

Hear **Abouts** October 2010

A Newsletter for the Civil Parish of Eglingham

<http://www.eglingham.info>



The South Charlton Village Hall Committee held the weigh in for their inaugural **Giant Cabbage Competition** on Sunday 26th September. It all started back in the Spring with competitors being supplied with a giant cabbage plant for the princely sum of £1. Over 100 plants were supplied and almost 40 made it to the weigh-in. We were lucky enough to have a sunny afternoon where almost everyone was out in the yard watching the cabbages coming in and being weighed. After this, everyone went indoors and enjoyed a tremendous spread laid on for afternoon tea as well as taking pot luck on the tombola.

After tea, when all the results were in, it was a surprise to find that **Bob Stuart's** unusual monster had been pipped at the post by two superb looking examples from **Jim Layton** with the heaviest weighing in at **23.74 kilos** while Bob's best effort was slightly above a mere 21 kilos. The ju-

nior section was won by **Andrew Smith** at **10.58 kilos**. The booby prize was awarded to the lightest and most pathetic looking example with the prize going to **Anne Gray** (*basically to spare the editor's blushes*) but we are sure there were many poorer examples in gardens far and wide which people weren't prepared to bring to the weigh-in out of embarrassment.

After the presentation the raffle was drawn and a very pleasant successful afternoon drew to a close. Many thanks to all who helped with the event, especially Bob Stuart for organising and supplying the plants, and Eddie Stafford for supplying all the equipment necessary for the weigh in, and we hope his Tups enjoy all the surplus cabbages not required by their owners. Many thanks to all who supported us in making this event a success!

Contact us @ The Croft, South Charlton, NE66 2NA
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Editors Notes:

Just this afternoon (28th Sept) we were saddened to learn of the passing of Hedley Dixon of East Ditchburn.

I'd like to pass on our deepest sympathies to the Dixon family at this time.

At 90 years old Hedley's presence in the village and Parish has been a very long one. A genuine, dedicated and hardworking man will be missed, not only by his family, but by many in the Parish and far beyond.

Andy Gray

Lost Property Department

South Charlton Village Hall Committee would be grateful for any information leading to the recovery of about 9 tables and 30 plastic chairs which appear to have gone missing from the Cellar of the Village Hall. The tables and chairs are borrowed occasionally by different organisations and it is possible they have been legitimately borrowed but not returned, and the first we knew of it was when we went to the cellar to put them out in the yard for our barbecue in June, and they weren't there. If anyone has said tables and chairs hidden in their attic or even basement or knows where they might be could they please call Whitehall 1212 (ask an old person) or Charlton Mires 494 where Alan Hodgson would be pleased to hear any news of there whereabouts, no pun intended.

Clean Up

Thanks to all the volunteers who turned up at South Charlton Village Hall on and before Sunday 5th September for our end of summer cleaning session. After intense activity the inside and outside look cleaner than they have for quite a while and hopefully will help us to maintain and increase our bookings and keep the Hall well used and viable.

Individual thanks go to Bill Purvis who got his hands the muckiest in the drains, took it upon himself to fix the leaking flat roof and be brave enough to scale the heights of the tall windows to give them a good scrubbing!

Highway Agency Triumphs Again

It is gratifying to know that contractors working on behalf of the Highways Agency are investing taxpayer's money wisely by erecting more fencing at North Charlton in order to encourage nocturnal wildlife to use the underpass at North Charlton instead of running the gauntlet with the traffic by trying to cross the road without the benefit of traffic lights. I assume the wildlife in that area must be particularly troublesome as there already exists a well fenced badger crossing less than half a mile away just north of the Brockdam underpass. This operation seems to have taken no more than a week so far with only about half a dozen vehicles in daily attendance so will only be costing a fraction of the National Highways Annual Budget. It is so gratifying to know that our Government cares so much about our natural environment and is willing to spend our money to protect it.

Leek Club Results and other stuff....

The leek show was a great success and congratulations to all who took part.

The Results Were as follows:

- 1st Y. Miller 202-56
- 2nd C. Williamson 234-83
- 3rd M. Robison 217-81
- 4th L. Williamson 190-83
- 5th R. Stuart 246-89
- 6th P. North 167-11
- 7th J. Layton 191-39
- 8th D. Charlton 192-58
- 9th M. Holmes 122-62
- 10th D. Stuart 182-49

Best Leek In The Show Went To Yvonne Miller
Intermediate Leek Was Won By Dot Stuart
Most Points In Veg Classes Peter North
Most Points In Industrial Classes Jane Dobson
Best Exhibit In Veg Classes Peter North
Best Exhibit In Industrial Classes Jenifer Charlton
Best Single Onion Peter North
Best Three Onions Derek Charlton



Yvonne Miller with the winners Trophy

There Will Be A **Northumbrian Evening** With **Ernie Coe and Friends**
On **Sat 16th October** In South Charlton Village Hall At 7-30pm. Tickets £5.
Pooled Super - Bar
All Welcome And Tell Your Friends!

Quiz Night: Next Quiz is **Wed 20th October, 7:30pm**. Bar and supper provided as usual. Bob might even put on his sparkly gameshow jacket!

FOR SALE:

Childs play kitchen by Smoby. It is 3 years old and has been a well used favourite toy but is still in good usable condition. Approximate dimensions W44" x H38" x D17". Also included is a big box of play kitchen utensils and plastic food and plates cups etc to go with the kitchen.

Your for £25 . Phone Geoff or Helen on 01665 578285



Road Resurfacing

It is nice to report that the County Council have found some money in the bottom of the kitty and have used it to resurface the road from Charlton Mires down to Rock Midsteads junction, its just a pity they hadn't carried on down to Rock Moor where you almost need a 4x4 to drive along the road, but if you want to go and see Jimmy Douglas for some logs or vegetables, its like a motorway down to his place now (well nearly...).

Eglingham W.I. Press Report

After our August break, it was good to see members at our September meeting which took place on Thursday, 9th September at Eglingham Parish Hall.

During our business section it was mentioned how much members had enjoyed our summer outing at the beginning of August which took us on a cruise up the river Tyne in glorious sunshine. We had tea in The Baltic and had some time to view the galleries. During the summer some members had taken the opportunity to have a go at croquet offered in a taster session by Northumberland Federation and were quite keen to see if they could pursue the game further. Our wayside stall outside The Tankerville Arms in Eglingham at the end of August had been successful in boosting funds and thanks went to contributors and helpers.

Our speaker for the evening was Janet Hall, the Deputy Editor of the Northumberland Gazette who had stepped in at short notice to cover for the Editor. Janet gave us a brief resume of her career of twenty-nine years as a journalist. She joined the Gazette in 1995. Janet also told us about the history of the Northumberland Gazette which has been going for 156 years. She contrasted the days of the local printing press to computer production with the head office being in Sunderland. We were given a resume of the working week at the Gazette and also looked at how colour was built up into the photos and print which we recognise. There was some discussion about the format of the Gazette – tabloid versus broadsheet with most members thinking that broadsheet was classier! We also talked about the press in general and how invasive and upsetting some reporting can be. It was good to hear Janet comment that the Northumberland Gazette journalists are part of the community, they are neighbours and friends and so do not want to upset people in getting stories. She concluded her talk by saying that communities can communicate through the Gazette and that she hoped that the Northumberland Gazette held the highest traditions in journalism.

Mrs Brenda Robertson thanked Janet Hall for her very interesting talk.

Our meeting concluded with a delicious and convivial supper.

Our next meeting takes place on Thursday, 14th October at 7.00pm in Eglingham Parish Hall when our speaker will be Mr. Harry Plater who will talk about “Operation Christmas Child.” Visitors are very welcome to join us.

Following on from last month's accounts, the concluding part of one families selected childhood memories of their time in Eglingham.

The Young's of Eglingham - Part Two

by themselves (co-ordinated by Wendy Young)

Tom and George used to visit their Dad in the saddle room to see him do one of his tricks, which was to let down the harness hoist in the middle of the room and hook his feet on it so that someone could hoist him up into the air dangling by his feet.

Tom's Sunday job was to pump air into the organ at church as he flatly refused to join the choir. The choirboys sat opposite to him so he spent half the time pulling faces and making them giggle. The organist, Mrs Grahamslaw, would scowl into the mirror hanging above her seat to help to keep the boys in order, and when she pressed the keys awful groans and squeals would be heard because he was so busy grimacing that he forgot to pump. He was regularly ticked off but it happened again and again. The boys also had Saturday morning jobs, one being keeping the



Mam with May and Tom

churchoyard tidy as Dad was the official grass-cutter/path sweeper and another was cleaning out old Mrs Hall's hens and chopping sticks. George earned a shilling for this and a shilling and sixpence for his short milk round. Everyone received a little pocket money which was usually spent down the village at old Ma Cox's shop buying tuppence worth of this and a pennyworth of that and sweet coupons were needed during and for some time after the war.

Every six weeks or so, the family were allowed to go into Alnwick to the pictures and have a haircut, if they needed one. They got the 11.30 bus and went to a cafe, often Trotter's in the market place, for pies and peas, bread and butter and tea, all for one shilling and a penny. In the afternoon they went to the cinema with a bag of sweets and a penny apple at Charlie Hunter's. All in, the excursion cost half a crown - not bad! The buses in the early 1940s were run by United Bus Services, a much better and more reliable service than now (says George). There were six buses each way from Alnwick to Wooler and back each day and from Alnwick you could travel all over the county. Tom was a keen boy scout and took a leading part in most activities. In 1947 he received a Royal Humane Society award for rescuing a small boy from the flooded Eglingham burn.

May was very sad to hear of the impending closure of Eglingham village school as she has many memories of her time there. Miss Jamesina Slora came as headmistress about 1938/39. Previous to her arrival hardly any village children passed the 11+ examination, but after she came at least one and usually two or three children passed each year. After Tom and May passed the exam and went to the Duke's and the Duchess's schools in Alnwick, she was always happy to help with any homework problems

they had Miss Slora was extremely strict and very handy with the cane. The children learned to tilt their hands so that the side of the palm bore the brunt of the whack.

The school yard was a clay and pebble slope -hard and dusty in summer and wet and sticky in winter. The toilets were outside. Inside were bare wooden floors with a huge iron stove for heating in winter. May remembers the white tape criss-crossed on the windows during the Second World War, though feels that they were in more danger from the Home Guard than from the Germans!

Village children went home for dinner and outlying children brought sandwiches. After dinner there would be games of hare and hounds round the fields and woods. Many a time the children would be trailing up the street to the sight and sound of Miss Slora purple with rage, ringing the bell furiously. "Ah well, cane again" said May.

George remembers his schooldays with affection and recalls many friends - the Stewarts from Hagdon, the Renners, Sidney Smith, the Clark family, the Lauders, Hilda Robson and also Miss Slora, described above. Poor Andy received it at the age of 5 for having dirty hands. It was also freely administered for talking, misbehaviour in the porch and on one occasion for stealing gooseberries.

In 1939, George had the misfortune to contract polio (then known as infantile paralysis) and spent nine weeks in the RVI in Newcastle. He was the only person to contract the disease at that time in Eglington and the virus was thought to have been brought into the village by a visiting soldier or sailor. From his stay in hospital, he remembers

seeing barrage balloons over the Newcastle Town Moor and searchlights at night. The ward had green tiles on the wall and huge amounts of steam issued from the laundry across the yard, but there were oranges for tea and he had daily dips in the swimming pool. He left hospital with a calliper on his right leg and for the next few years, travelled backwards and forwards to the RVI every six months on what was a very long day out. During these trips, he recalls steamrollers and tar boilers on the Swarland bypass, tramcars in Newcastle and crossing the High Level Bridge to visit Mam's aunties and cousins in Gateshead.

There is a story which alleges that every week Christine was sent to go and collect some pies for the dinner. Sometimes when they were handed over to her mother, the pies had all lost their crusts but Christine denied all responsibility.



Mam with first grandchild, Ian



Andrew and Starlight

Rosalind was only four years old when the family left the village, but she remembers going out with her father with the wagon to collect dead farm animals to feed hounds. Perhaps a happier memory was that someone presented her with some strawberries on a rhubarb leaf.

During one the severe winter of the early 1940s, the village became completely cut off by snow and bread and other necessities had to be collected from the nearest road access point by people on foot pulling sledges. If a gritting lorry passed along the main street, the children hurried to sweep away the grit before the bus pressed it in, in order to keep the sloping surface suitably icy for sliding.

The Young family always had a pig kept in a sty next to what is now the school field. May remembers Monty – called after the war hero General Montgomery - who loved to have his back scratched. One day Monty escaped into the field and had a high old time rooting about and enjoying his freedom Dad summoned everyone to help round him up and as they closed in, Monty dived between his legs; and tipped him up in the mud. Dad swore, the family fell about laughing and Monty galloped off squealing.

When the boys grew up and had cars and the girls had husbands or boyfriends with cars, Mam loved to arrange family outings to the moors surrounding Eglington. They would all -husbands, wives, boy and girlfriends, children and dogs, pile into cars for a revisit to their childhood haunts. On one such day as they drove down into Eglington, it was found that George and Sylvia's son Geoffrey had been left behind with Mother's dog. Nobody missed Geoffrey as we all thought he was in another car but our mother wondered where the dog was.

Tom remembered that Colonel Milvain was a great cricket enthusiast and it was said that ability to play the game could be a deciding factor if someone applied for a job in his employ. The Colonel used to invite a friend from the south of England to visit him for a holiday, bringing not only his family but his own cricket-playing staff so that a match could be arranged on the field in front of the Hall. Dad sometimes played, as did the other huntsman Fred Lee, who once received a lovely black eye. The Colonel played as well. Tea was brought out by the resident kitchen staff, carrying everything in large baskets, so it was a very good day out for all.

Other local people from the Eglington area included Wilson Bates, Estate Woodman (godfather to Tom); Arthur Brown (Head Gardener) who was renowned for his wooden leg, useful for planting leeks, joked Dad; Tom Morley, who rode a bicycle with red tyres down to the pub at dinner times and collected fallen beasts from the fanners to feed hounds; Tom Lauder (gamekeeper), a very forgetful person. Tom and George once found his shotgun in the woods fully loaded and ready to fire. Their father was very shocked when they took it back home.



George's 60th birthday party (Tom, May, George, Christine, Andy and Ros)

Thank you from our new home in Norham

Now that my family and I are fairly well settled in Norham, I'm glad of this opportunity to say thank you to everyone who helped us on our way.

I won't forget the church services on my last Sunday at both Eglingham and South Charlton, and am grateful to everyone who was able to attend. The picture we were given at Eglingham has pride of place above the fireplace in our new living room. It's a painting of the River Till with the Cheviot Hills in the background, which is very appropriate, not least because the Till flows through Eglingham Parish and makes its way to the Tweed, which defines the northern boundary of Norham Parish. The Alnwick Rose that we were given at South Charlton is thriving in the flower bed outside our front door, and the shepherd's crook (which is a work of art in itself) stands just inside the door.

I would like to say thank you to everyone who gave us cards, bottles of wine and other parting gifts. Having lived in our new house for nearly two months, the cards have now been taken down (but not thrown away), the wine was drunk long ago, and the other gifts will continue to be treasured.

Norham is flatter and more arable than the countryside around Eglingham. We miss the hills and the sheep, but I can feel myself falling in love with the River Tweed. I walk the dog along it every morning, and I can sense that the river has its own personality, revealed in the changing seasons, weather patterns, flora and fauna. I look forward to getting to know it, and I think we'll get to feel at home here, just as we felt very much at home in Eglingham.

Thank you, again, for all the kindness that we have been shown in our eight-and-a-half years among you. I look forward to meeting some of you from time and time, and I wish you well for the future.

Rob Kelsey

More Thank you's

Once again all the people in the South Charlton area would like to express their deep thanks to **Nigel Thompson** for again keeping all the grass around the Village and all the way down to the A1 cut. He does this entirely of his own volition and won't accept any payment or help with expenses. When you come off the A1 heading up to the Village it is like having your own manicured lawn all the way home and it is much appreciated by everyone. Many thanks again Nigel.

The Treasurer of Hear Abouts would like to convey his sincere thanks to **Ian Gibson** of South Charlton for once again auditing the accounts of the magazine and in the process correcting said Treasurers mistakes so that it now looks exactly as it should. Copies of the accounts can be viewed on the Eglingham web site www.eglingham.info (if I remember to load them up) , so once again many thanks to Ian.

Memories of Long time Eglingham Resident Michael Pringle

Part 2

The Vicar had a Gardner chauffer/handyman, a cook and housemaid for the vicarage. In the village was a gravedigger, Tommy Green; a dressmaker, Miss Wilkinson; a policeman David Blakey (the last policeman at Eglingham).

I remember there being two pubs, the Tankerville and the Ogle and there was a blacksmith shop run by Taylors. I loved looking in the blacksmiths shop and thinking how I would love to have a big hairy chest like Billy Taylor! That never happened, I have no more than a little down!!

I remember being with father in the churchyard to check on a grave that was to be dug. We heard someone shouting and it was Tommy Green in the hole he had dug but he couldn't get out! After rescuing the poor man Father made a small ladder for him to use in the future.

Another memory was of John Pringle (no relation again) who died at Beanley. Father (being an undertaker) took me with them to help. John had a long white beard and I can still see father lying the white beard on top of the shroud.

The Post Office was a great place run by Mr and Mrs Arthur Cox. The sweets in the shop were a great attraction you could buy 20 aniseed balls for 1d and 20 cigarettes for 11 1/2d. Mr Cox had a motorbike and sidecar which he ran as a hire service.

Every two or three years a circus came to Alnwick and stay for a week on the recreation field. After Alnwick they packed up and travelled by horse-drawn trucks to Wooler via Eglingham. We got very excited as we got up at daybreak see the procession. The Elephants were always first having been fitted with special boots. On one such journey, word got around that an elephant had left "something" on Bewick Bridge. So to find out if this was true, Eddie and I cycled along to see. Oh what a big heap of dung; something you will only see once in a lifetime!!

Colonel Milvain built a dam across the burn in the Rock Garden to form a swimming pool complete with a canoe. Bill Wilson, my best friend, (later to become my brother-in-law) and I had a walk to see the swimming pool. Seeing the canoe we thought it would be fun to try it out. We stripped, got in, and I was paddling away when Bill said "Michael I can do a better job!" on handing over the paddles the canoe wobbled and turned upside down and into the pool we went. Bill couldn't swim. When I saw his face appear above the water what was scared look he had but I managed to drag him to the shore. The history of a Eglingham would have been completely different if I had not saved Bill!!





I would firstly like to start with a belated thank you to the folk of South Charlton who turned out in full force back in June to wish Holly and myself well at our wedding. It was so nice to see the community out as a whole we really did appreciate it and were so grateful for all the kind words and cards we received, once again thank you.

Hopefully by now many of you will have realised my missing articles over the past months, for those who have not noticed I am deeply sadden and hurt, never mind here we go...

As of last Thursday we can now give the official nod to the vicar that it is safe to conduct the harvest thanks-giving, not only should we give praise to the lord for provision of such a bountiful harvest but we always pray thanks to the Massey Ferguson 665 combine for holding together for another year. Although she did indeed survive to complete the golden gathering once again this season, like most, it was not without its entertainment. Last year the old girl started making a very strange noise, as it was getting late in the season and the remaining acreage of standing crop was not too excessive we carried on and ignored it. On the post harvest inspection there appeared to be a broken bearing on quite an integral moving part so the decision was made to have the said part repaired over the quiet winter months, being quite a complicated task professional help was called upon (not the Riddle twins).

The mechanic employed soon had the combine pulled apart and repaired over a couple of days ready for the pending 2010 harvest. Things started well, the first couple of acres were not too eventful. After a little while an oil leak developed which was directly above a belt which basically makes the combine move forward, for those with limited agricultural knowledge this ability to move forward is rather important in-order to harvest a crop. Being a Saturday afternoon the problem could not easily be rectified as spare parts were not readily available, which was a disappointment as the sun was shining strong. The mechanic in question did however have a very novel way of temporally rectifying the problem.

Picture this, a large red combine driving as slowly as possible up and down a winter barley field with one operator at the steering wheel controlling the direction and a co-pilot carefully applying white musk talc powder to the slipping belt simultaneously in order to gain traction and thus forward movement – classic. This method was very successful in gathering the harvest but I do know mother was very suspicious of father's fresh fragrance at the end of the day which even to the un-trained senses was very different to the more common mix of manure and oil and therefore took some explaining. Farmers being the adaptable and people as they are, we have decided to adopt this method as using 54p worth of talc per acre is far cheaper than a new hydraulic seal kit and the labour bill of an agricultural mechanic.

We should therefore also give thanks to the Massey Ferguson 665 and a very resourceful mechanic, in the name of the Father, Son and Morrison's White Musk Talc.

Michael

Hayheck's Travels in the North

For those of you who thought that Hayheck had emigrated due to ever increasing frustration with those in charge of various bits of the Civil Service, let me assure you this is not the case. I have in fact been travelling around the country, sometimes for pleasure which has been very nice and other times for business which to be honest, hasn't.

If you ever wonder why we all live in the middle of one of the remotest parts of England, with little in the way of services, road repairs, shops or entertainment, it is because it is lovely. Beautiful countryside, slate and stone houses hidden up little valleys, rivers to fish, birds to shoot and beer to drink. Add in the local population and you would be hard pushed to find a more pleasant place to reside in the whole of the UK.

Compare and contrast with Workington, a place you would not choose to go on holiday. The centre of the town boasts a brand new multi story car park. I am not sure why. I think it is a multi purpose building, combining as the local skateboard park, substance abuse exchange and somewhere to chuck yourself off the top when living in Workington becomes all too much.

I had to visit the British Cattle Movement Service (BCMS) offices in the line of duty. Situated in a collection of Nissan huts on the old British Steel plant, they certainly look uninviting. Perhaps they make the locals feel at home.

It all reminded me of our very own Ashington, but without the bells and whistles. I



Workington town centre. The multi-story car park is in the middle of the picture.

tootled down there the other day and

found that someone has nicked the statue of 'Solidarity Bob' on the Pegswood roundabout. I was mightily impressed that the locals had managed to get a 34 foot sculpture on to the back of a scrap wagon. Mind you, that might be one of the reasons Workington is so bleak; the locals stole all the interesting bits years ago. How will we know that we are entering the Socialist Republic of South East Northumberland if our monument to the heroic workers what dug is not replaced forthwith. I will have a word with the powers that be.

Finally, it has not escaped my attention that Eglington is undergoing something of a transitional period. About a quarter of the houses have either just changed hands or are in the process of doing so. Can I extend a warm welcome to all those who have arrived. In order to help fit seamlessly in to local society,

can I remind you all to keep to the tracks and shut the gates when out walking your dogs. After all, that's how this column started. Ta.



Hayheck

Out and About

Seaton Delaval Hall

This fascinating property was opened to the public in May following its acquisition by the National Trust. It was one of the largest and most profitable industrial and agricultural estates in the North East of England.

You will find the Hall on the A190 between the villages of Seaton Sluice and Seaton Delaval.



Tell Me More!

This 18th century property pays testimony to the baroque architecture of Vanbrugh. The plinth of the house is formed from giant cushions of stone while the arcades of the long wings are stout enough to support an aqueduct. The imposing twin circular stairs in the hall provide access to the upper gallery and some splendid views of the surrounding landscape. Unfortunately whilst the masonry has survived, the interior of the central block of the house was largely destroyed by a fire in 1822. However, the wings remain largely intact with some rooms and the stables open for viewing.

The history of the Delaval and Hasting families provide a romantic and fascinating background to the Hall. Tales of riotous living and the theatrical aspirations of Sir Francis Blake Delaval would engage even today's paparazzi!

Who would like it?

If you enjoy local history, architecture or even historical romances, this is an ideal property to visit. Access is difficult in places due to stairs, especially in the main part of the house.

How much does it cost?

Adults: £4.40 Children: £2.20
Free to National Trust members.

Tips:

Open Mondays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays

Take a warm jacket – parts of the property are rather chilly!

The tea room is expensive and very limited in its menu. Eat in the village or take a picnic.



Call 0191 2379100 (seatondelavalhall@nationaltrust.org.uk) for further information.

Belinda Simpson (Linny) lives locally to the parish and currently works in the Tankerville Arms, Eglington. She has spent most of this last year travelling around the world with Georgina Archer on their Gap year adventure, before starting York University in October.

PARISH PORTRAIT



Where were you born?

I was born at Hillcrest, Alnwick 19 years ago.

Education

Eglington First School followed by the Duchess High School. Soon to be followed by York Uni.

What was your first job.

When I was thirteen I started working part time at Purdy Lodge so that I could save for the weekends to go shopping with my own money and buy my own clothes. I did all sorts of work, from waitress to chambermaid, chief cook and bottle washer.

Current position

I am currently working at the Tankerville Arms.

What do you most like about your current job/position?

Money. I enjoy the company of the locals, but I also enjoy closing time so I can get to bed. It is always interesting as you are constantly meeting new people all the time.

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

Whilst I was away travelling someone said 'make sure you meet someone new every day'. I did this and found every day to be different, giving me great insight and friendship with people from all over the world. This would not have happened if I had stayed in Ellingham.

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

Just go for it.

Do not regret anything and never feel guilty about spending your money.

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

Diving Instructor, because your office is the sea.

What is your favourite:

Film:

I like anything happy, girly chick flicks, Notting Hill, Mary Poppins, The Bourne Identity, all of the Bond films.

Book:

When I was away I read a lot of books. The ones I enjoyed the most were by Khaled Hosseini - 'Kite Runner' and 'A Thousand Splendid Suns'. I have not had much time to settle down with a book since I got back.

Music:

I love all sorts of music, from current stuff like Paulo Nutini, Florence and the Machine, Lady Gaga and The Dixie Chicks to more retro Take That, Train, Garth Brooks and Van Morrison. I even like Jazz. I do not like Heavy Metal or Drum and Bass.

What is your favourite or most interesting experience?

Travelling the world. Making connections with people you meet, who have connections with people from home. I find it amazing to be in an obscure part of Bangkok and bump in to someone who knows my mother or brother. One of the best experiences was going to the Lookout on Fraser Island, Australia. At midday everyone just went quiet

as a spectacular display of sharks, dolphins, turtles, stingray and a host of other wildlife appeared in the ocean before us. It was incredible, one of those moments you just don't want to end.

Another was running down wild pigs in the outback on the back of a UTE (pickup) armed with a knife. What an adrenalin rush. I will let you use your imagination for that one, though...

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

Stephen Fry and Jimmy Carr for the humour. I think Simon Cowell would be interesting, as would Freddie Mercury. Oh, and Jude Law, just to stare at.

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

I would bring back Eglington First School. I think that in ten years time all the people I went to school with would be sending their kids there.

Downtime:

I like my sports and play hockey and badminton, go swimming and do yoga. I also enjoy socialising, playing dominos on a Sunday night in the local.

All of this is about to come to an end as I go to York University to study Accounting, Business Finance and Management. Sounds like no fun for Linny for a year or two.

I'm sure all the regulars at the Tanky, Eglington residents and the rest of us who have encountered Linny would wish her well at University. Hopefully her liver will withstand the punishment!

This is the time to be making your Christmas cakes, ...gives it time to mature!

Christmas Cake

Ingredients:

14oz Plain Flour

8oz Butter

12oz Soft Dark Brown Sugar

8 Eggs

1 1/2 teaspoons Nutmeg

1 teaspoon Mixed Spice

1 teaspoon Cinnamon

1 1/2 lb Currants

12oz Raisins

12oz Sultanas

8oz Cherries halved

6oz Mixed Peel

6oz Ground Almonds

6 dessertspoons of sherry, rum or brandy



Kit: 10-inch square cake tin, lined with grease proof paper

Method:

1. Soak fruit in the alcohol overnight.
2. Cream butter and sugar.
3. Add eggs, flour, almonds and spices.
4. Add fruit and mix well.
5. Bake 140 Celsius for approx 3 1/2 hours.
6. Test cake with a skewer if comes out clean its ready, or return to oven and bake for another 30 mins and retry.
7. Cool cake a store in an airtight container till nearer Christmas time. Decorate as required.

Church Business

As we are now "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 Jeffry Smith, (01668) 281468.

Upcoming Services

Eglingham & Old Bewick:

Our services will continue as before and be taken by other members of the Glendale team or visiting clergy.

(That is 10am every Sunday at Eglingham and 9am on the 2nd and 4th Sundays in the month at Old Bewick)

The Harvest Festival at both St Maurice and Holy Trinity will be celebrated on **Sunday 10th October**. The services will take place at the normal service times. Donations for decorating the churches would be very welcome. Tinned food and toiletries are welcome as produce will be taken to charities in Newcastle. At Eglingham decorating the church will not take place until 5.00 on Saturday 9th as there is a wedding in church that afternoon. The collection money from both services will be given to the Salvation Army.

On **Tuesday 2nd November** there will be a service for **All Souls Day** at St Maurice's Church in Eglingham. At this service we remember the dead, our own loved ones and those who have died in our community. At the service the names of the dead will be read and candles of remembrance will be lit. If you cannot attend on the day you can leave the name that you wish to be read out on a list which will be left at the back of church during

the week before.

South Charlton:

Oct 1st 7pm - Harvest Festival
held by Rev. J Smith

Oct 3rd - Parish Eucharist 11:00am
held by Rev R. Carhill

Oct 17th - Parish Eucharist 11:00am

Oct 24th - Child Friendly Worship 6:00pm
Theme "Noah & the Rainbow"
held by Rev J. Smith. Refreshments after.

Oct 31st - Parish Eucharist 11:00am

Nov 7th - Parish Eucharist 11:00am

Remembrance Sunday
November 14th Meet at 10:50 at
South Charlton War Memorial.
held by Canon Alan Craig

St. James Church, South Charlton

W i n t e r F a y r e

Sat 27th November

2:00pm

South Charlton Village Hall

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

And finally... A few jokes

Marriage is like a deck of cards.

In the beginning all you need is two hearts and a diamond. By the end you'll wish you had a club and a spade!

Whats the difference between a Kangaroo and a Kangeroot?
Ones an Aussie marcupial, the others a Geordie in a lift.

Another member of the Pakistan Cricket Team has been arrested after placing a suspicious bet with online book-makers...

...the £5 on Liverpool to win next weekend alerted authorities instantly!

My wife treats me like a god...

Every night for dinner I get a burnt offering.

Was at an atheists funeral the other day.

Poor bloke, all dressed up and nowhere to go.

I was going to India to watch the Commonwealth Games.
But I've decided to stay and watch the build up on TV.

I took my wife to Specsavers this morning.
Even they couldn't see why I bloody married her.

Lying in bed with the wife last night when she asked, "If you were stuck on a desert island and could only take 3 things, what would they be?" "Just you," I said, "aww, is that because you couldn't live without me?" she asked. "No, it's because you know bloody everything!" I replied.

BBC News: Two pedestrians die in collision.
Bloody hell! How fast must they have been walking?

BBC News: Researchers at George Washington University have calculated that being obese costs women over 4800 dollars a year, and over 2600 dollars a year for men. Most of the cost to obese women is from having to buy their own drinks.

I sent the new lad at work down the shop for 20 Benson & Hedges.

He said, "what if they aint got Bensons".

I replied "...get us anything".

The stupid bugger came back with a Sausage Roll.