin Maritime Centre  
<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/187BKWnKoh/?mibextid=wwXlfr>
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### Hidden in plain sight

Charlie Bennet is a regular in the Northumbrian magazine and writes about nature and sustainable farming. His farm near Hartburn is a haven for wildlife.



<https://www.middleton-north.co.uk/the-concept/>

-  **Date:** Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May  
 **Time:** 7pm  
 **Venue:** St Andrews church, Hartburn NE61 4JB  
Tickets £10 contact [charlie.bennett@middleton-north.co.uk](mailto:charlie.bennett@middleton-north.co.uk)  
<https://www.middleton-north.co.uk/the-concept/>

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## The Big Green Event

The 5<sup>th</sup> Big Event with activities, stalls, and information

-  **Date:** Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May
-  **Time:** 10 – 4pm
-  **Venue:** Jubilee Hall, Rothbury






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## CAW s regular reading session

Meeting on the first Tuesday of each month 7.00 - 9.00. Join us for a coffee/tea (bring a reusable cup if you have one) and a lively discussion. Look out for the topic and date in our newsletter or on Facebook or contact us at [climateactionwansbeck@gmail](mailto:climateactionwansbeck@gmail.com)






-  **Date:** Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June
-  **Time:** 7-8.30pm
-  **Venue:** Morpeth Poetry Library

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## Northumberland Organic Market

Organic fruit and veg, bread, coffee, flowers, food trucks and more




-  **Date:** Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June.
-  **Time:** 4-8pm
-  **Venue:** Rennington Village Hall.



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## Hefted! Upland Farming Heritage in the Cheviots, 7-9.30pm,

Rothbury CAN present an update on Cheviots: Spreading the Word. This is a multidisciplinary heritage initiative led by Professor Chris Gerrard from the Department of Archaeology at Durham University.

-  **Date:** Friday 5th June.
-  **Time:** 7-9.30pm
-  **Venue:** Jubilee Hall Rothbury




<https://rothburycan.co.uk/events/hefted-upland-farming-heritage-in-the-cheviots/>

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## Marvellous moths

Moths talk at Hauxley Discovery Centre, look at the moths we'd expect to find at this time of year before opening up the moth traps and putting our identification skills to the test.




-  **Date:** Friday 5th June.
  -  **Time:** 9-11am
  -  **Venue:** Hauxley Wildlife Discovery Centre, Low Hauxley,
- Talks are free but a donations are welcome.


[www.nwt.org.uk/events/2026-06-05-marvellous-moths](http://www.nwt.org.uk/events/2026-06-05-marvellous-moths)


### Amble Climate Cafe

Amble's very first Climate Cafe. This is not a lecture or a formal meeting; it's a chance to gather with like-minded people. The Climate Cafe is a space to share ideas, dream up local projects, and find ways to support each other. It's about community resilience and collective action. Whether you have a big project idea or just want to listen and connect, your voice is always welcome. Together is what we do.

Why join us? We are facing big challenges, but we don't have to face them alone. By coming together to watch, talk, and listen, we can turn anxiety into action and ideas into reality.

 Date: Sunday 7th June.

 Time: 2-4pm

 Venue: Drywater Arts


<https://www.drywaterarts.uk/pop-up-event/climatecafe>


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### Amble Women's Workshop - Simple Willow Basket Making

Make a simple willow basket, beginners welcome

 Date: Wednesday 10th June

 Time: 10am – 2pm

 Venue: Women's Workshop, Coquet Enterprise Park, Amble

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/making-a-simple-willow-basket-tickets-1986982806061?aff=oddtcreator>

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### Friends of the Earth X Baltic: The Midsummer Gathering

We'd love to invite friends and supporters of the Northumberland Green Hub to The Midsummer Gathering, brought to you by Friends of the Earth X Baltic, on **Friday 20 June, 10:30–17:00, at the Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art in Gateshead.**


This year's gathering is proudly part of Refugee Week, and the day will conclude with evening celebrations hosted by Baltic.


Free food will be provided throughout the day. Book your free place: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-north-east-summer-gathering-tickets-1981747238337?aff=oddtcreator>

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### Wayfinders Pond Surveying - Hepple, Northumberland

A free hands-on day exploring pond ecology for young people aged 18-30 interested in improving your career skill set, or just learning nature skills for the sheer joy of it!

 Date: Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July

 Time: 10-4pm

 Venue: Hepple Estate, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE65 7LN

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/wayfinders-pond-surveying-hepple-northumberland-tickets-1987684655311?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

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## 9. Repair Cafe

### **Coquetdale Repair Café – Saturday May 25th, Jubilee Hall Rothbury 10.00-2.00pm**

Book your repair on our website [www.coquetrepair.co.uk](http://www.coquetrepair.co.uk) or pick up a form in the Rothbury RSPCA shop. Booking really helps us get the right volunteers in place. Email [info@coquet-repair.co.uk](mailto:info@coquet-repair.co.uk). Tea and cakes available.

### **Greener Berwick Zero Waste Group Repair Café – Saturday May 30<sup>th</sup>, 10-1pm at The Salvation Army Hall, 53 Church Street, BERWICK-UPON-TWEED, TD15 1EE.**

Darning, sewing repairs, toys, phone software, computer software, blade sharpening, general repairs. The repair café runs on the last Saturday of every month, same venue, and same time. Repairs are free but donations very welcome. Tea, coffee and cake provided by Northern Soul Kitchen (Zero Waste).

If you've got a skill and want to experience the thrill of community repairing, please get in touch. We're always looking for volunteers and you don't have to be a professional. All skills welcome. Visit <https://www.greenerberwick.org.uk/repair-cafe>.

**Berwick Tool Library** is also now operating. Visit <https://berwicktoollibrary.myturn.com> or contact [info@greenerberwick.org.uk](mailto:info@greenerberwick.org.uk) for more details.

Brought to you by Greener Berwick and kindly supported by Berwick-upon-Tweed Town Council and NCC Climate Fund. For information contact [info@greenerberwick.org.uk](mailto:info@greenerberwick.org.uk) and put FAO Repair Cafe Team in the Subject heading.

### **Amble Repair Café – is bimonthly, the next session is Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2.30 – 4.30pm, Dry Water Arts in Amble.**

Volunteer repairers cover sewing, darning, toys, small electrical appliances, sharpening, ceramics and small items of furniture. Enjoy tea and cake while you wait for your repair. For further information please see: <https://www.drywaterarts.uk/pop-up-event/repair-cafe>

### **Morpeth Repair Café – Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June, 9.30 – 12.30, Wellspring Church Hall, Dark Lane.**

Repairs for electrical items, clothing, toys and mechanical items.

### **Warkworth Repair Café – Warkworth Repair Cafe Saturday 13th June and 15th August 10am-2pm.**

Memorial Hall Castle Street Warkworth. Electrical, woodwork and sewing repairs. Also computer support and magazine swap.



## 10. Funding

### **The North East Environment Fund and The Lawrence Campbell Community First Fund**



Grants for Environmental Activities that provide access to the environment, community involvement, raise awareness and tackle the issues facing the environmental and climate change.

The Fund supports grassroots projects that protect and enhance the natural environment across the region, enabling practical solutions that deliver lasting benefits for both people and place. The Fund prioritises projects that deliver practical, locally driven solutions to environment challenges, strengthen community capacity and encourage long-term stewardship of the natural environment.

<https://www.communityfoundation.org.uk/grants/grants-for-environmental-activities/>

### **Free Trees for Schools and Communities**

The Woodland Trust is giving away free packs of native trees. The packs come in a variety of sizes and any educational establishment, all kinds of local authorities and not-for-profit community groups can apply.

visit [Free Trees for Schools and Communities - Woodland Trust](https://www.woodlandtrust.co.uk/free-trees-for-schools-and-communities/).

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## Veolia Environmental Trust

The Habitat and Biodiversity Grant Scheme funds projects that improve habitats, creating healthy environments for native species. The projects should aim to protect biodiversity and create sustainable, carbon-neutral spaces.

The minimum grant request is £10,000. Whilst project sites can be accessible to the public, projects should not be for community use. Next funding window opens on 20th August 2026

For more information visit [Funding - Veolia Environmental trust](#)

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## 11. June 2026 Digest – Copy Deadline

The deadline for the next edition is **June 10th 2026** but you can send items for the Digest at any time to [northumberlandgreenhub@gmail.com](mailto:northumberlandgreenhub@gmail.com)

*To ALL contributors to this month s Digest and those working behind the scenes - you know who you are, and your efforts made pulling this edition together so much easier.*

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## 12. Summary of Events

(See Events section for full details)

<b>May</b>	
12 <sup>th</sup>	Guided walk at Wallington: River Walk, 11-12.30pm, Wallington Hall
14 <sup>th</sup>	Botany walk on Holy Island, 10am, Lindisfarne
14 <sup>th</sup>	The Green Table in Berwick on Tweed, 11-12pm, Berwick Voluntary Centre.
16 <sup>th</sup>	Amble Repair Café, 2.30 – 4.30pm, Drywater Arts
16 <sup>th</sup>	Hauxley Wildlife Talks: Cetaceans in North East England
21 <sup>st</sup>	Conservation grazing event, Longframlington Village Hall, 17.30 - 20.30
24 <sup>th</sup>	Rockpool Rookies, 3pm Newbiggin Maritime Centre
25 <sup>th</sup>	Coquetdale Repair Café, 10-2pm, Jubilee Hall, Rothbury
28 <sup>th</sup>	Hidden in Plain Sight talk, 7pm Hartburn
28 <sup>th</sup>	Bees & Birds - recycled materials, 10-12 Berwick Library
30 <sup>th</sup>	Greener Berwick Zero Waste Group Repair Café, 10-1pm, The Salvation Army Hall
30 <sup>th</sup>	The Big Green Event, 10-4pm Jubilee Hall, Rothbury
<b>June</b>	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	CAW Reading Session, 7-9pm, Morpeth
5 <sup>th</sup>	Northumberland Organic and Local Market, 4-8pm, Rennington Village Hall
5 <sup>th</sup>	Hefted! Upland Farming Heritage in the Cheviots, 7-9.30pm, Jubilee Hall Rothbury CAN
5 <sup>th</sup>	Greener Berwick Volunteer Fair, 10-12, Berwick Library,
5 <sup>th</sup>	Marvellous Moths, 9-11am, Hauxley Wildlife Discovery Centre, Low Hauxley

6 <sup>th</sup>	Morpeth Repair Café, 9.30 – 12.30pm, Wellspring Church Hall
6-14 <sup>th</sup>	Berwick Big Green Week
10 <sup>th</sup>	Simple Willow Basket Making, The Women’s Workshop, Amble
12 <sup>th</sup>	Litter pick Hadston, details tbc will be on Warkworth Green Matters website / NGH groups
13 <sup>th</sup>	Warkworth Repair Café, 10-2pm,
20 <sup>th</sup>	Friends of the Earth X Baltic: The Midsummer Gathering, 10.30-5pm, The Baltic, Gateshead
25-28 <sup>th</sup>	What a Wonderful World Festival, Alnwick
27 <sup>th</sup>	Coquetdale Repair Café, 10-2pm Jubilee Hall, Rothbury
27 <sup>th</sup>	Greener Berwick Zero Waste Group Repair Café, 10-1pm, The Salvation Army Hall

### 13. Regular Meetings

- Climate Action Wansbeck meet on the third Tuesday of the month. Contact [Climateactionwansbeck@gmail.com](mailto:Climateactionwansbeck@gmail.com)
- Climate Action Wansbeck Climate Reading Group. Morpeth Library - first Tuesday of the month
- Greener Amble Network next meets 20th May at Amble Youth Project, Dilston Terrace NE65 0DT from 6.30 for 7.00 – 8.45pm
- Rothbury CAN next meeting Thursday 21st May 7.00 pm Venue to be confirmed – see website <https://rothburycan.co.uk>