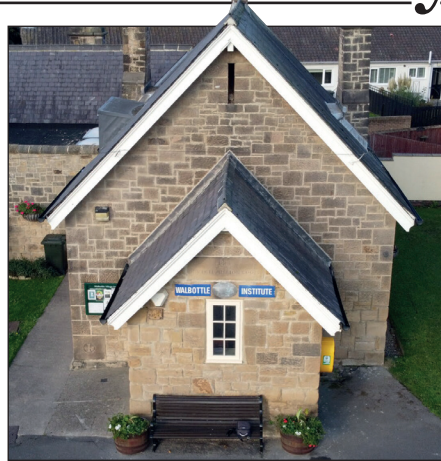


Designated Place Of Safety

We have had a planned visit from a representative of the council to formalise that Walbottle Village Institute will be used as a Designated Place of Safety in the event of evacuation if a major emergency situation develops.

This reinforces that the Volunteers who make up the Board of Trustees of the Institute are committed to the safety and well-being of every resident of Walbottle and surrounding areas. Upholding this commitment requires planning and practice to respond to an emergency affecting the Village. The need for this formality and a designated place of safety was brought to our attention during the wildfires of 2022. The WVI will act as a warm place where support and help will be available for all. It will also be a communication and coordination centre for the Emergency Services.

The goals of the Board of Trustees of Walbottle Village Institute in responding to an emergency include:



- The safety of all Residents of Walbottle Village and surrounding areas
- The physical and emotional well-being of all residents of Walbottle Village and surrounding areas.
- To provide a communication hub for Emergency Services
- To aid the timely stabilization of an emergency situation

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Film Night With Pie & Peas Supper



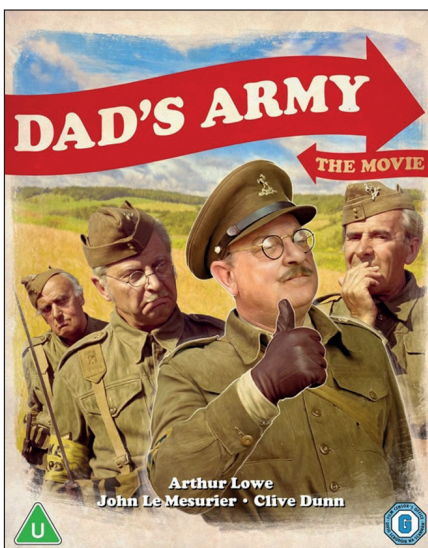
We will be holding a Pie & Peas Supper evening on Saturday, 6 April from 5:30pm for a 6pm start at the Village Institute as a fundraiser for our upcoming summer Walbottle D-Day events.

Tickets are £6 per person and includes supper, a choice of meat or vegetable pies followed by the 1971 classic movie, *Dad's Army* shown on the big screen. There will also be a Dad's Army quiz and free prize draw for ticket holders. All proceeds will be used to help fund our 6th and 9th June D-Day Anniversary events.

With a maximum capacity of 36 people, tickets will be distributed on a 'first come, first served' basis so place your ticket orders soon.

To order your tickets please use the online form on the news page of our website at walbottlevillagetra.co.uk/news/ or complete the order form on the leaflet you'll have received through your door.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Constituency Boundary Changes

In 2023 there was a 'Review of Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries in England'. This required new seats to be nearly identical in terms of the number of electors in each seat.

After proposals, revisions, consultations and some opposition the decision was made to include Callerton & Throckley wards (including Walbottle) in the Hexham constituency.

Hexham has been represented since 2010 by Conservative, Guy Opperman.

D-Day Anniversary Events



This year marks the 80th Anniversary of Operation Neptune, commonly referred to as D-Day which took place on 6 June 1944, and formed part of the Normandy landings, codenamed Operation Overlord, during World War II, initiating the Western Allied effort to liberate western Europe from Nazi Germany.

D-Day brought together the land, air, and sea forces of the allied armies in what became known as the largest amphibious invasion in military history. The operation delivered five naval assault divisions to the beaches of Normandy, France.

Operation Overlord landed some 156,000 Allied soldiers on the beaches of Normandy by the end of the day.

Despite their success, some 4,000 Allied troops were killed by German soldiers defending the beaches. At the time, the D-Day invasion was the largest naval, air and land operation in history, and within a few days about 326,000 troops, more than 50,000 vehicles and some 100,000 tons of equipment had landed.

By August 1944, all of northern France had been liberated, and in spring of 1945 the Allies had defeated the Germans.

D-Day is often referred to by historians as the beginning of the end of World War II.



COMMEMORATION EVENT: THURSDAY 6 JUNE, 8PM - 10PM



We will be commemorating D-Day at the Village Institute and on the village green. The date is also National Fish & Chips Day and we will be providing forty subsidised fish and chip suppers for those who purchase vouchers in advance. All are welcome and we look forward to seeing you. At the time of going to press, the schedule of events for Thursday evening are:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 8:00PM: Welcome address | 8:55PM: Walbottle Choir, five songs. |
| 8:05PM: Proclamation | 9:15PM: International Tribute and beacon lighting synchronised with national and Hadrian's Wall beacon lighting |
| 8:15PM: Fish & Chips, tea and coffee | 9:30PM: Piper and close |
| 8:30PM: Piper | |



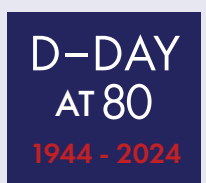
Fish and Chip vouchers cost £2 each. We have forty vouchers, to be sold on a 'first come, first served' basis, available to order using the online form via our website news page at: walbottlevillage.co.uk/news/

CELEBRATION EVENT: SUNDAY 9 JUNE, 12 NOON - 4PM



A family event will be held on Sunday afternoon at the Village Institute and on the village green with a range of activities and entertainment for adults and children. There'll be a fancy dress theme of World War II evacuees for the event. Activities include face painting, photo and information booths, with food from Walbotl Coffee House and Frosty's Fish and Chips from 2pm to 4pm. At the time of going to press, the schedule of events for Sunday afternoon are:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 12:00PM: Event starts | 3:00PM: Childrens Parade and Prizes |
| 1:00PM: Tea, coffee and refreshments from Walbotl Coffee House | 3:30PM: Raffle prize draw |
| 2:00PM: Walbottle Choir | 3:50PM: Beacon lighting |
| Frosty's Fish and Chips van | 4:00PM: Close |



The Mysterious Discovery Found In A Block Of Coal

Did you know that in August 1902 a three tonne block of coal donated by North Walbottle pit to Aberdeen Hospital was paraded through the streets of Aberdeen on the back of a lorry.

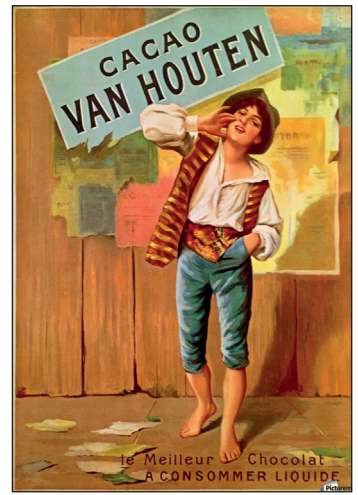
Aberdonians were amazed at the size of the lump of coal. When it finally reached its destination and the coal broken open, spectators were even more amazed at what was found inside. In the middle of the block was an intact glass container.

An onlooker said the container must have been placed in a tree some 200 million years ago. Some started crying while others prayed a few thought it was a message from aliens but the truth was more prosaic. The glass container turned out to be a common beer bottle with a message inside.

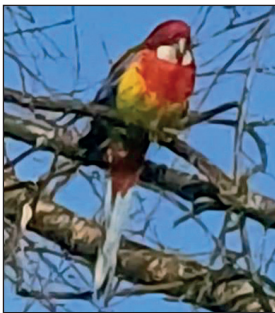
The message was written by Mr William Probert who lived at 28 Millfield Lane Newburn and worked at North Walbottle pit as a miner. He wrote the following:

"June 18th 1902, North Walbottle Colliery. Would the finder of this message kindly publish it in the Newcastle Evening Chronicle where they found it as we don't know where this block of coal is going to. When you get up in the morning, if you are a miner or not, take a cup full of Van Houten's cocoa as it will help you through your toil. I take Van Houten's every morning and it does me the world of good. Van Houten's cocoa is the most nourishing, digestible and delicious of all Cocoa."

There was nothing mysterious about finding the bottle in the block. The miner had bored a hole, inserted the bottle and filled the hole back up with coal. What a comedian!



Missing Parrot Spotted In Walbottle



There have been several sightings of a macaw parrot in Walbottle over the past few weeks.

Named Rosella, the parrot has been lost for two weeks. Her owners are concerned for Rosella's welfare and are desperate to have her back home with her partner bird who is calling for her. She has been spotted in both Fenham and Walbottle.

If you see Rosella or manage to capture her please contact Desiree Jansen on 07723 261493.

Fibre Installation

CityFibre recently completed fibre installations in Lemington Rise. We are waiting to find out when roadworks will begin in Walbottle. Please check the Facebook group or news section of our website for updates.



Neighbourhood Watch

There have been several group posts about thefts from outbuildings and car doors being tried in Walbottle. Please ensure you lock-up and don't leave valuable items visible in your car.



Open Meeting Update

An open meeting was held on Tuesday, 23rd January, items discussed on the agenda included:

- Replacing trip hazard stones on the road corners opposite the Percy Arms.
- Repair status of the path near Walbottle brick works.
- Schedule of roadworks for City Fibre telecoms installations in Walbottle.
- Considering options to improve the road layout at the top of Walbottle Road and the levels of traffic outside local schools.
- What Council Tax budget for the Community Fund is being allocated to Walbottle and strategic objectives.
- Council grass cutting of the green and paving maintenance due to tree roots at The Paddock.

The next meeting is at the Village Institute at 7pm on Tuesday, 16 April 2024. If you have an interest in, or opinion on the above items or anything Walbottle related please attend the meeting, all are welcome.

D-Day Event Volunteers

Without our volunteers we wouldn't be able to organise community events. If you have time and would like to help volunteer with event preparations or stewarding for our 6th and 9th June events please email newsletter@walbottlevillageetra.co.uk.

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter, provide feedback or advertise, please contact us by email: newsletter@walbottlevillageetra.co.uk

Follow us on Facebook.

Local Playgroups

Do you have children aged 0-5? If you have then this might be of interest to you. There are plenty of parent and toddler groups (city-wide) on the NAPI website:

www.napi.org.uk/parent-and-toddler-group-support/

It classes our area as Callerton & Throckley, with separate pages for Lemington and Chapel/West Denton.

Village Gardening

Our dedicated gardening volunteers will be planting up the flower beds on the green and barrel tubs in patriotic red, white and blue for the upcoming D-Day celebrations. We continue to do our best, but are always looking for volunteers to join in or do on their own initiative.

While specific dates are yet to be confirmed due to weather conditions, updates will be shared on our Facebook Page, or you're invited to join us if you spot us in action!

Planting annuals is scheduled for early June, and any assistance you could offer with tidying and weeding beds/tubs mid-May would be much appreciated.

A big thank you to the parents and children who helped plan bulbs back in November. You may have already seen some of their flowers popping up beginning to bloom.

Exposed HV Cable

Chronicle Live have recently reported on the high voltage cable exposed near the public footpath on the former Walbottle-Blucher waggonway with Urban Green and Northern Powergrid insisting there is no danger to the public.

You can read the full article online at:

www.chroniclelive.co.uk/news/north-east-news/high-voltage-cable-exposed-walbottle-28777654

Calendar Dates



Saturday, 6 April • 5:30pm for 6pm start until 8pm
Pie & Peas Supper, film night, quiz and prize draw.

Sunday, 7 April • 10:30am - 12:00 noon
Food Bank collection at the Village institute.

Tuesday, 16 April • 7pm
WVT&RA open meeting at the Village Institute. All welcome.

Thursday, 6 June • 8pm - 10pm
D-Day Commemoration event.

Sunday, 9 June • 12 noon - 4pm
D-Day Celebration event.

Sunday, 7 July • 10:30am - 12:00 noon
Food Bank collection at the Village institute.

Please check the residents WhatsApp group, our Facebook group and the website for updates.



Riverside
Falconry

Contact John:
07803 821487
[facebook.com/
riversidefalconryNE](https://www.facebook.com/riversidefalconryNE)

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WALBOTL
COFFEE
HOUSE

- Dine-in & Take-out
- Dog Friendly



OPENING HOURS:

MONDAY: CLOSED
TUESDAY: 09:00 - 15:00
WEDNESDAY: 09:00 - 15:30
THURSDAY: 09:00 - 15:30
FRIDAY: 09:00 - 15:30
SATURDAY: 09:00 - 16:00
SUNDAY: 10:00 - 15:00

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Website and email campaign design and development

Presentations and technical illustration

Video editing, animation for presentations and social media

Chris Jones: 07980 157373 | clockwork-design.co.uk | clockwork.design
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