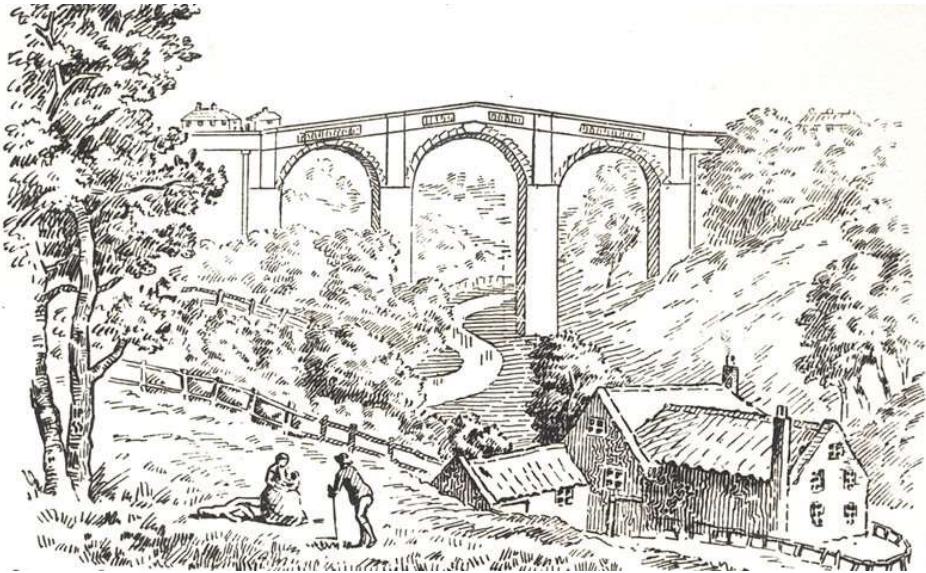


# West End Puzzles



## Number 6

Wordsearches – Crosswords – Quizzes - Interesting facts



### START HERE

This looks like a nice place for a picnic. Can you identify it?

You would have to be more than a hundred years old to remember it, so take a guess. Turn the page to find the answer.

**INSIDE** How much do you know about your area?



# Newcastle's Lost Denes

## PANDON DENE

The picture on the front cover shows Pandon Dene in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. It was just next to where Newcastle's Civic Centre stands today. Difficult to imagine now.

The Pandon Burn was one of several streams crossing Newcastle to run down into the river. There are still reminders in the names of several streets such as High Bridge and Dean Street. As the town expanded these streams were filled in, and now flow in culverts deep below the surface.

The Pandon Burn flowed through a wide and deep ravine, passing by where the Civic Centre and Newcastle University's Claremont Buildings are now, and continuing through the east side of the town to reach the river. The original Barras Bridge was an actual bridge across Pandon Dene. By 1886 the dene had been completely filled in, using material from construction works, including Manors Station and the Victoria Tunnel.



This photograph shows the entrance to the Victoria Tunnel in the grounds of St Thomas's Church on St Mary's Place. This church was built in the 1820s-30s on the site of an old hospital and chapel next to the dene.

## DENES OF THE WEST END

The west end of Newcastle was crossed by a series of denes. Some can still be seen today while others have all but disappeared.

The Skinner Burn started just south of Corporation Street, flowing past Clayton Street West and down into the Tyne through a deep dene. It was covered over between 1840 and 1859, and all that can be seen today is an outlet in the river wall below Forth Banks.

Further west is Elswick Dene. All that is visible of this today is a small stream within the grounds of a large house formerly called Elswick Dene. Pictured here, this is the former home of the Cruddas family, partners in Armstrong's armaments and engineering works which dominated the riverside here.

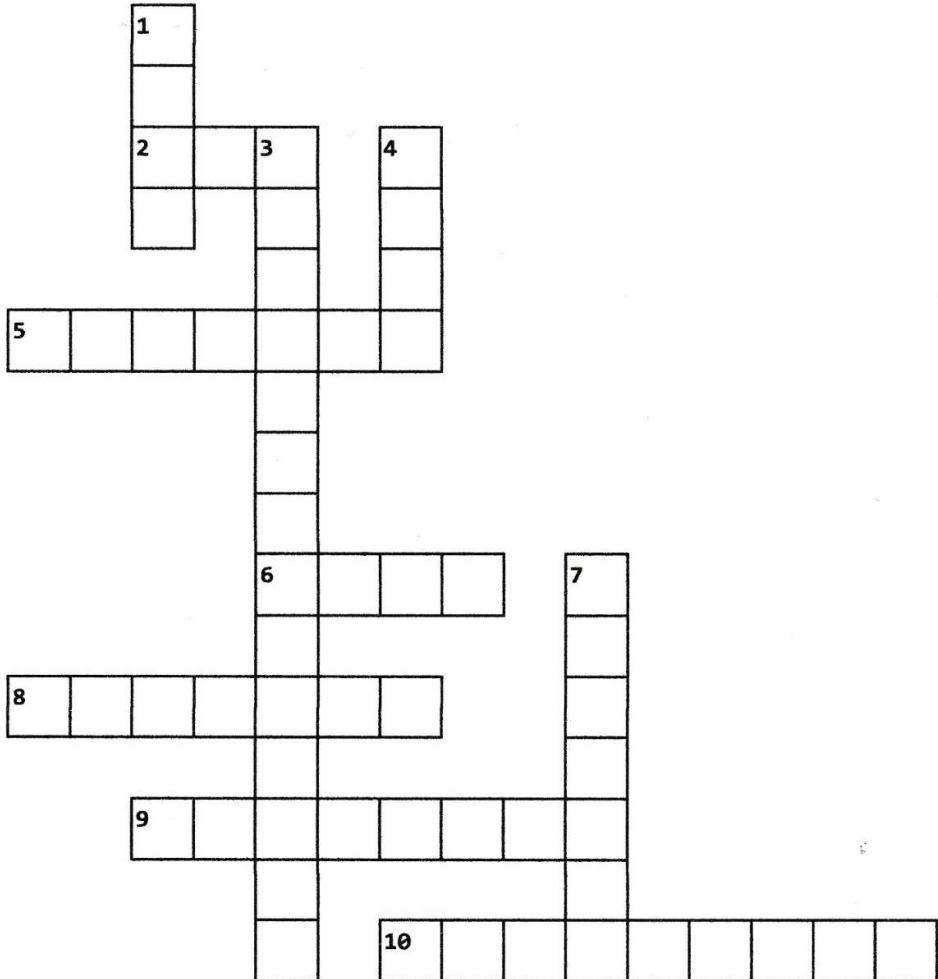


Further west again were the two Benwell Denes. The West Dene formerly ran through the private grounds of the wealthy Hodgkin family, and was later incorporated into Hodgkin Park in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. East Benwell Dene ran to the west of where Bilbrough Gardens is now, and there is no visible sign of it today.

Denton Dene runs south from Denton Burn on the West Road. Most of it remains much as it was a hundred years ago, with a combination of semi-natural woodland and open grassland, as well as remnants of early industrial activity. On the other side of the A1, lies Sugley Dene, which old maps call Bell's Close Dene. This is an important area of semi-natural ancient woodland, providing a valuable habitat for many varieties of wildlife.

# CROSSWORD

## Streets of Newcastle



## Clues

### Across

2. Street near Grainger Market, so-called because an ancient burial ground for inhabitants of a convent was unearthed here during the 19<sup>th</sup> century redevelopment of the city centre (3)
5. not lacy (anagram): street named after the 19<sup>th</sup> century town clerk who was a prime mover in the city centre redevelopment (7)
6. ---- Market; sounds like a large place but it is actually named after a type of barley (4)
8. This Place was named after the Mary Magdalene hospital for lepers which stood where St Thomas's Church is now (2,5)
9. Street running from the Monument to the Central Station; named after the builder and developer mainly responsible for the redevelopment of the city centre in the 1830s (8)
10. Centuries ago you might have gone to this market to do your shopping if you kept horses and cows? (9)

### Down

1. Do grapes grow in this Lane? There used to be a school here linked with nearby St Thomas's Church (4)
3. Now a pedestrianised shopping street, this was the route of the A1 until 1967 (14)
4. Steep street running down from Grey Street to the Quayside (4)
7. Street so-called because travellers visiting local shrines used to lodge here in medieval times (7)

*Answers on inside back page*

## *A little bit of Greenery amongst the Grime Remembering Elswick Park*

Most of us kids who grew up in the West End of Newcastle in the 1950s and 1960s never had what you would call a real holiday. The foreign climes of France, Italy and Spain were never on our radar, and even the homegrown Butlin's Holiday Camps were only for "poshies" or pools winners. For us "the holidays" was merely a name for the spells when we didn't have to go to school. We still looked forward to it, and loved to get away from those Victorian classrooms and their unsmiling, disciplinarian teachers.

The holidays for us, at very little cost, would see us playing around the doors, taking a trip to the swimming baths or – the thing we loved most – "gannin' te the park". We were lucky in Benwell. Within walking distance of our Beech Street home there were two Corporation parks, Elswick and Hodgkin (known as Hodgy). Living among the grey surrounds of terraced housing and cobbled streets, it's no wonder we have so many happy memories of our parks – a little bit of greenery among the grime.



Elswick Park was my favourite. A few jam sandwiches and bottles of water, and our little gang of ten and eleven year olds were off. Along the Terrace, onto Elswick Road, and it would be "Hi-Ho, Hi-Ho" as we meandered our way past the cemetery, the Woodbine Laundry, Elswick Road School and, lastly, the Chesterfield pub.

We laughed and screamed through the gates as we hit the delights of the swings, the teapot lid, the monkey bars and the witch's hat. The place was always chock-a-block with kids. All around was grass, shrubs and trees. The huge rockery held no fears as we careered down to the paddling pool for a plodge and the inevitable soaking. The fun would last for hours until hunger or the parkie drove us home.



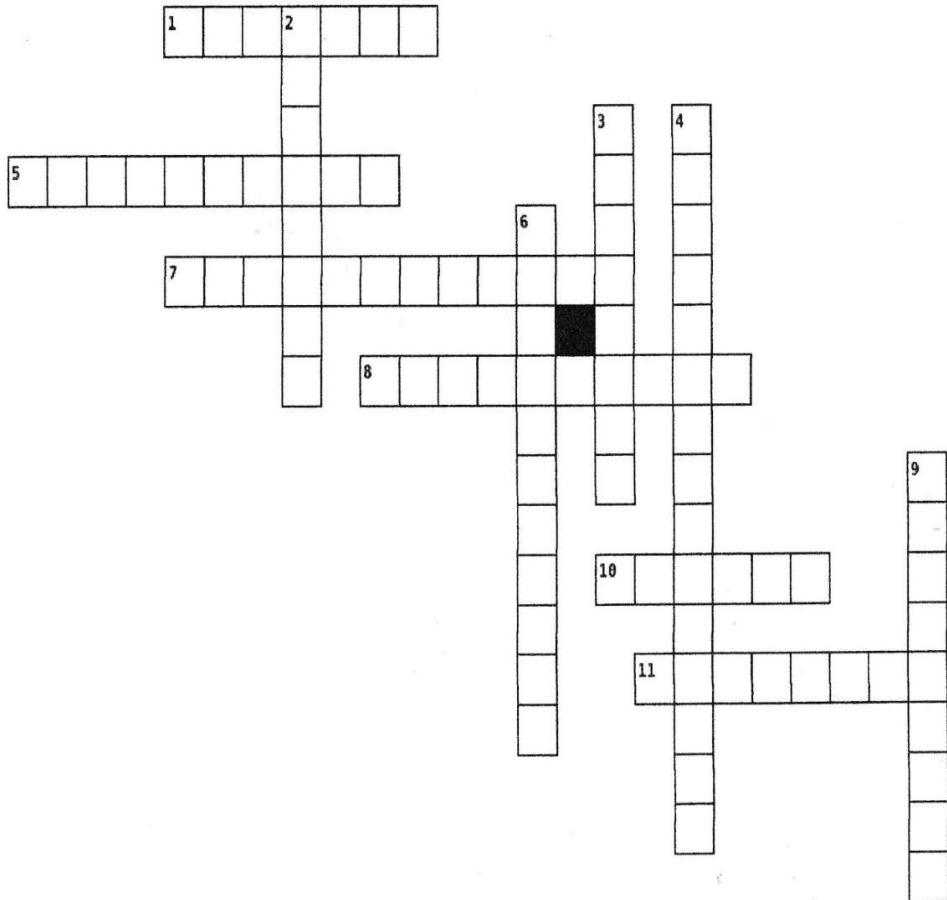
Elswick Park is still in use today. No large rockery, no paddling pool, and the swings are distinctly sedate compared to our days. However the green open spaces, trees and bushes still abound.

*John Taberham*

PHOTOGRAPHS: Elswick Park: Pavilion, 1910; Paddling Pool, undated

## CROSSWORD

### North East Inventions



Our area has long been a place of new inventions and discoveries. Follow the clues opposite to find eleven local inventions. Can you guess what they are?

*Answers on inside back cover.*

#### Across

1. George Stephenson of Wylam is often cited as its inventor but several other local engineers had also created working locomotives for use in the coalfields (7)
5. Famous 19<sup>th</sup> century sportsman Harry Clasper was responsible for significant improvements in the design of what? (6,4)
7. Invented by Charles Parsons of Newcastle as a machine to generate electricity (5,7)
8. Stockton chemist John Walker invented this useful item; how else could you light your pipe? (5,5)
10. I learn (anagram); method of scoring in cricket matches invented by John Pendlington of North Benwell (6)
11. In the early 19th century William Woodhave of South Shields won a competition to build a boat to help prevent deaths from accidents at sea – this was the result (4,4)

#### Down

2. Fizzy drink created in 1927 by a Newcastle pharmacist called Hunter; sold mainly as an energy drink for sick people until the 1990s when it became a popular sports drink (8)
3. How many household germs have been killed by this domestic cleaning product? Produced in 1929 by a dentist from Heaton called Handley, it used to be sold door-to-door by salesmen who refilled customers' stone jars (8)
4. First invented by Gladstone Adams, a photographer from Whitley Bay, after a rainy car journey; his design was patented in 1911 but never actually manufactured (10,5)
6. Means of turning electric light on and off; invented by Newcastle engineer John Holmes (5,6)
9. First incandescent one of these was invented by Joseph Swan of Gateshead to light up our lives (5,4)

## Geordie Songs Wordsearch



Sing along with our wordsearch. Each word in these song titles is hidden separately in this grid – unless we tell you otherwise.

CUSHIE BUTTERFIELD  
LAMBTON WORM  
COALY TYNE  
BOBBY SHAFTO  
BLAYDON RACES

KEEL ROW (all one word)  
WATER OF TYNE (all one word)

## True or False?

Can you tell which of these statements is true?

1. Mill Lane in Elswick is so-called because there used to be a windmill here
2. The Blaydon Races used to take place on an island in the Tyne
3. The head of the statue of Earl Grey was knocked off the top of Grey's Monument by a bolt of lightning during the First World War
4. The author JB Priestley wrote that Newcastle appeared to have been designed by “an enemy of the human race”
5. Newcastle United won the FA Cup three times in the 1950s
6. The Dire Straits hit song “Tunnel of Love” tells of a chance meeting in a fairground in South Shields
7. William the Conqueror defeated King Malcolm of Scotland in a battle at Low Fell in 1068
8. A 19<sup>th</sup> century Bishop of Durham was described in a popular song as having “greet big teeth, a greet big gob, an greet big goggly eyes”
9. The Tyne flows under four railway bridges during the 13 mile stretch of river between Newcastle and Gateshead
10. Whitley Bay Football Club is the only team to have won the FA Vase final at Wembley three times in a row
11. Sweden is the nearest country to us across the North Sea

## Remembering the Lost Libraries of the West End

The late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries saw a spate of new public buildings in the inner west areas of Benwell, Scotswood and Elswick. Churches, shops, schools and libraries sprang up to meet the needs of the rapidly growing communities. The new libraries were imposing buildings, designed to showcase the value of knowledge and inspire local people

Benwell Library on Atkinson Road opened in 1909. It was funded by a gift from the industrialist and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie.



It featured a prominent entrance reached by steps intended to show that people entering were elevating themselves, while the light placed above the doors symbolised enlightenment. There was a separate children's room, pictured here in the 1950s.

Elswick Library on Elswick Road was another large and impressive building. Dating from the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it was a gift from local industrialist, W.H. Stephenson, who also paid for the Lady Stephenson Library in Walker.

Scotswood Library (right) lacked the architectural style of the older buildings, but had a spacious interior.



## Northumbrian Dialect QUIZ

Can you tell your hinnies from your haughs?  
Test your knowledge of old local dialect words.

1. What would you **float**?

- (a) Your husband if he came home drunk
- (b) The dough used for making stottie cakes?
- (c) A goose

2. Which of these is the correct use of **cowp**?

- (a) "Aa cowped me cart ower the bank"
- (b) "Divvent cowp the poor bairn"
- (c) "She's a brazen owld cowp"

3. In 1800 there were 21 chares in Newcastle. What was a **chare**?

- (a) A jetty for loading and unloading ships
- (b) A road reserved for horses
- (c) A narrow lane

4. Which 18<sup>th</sup> century **song** was known as the Tyneside National Anthem?

- (a) Keep yer feet still Geordie Hinnie
- (b) Cushie Butterfield
- (c) The Keel Row

5. In the poem "Pitman's Pay", a pitman asks for a **willie-wought**. What was he asking for?

- (a) A tool to make a boring in the coalface
- (b) A jug of ale
- (c) A pinch of snuff

*Answers on inside back page*

## WORDSEARCH - BUTTERFLIES



How many of these British butterflies can you find here?

Red Admiral

Painted Lady

Clouded Yellow

Meadow Brown

Dingy Skipper

Speckled Wood

Adonis Blue

Purple Emperor

Peacock

Swallowtail

Brimstone

Did you know that St James' Graveyard in Benwell is a valuable habitat for wildlife of all sorts? There has been a serious decline in the number of butterflies in Britain over the past 50 years. Local action such as planting lots of flowers in the graveyard can make a difference.

## ANSWERS

### Streets of Newcastle Crossword

Across: 2. Nun 5. Clayton 6. Bigg Market 8. St Mary's Place

9. Grainger 10. Haymarket

Down: 1. Vine Lane 3. Northumberland 4. Dean 7. Pilgrim

### Local Inventions Crossword

Across: 1. Railway 5. Rowing boat 7. Steam turbine 8. Match stick

10. Linear 11. Life boat

Down: 2. Lucozade 3. Domestos 4. Windscreen wiper

6. Light switch 9. Light bulb

### True or False?

1. **True** - a working corn mill stood here until at least the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century

2. **True** – the original races took place on a site next to the present day Blaydon Railway Station, stopping when that site was built on. They were revived in 1861 on an island further west, later moving to Stella Haughs. 3. **False** – but also true – this really did happen but it was during the Second World War 4. **False** – he said this about Gateshead

5. **True** – 1950/1, 1951/2 and 1954/5 6. **False** – the song is set in Whitley Bay at the Spanish City 7. **True** – note that this is the King Malcolm who features in Shakespeare's Macbeth 8. **False** – this is the description of the Lambton Worm in the song of that name 9. **True** – High Level, King Edward VII, Scotswood, and Metro bridges (although some would argue that the metros are not trains) 10. **True** – although the first final was not actually played at Wembley because the new stadium was under construction, making the second final the first match ever to be played there. 11. **False** – Denmark is the nearest country

### Northumbrian Dialect Quiz

1. (c) A goose: it means to pluck feathers

2. (a) Cowp means to tip by bending forwards. This is how fishwives used to empty their baskets of fish

3. (c) A chare was a narrow lane. The name is unique to this area

4. (c) The Keel Row, written in the 18<sup>th</sup> century

5. (b) A jug of ale

# Remembering the Stoll Cinema

The New Tyne Theatre on Westgate Road is one of Newcastle's treasures. It is one of only ten Victorian theatres in Britain with a Grade 1 heritage listing. In 1936, when this photograph was taken, the theatre was already more than 70 years old.



Originally the Tyne Theatre and Opera House, it became a cinema under the name of the Stoll Picture Theatre, opening in 1919 with a showing of "Tarzan of the Apes". The cinema acquired a rather dubious reputation as time went by, finally closing in the 1970s. Thanks to a "Save the Stoll" campaign the building was restored and became once again a theatre and opera house.

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