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Newsletter edited by Lesley Turner, designed by Northern Design & arranged by Toby Lloyd. Many thanks to all contributors. If you would like to include an item in our next newsletter, please email:  
[lesley.turner@ouseburntrust.org.uk](mailto:lesley.turner@ouseburntrust.org.uk) by 20th October 2019.

## Sense Explorers dream up the Ouseburn of the future

Children have been taking part in a series of workshops this Summer to make the Ouseburn a better place to live, work and play.



Photograph by Richard Kenworthy for Seven Stories: The National Centre for Children's Books,

Sense Explorers invited children aged 8 and above to explore the Ouseburn for themselves and come up with ideas for the future of the Valley. Produced by Newcastle University and Seven Stories, the National Centre for Children's Books, the workshops took participants on a short walk around the Valley before they brought their ideas to life through a big craft activity. Their ideas will contribute to the consultation on the Ouseburn Strategy for the next ten years.

On their walk, participants were asked to use their five senses to gather information about what they can see, hear, smell, feel (and taste!). They saw ducks in the river, heard craftspeople making things on Foundry Lane, smelled fumes from the cars going by... and even picked blackberries from the bushes along the way!

...continues on page 2

**Have your say on Ouseburn's future**  
**Ouseburn Strategy 2020-2030**  
**consultation pull-out inside on pages 5-8**  
**consultation dates - 17 Sept-8 Oct**

... continued from page 1

The young people were also given some experimental technology to help them along the way, courtesy of Open Lab at Newcastle University. They used a device called the 'Sensor Pi' to collect data about air quality and noise. This device helped them think about some of the things they couldn't see, hear or smell, like how many air pollution particles might be in the air.

Using this information, back at Seven Stories, they came up with lots of ideas for how they would make the Ouseburn better. Using cardboard, pipe cleaners, lollipop sticks and lots of PVA glue, the ideas they created ranged from the wacky to the wonderful and everything in between.

### **New buildings**

One of the ideas was for a new, colourful shelter that could protect people from the elements. Constructed in cardboard, multicoloured straws and pom poms, they want it to be a welcoming place for the community to gather, writing "Everybody welcome" on the side. They also pleaded, "Please make this real!" Our hope is this could be a wonderful new addition to the Valley.

### **Outside spaces**

Another idea was for new community gardens scattered across Ouseburn after noticing some abandoned plots on their walk down Lime Street. This person came up with three gardens that could be used

for growing herbs and vegetables, which would be maintained by the Ouseburn community. Others came up with ideas for green walls - inspired by the one found on Northumberland Street in Newcastle City Centre - and a new graffiti wall to discourage people from leaving "bad graffiti" across the Ouseburn.

### **Innovative technologies**

The young people also thought about emerging technologies and how they might impact on the Ouseburn in the future. Ideas included new designs for hybrid and electric cars and increasing car charging facilities in the Valley. Another group came up with the idea of using drone technologies to clear up the litter they noticed around the Ouseburn River.

All the workshops were great fun for everyone involved, and led to some exciting ideas that could help make Ouseburn even better. A small selection of these ideas will be on display at Ouseburn Trust's offices from September.

Sean Peacock, PhD researcher at Open Lab who designed the workshops, said, "it's crucial that young people have a stake in Ouseburn Valley, a place that they will eventually inherit and nurture themselves for future generations."

Sean Peacock and Rachel Pattinson from Open Lab.

## **New and News in Ouseburn**

### **Introducing All Barre Attitude – A Workout for the Mind and Body**

Over the summer a new fitness class themed around Barre was launched in Ouseburn – its sole mission to help people believe in themselves and make working out fun. Clare Rucastle and Jade Williamson have created a series of workouts that combine strength, conditioning and recovery. They say: "We celebrate all forms of exercise and have created a range of classes from Barre to HIIT training. Our classes are high in energy and focussed on empowering YOU! We like to prove that you don't need to be a supermodel or athlete to have a toned body, you just need the right attitude and a good playlist."

Try their classes on Monday, Thursday and Friday evenings at Ouseburn Studios, Stepney Road,

Ouseburn. There is a 50% off single use booking code for Bronze Barre classes throughout all of September. Use discount code ABA-Launch to book on their website <http://allbarreattitude.co.uk>

### **Cook House Book**

From 5th September you will be able to buy Anna Hedworth's new book based on her experience of opening Cook House in Ouseburn. It's full of recipes - from things on toast to how to cook a lamb in the ground - and 'how to' sections about building a restaurant or plucking a pheasant. In addition there's Anna's story of how she left her job as an architect and set up cooking first in a shipping container on Ouse St before opening her current restaurant on Foundry Lane. A great and delicious Ouseburn story!

# “Nature is Irrepressible”

Phil Ogg, our new Environment Officer, introduces himself



I am very glad to introduce myself as the new Environment Officer working part-time here at Ouseburn Trust. It is a real privilege to be offered the opportunity to contribute to the amazing work of the Trust and all the volunteer supervisors and volunteers who give so much of their time and energy to look after the green spaces we all benefit from in this unique urban village.

As I write, sitting in the shade of a black poplar tree beside The Ship Inn, taking in a view of a place I have enjoyed many times over the years, memories abound. Like many of you reading this I have benefitted from developments here in the valley over the last two decades. Be it gigs in the Cluny – of which there have been some memorable ones – or leisurely days in Seven Stories and the Ouseburn Farm with my two sons when they were younger as well as connections to many artists and craftspeople here, I can look back and appreciate my personal connection to the valley. You will all have your own version of this, I am sure.

My role is to enable further development of the work overseen by the existing environmental volunteer project led by the very dedicated Jen Westcott, Dave

Cross and Dale Bolland. Their efforts to date, alongside that of other Ouseburn residents I have yet to meet, are key in maintaining the woodlands and walkways. These and other green spaces, some which are more accessible than others, are very much part of the ‘lay of the land’ here. Just imagine what the area would feel like without them!

“Find your place on the planet. Dig in and take responsibility from there” American poet and activist Gary Snyder once wrote. My interest in the relationship between people and place has been informed by this kind of thinking. Clearly that ethos is alive and well here in the Ouseburn Valley. Snyder wrote a great deal about nature and wilderness and our relationship to these both in rural and urban settings. As we can see wherever we open our eyes in any urban location nature is irrepressible. This is evident in the green spaces that enhance the lives of everyone who uses the valley. How we relate to it in a meaningful and practical way to enhance the area for human use and increase diversity of flora and fauna is central.

I am excited to be a part of the ten-year strategy for the Ouseburn and pleased that there is a significant environmental strand to this. I will look forward to meeting all of you who contribute to this and digging in to take responsibility.

Phil Ogg

## Join World Clean Up Day in Ouseburn

Ouseburn Trust’s Clean Green Team are taking part in World Clean Up Day on Saturday 21 September.

Join us and our team of regular Saturday Volunteers to contribute to this great international initiative and swell the ranks of our conscientious gang.

Meet at the colourful container behind The Ship Inn, Ouseburn at 9.45. Contact Phil Ogg [phil.ogg@ouseburntrust.org.uk](mailto:phil.ogg@ouseburntrust.org.uk) to enquire or confirm your attendance by Friday 13th Sept.

# Young people blend old and new in Ouseburn art to celebrate local history

As part of Youth Focus North East's City Roots programme, young people from Stepney Bank Stables have recently taken part in a range of traditional and non-traditional exploratory activities to get under the skin of the people and places within the Ouseburn Valley. Alex Black writes:

Over a number of weeks earlier in the year, young people took time out of their volunteering with horses to develop a new-found interest in history, inspired by the stories of local people and buildings which have helped bring the past to life. Along the way, young people have shared their own experiences of living in and visiting the area, and reflected on how the past events have shaped what Ouseburn has to offer today. In April the Ouseburn Trust provided additional support to the young people as they unpicked the past. Trust volunteer Pete Harrison took the young people on a tour of the Victoria Tunnel to see what lurked beneath their feet. Deep under the stables, the group were treated to the stories of the families and workers that used the Tunnel during World War 2, and how it was used as a wagonway in the 19th Century to transport coal to the Tyne from Spital Tongues. The tour was enriched with realistic sights and sounds to bring their experience to life.

Following the Tunnel, the group were given a bespoke walking tour of the area from another volunteer from Ouseburn Trust, Liz Cowans. Walking tours are a great way to see the area and learn about times gone by. The walking tours also fit perfectly with the ethos of the City Roots programme, allowing young people to learn while exploring and interacting with their environment. Young people remarked on how different the experience was, and how they gained from it. One young person said "Honestly, I know it was cold, but that was mint. I'd definitely do it again."

Following all the exploring, the group identified a shared interest in horses and animals, which led the group to discuss how the role of horses has changed over the centuries. From grazing horses, to industrialised equipment, and now equestrian companions, horses have helped shape communities across the region. None more so than in the transportation of goods to and from the industries based along the Ouseburn and the Tyne. The group captured this evolution in their own art work, before commissioning local artist Alex Mulholland to bring their ideas to life.



Local Artist Alex Mulholland creating the mural at Stepney Bank Stables as part of City Roots Programme Photo by Alex Black

Young people and staff at Stepney Bank Stables continue to reflect on their achievements while pondering their next community project. Supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Youth Focus North East and the City Roots programme will roll on until May 2020, where more young people will find their own creative ways to celebrate the abundant history of the city and contribute to the ever-evolving heritage of their local area.

Alex Black, Regional Development Officer, Youth Focus North East. [alex@youthfocusne.org.uk](mailto:alex@youthfocusne.org.uk)



Photo by: Alex Black

# Ouseburn Strategy 2020-2030

Consultation Pull-Out - your opportunity to shape Ouseburn's future for the next ten years

## What makes Ouseburn Special?

We've invited people to tell us what they think is so special about Ouseburn – here are some of our favourites:

*“such an eclectic mix of the past, present and future”*

*“fascinating history and atmosphere of this area”*

*“nature is helping to nurture all the talent”*

*“a magical place with lots of things to do”*

*“perfect balance of historic buildings, work spaces and green spaces”*

*“The mix of people is so eclectic and there is never a bad atmosphere”*

read more responses and add your own at [www.ouseburntrust.org.uk/special-ouseburn](http://www.ouseburntrust.org.uk/special-ouseburn)

**The pace of change in Ouseburn is accelerating, and while the vision for a mixed-use area of considerable character remains, the priorities may well be changing.**

Previous editions of the Ouseburn Regeneration Plan, focussed largely, as the name suggests, on the regeneration of the place in particular its sites and buildings.

The next plan is designed to capture a series of objectives for the next ten years that don't merely concern regeneration, but also the preservation of what we already have and hold dear. The Valley will change and we must maximise the benefits that brings and minimise the conflicts with things we regard as sensitive.

Our ambition is for a strategy that all Ouseburn stakeholders can take ownership of, one that is itself ambitious, and that functions as a guide for investors and offers opportunities for fundraising.

For the last year themed sub-groups of the Trust and valley-wide groups supported by the Trust have been working up draft proposals for the new plan. Participation in these groups has been open to anyone with an interest in the subjects discussed.

We aim to produce the final version in early 2020, but for the strategy to have the greatest potential it must represent the views of all those with a stake or interest in the future of Ouseburn and we are inviting you to contribute your comments and views at this point.

See the back page of this pull-out (p8) for ways to get involved...



Colin Haylock & Tina Gough lead the 'What makes successful Ouseburn buildings?' summer walk July 2019  
Photo by John Hipkin

# THEMES

The following section contains a summary of key issues and proposals for the next 10 years for each theme. You will find more information on our website at [www.ouseburntrust.org.uk/2020-30](http://www.ouseburntrust.org.uk/2020-30) including individual reports and project ideas from the theme groups, survey results, background information and maps.

## Built Environment

We value the physical character of Ouseburn. The use and re-use of buildings and spaces is key to the success of the area. We want to preserve and expand the eclectic mix of uses characterised by the term live, work and play but ensure any new developments respect and complement the existing character and mixed-use embodying principles of good design.

- Do you support mixed-use development – new schemes that may contain a mix of residential, commercial and leisure uses?
- Should there be a limit to how much land is built on in the Valley? Should developers be required to include green space within their schemes?
- Would you like to see the protection of and/or the creation of lower cost workspace, to support and protect the creative businesses and support their growth?
- Should all new Ouseburn buildings meet stricter environmental guidelines?
- Should we seek to protect buildings outside the Ouseburn Valley Conservation Area such as those on Stepney Bank and Boyd St?
- Do you value signage and public art in the Valley?

## Housing

After years of a Valley floor largely free from housing, this now represents one of the fastest growing sectors in the Ouseburn with plans for more than 400 new dwellings in the pipeline. This presents both an opportunity and a challenge for the place and its character defined by the mix of uses. We want to see a mix of housing types, and housing schemes that contain other uses within them, such as retail, leisure and/or commercial premises.

- Would you like to see affordable or specialist housing in Ouseburn?
- Do you want to see the development of more family housing in the Valley?

We don't wish to see existing uses such as pubs/music venues threatened by new developments such as residential housing so we aim to work with developers to reach an outcome that enables all uses to flourish. Do you agree with this approach?

## Business

Ouseburn is the largest creative and cultural cluster in the north east of England.

It currently houses 650 businesses and artist/makers employing nearly 3,000 people. This is an increase of approximately 50% since 2011. Most current workspace is full.

We want to nurture and grow the Ouseburn economy, ensuring there remains sufficient supply of all forms of workspace from industrial units to high quality offices.

- Do you value the creative/cultural focus in Ouseburn and want to support it further?
- Do you think Ouseburn should seek to grow as a location for business?

## Transport

We want Ouseburn to be a safe and pleasant place to get around, particularly for the growing numbers of residents, families visiting local attractions, and people who spend their working days here.

Cars currently dominate the valley. We'd like to change this, by making a diverse range of transport options attractive and accessible.

- Do you support an Ouseburn Metro Station?
- Do we need better bus connections?
- What walking and cycling improvements should we be making?
- Should we be aiming to have more pedestrianised and car free areas, with investment in public spaces?
- What do we do about parking? How should public parking be managed, and should developers put in more on-site parking? Or less?

## Heritage

Ouseburn is often described as the cradle of the industrial revolution on Tyneside and while some of these buildings and structures remain, the quest for evidence of Hadrian's Wall continues.

Heritage underpins many of the other themes and forms the basis of much of the Ouseburn Trust's work too, so many of the objectives for heritage will be shared by the Trust.

We want to engage more people in the heritage of the Valley. This might be in activity such as a Victoria Tunnel Tour or a guided walk, or by using the Trust's archives to undertake a piece of research that helps inform a clearer picture of the past.

- Would a new hub for heritage learning/engagement at 26 Lime Street help engage more people with heritage projects?
- Should more be made of Hadrian's Wall and its path through the Valley?
- Maling Pottery, based in the Ouseburn, was once world famous and one of the largest pottery manufacturers in the country. Do we need a Maling Pottery project to tell this story?
- Should we research and signpost the history of the historic buildings in the Ouseburn in conjunction with their owners and occupiers?
- Should we be developing a project to connect past industries to current craft activity?

## Green Spaces and the River

For an area so close to the city centre Ouseburn is blessed with a lot of green space. The Trust with the help of volunteers has sought to maintain it as best it can but the spaces remain underused and litter and graffiti are a problem. We want to see the green spaces better used and better maintained.

- Do you support the maintenance and better use of green spaces in the Valley?
- Should we start a programme of thinning and diversifying the woodland?
- As overgrown sites are developed and the area is better managed, habitats for wildlife are at risk. Should we seek to protect the wildlife habitats/corridors?
- Would you like to see signage to the green spaces? Do we need to improve footpaths/steps? Do we need new ones? Is safety a barrier to use?

- Should we be doing more to improve and animate the river?
- Do you feel that the environment would be better for people and wildlife if the river was impounded by closing the barrage for several months of the year, or if it remained as a tidal estuary by keeping the barrage open except for special events?

## Visitor Attractions & night-time economy

There are nearly half a million visits to Ouseburn annually, an increase of 20% since 2011. Venues offer activities for children and families, music, art and history enthusiasts.

We want to see an increase in visitor footfall to support the viability of the venues, and we want to support better collaboration between venues to enhance the offer.

- Should we seek Purple badge accreditation - an accreditation for safe evening/night-time economy, much like blue flag beaches or green flag parks?
- Should we strive to deliver an annual calendar of valley-wide events such as the festival, markets and sporting activity and help make them sustainable?

## Active Ouseburn

The Ouseburn now has a range of active businesses, many using the public realm

- Are there opportunities for collaboration with green space/transport objectives?
- Should we feed into a calendar of events/partnership around healthy activity in the valley?

## Neighbouring areas

Ouseburn is surrounded by housing areas and the district shopping centre. It is important that this plan is not developed in a bubble, but in a way that relates in the best way it can to our neighbours. We wish, for example, to develop a future transport solution for the Ouseburn that connects with the neighbouring infrastructure.

- Do you support the collaboration with neighbouring communities on how each of these themes can best integrate and support the objectives of our neighbours too?
- Are you aware of any issues and current potential for collaboration?

**If you love Ouseburn – as residents, visitors, volunteers, workers or businesses – then now is the time to have your say in creating a strategy for the next ten years.**

This is a very brief summary of the discussions and preparations undertaken so far. You can read the reports from the theme groups and more background information on our website at [www.ouseburntrust.org.uk/2020-30](http://www.ouseburntrust.org.uk/2020-30)

You can also come along to our themed consultation days – each one at a different venue in Ouseburn – you can attend any or all! Each day event will run from 12:30am to 6.30pm with a variety of options:

- Lunchtime workshop 12:30-1:30pm
- Open drop-in session 1.30-4pm
- Walkabout 4-5pm
- Evening workshop 5-6:30pm

It would help us to cater and organise if you could let us know you are planning to attend any workshops or walkabouts - by email to [admin@ouseburntrust.org.uk](mailto:admin@ouseburntrust.org.uk) or call 0191 261 6596.



### **Ouseburn Strategy Consultation Events**

- **Built Environment and housing** 12.30-6.30pm on Tuesday 17 September - at Ernest Cafe Bar, Boyd St.
- **Visitor attractions and night-time economy** 12.30-6.30pm on Thursday 19th September - at The Cluny.
- **Green environment** 12.30-6.30pm on Tuesday 24 September - at Ouseburn Farm.
- **Transport** 12.30-6.30pm on Tuesday 1 October at The Cycle Hub, Quayside.
- **Active Ouseburn** 12.30-6.30pm on Thursday 3 October at The Valley Climbing Centre on Byker Bank.
- **Heritage** 12.30-6.30pm on Tuesday 8 October - at Brinkburn St Brewery, Bar & Kitchen/Maling Hall on Ford St.
- **Business** - join us at the **Ouseburn Business Breakfast** - 8-9am on Tuesday 24 September at Ouseburn Trust 53 Lime St.

or drop in to see us at **Ouseburn Farm's Craft & Eco Fair** between 11am and 4pm on Saturday 5 October

**If you can't make any of these events do send us your comments:**

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**Twitter**  
[@iloveouseburn](https://twitter.com/iloveouseburn)



# Researching the history of buildings and businesses: Lowes Hall

Established in 1955, Lowes Hall Ltd is one of the largest and oldest family-run Office Equipment and Stationery companies operating in the Newcastle area with premises at 28 Lime Street. Clare McEwan, Managing Director of Lowes Hall, mentioned that they had some original deeds and legal documents relating to their business premises and invited us to take a look at them for the Ouseburn Trust Heritage Archive. Heritage Volunteer Ron Bryan describes his early research:

42 documents dating from 1851 to 1972 provide a fascinating insight into “the parcel or piece of ground” that their premises now lie on overlooking the Ouseburn. This is not a large piece of land - estimated in one of the documents to be 1000 square yards - but it attracted some once famous names who were owners and signatories for the various deeds and conveyancing documents that Lowes Hall now possess and which indicate how busy the Ouseburn was during the Industrial Revolution.

Owners and Signatories to the various documents so far transcribed include:-

- Joseph Hawks (1791-1873) Justice of the Peace and Sheriff of Newcastle and a member of the Hawks dynasty one of the largest and most powerful to arise during the industrial revolution. The company built the High Level Bridge and metal clad warships including the Vulcan which was the first of its type.
- Joseph's sister Mary Susannah Moody (1829 – 1901) who married Richard Clement Moody, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia in 1852 aged 23 and had 13 children. She was highly literate and her letters “have been of great interest to scholars studying the perspective of the English ruling class in the colonies of the British Empire” (Wikipedia)
- William Armstrong (1778–1857) Corn merchant and Mayor of Newcastle and father of William George, Baron Armstrong (1810–1900) Inventor, armaments manufacturer and industrialist.
- Edward Fenwick Boyd (1810–1889) fourth president of the North of England Institute of Mining and Mechanical Engineers. (Wikipedia)
- William Henry Gladstone (1840-1891) was a Liberal Party MP and the eldest son of Prime Minister William Ewart Gladstone.

As part of my role in transcribing the text of the documents, I am also photographing significant details such as signatures, wax stamps and other details of interest.



Plan of the ‘piece or parcel of ground’ on which Lowes Hall now stands taken from the oldest document on vellum dated 11th June 1851



A sample taken from the same document as above



William Henry Gladstone's signature and wax stamp taken from document dated 5th October 1870

Volunteering for this piece of work transcribing historical documents as well as researching into the previous owners of this piece of land has been fascinating. It has brought alive an area that I have visited and walked through for many years.

Ron Bryan

We would love to hear from other Ouseburn businesses with a history to tell and volunteers who would like to help our research. Contact [heather.richardson@ouseburntrust.org.uk](mailto:heather.richardson@ouseburntrust.org.uk)

# What's on in Ouseburn

## **Ouseburn Farm's Silent Disco Tour Saturday 7 Sep, 5.30-6.30pm**

It's a flash mob. It's a silent disco. It's a fundraiser. It's a roaming, rhythmic riot around Ouseburn!

Ouseburn Farm has teamed up with Silent Adventures Newcastle to bring you a one-off event disco dancing around the Ouseburn Valley to help raise money for the Farm. Join the Silent Adventures Team for a journey of song and dance through the streets of the Ouseburn Valley. This musically instructed adventure will have you strutting your funky stuff and showing off your pop star voices as we serenade the people of Newcastle! Hi-tech headsets will fill your body with beats, theme songs and your favourite hits from across the decades. As your inhibitions evaporate and laughter takes over, you will be part of the best all dancing, all singing walking tour!

Book at [ouseburnfarm.org.uk/whatson](http://ouseburnfarm.org.uk/whatson)

## **Craft & Eco Fair at Ouseburn Farm Saturday 5 October, 11am-4pm**

Ouseburn Farm Charity are holding a craft and eco fair on Saturday 5th October from 11am to 4pm. Entry to the Farm and the Fair is free.

- There will be a series of free educational talks on throughout the day about how you can help the local environment, reducing single use plastic and other important sustainability issues.
- You can book on to the bread and butter making workshop, and a fabric printing workshop using natural dyes and materials, at [www.ouseburnfarm.org.uk/whatson](http://www.ouseburnfarm.org.uk/whatson).
- There will also be a variety of stall holders selling handmade items, a plastic-free refill station and local art work.
- Northumberland Wildlife Trust will be providing family activities in our farmyard highlighting the plight of the North East water vole.

For more information or if you are interested in having a stall at the fair please contact Stacey Wagstaff, Community and Events Fundraiser, at [stacey.wagstaff@ouseburnfarm.org.uk](mailto:stacey.wagstaff@ouseburnfarm.org.uk)



## **Biscuit Factory Autumn Exhibition 6 September - 3 November**

The Biscuit Factory's new autumn show launches this September and features the work of more than 200 artists, including a growing collection of contemporary textiles, furniture and homewares.

Henrietta Corbett headlines the exhibition with her new prints, paintings and sculptures characterised by bold compositions of animals and landscapes; plus the gallery welcomes a solo show from 2018 Open Contemporary Young Artist Award winner, Olivia Turner. The gallery also presents Rhythm - a specially curated jewellery collection inspired by pattern, repetition and movement.

For more details about the exhibition, plus information about the Autumn Launch after hours on Friday 6 September - featuring complimentary fizz, creative pop ups, a 'kitchen takeover' from Papa Ganoush and the gallery's first-ever after party until 11pm - visit [www.thebiscuitfactory.com](http://www.thebiscuitfactory.com)

## **From Flax to Freelance – Heritage Open Days in 36 Lime Street Thursday 19 & Saturday 21 September**

Join Ouseburn expert Mike Greatbatch and 36 Lime Street artist Sue Woolhouse on a tour of the interior and exterior of 36 Lime Street. The building dates from the 1840s and in its 165 year history has witnessed some of the Ouseburn's greatest events and changes. Today, the building is a collective of over 40 workshops, occupied by freelance artists and other creative practitioners.

Tours are at 2pm - book a place by emailing Sue on [sue@suewoolhouse.com](mailto:sue@suewoolhouse.com)

## **Life on the Tyne Saturday 7 September, 2pm**

Don't miss the last of Saint Ann's Heritage events for 2019. Author Peter Wright will give a free talk about the water trades on the lower River Tyne in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. 2pm on Saturday 7 September at the beautiful and historic Saint Ann's Church on City Road.

## **Tuesday Talks 5.30pm Tuesday 15 October**

The Ouseburn Trust is running a programme of Tuesday Talks on the third Tuesday of the month from October - March (except December) in the back room of Ernest café bar on the corner of Boyd Street and Stepney Road. The first talk will be at 5.30pm on 15 October when photo archive volunteer Pauline Moriarty will present 'The diversity of Davey Pearson - local photographer'.

Look out for the full programme of Tuesday Talks in the next issue of Ouseburn Valley News.

## **Ouseburn Folk 20-22 September**

Clog dancing workshops, singing sessions, family ceilidh, music evenings - between Friday 20 and Sunday 22 September at The Cumberland Arms, The Old Coal Yard and other venues. For more information check out Ouseburnfolk on Facebook.

# Victoria Tunnel



## **Sounds of the underground**

Zoe Gilby and Andy Champion are returning for another wonderful voice and double bass underground-inspired concert on Friday 20 September at 7.30pm as part of our eclectic 'sounds of the underground' music programme.

It will include Zoe's new solo 'Watching Sideways' project as well as their duo performance – Andy's double bass only just fits into the Tunnel with an inch to spare.

With fabulous acoustics in the atmospheric Victoria Tunnel it makes for a completely unique musical experience.

Tickets available from:  
[www.ouseburntrust.org.uk/sounds-underground](http://www.ouseburntrust.org.uk/sounds-underground)

## **Heritage Open Day in the Victoria Tunnel**

This year for Heritage Open Days we are offering FREE Taster Tours of the Victoria Tunnel from 10.30am – 3pm on Thursday 19 September.

No booking is required, just turn up at the Tunnel entrance on Ouse Street, you may have to wait a short time if it gets busy! Hard hats and torches will be provided for a 20-minute experience of this underground wonder. We will have a team of volunteer Guides on hand to tell you the history of the Tunnel built as an underground wagonway to carry coal and re-used as an air raid shelter for the people of Newcastle during World War 2.

# New Chair of Trustees

Andrew Buckley was elected as a Trustee and took up the role of Chair of the Trust at our AGM in July. He introduces himself here:

My love affair with the Valley began in 1999 when I first moved to the North East. I lived on the Quayside and used to walk to work in South Gosforth, following the path of the Ouseburn. As a volunteer with the Trust I am a Victoria Tunnel Guide and have also been working with the Heritage Officer to develop, pilot and deliver a new above-ground walk – Back to the Future – which focuses on both the heritage and regeneration of the Lower Ouseburn Valley.

I bring a strong interest in industrial history and a genuine passion for the Valley, combined with a business career which has spanned 35 years. My background is in marketing and communications, sales and business development and, latterly, general management. Most recently, as Chief Executive of RTC North, I have been involved in bidding for, securing and delivering a number of large-scale business support programmes. I can also bring considerable experience as a non-executive director, for organisations as diverse as Queen's Hall Arts, Engineering UK and NTW Solutions.

I have been impressed with the range of the work done by the Ouseburn Trust and the role it plays in Ouseburn Valley. I am looking forward to extending my involvement with the Trust and using my skills and experience to help its work as a Trustee and as Chair of its Board of Trustees.



Andrew Buckley leading a Back to the Future guided walk. Photo: John Hipkin



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## Who are the Trust?

### Staff Team

Chris Barnard  
Julie Carr  
Clive Goodwin  
Diane Humberstone  
Phil Ogg  
Heather Richardson  
Kelly Thompson  
Lesley Turner

### Board of Trustees

Andrew Buckley (Chair)  
Ray Bland  
Dale Bolland  
Sue Bright (Vice Chair)  
Dave Cross  
Myra Giesen  
Geoff Kell  
Paul Murphy  
Erin Robson  
Alex Slack  
Sheila Spencer

## YOU CAN FIND US ON:

If you wish to find out more about the Ouseburn Trust and get the latest news, go to:

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