

April 2011

Hear **Abouts**

A Newsletter for the Civil Parish of Eglingham

<http://www.eglingham.info>

New Vicar On Her Way!

At last the name of the new vicar has been announced.

The Reverend Marion Penfold (no DangerMouse jokes please...)

She is currently vicar at Otterburn in the North Tyne and Redesdale Team, she will primarily serve the parishes of Eglingham with Old Bewick, South Charlton and Ingram, but will also assume responsibilities throughout the whole of the Glendale group.

We look forward to welcoming Marion and her husband Bill to the parish.

She is to be licensed on Sunday 17th of July at 3pm (though a venue is yet to be confirmed).



At South Charlton her first service will be the Songs of Praise on Sunday 24th July at 6pm for St. James's Day, it is thought that she will make the vicarage her home in midsummer.



Contact us @ The Croft, South Charlton, NE66 2NA
Mob: 07784 853236 E-mail: editor@eglingham.info

Editors Notes: A busy month for your beardy editor... (those who asked “who’s the guy with the beard?” at the Eglington Social evening, it was ME! – Nice to see so many people there!).

Amongst prepping this issue, I have had to resurrect the parish website, unfortunately we had a total data loss (a lesson to all, backup ALL your data!), so over the coming weeks we hope to repopulate it with more up to date and varied content. If anyone would like to get involved, give me a shout. The site is now located on a server that is not free, as it was before. Therefore we are looking into selling a few advertising spaces to help cover the costs. If you have a local business you would like to advertise on it get in touch by the usual methods.

Andy Gray

Little Acorns or rather Little Elephants did do something funny for money



Marching through the village, in search of RED NOSES and armed with their home-made biscuits, the Little Elephants descended upon unsuspecting neighbours to raise money for Comic Relief. Many thanks to everyone who donated money and listened to the children’s story of a little boy who is so desperate to go to school, but sadly his parents don’t have enough money to allow him to go. Our ‘World Tour’ has brought us to South Africa where this little boy and his family live. We are trying to understand what life might be like without some of the lovely things we enjoy. We have constructed typical African homes using mud, straw and sticks, tasted a variety of traditional food and hope to celebrate Easter, South African style, using our very own jungle drums and musical creations.



From Comic Relief to OFSTED Relief: - We have recently been judged ‘OUTSTANDING’ in the overall effectiveness of the Early Years Provision” by OFSTED inspectors.

“Evolving as an outdoor pre-school, the first class experiences and optimal challenges children gain help them to develop significant skills for future success” OFSTED Feb. 2011
Our fabulous outdoor environment encompassing the woodland and the Village Garden has enabled us to deliver unique learning experiences to so many young children and the support given by you, our community, is invaluable. Thank you.

Just in... Little Acorns raised £105 for Comic Relief!

You are invited to
Lunch for Lent
(Soup and Pudding!)

On Tuesday 19th April from 12noon til 2pm.

At 4 Ditchburn Road, South Charlton

It's a "free lunch" but donations will be welcome for St. James' Church.

(If you are working that day, come in your working clothes – Wellies OK!)

Leek Club Race Afternoon

Saturday 9th April

1st Race 1:30pm - Grand National 4:15pm

Admission £8 includes

Betting on all races,

entry in Grand National sweepstake

plus Burger & Chips for tea!

at South Charlton Village Hall



Entries for this years Giant Cabbage
Competition ready to be accepted

Give Bob a call on 579317 to book your plant!
Proceeds to South Charlton Village Hall

Groewood House
Coffee Morning & Giant Raffle

In aid of Residents Fund

Friday 15th April 10:00am

An ideal time to buy your copy of the Cookbook from last months cover
story

Eglingham Cricket Club

The sun glints on the galvanised pavilion roof, the opening bowler pounds in from the Hall end straining every muscle to wrench some life from a soft wicket; the thwack of willow on leather as the ball races to the boundary narrowly missing a molehill, with a fielder, whose sporting prowess is most definitely behind him, giving tepid pursuit. In the changing room the smell of Ralgex pervades the air as the next man in tries to ease his ageing, aching muscles as he nervously contemplates the thought of an all-run four with the fifteen year old whippet who will be his batting partner. Village cricket may not be glamorous but it is one of the gems at the heart of rural life. Eglingham Cricket Club has a proud tradition and history, and players of old have become the stuff of folklore; mention Bobby Chisholm or Johnny Jeffreys or more recently Ken May to older members and watch them get a far-away look as they regale you with tales that will have you creased up. Cricket at Eglingham is taken very seriously and played correctly but is played for fun – lots of it! Youngsters are encouraged to play and are nurtured, egos are ruthlessly punctured and everyone helps with the washing up. The “craic” is formidable.



The new season is just peeking into view and the stalwarts will be retrieving their kitbags from dusty lofts and wondering why whites always seem to shrink year on year. New players are always most welcome although be warned the selection procedure is rigorous – you need to be able to recognise a cricket bat, have access to a pair of white trousers and be prepared to enjoy yourself. Having said that, talent will not necessarily disqualify you as it can be in short supply some weeks!

Most fixtures are at home and on Sundays, although we do travel to exotic far flung lands such as Berwick and Bamburgh on occasion. If you feel you have what it takes then please get in touch with Gordon Robson (01665 574289), Stuart Archer (01665 578400), Ian Grant (01665 578282), or myself.

Geoff Osmond (Secretary) (01665 578285).

Eglingham Village Hall Social Evening

Last Friday more than 50 people turned up at the village hall for a thoroughly enjoyable get together. There was no theme for the evening other than to come along and socialise. And everyone certainly got into the swing. It was great to see so many of the newer residents coming along, always an encouraging sign for the future state of the village as a community. But it was clearly a great opportunity to catch up with old friends also; more than once I heard the tongue in cheek remark “oh, I didn’t know you still lived in the village!” There was also a ‘not so hidden’ agenda for the evening; the idea was to gauge people’s interest in turning out to events and also to generate some ideas and enthusiasm ahead of the AGM on Wed April 13th , 7.30pm. It would seem that the evening was successful on all counts. This success was not just lucky but was because of the hard work of the usual suspects. The hall was beautifully decked out and what was billed as “a few nibbles” turned out to be a truly magnificent buffet of snacks and delicacies. We really are fortunate to have a hardcore of dedicated



and talented folk to organise these events, and not wishing to spare their blushes they should be named; Penny, Julia, Janice, Joanne, Marion and Jessica cleaned, tidied, set out, cooked, baked, printed, delivered and arm twisted. Thanks also to Jessica and her friend Kerry for running the raffle on the night.

That was stage one! Next is to carry the goodwill of those who turned out on Friday into a force to take the village

hall forward. So please come along to the AGM on the 13th armed with your ideas and enthusiasm and help secure the future of the village hall.

Christian Aid Week

Christian Aid Shop at Wooler will be grateful to receive any articles large or small which they can sell in the shop during Christian Aid Week beginning **Monday 16th May**. Please support this charity if you are able. Many bargains will be on sale!

Leek Club

The very successful and very competitive *Tattie In A Bucket* competition will be run again in 2011.

Contact Bob Stuart on 579317 for full details and to enter.

A Day at the Races – Saturday 9th April

Not an actual day away at the races, but a “Race Afternoon/evening” in South Charlton Village Hall including a sweepstake for The Grand National.

Easter Show – Saturday 23rd April

Schedules available from Bob (579317)

Advance notice for your diaries..

Bill & Cath Newton (the Lodge, North Charlton) invite you to afternoon tea in their garden on Saturday 18th June

Eglingham WI Report

It was a well attended W. I. meeting that took place on Thursday, 10th of March.

Our president and secretary quickly went through the business of the evening.

Of note was the successful tea party which was hosted by Eglingham W. I. at our president's house for Nedderton W.I. members. They had bid for this treat at the Federation Pledge Auction back in the autumn but due to the harsh winter, had to wait for better weather. Mrs. Catherine Lister thanked those members who were able to help on the day and/or contributed food.

Five members had attended the Northumberland Federation Spring Council Meeting and had enjoyed their day. Mrs. Susan Cartmell, as delegate, read a comprehensive report on the proceedings.

Some members may be disappointed if they are not chosen for a guided tour around Newcastle in April. The walk around the “Secret Places” of our city has proved so popular that places will be chosen by lottery.

Mrs. Brenda Robertson didn't quite win the lottery but she did get second prize in the Northumberland Federation 100 Club!

We were pleased to see our neighbouring W. I. at Hedgeley gain celebrity status in the national magazine, “W. I. Life.” They were on a double page photo featuring the now, annual sandcastle competition on Bamburgh beach. Hedgeley W. I. were the 2010 winners so some of our members have been inspired to have a go. This year's challenge is “The Human Form” - the mind boggles! Sounds like a lot of fun! Looking forward to reporting on that one!

Our speaker for the evening was Mrs. Liesbeth Langford whose talk was “A Childhood Under Occupation.” Liesbeth was born before the Second World War in Holland and lived north of Arnhem. Her mother was English and her father Dutch. After spending six weeks in a concentration camp her father joined the Dutch Resistance so the family only had infrequent visits from their father who was in hiding. His main work was

to find safe homes for Jewish children. In contrast to Mrs. Langford's gentle manner and voice she recalled the harshness and dangers of life under Nazi occupation. Some stories were from her own memories but much was taken from her mother's diaries/ letters to her husband in the last year of the war. By the winter of 1944/5 they had no electricity, gas or coal, only wood that had to be eked out as were the few candles that could be acquired. The Dutch were reduced to eating tulip bulbs by this time and many went barefoot in the cold. By the end of the war eighteen thousand people had starved to death in the west of Holland. Of course B.B.C. Radio was a lifeline. Although illegal, it was worth the risk to hear the words, "This is London" and to hear the news about the Allied forces and hear the voice of their beloved Queen Wilhelmina. Liesbeth said that Dutch children were taught to be eternally grateful to Britain. She has put together her mother's first hand accounts of life in occupied Holland in a book, entitled, "Written by Candlelight," which makes for gripping reading and is a testimony to the courage of the Dutch people and pertinently to Mrs. Langford's family. It was in the small personal details in Mrs. Langford's talk which brought what is now history, so very much alive. You could have heard a pin drop and there were a few misty eyes! Mrs. Joyce Wilson gave the vote of thanks.

There was plenty of chatter and catching up over our usual splendid pooled supper. The winner of the competition for a pretty cup and saucer was Miss Marion Wilson and the winner of the raffle was Mrs. Lynne Sutcliffe.

Our next meeting takes place at **7.00pm on Thursday, 14th April 2011** at Eglingham Parish Hall when our speaker will be **Mr. Andrew Sawyer** on "**The Armstrongs at Home.**" Visitors are always welcome.

Eglingham Community Field – Watching the Grass Grow

By this time we had hoped to have rather more to tell you about progress on the Field. We understand that solicitors have been instructed to start the transfer of ownership to the Parish Council. Unfortunately we don't know whether that means work has actually started!

In the meantime the weather has taken its toll. Following the bad winter the whole area looks rather run down and the heavy snow has collapsed the roof (and part of the walls) of the large shed which we had hoped to use for storage of equipment.

As a village we need to be able to prove to the County Council that we can take care of this amenity. Before we know where we are the grass will start to grow and the whole thing will start to look worse!

We are planning a "**Tidy-Up**" day on **Sunday April 10th** and we are asking for volunteers to turn up at **10.30am** with their gardening tools to do some basic jobs like cutting back hedges and gathering up old leaves. If anyone feels equal to rebuilding a shed they will be welcomed with open arms!



State of the Nation?

I see that Michael Stafford is beginning to share *Hayheck's* consternation with government employees, particularly the appalling RPA. The Rural Payments Agency is the arm of Defra that is responsible for doling out the life supporting subsidies that keep farming going. Except that they fail to hand out the cash properly pretty much every year. And then they get fined by the EC for being incompetent.

To say that the last government was unappreciative of the efforts of farming folk would be to understate the case. They did not see many votes there. In fact all of these country types were the very opposite of the demographic that would keep electing New Labour in perpetuity. It was shown that immigrants were much more likely to vote Labour so the country was filled with them. The indigenous rural population were ignored at best, whilst farming was positively discouraged. The intellectual argument was that farming in Britain was irrelevant. It was a global market place and we should be supporting the emerging nations of the world by providing a market for their ethically produced food (Fair Trade and the like), so they could develop infrastructure and a more diverse economy.

In the UK, sheep numbers collapsed by more than a third. Dairies have all but disappeared and beef cattle are vanishing like snow off a dyke. Britain has gone from being a grain exporting country to a grain importing country thanks to massive bio-ethanol plants like Ensus that use 1.2 million tonnes of wheat a year.



During this time, the Great British public have become so thick that 20% of them think you can buy a leg of liver or 'pork wings'. One in twenty, according to the Sunday Times survey about meat products, think haggis, game pie and oxtail are all suitable for a vegetarian diet as they contain no meat.

So. What is my point? Well, I think that the massive downturn that I have attempted to explain has reached the bottom. The disconnection between food production and dinner on the table will disappear as soon as people get hungry and start to hunt out more affordable ways of eating. The luxurious attitude of neglecting a fundamentally important industry (food) so you can be perceived as a benevolent benefactor to developing nations will be seen to be as stupid as the notion of a leg of liver.

This will not come about because we have had a change of government, but because of the worldwide food versus fuel problems we are just beginning to see and feel. Older readers will remember the post war years, the drive for Britain to feed itself, for self sufficiency and security of supply. Due to the brilliant management of this country over the last thirty years we have pretty much thrown all this away (along with all of the money, apparently). Now, from the bottom of the cycle, *Hayheck* we have to start again. Production subsidies anyone?



Annual Burns Night Supper packed out and a roaring success

The Leek Club Burns Supper again pulled in a full house to South Charlton Village Hall to enjoy the haggis, neeps and tatties and the local entertainment on offer.

I would like to thank all who supported it. Our thanks also go to the helpers who helped out in any way, to Jenny for selling raffle tickets, Emma and her friend for waiting tables.

Make a note in your 2012 diaries, next years Burns Night will be on 27th of January.

Bob



Wind Turbine “Meeting”

It would appear that we live in an area that wholeheartedly supports wind turbines as a form of energy production as I was one of only two people at the meeting at Eglingham village hall on Thursday 24th March to see the presentation by *George F White's* staff concerning John Wrangham's proposal to erect a wind turbine at New Bewick, (unless I missed the rush that came after me) and if I didn't then I suspect that the event may have slipped under some peoples radar. The presentation was laid on to inform people about the details of the location, size, and impact of the turbine and for John Wrangham to answer any questions about the proposed project.

The location will be roughly half way between New Bewick and Scotty's Woodyard at Wooperton and 200-300 metres to the right. A computer generated image shows that the mast, which would be 50m high to the hub with the tip of the blades being approx 75m high, would be visible above the grain dryer shed at New Bewick when looking from the bridge over the river below Harehope gardens.

As New Bewick isn't in Eglingham Parish, this proposal wont come before Eglingham Parish Council, so this meeting was put on as a courtesy to inform everyone in the Eglingham area about the proposed project.

Bill Purvis

South Charlton look back at themselves 40-50 years ago

Wednesday the 23rd saw a coffee afternoon hosted by the Gray's at the Croft, South Charlton raising funds for St. James's Church. The afternoon was a roaring success (literally!), howls of laughter could be heard coming from the “film room” as they watched old photographs of themselves on the “big” screen.

The displayed photos were taken from slides processed by Eileen Duncan from her late uncle's extensive collection. Ronnie Lowdon who lived and worked from South Charlton with his recently deceased brother Frank, had taken thousands of photographs over his lifetime in the village. On display were over two hundred of events ranging from church fetes to flower festivals and the Queen's Silver Jubilee, plus a couple of aerial shots of nearby farms.



For those younger or newer to the village, they managed to put faces to names of legend (ie. Bob and Dick Taylor), or saw current residents in their much younger days wearing some questionable attire!

Over £185 was raised for St. James' Church funds, many thanks for all who attended and donated.

Diane Faulkner

PARISH PORTRAIT

About You:

Grew up within the Parish, firstly on the family farm at West Link Hall, then South Charlton. After a 'quick' stint at Harper Adams University I moved to Newcastle and stayed there whilst I married, got 2 cats then came back to Northumberland and have lived in Forge Cottage for nearly a year now.

Where were you born?

Alnwick

Education:

Ellingham First, Dukes Middle and Duchess's High.

What was your 1st Job?

Dog walker

Current occupation?

Course Administrator at Northumbria University and photographer running Good Life Photography (www.goodlifephotography.co.uk)

What do you most like about your current position?

At the uni, good benefits, for photography, the thrill of taking a good shot.

What is the most influential piece of advice given to you?

Don't really know, sorry

...and what piece of advice would you pass on?

If you want something done, do it yourself!

If you could pick any job in the world, what would you do?

Photographer/gallery owner

What is your favourite?

Film: Legends of the Fall

Book: Anything by Phillipa Gregory, The Thirteenth Tale by Diane Setterfield and all 3 of Steig Larsson's

Music: Anything and everything



If you could invite four famous people (alive or dead) to your next dinner party, who would you invite?

James May

Michael McIntyre

Victoria Beckham and Joe Cornish

If you could improve one thing in the parish what would it be?

Free drinks for all locals at the Tankerville every Friday

Downtime:

Running, spinning, long walks, taking photos, catching up with friends.

Parish Council Meeting – 8th March 2011

Planning

A planning decision notice referring to the change of use of agricultural land to mixed use, agricultural/paddock at East/West Cottage Charlton Mires had been received. Permission was granted subject to one condition and the reason for approval was detailed. The condition specified that two mobile field shelters would remain but any other buildings, materials, activities not associated with the mixed use would require planning permission. Members suggested looking at the site in one month, as per condition, and follow up if necessary.

A letter had been sent to the County regarding the restrictions they wish to impose in dealing with planning applications, no reply had been received.

The Chairman expressed dissatisfaction with Eglington councillors regarding responses to planning applications. Observations have to be given to County within 14 days and this does not happen. South Charlton Councillors comply. In future applications will go to Fiona, Marion and Ian on the Eglington side for a quick response.

Council Matters

A letter had been sent to the County regarding the precept required for the coming year, no reply had been received.

School Field

The Chairman outlined the latest position on the Eglington School playing field take over from the county. Information had been sought but had had no response. Trustees would be required; Fiona, Bill and Ian were nominated. It was proposed that an immediate decision on the situation be requested from the County.

Roads

A section of Ditchburn Road had been improved as far as the reopened quarry entrance. John Taylor mentioned that further improvements are to be made section by section.

Bus Services

A letter from County had been received saying they had been advised that Arriva were beginning to review their services along the A1 corridor. The service includes the 501 and 505 services between Newcastle, Alnwick and Berwick upon Tweed. To speed up the service they intend to reduce the number of diversions into Swarland and Newton on the Moor. The County are asking a quick response by users of the bus services so they could inform Arriva. "Is this the beginning of cuts overall?!". Anyone in the Parish

using the service are invited to send a response, for clarification, guarantees, etc. on the service that affects them. Comments to Ian Coe, Transport Support Officer, NCC, County Hall, Morpeth, NE61 2EF

The next meeting is at South Charlton Village Hall on Friday 13th May 2011 at 7:30pm

Another Cricket Team!

As you will have read earlier in the issue Eglington CC soon start their season. Another local team's season soon kicks off too!

Rock Cricket Club, while outside the parish, has numerous ties with people within the parish currently and in years past. Your editor being the secretary of the club of course has *everything* to do with them appearing here.

To encourage the next generation of village cricketer's we sent one of our lads off to take the ECB Level 2 Coaching course to enable us to begin setting up a youth section after the last

lot that started in our youth team all grew up and disappeared to university with none to follow on. With a youth setup it becomes easier to apply for grants for development thus making the club a more attractive place to play at without all the kids in the area going to Alnmouth because they have the flash facilities. So if there are any youths out there that fancy playing some **League** cricket at some stage in the future, keep your eyes peeled for further information in the months ahead.

Like every year we are always looking for businesses or individuals to sponsor a match ball, these sponsorships are our life blood as we are required to use a new (pretty expensive) ball for every game and can't afford to have too many gaps in our sponsorship schedule.

Cricket clubs, like bowls clubs have generally some great precision machinery! (So good in fact that some *******s** stole our gang mowers last year!!) So in a fundraising effort we are offering a **lawn scarification and cut service** to those in the local area that think their lawn could do with a health boost. Get in touch for a tailored quote for your lawn!

"Scarification is carried out to remove organic matter from around the base of the grass plants and tidy up any straggly lateral growth. In a nutshell, scarification removes material, probably in the form of thatch or moss that will otherwise prevent good dense grass growth. If you do not scarify, debris will build up and lead to other problems."

If interested in any of the above subjects you can get in touch on the usual 'Hear Abouts' e-mail address. Our 1st game of the season is Saturday the 30th of April against Tillside 2nds youthful team at Rock. If you fancy a full weekend of cricket, you can catch us on Saturdays and Eglington on Sundays. What better way of spending your summer weekends!



Church Business

South Charlton Services

3rd April – Mothering Sunday - 11am – Bob Burston

17th April - Palm Sunday – 11am – Alan Craig

22nd April – Good Friday – 9:30am – Alan Craig

24th April – Easter Sunday – 11am – Alan Craig

1st May – Holy Communion – 11am – Raymond Best

St. James Church AGM

This took place on Monday 21st of March. The Rector Bob Burston presided.

Those elected were...

Eddie Stafford & June Lawson – Church Wardens

Martin Beal – Secretary

Eleanor Clarke – Treasurer

Anne Gray – Electoral Roll Officer and Linda Turner.

Reports were given on the work of the Church and meetings attended. The balance sheet was discussed and it was noted that we had only paid £1000 Parish share out of a total required of £4000. We were left with only pennies in the working account at the end of 2010.

Eglingham & Old Bewick

The church continues its preparation for Easter and the Eglingham Lent Group is meeting each Thursday evenings at 7.30 in Sylvia William's house in Branton.

Sunday 17th April - Palm Sunday - 10.00am service at Eglingham. Weather permitting we will meet at the church gate before processing into church.

21st April - Maundy Thursday - 7.00pm at Eglingham, to include the stripping of the altar.

Good Friday - 22nd April - 2.00pm at Old Bewick there will be a traditional devotional service.

Saturday 23rd April - The decorating of Eglingham church will take place starting at 10.00am. Donations of flowers, money or help will be very welcome. (Please ring Brenda on 01665 579337 with offers).

Sunday 24th Easter Day - 9.00 Communion at Old Bewick

10.00am there is Parish Eucharist at Eglingham.

In Eglingham there will also be a **Children's Workshop on Saturday 23rd at 10.30am** to build the Easter Garden. All children in and around the Parish are very welcome!

While we are still officially "Vicarless", if you need to speak to someone about Church matters, please contact to one of the churchwardens, namely:

Eglingham: Ruth Hunter, (01665) 578944

Old Bewick: Patricia Fleming, (01668) 217009

South Charlton: June Lawson, (01665) 579207

Eddie Stafford, (01665) 579262

If you need the services of a priest, please contact, in the first instance, the Team Rector: The Revd Bob Burston, (01668) 281551.

Otherwise contact: The Revd Jeffrey Smith, (01668) 281468.

...and finally a load of jokes

Man I'm tired...Stayed up all night trying to remember if I have amnesia or insomnia.

I'm with the government when it comes to solving this country's problems. I haven't got a clue either.

Just about finished observing Earth Hour with the mother in law. Switching the life support back on in 3..2..1

Got to go away with work for a few days, so I'm taking the travel iron with me. ...Or "Secretary" as she prefers to be called.

I can't believe that anybody thought that England could beat Ireland in cricket; haven't they seen the Magners advert?

I can't stand those people who hate football but still go along to games to deliberately cause trouble and ruin them for everybody else. Bloody referees.

What's the difference between nectarines and peaches? Nectarines don't trade on their daddy's name to get on the TV.

"Better out than in" my dad always used to say. Worst heart surgeon ever...

I've bought one of those memory foam mattresses. My wife got up early this morning, so I rolled into her imprint and it's taken me 2 hours to climb out.

What do you get if you drop a bag of Maltesers at a Weight Watchers meeting? A real life game of Hungry Hungry Hippos.

A man goes into Waterstones and asks if they have any books on Paranoia.

The assistant beckons him closer, looks left and right then whispers, "They're behind you."

All archaeology proves is that our ancestors were skeletons and they lived underground.

I don't see why people expect female linesman to be worse than male ones.

I mean, if there is something women are good at, it is pointing out mistakes made by men.

Five pounds is all it takes to restore someone's sight in Africa. So why are SpecSavers asking me for four grand for laser eye surgery? I'm booking the next flight out!

A pirate walked into a bar, and the bartender said, "hey, I haven't seen you in a while. What happened? You look terrible." "What do you mean?" said the pirate, "I feel fine." "What about the wooden leg? You didn't have that before." "Well," said the pirate, "We were in a battle, and I got hit with a cannon ball, but I'm fine now." The bartender replied, "Well, OK, but what about that hook? What happened to your hand?" The pirate explained, "We were in another battle. I boarded a ship and got into a sword fight. My hand was cut off. I got fitted with a hook but I'm fine, really" "What about that eye patch?" "Oh," said the pirate, "One day we were at sea, and a flock of birds flew over. I looked up, and one of them crapped in my eye." "You're kidding!" said the bartender. "You couldn't lose an eye just from bird poop." "It was my first day with the hook..."

Guest Joke of the Month

A man died and went to Heaven. As he stood in front of the Pearly Gates, he saw a huge wall of clocks behind St. Peter. He asked, "What are all those clocks?" St. Peter answered, "Those are Lie-Clocks. Everyone on earth has a Lie-Clock. Every time you lie the hands on your clock move." "Oh", said the man. "Whose clock is that?" "That's Mother Teresa's", replied St. Peter. "The hands have never moved, indicating that she never told a lie." "Incredible", said the man. "And whose clock is that one?" St. Peter responded, "That's Abraham Lincoln's clock. The hands have moved twice, telling us that Abraham told only two lies in his entire life."

"Where's David Cameron's clock?" asked the man.

"It's in Jesus' office. He's using it as a ceiling fan."

Thanks to Ed Miliband for that one! (Only joking...)

Useful Numbers

Village Hall contacts:

South Charlton

Alan Hodgson 01665 579494

Eglingham

Penny Blackmore 01665 578327

Local Councillor

John Taylor 01665 603825

NHS Direct: 08 45 46 47
www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

Consulting Rooms 01665 602388

Bondgate Surgery 01665 510888

Parish Council Chair

Bill Purvis 01665 579255

Clerk to the Parish Council

Alan Hodgson 01665 579494

Advertise In Here

'1/4' page advert (60mm x 70mm)
£25 (business in parish) or
£30 (business outside parish)

A5 leaflet or flyer

Commercial: £15 to deliver 200
copies (1/4 page ad also to be
taken)

'Hear Abouts' design & print:
£38.00 produce & deliver 200
copies (no ad required)

'not for profit' organisation in
the parish ; no charge for
delivering your leaflets
ring 01665 579479

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