

HEAR ABOUTS

DECEMBER 2018



The Free Community Magazine for Eglington Parish
North Charlton | South Charlton | Eglington | & Everywhere Between

From the Editor

And thats another year done! (One day I'll remember to ask Geoff how long we've been doing this - Geoff has done his bit a good few years longer than me!)

Just a quick thank you to all you avid readers for reading us! Thanks to the contributors and article writing regulars! Thanks to the distribution team dotted around the Parish.

The whole Hear Abouts team would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas! See you in February 2019!!

Andy

Email: hearabouts@outlook.com

Address: The Croft
32 South Charlton
Alnwick
Northumberland
NE66 2NA

Lunch Club Christmas Turkey Dinner

19th December at 12 noon in South Charlton Village Hall.

Please contact Lorna on 07599644610 to book, as we require numbers for this Lunch

Let us know if you have special dietary requirements

www.eglingham.info

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Hear Abouts is all about you the reader within our Parish. It is written by yourselves (or by those just beyond our borders) and without those submissions there would be no Hear Abouts. Just a few things to note while submitting content to us which helps us out though.

Please **email** all content to the email address hearabouts@outlook.com and no other. There is less chance of it getting lost and forgotten about then. written content or content on paper will not be accepted. Please send content typed in an attached document file (eg Word). Please name the file with the article title, or be descriptive in it. It gets a little confusing when you have 4 files all called hear_abouts_artcle.docx. Pictures make things pretty! If you have an image to accompany the article great! Pictures tell a thousand words! A good size image helps us deliver a quality print. So ideally images should be around 2000 pixels on the longest edge. Please remember to own or have permission to use the picture you send. Even as a non-profit we are liable to claims of using copyrighted images, even within our small print run.

DISCLAIMER

Just a reminder for the easily offended or argumentative. Please note that the views expressed within are those of the named contributors not the Hear Abouts team. Thank you. Feel free to write in with a reply to anything to be published though!

Also please be aware that Hear Abouts is made available online digitally at www.eglingham.info and is searchable worldwide, so any information you provide will be published "beyond our borders".

Breamish and Till Carol and Christmas Services

21st December - 6.30 Carol service at Eglingham

22nd December - 4pm Carols and Candles with Caleigh band at South Charlton VH

23rd December - 6.30pm Christingle service at Ingram

24th December - 6pm Crib service at Chatton

24th December - 8pm Holy Communion at Ingram

24th December - 11.30pm Midnight Mass Eglingham

Christmas Day

9.30am Old Bewick

10.00am Chillingham

11.00am South Charlton

The 2019 Eglingham Calendar is now on sale!!



The theme for this year's calendar is Flora and Fauna and we would like to thank everyone who submitted photos. More were received this year than ever before.

Once again we are selling the calendars at the bargain price of just £5. The calendar is spiral bound and A4 size, making it ideal for posting to family and friends.

The Eglingham Calendar is always very popular so be sure to buy yours while stocks last. Calendars are available from:

Julian Tyley, Copper Beech, Eglingham
Tel 578460

Carol Singing in Eglingham Village

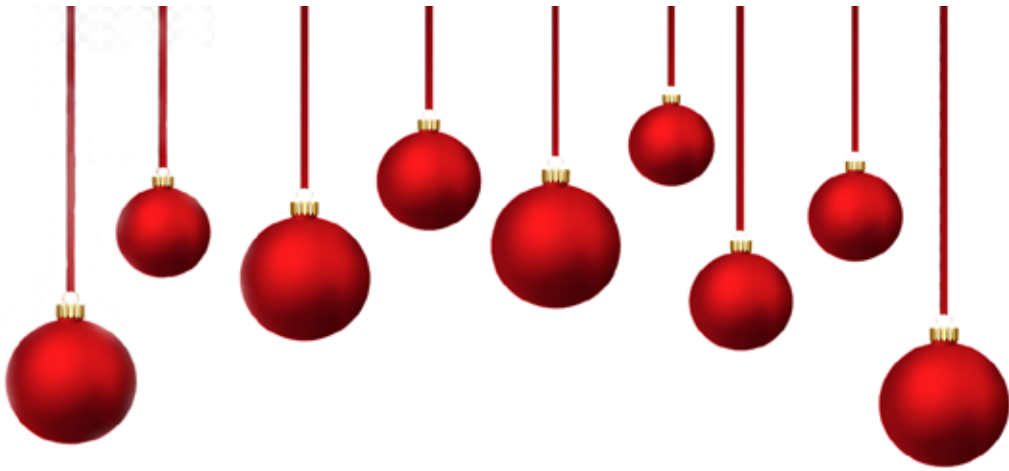
Sunday 23rd December 2018

On Sunday 23rd December we will be continuing our tradition of singing carols door-to-door in Eglingham. This year we are meeting at 4, The Terrace at 6.30pm and finish when our voices run out, which usually happens at about 8.00pm. If you can't make the start I'm sure you will be able to track us down somewhere in the village.

Carol singing is a way of sharing the joy of Christmas amongst friends and neighbours so willing singers of all abilities are welcome.

We hope to see you there – whatever the weather!

Helen Osmond



Parish Afternoon Tea

North Charlton, South Charlton, Eglingham
and everywhere in between

Saturday 15th December

2pm to 4pm

Eglingham Village Hall



All welcome





South Charlton Village
Annual All Age Christmas
Celebration



'Carols and Candles'

Mulled Wine, Mince pies, Snacks and activities for children

A Heart Warming Christmas Social

NEW Features - Carol Singing 'Ceilidh style'

Festival of Christmas lights – decorate a glass lantern to put in the
outdoor wreath

Sat.22nd December at
4pm in the village Hall



Someone said "this is the best family Christmas event we went to last year"
Join Us!

FREE ENTRY - donations welcome



RESIDENTS DAYS OUT

SUPPORTED BY THE WINDFARM FUND
DAY TRIPS FOR OUR ELDERLY OR IMMOBILE RESIDENTS

AFTER THE SUCCESS OF OUR PREVIOUS TRIPS, NEXT IS...



PANTO!

BEAUTY & THE BEAST

AT SOUTH SHIELDS

FISH & CHIPS LUNCH AT COLMANS

COORDINATED BY GROVEWOOD HOUSE
USING UPPER COQUETDALE COMMUNITY
TRANSPORT MINIBUS



FRI, DEC 21ST

DEPART FROM GROVEWOOD APPROX 10:00AM, RETURN 4PM

LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE
CONTACT JOHN RUTHERFORD 579316

Does St Maurice's Church Need A Toilet ???

Times have changed! One by one, around the country, churches are applying for – and being granted – faculties and permission to install toilets in their ancient churches. Why? Because churches are no longer solely places of worship, used only for an hour or two on a Sunday.

Most churches have wonderful acoustics and space, ideal for orchestral and choral concerts. By orchestral I don't just mean classical music, but the exhilarating sound of small bands, fiddles and pipes; and by choral I don't just mean sacred music, but the joyful sound produced by community choirs too.

But in a church building where there are no 'comfort facilities' the appeal of such an event can be limited – difficult for the elderly, the very young, and those reluctant to leave home in case they need to spend a penny, or a young parent needing the change a baby's nappy. We are also required by law to make access to these areas easy for those who are disabled. All this of course, applies to those who want to come to church services but are put off by there being no toilet.

St. Maurice's is Eglingham village's own church, there for anyone and everyone – for baptisms, weddings, funerals ...and space for social events alongside the village hall. But we do need to move with the times if the building is to be fully used.

Discussion has just started about installing an 'Eco-Loo'. Being a Grade 2 listed building we are limited as we are not on mains water or drainage and the church is surrounded by historic graves. Ellingham Church (across the A1) are in a similar situation but have recently successfully installed their Eco-Loo in a sympathetically designed wooden building with lighting supplied by a small solar panel. The building is discreetly placed so as not to be intrusive. (See photographs) This is one option.

The other option is to install it somewhere within the church building eg an outside storage area close to the vestry or at the base of the church tower.

It is very early days and we are inviting you, the residents, to offer your thoughts and, hopefully, encouragement about this proposal.

Please email me with any thoughts you may have before the end of December as we shall be discussing this further at our next PCC in January 2019.

Sylvia Williams – member of Eglingham with Old Bewick PCC.
sylviawil@btinternet.com



From the Vicarage, Eglingham

Dear Friends,

It's that time of year again isn't it.

I went into Newcastle last Monday on my day off to buy my last Christmas presents (12th November!) I start Christmas shopping at the beginning of October and then as the weeks draw nearer to Christmas, I can concentrate on our carol and the Christmas services in the Benefice and of course my family too. Sometimes I really need to stop and take a deep breath in all the busyness of this time of year. In all our planning for a festive time this Christmas why not join us at one of our carol services and on Christmas Eve at 11.30pm for Midnight Mass at Eglingham and of course on Christmas Day at Old Bewick at 9.30am and St. James at 11am, we would love to see you.

My father loved this time of year and was always the village Santa Claus, sadly he died at Christmas. I like to think I follow on the tradition in our family of loving this time of year, although not dressing up as Santa! Maybe that's not a bad idea!! I love to see people happy with one another, caring for each other and just helping people to have a good feel about this time of year. I know my father wouldn't have wanted me to be sad every Christmas on his anniversary he would want me to bring Christmas happiness to everyone.

Jesus came into the world to help everyone no matter who they are or what they are.

As we prepare our homes this Christmas decorating our rooms and putting up the Christmas tree take a moment as we switch our Christmas lights on let's remember Jesus is the light of the world and can switch a light on in each of our hearts, then we can shine that light on people around us.

May your God and My God give you a Blessed Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Lots of God's Love,
From

Rev. Marion

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

wendy.pattison@northumberland.gov.uk – Tel. 07779 983072

As this will be the last report before Christmas, I just wanted to wish you all Christmas wishes!



Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year
Warmest thoughts and Best Wishes to you all

Powburn Village War Memorial



I don't normally include news about other Longhoughton Parishes in my County Councillor reports for Eglington Parish, however, because the above ceremony was so special I felt I wanted to publicise it. The Chairman of Hedgley Parish Council, Cllr Robbie Burn, (Hedgley Parish includes amongst many areas, Powburn, Beanley and Bolton Villages) was concerned that there was no War Memorial in Powburn village to commemorate the brave men who died from the local area during the First and Second World War. He decided to set about rectifying this with the help of a small steering group and to tracked down and researched all 39 of the the men who died. The stories of how the project progressed and details of the men who died can be found at <https://www.breamishvalley.com/breamish-valley-war-memorial-project/> This wonderful initiative culminated in a very moving dedication ceremony at Powburn on Saturday 27th October, with residents, family members and representatives from many of the regiments to which the men belonged. Funding for the war memorial came from local donations and I was more than happy to use some of my Members Allowance towards a wonderful project which was so meaningful and so important to the families of all the men who died and to all residents of Hedgley Parish.

Wendy

Personally, I wouldn't mind being for Christmas...

...so long as you keep me forever once you realise how gorgeous I am! The folks here call me Nim although I have a more aristocratic name attached to my chip. One of my parents was a Husky but the other one is a secret - he must have been titchy because I am only collie-sized. I am patiently waiting for the rest of the story to play out, the glass slipper that fits only me or the prince who whisks me away in his sleigh. On that fairy tale note; our carers at Alexa's Animals have been rubbing the magic lamp and have had a really great piece of news this month which the Trustees have asked me to pass on.

"We were ecstatic to hear that we had secured a £63,000 grant from the Pets-at-Home charity 'Support Adoption for Pets', for a range of improvements to our rescue kennels. The works will include (among others) improving and extending the electrics; installing heating and lighting; new insulating roofing; improving the site's drainage and paving, and providing a new isolation kennel. The news followed many months of effort to pull together the evidence for the grant application, including chasing numerous different local tradesmen to provide specifications and estimates for various parts of the overall project. Having moved into Patterson's Cottage last February, we experienced the full blast of winter, with the Beast from the East. We are therefore acutely aware of the need to improve the accommodation for the comfort and welfare of the dogs in our (temporary) care. This grant, for capital purposes, will complement the enormous amount of fund-raising which our volunteers undertake, to help meet our running costs (vets' fees, insurance, transport etc.). The grant will, incidentally, also help upgrade the electricity infrastructure in the area, which should benefit our neighbours as well as us. We hope to start the works as soon as possible."



Not all of my kennel-mates benefit from a thick Arctic coat like me and it will be nice not to have to wade through the paddock so this is very welcome news. It sounds as though it is going to be really busy and noisy here so, on behalf of all us dogs, I would like to wish you a peaceful but happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

A Green Christmas?

I'm dreaming of a green Christmas – environmentally green! And possibly the best present I could receive this year would be to convert a few readers to join me.



Has anyone heard of Ecosia? I'm guessing probably not many. I only heard about it earlier this year, but I'm converted. A search engine like Google, the difference with Ecosia is that the revenue it receives from advertising goes into reforestation programmes – 100% of its profits go into environmental regeneration schemes across the world – not bad I reckon. To date it's planted 40 million trees.

What does it cost? Nothing! Does it work? Certainly. Does it work as well as Google? The honest truth is probably not quite at the moment – after all, Google has had years to perfect itself while Ecosia is a relatively new venture. However, it's improving all the time, and the difference in efficiency is maybe an extra click of the mouse. Most of the



time I never notice any difference. Of course I'm not a computer buff, but there's nothing to stop you having Google on the toolbar for those occasions when you really need it.

So will you give it a try, and join more than 7 million users? Go on – plant some trees as a Christmas present to our ailing planet, and while you're at it, why not send your name to Hear



Abouts so we can count local Ecosia users!

Frances Buckingham

100 things you may not know about Eglingham WI

For many years, Christmas was the most important season in the WI calendar. In the 1980s, when there were less than 15 Members, they organised treats for children and Senior Citizens, a Christmas Fair for the whole community (with Santa's grotto) and their own party in the Village Hall.

91. In their first year after reforming, Members decided to organise a Christmas party for the children of Eglingham and district and it became an annual event for over 40 years. Until 1976, the party was held in the Village Hall which was decorated for the occasion with a tree donated by a local landowner. Each child received a present – chocolate and fruit in the 1950's, and in the 1960's and 70's, members went shopping in Berwick and Newcastle for gifts. Those who couldn't go in 1961 received

a 5s/6d saving stamp.

92. Catering for the party was organised by Members who both bought and made sandwiches and cakes. In the 1960's, the buns and fillings were purchased from Mrs Barclay at Eglingham's only shop. The party tea was followed by games (the piano in the hall was always out of tune because of the damp), and then 'Santa came in person on his sleigh drawn by a pony and gave presents to all the children.'

93. Members managed a list of eligible children. In 1950, they agreed the minimum age limit should be 2, and that Members without children could invite 2, and with one child one more. This was when there were approximately 35 invitees. As numbers rose, they controlled numbers by introducing other restrictions. In 1967, only under 12's were welcome. Even so by 1971, they were entertaining over 90 children! By 1976, few members had young children of their own and the Junior Members were asked to help out.

94. For some years during this time, the children were also treated to a trip to the Panto. In 1977, a new annual Panto tradition began as by then 'most prefer to a party.' Then after 40 years, in 1991, Members agreed to stop the treats as 'half of the children at school didn't belong to the parish'

95. Ten years after establishing the Christmas tradition for children, Members decided to treat the 'elderly in and around Eglingham' as well. This took the form of a gift. In 1959, it comprised 1/2lb of butter, 1/4lb of tea and 2 lbs of sugar. In the 1960's, the over 65's received either a bag or 2 of coal or logs depending on their relative costs. In the 1970's, it was usual for the logs to be bought from Scott's wood yard. It was quite an operation and husbands and friends were called in to help! A tractor was needed to collect the wood, help was needed to bag them up and then they had to be delivered. Food parcels and flowers were also offered as alternative gifts. Annually, the Committee had to maintain a list of eligible senior citizens, and review the area of benefit.

96. For 5 years in the 1980's, Members organised a concert and supper at Christmas time instead of giving gifts. Entertainment was provided by Members participating in sketches or by other local artists. In 1985, the concert was for both children and Senior Citizens, then for a few years presents of homemade shortbread and chocolates were given as gifts instead. After 30 years, the treats ended in 1991 as there had been a 'poor response from the senior citizens over the past years for anything that was arranged for them.'

97. Santa Claus was a favourite with the children at their parties and in later years at the Christmas Fairs. In 1967,



the WI bought material to make him some new

clothes. These were borrowed by both the school and the play group. Rumour has it that one occasion one of the children noticed that, coincidentally; Santa had the same shoes as their father! On other occasions, when Santa was busy, Mrs Claus came instead.



98. Members have also organised their own entertainment around the December meeting night. Christmas social evenings with Members and friends enjoying a whist drive, supper and dance started in 1951. In the late 1950's, they became more adventurous and treated themselves to a meal and a cinema visit. In 1957, they went to Newcastle for a Christmas dinner and then saw Round the World in 80 Days at the Queen's Cinema. In the 1960's, they chose to go for meals in local pubs in Cornhill, Wooler (Black Bull), and Chatton (Percy Arms). In the 1970's, Dinner Dances became the favoured entertainment at either Wooler's Red Lion or the Tankerville Arms. Christmas parties were held in the Village Hall in the 1980's with invites to husbands, friends and the Bowling Club. A buffet (provided by members), was followed by games and dancing to taped music, ending with Carol singing. The Percy Arms hosted most of the Christmas meals in the 1990's and the Tankerville Arms in Eglingham and Craggside in the 2000's. This decade, Members have again travelled further afield celebrating at the Cook and Barker (Newton on the Moor), White Swan (Warenford), and Carnaby's (Brownieside). In other years, we have been at the Tankerville Arms in the village memorably in 2015 when Mellow Morrison entertained us with his guitar and song.



99. For 30 years, all the favourite means of fund raising were employed (whist drives, raffles, coffee evenings and dances) to raise money to fund the Christmas treats. Then in 1978, Members had the idea to have a Christmas Fair. They agreed to make inexpensive gifts, crackers, order a Santa's Grotto and bran tub, and organise a raffle and serve teas. Fairs continued to raise money for the treats until 1990, then after the proceeds were split between WI funds and a nominated charity, finally finishing in 1998. Recently, the Christmas Fair was revived by the Village Hall Events Committee, and since 2015 the WI have taken tables to sell their delicious homemade treats. This has taken over from the Wayside Stall to become the WI's main fund raiser of the year.

100. Since 2015 and just before Christmas, Eglingham has organised a collection for the Changing Lives charity in Newcastle who support some of the most vulnerable and excluded people in our society.

If you've missed earlier reflections, catch up on the WI page of the Eglingham Parish website www.eglingham.info/womens-institute



EGLINGHAM WAR MEMORIAL

When Marion Wilson recently found an uncaptioned old black and white Post Card in her box of memorabilia, the hunt was on to try and find out what was happening in the busy scene outside the village hall in Eglingham.



A search through the Alnwick and County Gazette (now the Northumberland Gazette) soon found several articles reporting on the ceremony which was held to unveil and dedicate the new wayside War Memorial erected in memory of 23 men from the parish who died during the Great War.

A War Memorial Committee of 11 had been formed to plan and fundraise for the monument. Bishop Ormsby

and T.W. Clayton were the office bearers, and their work was described as a 'labour of love'.

The memorial was fashioned in stone by sculptor, J.E.Watson of Dispensary Street, Alnwick. Described as an 'elegant Celtic Cross, and exact replica of St Columba's cross on Iona', it was hewn out of freestone from Liver Rock in the depths of the old Denwick quarry. In addition to the names of the dead, the Committee decided to have the inscription in English rather than Latin so that 'all who passed by, young or old, might read and understand it with ease.'

The unveiling and dedication service took place on Easter Sunday, 27 March 1921, at 3pm. People came from the 'farthest confines of the widespread parish and assembled in hundreds on the highway' to pay tribute to the 'glorious dead'. Chairs and benches had been set out along the road, and spectators 'completely blocked the highway.' The paper records that the proceedings were 'very impressive and will live long in the minds of all who attended'.

Mrs Sutton-Jones of Roseden House, who's only son's name is recorded on the memorial, unveiled the Union Jack, and gave an emotional speech. 'This beautiful cross is a symbol of heroic self sacrifice and will be a constant reminder to all of us here of how much our men have done for us...if we could ask those that have gone what memorial would you like in your honour, I think the answer would be peace and contentment in the houses which we died to save, and to see England a better land.'

The dedication and service was led by Bishop Ormsby of Eglingham assisted by the pastor of Glanton Presbyterian church. To end the service, two members of the 7th Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers sounded the last Post and Reveille. Before leaving, relatives and friends laid wreaths, and the 'mass of flowers looked rich in the sunlight in which the monument was bathed as the people dispersed.'

By the time the memorial was erected, the Committee had raised £98, in part from subscriptions, with a promise of another £42. In December of the same year, a Free Gift sale was arranged to clear the debt and to pay for the additional work which had been planned around the memorial. These were popular fund raisers of the time, and

the newspaper records the items for sale: sheep, pigs, poultry, hay chopping machine, new sheep troughs, four quarters of prime mutton, lamb, rabbits, cakes, scones, home-made jelly, case of razors and scissors. With 'generous donors and spirited buyers', the sale raised a further £90 which was sufficient for them to complete their plans.

So, the mystery of Marion's post card has been solved, and on the centenary celebrations of Armistice Day, it seemed the right time to retell this importance moment in our parish history.

'See ye to it, that these shall not have died in vain'

Carolyn

Innogy Renewables UK Middlemoor Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund

Will open for applications on Wednesday 19 December 2018

The deadline for submitting applications is Friday 15 February 2019 for consideration at the Panel meeting in March 2019

How to apply

Please apply online at www.communityfoundation.org.uk/apply

For further details please contact:

Pete Barrett, Senior Programme Advisor, Community Foundation Tyne and Wear & Northumberland Email: pb@communityfoundation.org.uk

Tel: 0191 222 0945

Usual Guidance applies, trimmed for space. Contact the Community Foundation for details (Ed.)

Call for Panel Members

We are currently looking for Community Advisory Panel Members for the Innogy Renewables UK Middlemoor Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund.

The Advisory Panel member position will involve three meetings a year to make recommendations on grant applications to the Community Foundation. We are particularly interested in attracting applicants from North Charlton, which is currently unrepresented on the Panel.

The £81,000 per year fund covers the Parish of Eglington, Northumberland. Community groups, charities, parish councils and schools can apply for grants from £250 upwards for a range of projects. Individuals can apply for grants up to £2,000. Priority is given to applications that come from, or benefit residents within the Parish of Eglington.

For more information on how to apply to become an Advisory Panel member contact Pete Barrett, Senior Programme Advisor on 0191 222 0945 or at pb@communityfoundation.org.uk.

Kind regards,

Pete Barrett

Senior Programme Advisor

Useful Contacts

Local Councillor

Wendy Pattison: 07779 983072

Clerk to the Parish Council

Amy Smith: 01665 603755

Vicar

Rev. Marion Penfold: 01665 578250

South Charlton Village Hall (bookings)

Andy Gray:

andrewsgraydesign@gmail.com

Eglingham Village Hall (bookings)

Julian Tyley: 01665 578460

Oil Buying Group

geoffosmond2@gmail.com

residents@ Email List Admin

david@eglingham.org.uk

Have you found the Parish Website yet?

It has pages for all the local organisations, back issues of Hear Abouts, Parish Council meeting notes and much more. It now has a new feature “Upcoming Events” which lists, well, upcoming events.

The web address is: www.eglingham.info

Once there you use the menu ‘hamburger’ in the top right corner (depending on the size of screen) to select which page you want.



The website is now being updated with new content more frequently so why not bookmark it in your browser and keep in touch with all that is going on in the Parish.

Residents @ Email List

A resident of the Parish? Then if you haven't already... Sign up for our community email list!

Our very successful email list is open to any resident within our boundaries, just send an email to david@eglingham.org.uk and you will get added.

Next Issue:

Early February 2019

Content Must be submitted by 20th January