



**CENTENARY
YEAR
2024**

CITY AND COUNTY

The Journal of the Northumberland & Newcastle Society.

Autumn 2024



NORTHUMBERLAND & NEWCASTLE SOCIETY

CORPORATE MEMBERS

AINSWORTH SPARK ASSOCIATES



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EDITORIAL

The Exhibition Park Bandstand

Every Monday morning your Editor goes sketching with a group of friends and one week stopped to admire and sketch the bandstand in Exhibition Park. He also remembers it being used for concerts, when he was a student in the late sixties. It was built in 1875 by the MacFarlane Saracen Foundry of Glasgow as a local feature of the Bull Park. The design was unusual, as it was bespoke rather than assembled from a kit of castings sold from a catalogue. Other bandstands from MacFarlane in the region can be seen at South Marine Park, South Shields and the Sele at Hexham. Many bandstands



declined after the war years, and from 1945 many were demolished. In 1997 the Heritage Lottery Fund began investing in the restoration of public parks and gardens, triggering a revival of the bandstand. This example was refurbished in 2014, and even though the setting has been compromised by the addition of the motorway, it still provides a much-loved focal point in the park.



Iain Elliott

We have only recently learned that one of our Life Members, Iain Elliott, had died in 2022. Iain hosted many of our County Committee meetings in his beautiful Pele Tower home, where we really enjoyed meeting, and benefiting from his warm welcome and knowledgeable input into County Committee affairs. He also hosted a Society visit to the Pele Tower, with fascinating background stories into its history. Iain was

a past Chair of Longhorsley PC, and a campaigner on local housing.

His widow, Liz has generously given the Society a legacy in his memory and provided this insight into his 'off duty' life:

This photo shows Iain beside our narrowboat, Teasel. This was built for us in 1995 and we sailed it regularly until October 2021. Iain had enjoyed narrowboat holidays since his student days, when he and friends used to hire former working boats and often got stuck, having to dig themselves out, because the canals then were so little used and poorly maintained. His work took up so much of his time and energy that the boat was one of his few sources of relaxation; as he said, "When steering, if your mind wandered, the boat wandered." He is sipping a glass of wine, his favourite tippie.



NIGEL JENKINS – Editor

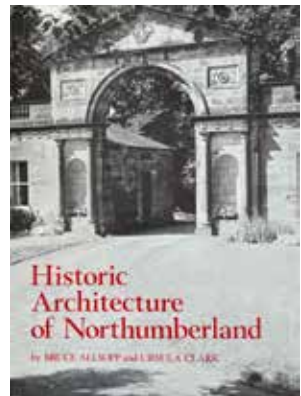
Letter

Dear Jackie

I'm a photo-historian researching the Northumberland publisher Oriel Press, who the N&N collaborated with on various titles in the 1960s and 1970s.

I wondered if any current members have any memories or knowledge of working with Bruce Allsopp and Ursula Clark on, for example, 'Historic Architecture of Newcastle upon Tyne' (1967) and 'Historic Architecture of Northumberland' (1969)?

Your centenary event at Kirkharle is one that I hope to attend and I would be interested in meeting anyone who can help my research who might also be there. Any help or pointers would be gratefully received.



Best wishes,

Dr. David Barber

Editor: David did indeed visit the Centenary Party. If anyone has any memories from this era, please contact Jackie.

COUNTY MATTERS

Our Old Police Stations

There are several old police stations in Northumberland that were built in the late 1880s for the old Northumberland County Constabulary. Many of those former police stations were still being used until relatively recently, and some have been adopted for new uses. These buildings were important to the local communities they served, and many will be lost through time as I doubt many are listed.



Alnwick

As Northumbria Police built new stations that met the demands of modern-day policing, the old stations were either demolished (such as Gosforth Police Station which was not listed though built in the 1880s, and has flats on its old site) or sold and repurposed. The following still exist and look pretty much as they originally did, albeit without police signage, although as business premises they do display the current signage:



Blyth

Whittingham Village Police House, Station and Court House. It is now a private home but the original police building is still as it was when built.

Wooler Police Station and Court House in Church Street, built in the mid-1800s, is also a private home.

Bedlington Police Station, Front Street, now accommodates a business, as does **Newburn Police Station**, Newburn Road, which was a local authority office until the boundaries were changed.

Blyth Police Station, Bridge Street, is boarded up.

Morpeth Police Station, Castle Square, originally part of the Morpeth Prison designed by John Dobson, is the subject of a planning application to be developed as luxury flats.

Pilgrim Street Police Station / Fire Station in Newcastle city centre is proposed to become a fascinating hotel incorporating original features.

Alnwick and Berwick Police Stations are still in use by the police.



Morpeth



Wooler

Robert Pattison

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

Centenary book:

Our City, Our County: the first 100 years of The Northumberland and Newcastle Society

The book is starting to become a reality and initial drafts look fantastic. A huge thank you to Suzanne Stanley and Ray Huntly who have been very busy editing and laying out the submissions for Newcastle and North Tyneside. At the time of writing, we are about to move onto Northumberland, and will be pulling together some short essays on a range of topics including a potted history of the N&N Society and our involvement in key planning issues over the decades.

Further updates will be sent via email and uploaded to the website, including confirmation of the launch date (planned for 23rd October at the RGS lecture) and how to reserve or order your copy.

A member couple has very kindly donated £500 towards the cost of producing the book – if you'd like to donate to this important one-off cause, please let me know.

A warm welcome to our newest members:

Matthew Dehaty

David and Marjorie Rochester

Eric Morgan

Funding update:

I am pleased to report that we recently received an extremely generous donation of £15,000 from Life Member Liz Elliott. This was in response to a chance conversation with Liz after Tim Wickens and I gave a talk on the N&N to the Friends of Kirkley Hall. Liz's donation is given in memory of her late husband Iain, who was an active member of our County Committee, and Chair of Longhorsley Parish Council. The donation will assist with our general running costs.

Despite running a 'tight ship', increasing costs and a plateauing of membership has meant we've needed to draw down from our investment account, which was set up with generous and unexpected legacies from the late architect Annette Hynes (2020) and environmental campaigner Don Brownlow (2018).

In addition to successful funding applications to cover the costs of the Kielder Viaduct project (see Summer 2024 issue for John Matthews's update), we await the outcome of our third annual application to The Barbour Foundation to cover the costs of producing *City & County* which amounts to £4000 each year, and we will be applying to the William Leech Charity again for further help. It is always useful to remember that we are a not-for-profit charity - every penny donated is put to good use.

JACKIE SALMON - Society Manager

FUTURE EVENTS

PRIVATE TOUR OF AD GEFRIN (Members only)

South Road Wooler NE71 6NJ

Monday 23 September
11.00am

**This event has been
CANCELLED
owing to insufficient bookings**

Last chance to book for our private tour (cost £25) of the distillery, optional lunch in the bistro and an opportunity to visit the Anglo-Saxon Museum.

The tour will start at 11.00am, followed by an optional lunch* in the Bistro at 12.30pm where seating will be reserved. Places are limited to just 16.

PUBLIC LECTURE: LIVING, OR DYING: THE FUTURE OF CITY CENTRE RETAIL

Wednesday 23 October
1.30pm

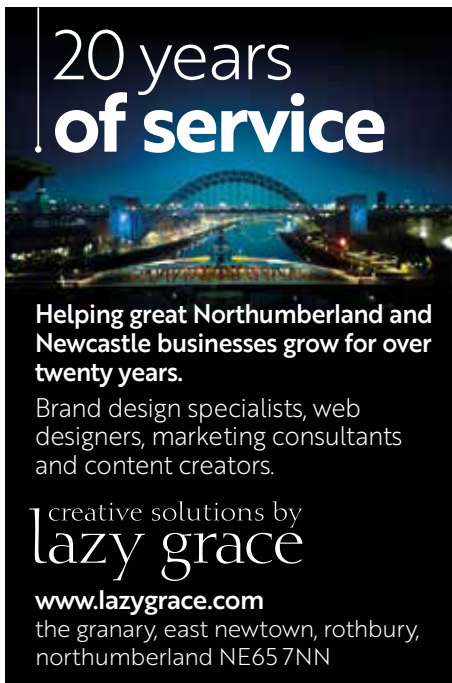
Miller Theatre, Royal Grammar School,
Eskdale Terrace, Jesmond, NE2 4DX

Members £10 / Guests £15, to include tea, coffee and light bites during the interval.

This year's public lecture will feature two guest speakers: Leo Fenwick, a member of the department store's founding family, who is Director of Strategic Partnerships, and renowned local architect Tim Bailey. Our speakers will examine the changing face of the sector and the impact of those changes on the buildings and landscapes in our cities and towns.

So, whether you work or have worked in retail, whether you are concerned about the future of our towns and cities, or if you just love shopping and want to know what may lie ahead for your favourite shops or stores, do be sure to book.

The event will also include the planned launch of the N&N Society's centenary book, *'Our City, Our County: the first 100 years of The Northumberland and Newcastle Society'*.



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MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Our 2024 winner is
Editorial Committee
member

Suzanne Stanley.



THERE is an old adage that, if you want something doing, you should ask a busy person – and Suzanne is certainly that. Not only a key member of the *City and County* editorial committee, she submits articles for inclusion and is also now editing the book we’re producing to mark our centenary. She fits all this in alongside commitments to several other organisations and tending the garden and woodland of the home in Swarland she shares with husband, Bryan – himself no slouch when it comes to rolling up his sleeves on the N&N’s behalf.

Suzanne grew up in Newcastle, where her father was an engineer and her mother a PA to an accountant. She attended George Stephenson Grammar School before deciding, on the back of an Art A-level, that “I wanted to become An Artist – note the capital letters,” and heading for Leeds College of Art, “which I hated,” she said, “however, it was a formative year.”

A degree in English from Leeds, followed by a post-grad qualification in Library & Information Studies, led her to the role of Law Librarian

at Leeds Polytechnic and then to lecturing at the Department of Library & Information Studies. And throughout that time and her subsequent period as a freelance writer for professional academic publications, she honed the skills she draws on in her roles at the N&N.

Unsurprisingly for an N&N member she is also keen on architecture. “Particularly vernacular,” she said. “I’m interested in houses. I like just wandering down streets and looking at unusual features and I’m particularly keen on the Arts and Crafts style because of the bold designs, quality of materials and links to the natural world”.

In fact, it was the natural world that brought Suzanne and Bryan back to her native North East. “We wanted a bigger garden,” she said, and the pair – both members of Plant Heritage - moved in 1992 to Swarland, where they also purchased the woodland adjoining their garden.

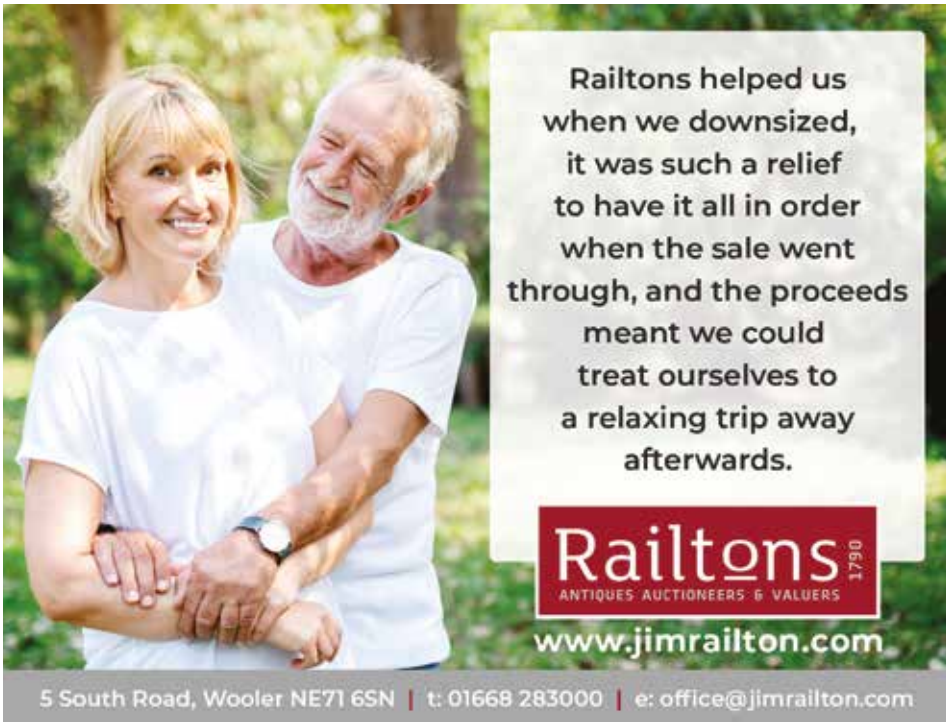
Their joint love of the arts – not to mention Bryan’s skill at woodturning - inspired them to become founder-members of a craft collective called Northumbrian Makers, based at Blackfriars in Newcastle, and “we ran it for about seven years,” she said.

While the N&N champions the repurposing of buildings for environmental, heritage and practical reasons, Suzanne finds a particular charm in those that have not yet been renovated or repurposed. “When Bryan and I lived in West Yorkshire we used to walk the canals and a lot of the old mill buildings were still there. Many were semi-derelict relics of the old textile industries, and it was still possible to imagine them as they might have been. It was the authentic feel of the past rather than pastiche.”

And that interest in social history and in the lives of others went on to take Suzanne from the past very much to the present in a 20-year stint as a relationship counsellor for Relate. “I loved it,” she said. “I had the skills to help people overcome – or at least deal with - real problems. It was a huge part of my life in every sense.”

And that ability to navigate varying temperaments and personalities, those organisational and literary skills, and the love of the built and natural worlds that underpin so many aspects of her life, demonstrate why she is such an asset to the N&N.

Emma Newlands



Railtons helped us when we downsized, it was such a relief to have it all in order when the sale went through, and the proceeds meant we could treat ourselves to a relaxing trip away afterwards.

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RECENT EVENT

History in Headstones: a tour of Jesmond Old Cemetery

Visit, Monday 20th May.



Stowe might well have its Temple of British Worthies, but Newcastle has Jesmond Old Cemetery. There they all rest, the city's great tradesmen such as Bainbridge, Crossling, Fenwick, Murton, Parrish and Pumphrey, alongside civic leaders, architects, engineers, poets, musicians, sports-folk and mariners. Who knew that the 1904 Wimbledon Ladies Singles Champion was both born and buried in Jesmond? Who was the wonderfully-named Lycurgus Burrows? Where is the 60-stone man buried? Walking along Jesmond Road was a regular feature of my childhood, and what lay behind those forbidding stone walls was a mystery to me. The answer: about 22,000 burials, (not all with identifiable plots I hasten to add) including seven Grade II Listed monuments, and two Grade II Listed buildings. The walls too are now listed, as they were almost lost to a Sandyford Road widening project. Many perimeter graves were moved further into the cemetery in preparation, so there are now wide greens on the south side, enabling new burials to go ahead.

Our guide (we were divided into small groups, each with a volunteer guide) was Ray Hayes, Secretary to the Friends group. He too had been intrigued by what lay

behind the walls as he drove past every day. Stimulated by Alan Morgan's book *"A fine and private place: Jesmond Old Cemetery"*, he visited and found a 10-acre wilderness, with only mown paths and the seven Listed graves kept clear. He writes on the Friends' website: *"I still have the letter I wrote to Bereavement Services, dated 14th August 2007, where I rather dramatically stated my 'distress and embarrassment to find this monument to so many famous Tyneside individuals in such a state of neglect', then went on to make a number of queries about 'financial investment' and 'plans or projects that may be in the pipeline for restoring Jesmond Old Cemetery', before going on to ask the fateful question, "is there a Friends of Jesmond Old Cemetery group that you know of?"*. With predictable consequences! It has taken 15 years, incalculable Friends' man-hours, grants, gifts and copious help from the City Council and others to get to a point where every grave and monument has been exposed, and the vegetation is tamed (except for reappearances of the thuggish Japanese Knot Weed which the City Council manages). A four-year project has also produced seven interpretation boards dotted around, highlighting groups of significant graves with brief biographical outlines. The whole cemetery was designed by John Dobson (whose own grave in there is very modest), and opened in 1836. It was badly needed – the churchyards were full, and this prestigious facility was built out of town for those who could afford £3 (more to be interred on one of two mounds) to have a plot there. But the business was wound up in 1875, and the City Council took responsibility for it. But once it too was full, deterioration ensued and the expense of maintenance meant that South Lodge and the chapels ended up on the Buildings at Risk register. This has all been addressed.

There isn't room here to tell any of the stories, but I'll mention two graves. A simple



wooden cross with a tiny brass plaque commemorates *Margaret Redford Hoy / Died 6th Dec 1836 aged 14 years / First burial in this cemetery / 9th Dec 1836*. It was considered unlucky to be the first buried (unlucky for whom I wonder, given the deceased is already – well - deceased). She has never had a headstone but the City Council and the Friends are jointly providing one. And probably the most unusual memorial, given that most are very traditional, is architect Richard Cail's horizontal stone looking rather like a vast fossilised tree trunk. I strongly recommend that you visit the cemetery (prepare for a long stay), book a tour as an extra treat for friends or family, and visit the very well organised website **jesmondoldcemetery.co.uk** (you'll be glued to your computer for hours).

We had a delicious buffet lunch, with tea, coffee and cakes provided by the Friends, whom we must also thank for their dedication to this wonderful current facility and repository of Newcastle history.

Suzanne Stanley

RECENT EVENT

Centenary Garden Party

Sunday 30th June,
Kirkharle



The 117 members and guests who arrived for the party would have had no clue that all morning, a small team of us had been rolling the large unwieldy function tables from a distant barn into place on the field, causing a few laughs as well as spelks and aching backs later on. Someone apparently captured it on film . . . Another unforeseen bit of fun was manoeuvring our cars into the field through a pretty narrow gateway - many guests got their car in through the gate 'in a oner' - well done! Otherwise, three, four, or even five-point turns were needed, assisted by Les Brunton and myself.



Once parked up and settled with a glass of Pimms, everyone seemed to enjoy a laid back and sociable afternoon, which was exactly our aim. Emma and Bernice ran a well-stocked buffet with some of the food kindly donated by Greggs, Northumberland Bar Management and The Running Fox - who have recently opened an outlet at Kirkharle Courtyard. John Matthews (dressed up to the nines in Northumbrian plaid) was a brilliant host and his family provided expert assistance with the tombola and raffle, which resulted in some very happy prize winners and raised several hundred pounds to help support our work. Thanks to all of the local businesses who donated raffle prizes:

The Blackbird, Ponteland, Fenwick, and The Tempus restaurant at Charlton Hall, Chathill.

Feedback has been very gratifying:
Thank you so much for a great day at Kirkharle - even the weather behaved itself. Thanks to all the staff [actually – volunteers!] who put in so much hard work.
John and Judith Bonser

What a wonderful celebration! Everyone seemed to be enjoying it – despite the weather being a little cooler than we would have hoped for. John did brilliantly to keep it moving on so well all the time. You worked so hard you must have been completely exhausted by the end.
Dorothy Craig

We enjoyed yesterday's Centenary event at Kirkharle. Thank you very much indeed for organising it and persuading the rain to hold off until the end (and the England match) approached. Please pass on our appreciation to all who contributed to the success.
Neil Barker

I was SO pleased to be able to join you at Kirkharle today and just wanted to congratulate you for the wonderful achievement. Please convey these congrats all round. It seemed to be a great success in every direction I looked.
Virginia Armstrong

Dear Jackie, Emma and team, What a delightful afternoon we and our guests had on Sunday. The amount of hard work and organisation was not lost on us. Thank you very much indeed.
Susanne and Chris Baker

This was a once in a lifetime party; we pulled



Emma Newlands

it off and we couldn't be more pleased with how it went. Huge thanks to everyone who came, to Annie and Alicia and family who manned the stalls, to Star and Shadow clog dancing team, Hexhamshire Lassies Morris dancers and folk band Robson's Choice. Also, to everyone who helped with the planning and logistics, before, during and after, and to Kitty Anderson and her team at Kirkharle.

And special thanks to those of you who stayed behind to help clear up, and trundle those blasted tables back to the barn!

Jackie Salmon – Society Manager

FUTURE EVENTS

HISTORICAL MAPS OF NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE AND TYNESIDE, PART 2

An illustrated talk by Dr Michael Barke

Wednesday 20th November, 7.00pm,
Ponteland Memorial Hall, Darras Rd, Ponteland, Newcastle upon Tyne NE20 9NX
Ample free parking should be available.

Members £10 / Guests £15

Having previously described the long-term historical evolution of mapping in the Newcastle and Tyneside region, this talk will focus on key developments in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Rapid urbanisation produced fresh demands for new and different kinds of maps, and an underlying theme of the talk will be the role of cartography in administration and policy development. But this took place against the background of the development of a national mapping agency - the Ordnance Survey. Some of the early OS maps of the region will be examined.

The cartographic response to some specific new demands will then be illustrated, including the drawing up of municipal boundaries, the long-running issue of how to improve the management of the River Tyne, the equally long-running saga of a new location for Newcastle's Town Hall and various proposals to create improved infrastructure for trade. Examples of some schemes that were never actually implemented prompt some speculations on 'what might have been'.

Glass of wine / soft drink and light buffet supper included in ticket price.

N&N FESTIVE DRINKS PARTY (Members and invited guests only)

6.00pm – 8.30pm, Thursday 5th December
Northumberland Golf Club, High Gosforth Park, NE3 5HT

Free entry including glass of wine / soft drink and canapés.

N&N Society members and invited guests; join us at our third annual festive drinks party. It's our way of saying thank you to all of our members and to everyone who supports the Society.

The N&N centenary book will be on sale and we are planning to hold a fundraising raffle.

Please ensure you reserve your free place(s) by Friday 29th November.

BOOK REVIEW

GREAT PUBLIC BUILDINGS OF THE NORTH EAST.

Michael Johnson

At the mention of town halls, I get a mental picture of those grand Victorian structures in the wool, textile and industrial towns, symbolising solidity, prosperity and dignity. And indeed there are still plenty of them around. But Michael Johnson's book illustrates the great variety of civic buildings in the north-east, and does so by usefully treating them in chronological order. He starts with Vanbrugh's baroque Morpeth Town Hall in 1714, and ends with Chester-le-Street's civic centre built 1979-82. To contrast their interiors and exteriors is a revealing experience, illustrating not just vastly different building techniques, but also differences in architectural philosophy and attitudes to the public, maybe best summed up as paternalistic vs egalitarian. Sadly, the Chester-le-Street building was demolished in 2014, while Morpeth's lives on.

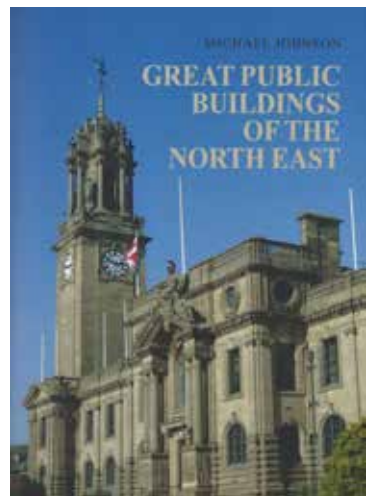
Between these two lies a most fascinating range of architectural styles and designs, from the modest (Corbridge, 1887) to the mighty (South Shields, completed 1910), as we move from 'town halls' to 'civic centres' (though Darlington's 1960s Brutalist building has held onto the old name). Johnson refers to similarities between Darlington Town Hall and Newcastle's Modernist Civic Centre, but the latter is given a 9-page treatment; he refers to it as "The greatest of all civic buildings in the North East . . . the administrative and ceremonial heart of the region's leading city".

The common factors in all civic buildings are offices and the council chamber, but outside that they vary considerably. As a result, many of the buildings featured no longer fulfil their original purpose. As administrative districts and functions have changed (we no longer have prison cells, Sunday schools or market halls in our civic centres for example), then offices have moved to other buildings, or new purpose-built administrative centres have emerged. Other uses have had to be found for the old buildings, many of which are listed.

This scholarly, highly readable and prolifically illustrated book is written by the Assistant Professor of Design History at Northumbria University, and though totally different in approach, nicely complements our own about-to-be published centenary celebration book. I'd recommend buying both!

Stroud: Amberley Publishing, 2024. Paperback. £15.99

Suzanne Stanley



PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT TEAM AT WORK

Town Centre Retail – Issues and Solutions

In the '70s and '80s, Newcastle, Sunderland, Gateshead, Jarrow, North Shields, Wallsend and Chester le Street all had pedestrian-only retail centres grafted on to the original shopping streets. But much has since changed. We have new town centres in Washington, Cramlington and Killingworth, plus of course the massive Metro Centre, at one time the largest shopping centre in Europe with some 2m sq ft of space.

In addition, each local authority area has at least 3 new major freestanding supermarkets outside of their main retail centres. We also have the major regionally important retail parks at Silverlink, Metro Centre, Team Valley, Washington and Sunderland plus a plethora of smaller parks around the region. A broad estimate indicates the amount of retail space in the conurbation has nearly doubled, and that at a time when the population has only increased by some 5%. All these new developments were built adjacent to the main road network and surrounded by car parks. They were built for the mobile car owner.

A report available from The House of Commons Library indicates that 44% of retail spend was in food shops, 12% on clothing, textiles and shoes, 8% on household goods, electrical and furniture. The remaining 36% is spent on non-store retail such as market stalls, from catalogues and via online-only retailers, plus non-specialised shops. The internet is now assessed as taking some 30% of retail trade. Indeed Next, perhaps one of the most successful retailers, reports that sales through the internet account for over 60% of their total

trade. It is similar for John Lewis but only 33% for M&S who sell a large food element. Internet sales of food are estimated at some 10%. One suspects most small regional and local retailers have minimal internet sales, a market dominated by national operators.

But traditional centres have had to cope as the population has drifted from the inner city to the suburbs. Also, businesses have moved to



Sanderson Arcade, Morpeth

new business and industrial parks. The effect of the closure of shipyards and river-related industries with their well-paid jobs must have had an impact on North Shields, Wallsend, South Shields, Jarrow and Hebburn in particular. Indeed, those are now areas of high levels of deprivation and low spending power.

It is not all doom and gloom. Morpeth has linked its traditional shopping streets through a modern attractive new development to a small retail park, all assisted by a workable car parking and highway strategy. It is of course helped by a growing population with good spending capacity. Blaydon has had a supermarket with car parking grafted onto a small parade of shops, along with a bus station and parking, enclosing a compact centre which includes a health centre and other community facilities. Cramlington and Washington remain relatively successful (both with growing populations) although more from a practical perspective than that they're attractive destinations in themselves.

Solutions to problems faced by older centres are difficult and will vary from centre to centre. Some could require national policy change. Is there a level playing field between internet and physical shops? The business rating system seems to favour out-of-centre

compared to town centre units. The car has dominated development. What changes in national policy towards the motor car will impact the market?

But with food stores accounting for some 44% of all retail trade, a well-integrated food operator can generate footfall to assist adjacent retailers. Too many supermarkets are on the fringe, face the wrong way and are poorly integrated into what needs to be a compact, attractive, easy environment. Of course, bringing back other people attractors such as health centres, libraries and businesses can all assist.

It is not easy or cheap to demolish unwanted and unattractive buildings or to accept that some shopping centres now have a reduced catchment area, and therefore the former town centre needs to be envisaged perhaps as a large local centre, capable of growing again, but only when there is market demand.

Eric Morgan

TYNESIDE MATTERS

The Tyne Brand Site, North Shields

Tyne Brand was for many years in the 20th century a well-known local producer of canned fish and meat products. Its factory was on flat land just off the North Shields Fish Quay between Brewery Bank on the west and Tanners Bank on the east. To the north was a steep heavily wooded slope topped by the Metro line. The Pow Burn, long culverted, still runs through the site. Some forty years ago the firm went out of business. The arsonists struck and the remains were increasingly derelict. The site is flat but not level, as over a hundred years of development have shaped its contours, leaving dereliction and no doubt pollution too.

On Brewery Bank, a couple of wedge-shaped buildings of local interest remain, one a pub, the other now an architect's office, the sort of building no-one builds these days.

The site has featured over the years in all the Council's documents for the Fish Quay area as a problem to be tackled. Now there is hope that action might be possible.

The King's Foundation, which has a long history in realising such reclamation projects, is working with Lugano Developments, who are now the owners of the land. In June the two firms organised a two-day workshop in The Exchange for interested parties, in which the Society was invited to participate. An evening drop-in session was hosted at the Old Low Light at which the public also could make their points. Two visits walking round the site resulted in a deep analysis of the problems and the potential of the site. In particular, the second visit actually on-site was a revelation, not only of the extent of the dereliction, but also of the few small older buildings that deserve to be retained.

Back at The Exchange participants divided into two groups, each producing a sketch layout for potential development. These turned out to have remarkable similarities. Each centred on creating a new public space at the south, quayside end, adding to and improving the existing buildings and their setting, and making better use of the existing green, perhaps opening a new tree-lined avenue into the site for new linear buildings there.

The next step is for the developers to work these ideas up for a further consultation, leading to a planning application. So . . . watch this space.

Bev Bagnall – Planning and Development Team



View of the site from the south, showing both dereliction and one of the old pantiled buildings worth keeping.

PICTURE PUZZLE



SUMMER PUZZLE ANSWER

The answer to last issue's picture puzzle was a detail from the Neville Hall at the Common Room. Whilst I believe members may well have visited this wonderful hall during past N&N visits, I am afraid no-one came up trumps this time.

DIARY DATES

AD GEFRIN VISIT

11.00am, Monday 23rd September

PUBLIC LECTURE: LIVING, OR DYING: THE FUTURE OF CITY CENTRE RETAIL

1.30pm, Wednesday 23 October

HISTORICAL MAPS OF NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE AND TYNESIDE, PART 2

An illustrated talk by Dr Michael Barke

7.00pm, Wednesday 20th November

N&N FESTIVE DRINKS PARTY

6.00pm – 8.30pm Thursday 5th December



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