

Year	Date	Event	Notes	Sources
1902	September	<p>"Tursdale Colliery Horticultural Show.</p> <p>"On Saturday the 30th annual show of flowers, fruit, vegetables, industrial and school work, poultry, pigeons and rabbits, promoted by the members of Tursdale Colliery Horticultural Society, was held in a field near Tursdale Colliery. "The entries were about the average but those in the live stock classes showed a decrease. The quality of the exhibits was high."</p>	<p>The secretaries duties were performed by Mr. M. Price, Tursdale. The Coxhoe Brass Band rendered a good selection of music.</p> <p>Winners, Industrial Class D. Mrs. Cooper, Castle Eden; Miss Young, Cornforth Lane. School Work D. Mr. Naylor, East Howle.</p> <p>Live Stock D. Mr. R. Miller, Coxhoe; Mr. C. Haige, Quarrington Hill.</p> <p>Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables Open Class D. J. Hunter, Littleton; W. Wait, Fencehouses; R. Harrison, Kelloe; W. Ramsay, West Hetton Lodge; H. Vaux, West Cornforth; A. Gravener, Bishop Middleham; W. Wood, Tursdale Colliery; John Ramsay, Tursdale; R. Vance, Peat Edge; S. Dykes, Cornforth Lane.</p> <p>Workmen's Class D. J. Middleton, J. Percy, R. Moses, W. Hodgson, J. Ramsay, M. Price, T. Robson, W. Wood, G. Scott, H. Foster, A. Hodgson, T. Ward, J. Gilmore, Tursdale Colliery; W. Ramsay, J. Thompson, East Hetton Lodge; R. Vance, Peat Edge; S. Dykes, M. Dawson, Cornforth Lane.</p> <p>Industrial Class D Mrs. Farrow, Trimdon Grange; Miss Harrison, Kelloe; Mrs. Smith, Binchester; Mrs. G. Scott, Miss Barkhouse, Miss Robson, Tursdale; Mrs. Atkinson, Bowburn, Mrs. Hutton, Haswell.</p> <p>Rabbits D. Corner and Sons, Coxhoe; W. M. Warnett, Ferryhill; A Ramshaw, E. Elliott, Tudhoe; W. Barker, Butcher Race; M. Hughes, Metal Bridge.</p> <p>Pigeons D. J. Ramsay, Tursdale; Ridley Brothers, Comforth Lane; R. Harrison, R. Whitehall, Kelloe, R. Rowcroft, Coxhoe, T. Bird, R. Booth, Tursdale, Ridley Brothers, Cornforth Lane, T. Mason, Heugh Hall, W. M. Warnett, R. Milburn, Tudhoe.</p> <p>Poultry D. G. Bainbridge, R. Wilson, P. C. Cummings, West Comforth and Thomas Mason.</p>	
1934	24 Mar 1934	Eight pigeons competed in a pigeon flying sweep from Coxhoe to Quarrington Hill at 10/- per bird.	<p>Winners were Robson & partners (time 1 min. 4 secs.), Tunstalls (1-5) and Eslick's bird (1-6).</p> <p>J. Jackson was the letter and J. Smailes the time-keeper.</p>	Co. Dur. Adv. & Dur. Chron. 30/3/34 p.4
1957	April	<p>Bowburn Pigeon Club was founded at Crowtrees WM Club.</p> <p>This followed a visit to Coxhoe WMC by Henry Ayton, chairman of Crowtrees WMC. He saw a number of Bowburn men there ñ members of Coxhoe Pigeon Club. Shortly afterwards they were offered £300 (a lot of money then!) to set up in Bowburn. The new Pigeon Club joined the East Durham (?) Federation but later joined the South and Mid-Durham Federation.</p>	<p>There were 17* founding members:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jack Allison, 2. Ray & Tot Bayles, 3. Joe Cherry, 4. Charlie Dawson, 5. R.O. [Ralph] Jones, 6. Bob Latue, 7. Geordie Little, 8. "Pat" & "Mick" [Joe and George] Milburn, 9. "Pat" Milburn & John Beck, 10. Freddie Peat (Chairman) & Artie Barron, 11. Charlie Pragnell, 12. George Simpson & son, 13. T. Ward & son [Tommy and Les], 14. Les Ward, 15. Matty Wigham, 16. Matty (Secretary) & Gordon Willey and Billy Liddle, and 17. Simmy [Simpson] Woods. <p>The rift between Coxhoe and Bowburn Pigeon Clubs never healedÖ [* Durham Co. Advertiser 26/4/1957 said there were 15.] Pigeons originally went from Coxhoe Station (now Station Windows and Conservatories). After the station closed, they went by road, using Nelsons.</p>	Jack Allison; Dur. Co. Adv. 26/4/1957 p.14
1958	September	Dr. James Moffatt was made an officer brother of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem [i.e. St. John Ambulance], prior to his retirement in December, after 38 years in general practice in Coxhoe. He retired to live in Edinburgh.	<p>A native of Golston, nr. Kilmarnock, Dr. Moffatt had been very keen on ambulance classes and a prime mover in the establishment of First Aid evening classes.</p> <p>Between the wars, he was also a very noted pigeon fancier.</p> <p>He was married to Doris (nEe Ward) and both their daughters married doctors, one of them Dr. Carver, who was in practice with Dr. Moffatt.</p>	Dur. Co. Adv. 5/9/1958 p.6; Northern Echo (or Durham Advertiser?)
1963	20 May 1963	George ('Micky') Milburn, of 1, Margaret Court, Bowburn, was fatally injured in Brockwell seam, Tursdale side, Bowburn Colliery, aged 42 years.	<p>He was killed by fall of stone. After the funeral service (Rev. C. Moore officiating) at St. Mary's Church, Shincliffe, he was buried in Bowburn Cemetery, where his widow, Agnes (Chilly) was also buried after she died 6/4/1996, aged 76.</p> <p>"Mr. Milburn was a keen member of a pigeon club and local leek clubs" (Adv.)</p>	R.W. Ramsay's notebook; Bill Higgins; Durham Cathedral Book of Remembrance; Headstone in Bowburn Cemetery (photo); Durham Mining Museum website; Durham Co. Adv. 24/5/1963 p.10; Eunice Pragnell; BMD Index (c/o Ancestry)
2005	4 Feb 2005	<p>An auction of birds raised £3,000 for pigeon fancier Jack Allison (74), a former colliery blacksmith, whose pigeon cove, shed and equipment were destroyed by an arson attack in January.</p> <p>Forty-eight pigeons had perished in the blaze at allotments, causing up to £15,000 damage.</p>	<p>Susan Teasdale, one of the organisers, said: "It was fabulous, the response was fantastic. We raised much more than we thought. With the sale, the raffle and donations, we got almost £3,000, which takes the total so far to £4,000."</p>	N. Echo 7/2/2005; archive.thisisthenortheast.co.uk
2009		Bowburn Pigeon Club closed.	Its members transferred to Coxhoe.	