

A photograph of a forest stream with mossy rocks and autumn foliage. The stream flows through a dense forest, with large, moss-covered rocks in the water. The surrounding trees have green and yellow leaves, indicating autumn. The water is calm, reflecting the surrounding greenery.

HEAR ABOUTS

NOVEMBER 2016

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

Apologies to those whose content has been held over until next month or their pictures weren't all used. We unfortunately (or fortunately) filled the issue in no time!

Andy

CONTACT US

Email: hearabouts@outlook.com

Address: The Croft

32 South Charlton

Alnwick

Northumberland

NE66 2NA

Phone: (Andy) 07730 559223

Lunch Club

South Charlton Village Hall

Wednesday, 23rd November

at 12 noon

Join us for

Soup and Pudding followed by a Cuppa

All welcome!

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

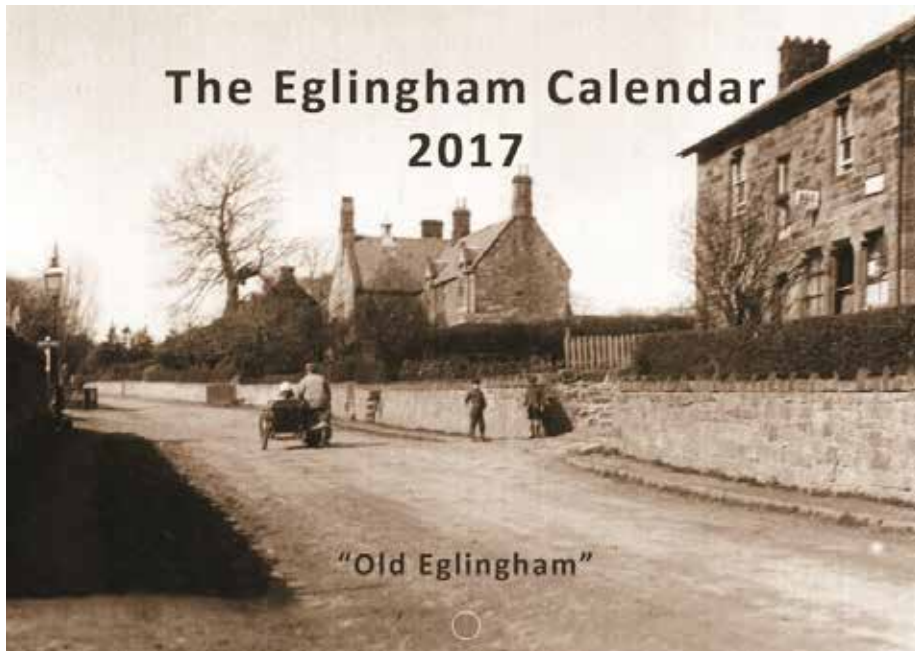
Hear Abouts is all about you the reader within our Parish. It is written by yourselves (or by those just beyond our borders) and without those submissions there would be no Hear Abouts. Just a few things to note while submitting content to us which helps us out though.

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. 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

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This year, in a slight change of direction, the Eglington Community Association have gone all nostalgic for the 2017 calendar. Ken Brown (Penny Blackmore's dad) allowed us to use his historic postcard collection to put together a beautiful calendar of bygone Eglington.

Although this year's is printed on heavier quality art paper we have kept the price at a bargain £5. As last year it is spiral bound A4 size, convenient for posting to friends and family.

You can get your copy from Julian, just give him a ring on 01665 578460. The calendars sell out very quickly so make sure you get your order in soon.

How well do you know your local area?

Can you answer these questions to provide the link between them?

Where can you see yellow snowdrops?

Where is there a simple stone 'clapper' bridge crossing a burn?

Where can a gravestone be found engraved with a skull and crossbones?

What is the significance of the date 4th Sept 1867?

The answer of course to the first three is at Holy Trinity, Old Bewick. The date is the day it was reopened for services after restoration from being a roofless ruin. The roof had been blown off in the early 18th century and the Chapel was restored in 1866/7. We plan to celebrate the 150th anniversary of this in September next year. As there are many people with associations with the church we would like to invite ideas and suggestions how we should best mark this occasion. We hope to include friends and families from far and wide so please let us know how you would like it celebrated and the PCC (Church Council) will do their best to include this in their plans.

Ideas can be sent by e-mail to; t.c.young@btinternet.com
or in writing to;

Patricia Fleming, Wooperton Hall, Alnwick, NE66 4XS

Harvest Festival Time

October saw the celebration of Harvest festival in our churches, on Sunday the 2nd at Holy Trinity at Old Bewick and at St James in South Charlton, and then on the 9th at St Maurice in Eglington, we were joined at Eglington by the congregation from St Michael and all Angels church in Ingram which was closed for major restoration work.



The service at Old Bewick was conducted by the Reverend Colin Perkins, and at South Charlton and Eglington by the Reverend Marion Penfold. The churches were wonderfully decorated with displays of Autumnal Flowers and foliage, the food and toiletries presented by the congregations to celebrate the harvest are to be Donated to the 'People's Kitchen' in Newcastle, a North-East Charity that strives to meet the needs of homeless and vulnerable people, they serve over 40,000 hot meals in a year, also Children North East who have been helping children and young people for 125 years. Also at Eglington was a colourful and seasonal display by the children of Branton 1st School.

I understand that the arable harvest has been very good this year, a result of the hard work and skills of the farmers and also the favourable weather and growing conditions. As always it is good to remember that despite the amazing advances in science and agricultural machinery the success of the harvest is still governed by the weather, and it is good to give thanks when conditions are favourable. Both Marion and Colin in their sermons said that at the harvest festival we should reflect on the workings of God in nature, and give thanks and not take for granted our relative wealth and comfort, but be prepared to share and give from what we have. Also as the seed germinates and grows to fruitfulness we should work together to grow the spiritual life of the parish to the glory of God.

Lawrence Holmes



Second guessing the future

Ages ago, about 2012 or something, I was writing about how High Streets should be rearranged with Police Stations, Planning Departments, Libraries and the like being re-sited to bring life and vibrancy back to market towns. And lo, it is happening. In Morpeth the Police Station is now located above the Sanderson Arcade, the 1960's library stuck out on a limb has been closed and re-located in Manchester Street and the Planning Department ... is still in County Hall. But I don't think anyone could doubt the vibrancy of Morpeth town centre following a significant upgrade over the last 10 years. Moving the services to the centre of town has got to help.

So what should we be expecting next from our service providers? Well, let us attempt to look into the future. The planning people will be moving back to their County Towns without a doubt, hopefully to be re-located in some pleasant High Street. The current plan is to move people back to County Towns and close County Hall with a new, smaller building in Ashington replacing it. The proposed new build, on the site of Tip Top Tyres (my favourite car re-shoer), was originally going to house 700 people. But the Councillors decided to close a swathe of offices in Ashington and locate them on the Tip Top Tyres site as well. So the building got taller. In fact it got so tall it became a tower. Artist's impressions show the outside to be off white in colour. Ivory, I think it is called. The Councillors offices are traditionally located on the first floor, where the corridors are to be fitted with travelators. They will be known as the corridors of power. The whole thing may or may not happen as we trundle towards an election next year, with one side desperate to push it through and the other side desperate to stop them.

My personal choice would be for no County Hall at all. All of the jobs should be moved back to County Towns. County Hall will continue to empty as the benefits of mobile working make the old idea of centralising staff to save money a redundant concept. The Councillors could have peripatetic meetings at the likes of Choppington Clubb, Hirst Welfare, or, out in the County at any of the theatres in the towns. Might give them the idea that there is more to the County than the little bleak bit in the bottom right hand corner (and it is bleak. Ashington has a lower social mobility rating than anywhere on Tyneside).

As well as central staff going, most of the maintenance staff have already gone. Things like verge cutting, gully maintenance and a hundred and one little bits of infrastructure fixing that we all took for granted are either contracted out or just dropped completely. We are now beginning to see and feel the effects of this. Some of this work is being picked up by Town and Parish Councils (PC's), who still have the ability to raise money through the parish levy. Would it not be sensible for these Parishes to pool their resources, enabling them to employ staff and get things done? They could be centred on our County Towns and we could call these groupings – oh, I don't know – Districts, maybe? There could be some kind of trend emerging here...

PayCheque (Hayheck)

EGLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk; Amy Smith 01665 603755

Email; amycartmell@googlemail.com

Minutes of the meeting held on Friday September 30th 2016 at Eglingham Charlton Village Hall.

Matters arising from the minutes; Eglingham School Sale; A cheque for £3000 was received for completion of the Eglingham School staffroom sale. Thanks was again given to Cllr Robson for her work in this matter.

Cattle grid; The clerk had sent photographs and accompanying explanation of damage to a cattle grid on the East Ditchburn Road as a result of logging lorries with a request for an urgent inspection to Northumberland County Council and was awaiting a response.

Middlemoor Windfarm Community Funds Applications; Cllr Wright reported that a meeting with RWE regarding the future allocation of funds had been very encouraging with Eglingham Parish grant applications being given priority by the panel. Any grants given outside the parish would still have to be shown to benefit people within the parish.

Financial; The clerk had ordered the Remembrance Day wreaths for Eglingham and South Charlton War Memorials.

Planning; Applications; There were no objections to 16/03251/FUL Bay extension onto existing steel framed stock building, Brockley Hall House, South Charlton. Granted; 16/02919/FUL Extension at The Cottages, North Charlton.

Correspondence;

The clerk had received a letter regarding the proposed Masonry Arch refurbishment of Eglingham Bridge asking for help to establish land ownership. The works comprise masonry repointing to all elements of the bridge and will take three weeks with little disruption to road users. The clerk was asked to give advice on any factors that should be taken into account.

A letter had been received regarding an invitation to comment on South Charlton War Memorial being considered for Listed status; there were no objections.

The clerk had received confirmation of reduced opening hours at Wooler Household Waste Recovery Centres which will now open Friday to Monday

BT phone box closures; There were no objections to consultation letters from NCC regarding BT's proposed removal of telephone boxes in the two villages and at North Charlton.

Council Tax; The clerk had contacted NALC for guidance on how proposed changes to Precept rises could impact on Eglingham Parish Council.

Any other business; Parish Website training; The clerk had received correspondence regarding website training for other users so that appointed individuals could update their own pages. It was discussed and agreed Andy Gray would be asked to provide this as part of the original agreement although controls would need to be put in place.

Date of next meeting - The next meeting will be held on Friday November 25 at South Charlton Village Hall.

EGLINGHAM AND SOUTH CHARLTON WAR MEMORIALS

Over this and the next few issues of Hearabouts, we will be producing an "In Memoriam" section which will aim to provide information about the people behind the names on the Eglingham and South Charlton War Memorials.

From World War 1 there are 23 names on the Eglingham and 3 on the South Charlton Memorials. In addition there are 3 names from World War 2 on the Eglingham and 1 on the South Charlton Memorials. One name is common to both.

If what you read in this issue triggers any memories then please get in touch with Janet on jandg.whince@talk21.com Even a small piece of information can help in the search to identify the correct individuals.

In Memoriam

*When you go home, tell them of us and say
For their tomorrow, we gave our today*

Lance Corporal James ATKINSON

Died of Wounds: 23 March 1918. (Age 25)

The Gordon Highlanders. Service No. S/13507

Buried at Duisan British Cemetery, Etrun, Pas de Calais.

Remembered at Eglingham War Memorial

James was born in Coupland, Kirknewton in 1892, the youngest child of William, a farm labourer, and Agnes. His mother Agnes died a few months after his birth and his father remarried. By 1901 James' father was also dead and the three children were living at Tower Farm, Lilburn. In 1911 James was a grocer's assistant, still living with his stepmother at Lilburn Steads. He was working at Hedgeley Co-op as a counter-man and traveller.

James enlisted in November 1915 and was wounded in September 1916 during the Battle of the Somme. He died of wounds received during the German Spring offensive of 1918, known as Operation Michael. Much of the ground fought over in this offensive was the same as that for the Battle of the Somme in 1916. The failure by the Germans to break through marked the beginning of the end of the War.

Private Robert BREWIS

Killed in Action: 1 July 1916. (Age 28)

The Northumberland Fusiliers. Service No. 22/895 (Tyneside Scottish)

Remembered at the Thiepval Memorial and the Eglingham War Memorial

Robert was born in Bedlington in 1888, one of eight children of John, a woodman, and Hannah. In 1911 Robert lived with his widowed mother at Wooperton where he was a carter at the corn mill. Prior to joining up, Robert had moved and was employed by the Ashington Coal Co. All three sons of Hannah enlisted, John Thomas, Robert and

James. Robert and James were the first to go, enlisting in November 1914. Following training, Robert went to France in January 1916.

On 1 July 1916 Commonwealth troops supported by the French launched an attack which marked the beginning of the Battle of the Somme. Despite heavy bombardment, German trenches were virtually untouched and the results of the action were catastrophic. Robert was killed on the first day and his body never recovered. His name appears on the Thiepval Memorial along with 72,000 others whose bodies were never found.

Private John BROWN

Killed in Action: 27 November 1917. (Age 22)

The Coldstream Guards. Service No. 20164

Remembered at the Cambrai Memorial, Louveral, Nord, France, and the Eglington War Memorial

John was born in Carham, which lies on the south side of the Tweed not far from Coldstream, in 1895, the son of Henry, a horseman on a farm, and Grace. In 1911 the family were living at Titlington Mount where John, like his father, was a horseman. By the time of John's enlistment the family were living at Wooperton.

John enlisted in the Coldstream Guards at Wooler. His parents were advised that he was missing following the Battle of Cambrai which began on 20 November 1917. This battle adopted a new tactical style where the enemy were not subject to a bombardment but instead tanks were used, the infantry following in behind. In September 1918, John's parents were finally informed that he was presumed dead. His name appears on the Cambrai Memorial which records the names of more than 7,000 men of the United Kingdom and South Africa who died in the battle and whose bodies were never found.

Private Richard Matthew HALL

Killed in Action: 1 July 1915. (Age 24)

The Northumberland Fusiliers. Service No. 2155

Remembered at the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial and the Eglington War Memorial
Richard was born at Roddam in 1891, one of ten children of Thomas, a quarryman, and Margaret. He was the older brother of Thomas Hall who died in Jerusalem in 1918. In 1911 the family was living at Brandon where Thomas, a widower, was a rabbit catcher. Richard was a rabbit and mole catcher. Richard was a territorial and would have been among the first to be called up.

On 19 July 1915, the Newcastle Journal reported that Thomas, now a gamekeeper at Hedgeley, had received a letter from his son's commanding officer advising that he had been killed in action and that: "he was buried at night behind the trenches, together with two comrades who had also fallen."

Richard would have taken part in the second Battle of Ypres when the Germans released poison gas into the British trenches, the first time it had been used.

The Menin Gate stands in Belgian Flanders, a memorial to the men with no known grave.

Private Thomas HALL

Died from Malaria: 3 September 1918. (Age 24)

Queen's Own Worcestershire Hussars (Worcester Yeomanry). Service No. H/270844

Buried at the Jerusalem War Cemetery

Remembered at Eglington War Memorial

Thomas was born in 1894 at Moorlaws, near Edlington, the son of Thomas, a quarryman, and Margaret. He was the younger brother of Richard Matthew Hall who was killed in 1915. In 1911 he was an assistant gamekeeper, lodging with the gamekeeper at Ilderton. He enlisted in the Northumberland Hussars at Newcastle and later transferred to the Worcester Yeomanry.

The Worcester Yeomanry was part of the Egypt Expeditionary Force which was fighting the Ottoman Empire. The Yeomanry was tasked with protection of the Suez Canal. By 1918 the Ottoman Empire was on its knees and fighting had moved away from Egypt. Thomas contracted malaria in Egypt and was taken to hospital in Alexandria. He eventually died in Jerusalem.

The Newcastle Journal of 2 October 1918 published a letter sent to Thomas' father by Thomas' comrades:

"Tot as he was affectionately called, one of the staunchest and most cheerful companions.....Kind hearted and of a pleasing and quiet nature, and forever a pal to be relied upon... As many of us as possible attended our deceased pal's funeral and the remains were laid to rest on the slopes of the Mount of Olives which overlooks Jerusalem....Prior to coming out here most of us in our little band of Northumberland Hussars served with Tom in France, and the news of his demise will be received by those friends in our late regiment with pained surprise."

Private George THOMPSON

Killed in Action 16th September 1915 (Age 22)

The Northumberland Fusiliers. Service No. 7/1539

Buried at Chapelle-D'Armentiers Old Military Cemetery

Remembered at Eglington War Memorial

George was born in Longhoughton in 1893, the oldest of the seven children of Thomas (a rabbit catcher) and Annie. In 1911 the family were living at Plantation House, West Lilburn, where both George and his father were rabbit catchers. By 1914 George was a gamekeeper working for Mr. A B Collingwood Esq. of Plantain House, Lilburn. He was a territorial and would be promptly called up, his shooting skills being in demand.

The Berwick Advertiser of 24 September 1915 published two letters received by the family following his death, the first being from George's commanding officer, the second from one of his Wooler pals:

".....He was shot by a German sniper and died at once suffering absolutely no pain..... He is to be buried tonight at Chapelle D' Armentiers, and his friends, L/C J Dixon and L/C McQueen have got all his personal belongings which will be forwarded to you tomorrow...."

The letter from James Dixon was much more personal: "....I thought it my duty to write and assure you of the heartfelt sympathy of the entire Company, and of the Wooler boys in particular.....He accounted for more Germans than any man in this Battalion..... He was just a big, lovable, fearless, cheerful boy.....What makes us feel it more is that he came through our terrible time in the Ypres district without a scratch...."

In Memory of a Young South Charlton Soldier

In St. James' Churchyard is a family headstone which reads:

*Here rests the body of
Lancelot Burrell
2nd Lieu. 12th N.F.
Wounded at Fricourt
while leading an attack
July 3rd 1916
Died at Oxford
July 10th 1916
aged 22 years
A good son*

His name is also on the War Memorial in the churchyard.

Lancelot was the second son of Arthur and Blanche Burrell. He was born in Ilton, Yorkshire in 1893 but by 1901 his parents were both teaching at the village school in South Charlton. He had six siblings (Arthur, Blanche, James, Herbert, Florence and Martin) and was educated at the Dukes' School. In 1911 he was training to be a teacher at the village school in Rennington and then went on to Manchester University where he gained a B.Sc. in 1915. He was given a commission in the Northumberland Fusiliers and was sent to France in the autumn of 1915. During the fighting on the Somme he was injured on the same day as his brother James.



The Alnwick and County Gazette 22nd July 1916 reports:

Military Funeral:

The funeral of Lieutenant L. Borrell of South Charlton who died of wounds in the military hospital in Oxford, took place on Friday afternoon and was an impressive one. The brave young officer was given full military honours. A firing party under Lieutenant Jennings, four buglers and a band of pipers and drummers were conveyed from Alnwick Camp by motor to South Charlton. At 3.00pm the soldiers were ranged up outside the house of the deceased and they presented arms as the coffin was borne out covered with a Union Jack on which were placed the cap, sword and gloves of the late Lieutenant. It was carried to the church gate followed by a large cortege of soldiers, relatives and friends and was met at the entrance to the churchyard by Bishop Ormsby, Rev. R. W. Fairclough (Vicar of the parish) and the Rev. Mr Bluche (Chaplain of Alnwick Camp) who led the way to church. The coffin was laid at the altar

where the hymn "Rock of Ages" was sung, followed by Psalm 39. Bishop Ormsby said a few words couched in very affectionate terms. The farewell shots were fired over the grave and the buglers sounded the last call. There was a large crowd assembled and the chief mourners were Lance Corporal Burrell (father of the deceased) and family.

Lancelot's father was stationed at Alnwick Camp and was a member of the Royal Army Medical Corps during WW1. Lancelot's brother, James, recovered from his wounds. The Northumberland Fusiliers lost many, many men in the first few days of the Battle of the Somme. Lancelot Burrell is also remembered in Rock Church.



I would like to thank the late Joe Bowden for the many chats we had about the history of South Charlton and also for loaning me his photos so I could take copies of them. Two are reproduced here.

Also thanks to www.newmp.org.uk

Belinda Dance

Eglingham W.I. Press Report for October 2016

Visitors from Howick and Longhoughton W.I.s, new members joining Eglingham W.I. - it was all happening in October making it a very well attended meeting.

Of note during the business part of our meeting, was that Eglingham won their quiz heat and are now into the finals which will be held at Stannington. Good luck ladies! Those of us who attended the Glendale Group meeting held at Wooler had enjoyed the evening hearing what other W.I.s in our group had been doing during the year. Sadly, Glanton and Whittingham W.I.s folded this year but nothing is set in stone and out of the ashes the phoenix might rise! You never know. We were entertained with flamenco guitar playing by Cliff Blakey with more traditional guitar playing and singing from Gary Steward followed by, of course, a lovely supper.

Various notifications of events and dates were given out by our President, then it was time to introduce our speaker for the evening, Jill McConnell Wood.

Jill had attended art college and initially worked in design for "Great Universal" for their "After Six" wear. After marriage and children she taught art and needlework and textiles at Ponteland College. She showed us a photo board which illustrated the year ten project in which they worked with textiles from Burberry. Design and having links with industry for her pupils were very important to her. Royal weddings were a personal interest for Jill which lead to a cottage industry, designing and making wedding dresses and outfits. At one point she had four outworkers. Again, we were able to see her design boards with amazing drawings and samples of material.

Sadly by the time Jill retired at sixty, she was widowed. However she began to lead a life of adventure by driving to the south of France and back by herself. She also became a Rotarian at Seahouses. Yes! Women can join too!

Rotary was asked for drivers to take over supplies to Minsk after the fallout from the Chernobyl disaster. Northumberland had previously sent out supplies and money but they didn't reach their destination and so it was decided to take supplies out personally. These supplies were to help set up, in particular, a holiday centre for the children and families affected by the radiation. There were to be eighteen drivers, three drivers to each lorry. With her experience of driving school buses and her solo trips to France, Jill volunteered. So, seventeen men and Jill set off on a ten day round trip. They drove for eighteen hours per day, three hours each driving shift, one person driving, the person in the middle of the cab supporting, whilst the third person on the outside, slept! They would drive until midnight and then sleep wherever possible in the back of the lorry. Fortunately they were carrying mattresses on the way out as part of their load! There were no toilet or washing facilities, it was a case of making do until their destination. It took three days to get there. They travelled in October/ November when lorry hire was at its cheapest but when they reached Minsk, it was extremely cold! Jill certainly became, "one of the lads" driving out to Belarus and Rotary showed their appreciation by awarding her a special certificate and medal. What a brave lady!

Anne Bagley won the monthly competition of "Memorabilia from your special holiday." The evening continued with our usual inviting buffet and chatter.

Pat Forster, from Longhoughton W.I., on behalf of the visitors, thanked our members for a most enjoyable evening.

Our November meeting, on the 10th, at 7pm in the village hall, will be our Annual Meeting when we review the past year and elect our officers. Romaine Barclay-Kim



I mentioned in my last missive that Ian and James Lesley of Whitehouse, just along the road on the left past the Shipley crossroads, were retiring from farming and were going to have a Farm Sale. I was privileged to be asked to organise and conduct this. The bachelor brothers were the third generation to farm Whitehouse, their grandfather having come down from Aberdeenshire to take the tenancy of Whitehouse in 1914.

The boys related to me the family tale of how their grandfather had come down on the train arriving in Alnwick in the middle of the night and had to be directed by a policeman to Whitehouse to which he walked. Taking tenancy of a farm is a big deal, now, then or any time. Apparently, he had to share the house with the previous tenant and his mother for two years before he got control himself. He must have been a brave, adventurous and tolerant man, old Mr. Lesley.

Ian and James and their forebears had farmed traditionally, effectively and profitably for 101 years and had acquired over that period much 'stuff'. This was duly laid out for their, quaintly named in our trade, 'Displeenishing Sale' (spellcheck doesn't even recognise it!). From the very up to date Case and McCormack tractors, cultivation and mowing kit to iconic Massey Fergusons from the 1960s and 70s; from butter churns to converted horse carts and tack, 550 lots of agricultural equipment spanning three generations was presented to one of the largest assemblies of farmers seen in this area for a very long time. Agriculturalists from Hereford to Spalding to Inverness paid testament to Ian and James's integrity and ability giving them a great send off into their well deserved retirement.

There was a great atmosphere at the sale and I can honestly say it was one of the best days auctioneering I've ever had. They were a joy to work for, great humour, patience and tolerance at what for the client be a very stressful time. One of many little incidents comes to mind: Prior to the sale, I was going through the major pieces of equipment with Ian, making lists for the adverts, when we came upon a very up to date and smart tractor driven log splitter made by Browns of Leighton Buzzard. "By" I said "that's a good thing, that'll make a lot of money". "A kna" says Ian "I sent wor James doon ta Alnwick to get a new shank for the axe, an he came back wi that!"

I said in my last missive that from August my work load explodes as the Breeding Sheep element of the farming calendar is realised. So local Mule ewe lambs have gone to Dorset; Suffolk gimmers to Shropshire; Texel tups to Taunton; Store lambs to Essex and every combination, breed and type of sheep to all four corners of the U.K. Some types have sold readily and easily some have been harder and slower to shift showing that after two middling harvests (price of grain wise - the wheat price is the bottom common denominator of agriculture from whence all money trickles down) there's not the ready cash about in farming there was two years ago. Anyway everything's now about placed and we can concentrate on breeding and store cattle which again are barely as dear as last year.

However the prices for slaughter stock are holding up quite well and certainly ahead of last year, driven by the weak currency - The Brexit Effect! Back in May in Hear Abouts I wrote a pro-remain tirade which obviously no one took any notice of! My thoughts have still not changed much but I can relax in the knowledge that I'm in a win win situation. If Brexit goes swimmingly well, which I sincerely hope it does, then we'll all be fine. If it doesn't, then I can smugly go around telling everyone 'I told you so!'

James Logan

From County Cllr Kate Cairns

Village Pavements and Drainage

I received concerns from residents and the parish council about drainage and the condition of pavements and walkways around South Charlton with claims of lots of soil, rubble, weeds and blocked drains meaning flooding of roads in bad weather. There was concern that foot walks were in a poor state with weeds and deterioration, which was of particular concern to elderly residents of the care home when walk to the Village Hall and the Village Garden.

I requested NCC Highways Maintenance team inspect the village. Officers carried out a full survey on the gullies and drains. All the gully pots were emptied and the lines jetted, the problem pot outside the church was cleaned out. It was deemed that this pot be replaced and a new recess bay created to aid flows into the drain. This has now been installed.

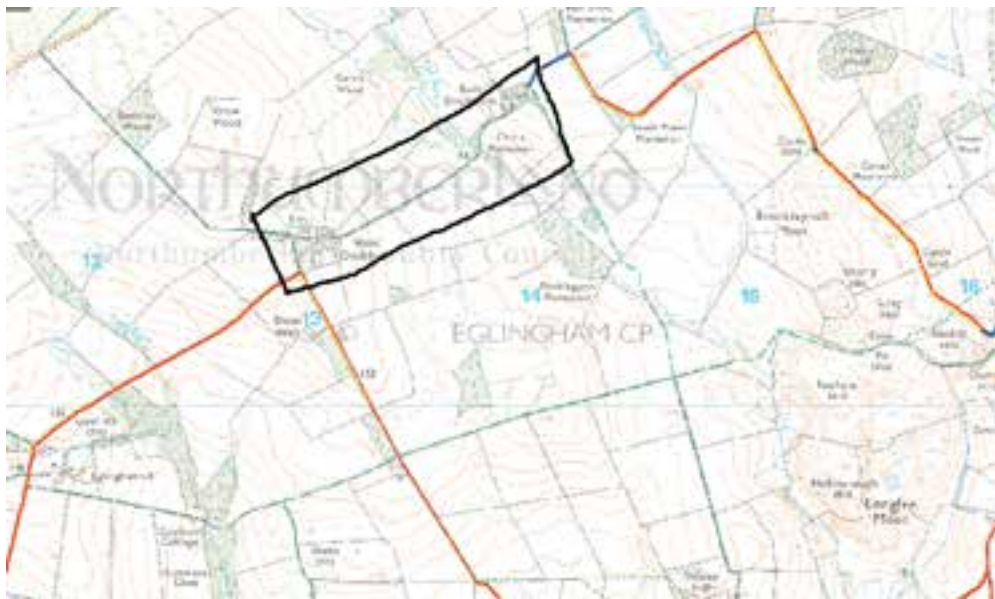
A team came to site and cleaned the footpath, and then returned to weed kill and sweep the road and gutters. It was planned for the footpath near the village hall to be plaster patched. The local farmer was also asked to trim his hedge where it was impeding onto the pathway when the bird-nesting season was over.

I received correspondence from concerned residents about the badly damaged footpath between the Farm and 'Tailor's Cottage', to the West of the road through Eglingham. This has been inspected and repaired.

Verge cutting

I have received a message from a resident about verge cutting around East Ditchburn where growth was deemed dangerous and impinging on visibility.

I have raised this with the relevant team at NCC. The verges at East Ditchburn highlighted on the plan are not on NCC verge cutting programme as they are not an adopted stretch. Whilst the summer is over this will no longer be such an issue I welcome information and feedback from residents if they think there still a problem.



Potholes

As winter is drawing in potholes can be a cause for concern. Roads are inspected regularly and any actionable defects (defined as a pothole more than 40mm depth and at least 300mm wide in any horizontal direction) are repaired.

There has been extensive pothole repairs and road resurfacing across the Longhoughton Ward but do let me know if you think there are areas that need urgent attention.

BT Phone Box removal

BT is proposing removal of telephone boxes across the county and correspondence has been sent to the parish council inviting it to respond to the consultation. There are three boxes proposed for removal in the Eglington Parish: Eglington, South Charlton and North Charlton. I encourage members of the community to make their views known to the parish council as soon as possible, the consultation is due to close.

16/03360/BT Eglington	01665578335	PCO The Village Eglington Alnwick	NE66 2TX
16/03362/BT Eglington	01665579231	PCO South Charlton Alnwick	N E 6 6 2 L Y
16/03366/BT 5HR Eglington	01665579293	PCO The Cottages North Charlton Chathill	N E 6 7

I am always happy to raise any concerns you may have with the Council and other organisations and you should feel free to contact me at kate.cairns@northumberland.gov.uk if I can be of any assistance.



Eglingham Village Hall – Christmas Market



Sunday 11th December

Come along for last minute goodies and stocking fillers.

Stalls include:

Gifts, Photographs, Calendar, Cards,
Taste of Northumbria

Hannah's Candles, Proof of the Pudding, Hobberlaw Plants
The WI Bakers, Tombola, Raffle

Open from 1.00 pm – 5pm
Seasonal refreshments.



PhotoClub

A "Back to Basics" session at 7:30pm Monday 7th November at South Charlton VH
Full Itinery to follow.

Coffee & Chats

10-12noon first Saturday of each Month.
Next one - 5th November

R e s i d e n t s @ 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 December

Content Must be submitted by 20th November