

# Hear **Abouts** February 2012

---

A Newsletter for the Civil Parish of Eglingham

<http://www.eglingham.info>

## Coming Soon to a Skyline Near You!!



**Erection of Windmills to be Underway by September**

### **Eglingham Loses Stalwart at age 94**

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Eglingham's oldest resident Michael Pringle at the age of 94.

*Find a brief tribute inside this months issue.*

---

Contact us @ The Croft, South Charlton, NE66 2NA  
Mob: 07730 559223 E-mail: [editor@eglingham.info](mailto:editor@eglingham.info)

## How about some interaction?

While we love that you all read 'Hear Abouts', and many of you regularly supply interesting articles and various news bites, what we don't get much of is direct interaction. How about we change that in 2012?...

Firstly, later in the issue you will find a simple form for noting various happenings in nature, the success of this fun survey depends purely on your interaction.

Secondly, how about a photographic project? In the parish we have Pros, semi-pros, hobbyist photographers and most people have the ability to take shots on phones - so there's no real excuse for not taking part!

**Heres the idea... On leap day (29th February) we take a photo each and submit it here. It can be anything, a landscape in the parish, a portrait of the wife, your desk at work, just give us a view of your day on Feb 29th.** If we get enough submissions, how about we produce a book? After 29th email your submission to us here. I'll put up more details on the website [www.eglingham.info](http://www.eglingham.info) as I've run out of room here...

## Wine Tasting Evening

Friday 16th March 7:30pm

South Charlton Village Hall

Inc. Cheeses from  
Doddington Dairy

Sample a **further** selection of wines from the "Wine Boutique at No. 14"

**Tickets £12.50**

Contact Michael Stafford 07855 780756 or Andy Gray 07730 559223 for tickets

## Community Printer

The Parish Council recently took on an office level laser printer from Lesbury Parish Council after they offered it to various organisations throughout the county, I put my hand up first and so now there is a printer the size of a house sitting on a desk here in South Charlton.

The ability to print is available at anytime - for a cost of course! (You can't expect the Parish Council to pay for everything). Prices will be finalised soon.

For printing get intouch with Andy on 07730 559223, or email on [andrewsgraydesign@gmail.com](mailto:andrewsgraydesign@gmail.com) as this address is checked more regularly than the Hear Abouts account.

Please note that this printer is NOT a photocopier and I have no scanner, so all files will have to be emailed or brought along on a flash drive etc.

It should also be noted that the Hear Abouts printer at Geoff's is available for use too, just on a much more restricted schedule.

## Bewick Parish Update

The Parish Council were very pleasantly surprised by the great interest in this issue. Those who responded voted by 14 votes to 6 in favour of the proposed merger. The next step is for The Parish Council to request a governance review from The County Council, however Eglingham Parish Council are very keen to hear the opinions of those in either parish before they proceed .

If you have a view on the subject please write as soon as possible to:

Alan Hodgson [Clerk of Parish Council]

South Charlton.

Alnwick.

# Michael Pringle

1917 - 2012

We are greatly saddened to note the death of Michael Pringle.

Michael was born at The Cottage [now Dene Cottage] in Eglingham on the eleventh of April in 1917 and lived much of his life in, and around, the village.

After leaving the local school Michael helped his father in the joiner's shop. He also worked as a gardener for several local estates including Harehope and Lemmington, acquiring skills and an interest he retained all his life.

He married Elma Wilson [sister of his best friend Bill] from Village Farm, with whom he celebrated their diamond wedding. Together they had three children; Helen, Harris and Judith.

Michael served in The Royal Navy in the war, before being transferred to the Fleet Air Arm. He moved to Broome Park [Bolton] after the war and later, with his brother Edward started the business of builders and joiners.

Like his mother, Michael was blessed with a wonderful sense of humour and he was unsurpassed as a storyteller. With these attributes he was not only the most amusing companion but much sought after as a public speaker.

Eglingham Cricket Club had no greater supporter, from playing days to Club Chairman with long serving captain and pavilion builder in between, and Michael was always the main attraction at their annual dinner.

Those of us who were lucky enough to know Michael are of course saddened by his passing but we should also feel privileged to have known him.

## South Charlton Games Night

South Charlton Village Hall is the venue for a games night on Saturday 18th February. Come along and take part in the darts and dominoes tournaments and any others that we think of as well, and a huge selection of board and other games to keep you entertained. Don't forget it is a pooled supper, and Martyn will have all the drink you require. For anyone who could use some extra cash, we will be selling the last remaining numbers on our Lucky Number Draw, some lucky person will be going home with £75 so why would you want to go anywhere else for your Saturday night entertainment.

## South Charlton Village Hall Bingo

March 10th is the occasion for the next South Charlton Village Hall Bingo, come and take part in all the tension, drama and excitement involved in winning a huge array of prizes (possibly), and if all that fails there is always the raffle. So come along and support us in our quest to help pay for the improvements we have made to the Hall for the benefit of all the users in the community.

## Eglingham Village Hall Lease

We are coming to a critical point in the life of the village hall. The current lease on the hall runs out in February 2013 and we needed to show that there was a desire and enthusiasm for having such a community asset in order to get an extension or renewal of the lease. Building on the work of previous committees the current Events Group and Steering Group have worked very hard this year to put renewed life back into the hall. A variety of events have been put on, and judging by turnout, fundraising and enjoyment they can be considered a great success. The main reason for putting on these events has been that people said they wanted them; but the secondary point has been to assess whether the village needs or wants a village hall in order to demonstrate that desire and enthusiasm.

As a managing committee we clearly believed in the community value of the hall and now we think that most residents have also shown they believe in it too. The turnout at events has been remarkable, the hall being full or nearly full on each occasion; For example we reached the capacity of 100 for the Bonfire Night social. Fundraising has been a great success and a wide range of people have turned out to help repair, maintain and decorate on many occasions.

The Steering Group has spoken with April Potts and we have now put together a proposal for the lease extension which, if acceptable, should allow us to obtain grants for the more substantial aspects of maintenance that need to be done in order to secure the hall's future. We are hoping that everything will be tied up in time to announce a renewed lease by the time of the Queens Jubilee so that we can have a local celebration to add to the national.

## Leek Club Events and Dates for your Diary

**Quiz Night Wed 8th February 7:30** - Supper as usual

**Night of Music with the Riddell Twins & Friends**  
Pooled Supper. Come and Support the Local Talent  
Saturday 25th February

**Quiz Night Wednesday 7th March 7:30** - Supper as usual



Names now being taken for **Tattie in a Bucket** competition to Bob as soon as possible.

Also the Village Hall **Giant Cabbage Competition**, so I can sow the seed.

# *Possibly the greatest radio show in the World. Ever!*

A few people who live in this parish are lucky enough to work here. The only one's I can think of are the people who till the land and those who look after flocks (both kinds). The odd itinerant coalman, milkman, scrap man and Walt the Knackerman. And of course the purveyors of fine food and drink: Those in the hospitality industry. Everyone else who works, travels to work. Be it by car and steamer to Benbecula to catch hedgehogs or Newcastle to run businesses or work in hospitals, it all involves a journey, mostly by road. And to wake you up in the morning, to get you to work in a relatively good frame of mind ready for the day ahead, we listen to the wireless. In my case, that would be Radio Newcastle. Or more appropriately at the moment, Radio Mackem, since just about every presenter can't pronounce the word holiday (holleeday).

The infuriating, maddening morning insanity that is Radio Newcastle got me hooked when I was running the kids to school, years ago. A little fat fella called Mike Parr did the breakfast show. You could tell he was a little fat fella by the way he talked. He would have a topic of the day and encourage the locals to call in with their views. And he would have guests in the studio to contribute to this important debate.

'So, in this age of genetically modified food, why should grass be green?' It could be any colour you want. What would you choose? Blank. No response from the Geordie Nation.

'Fence posts – round or square, what do YOU think?' Phones light up and it's Bill from Gateshead. 'Fower inch roond posts are just the right size for lampin' chavs. Sort's the little b#!&%rs right oot'.

Not quite what I had in mind Bill, lets see what Sid from Hawdon thinks.

Ah got a load o' square posts from the Metro safety fence the other neet and when y' chop them up the divn't half burn weell.

Cracking stuff Sid. Or should I say crackling...

Fortunately for my sanity the little fat fella shambled off to Cumbria to bless them all with his incisive views of the world's great problems. We then got Posh and Specs and a Welsh sports newscaster who wrote fantastic bulletins and proceeded to mangle them when reading them out. A daily delight.

'Newcastle Falcons lost 20 points to 18 in a close game at Shale Sarks when six of the team picked up knocks in an often brutal contest. The hooker suffered a broken jaw, catching a scoot in the brum. Two collar bone injuries, an eyed gouge socket and an array of broken ribs completed the picture. We should have the lads back wit and fell by Wednesday night, said the Coach. And on to race horsing. Today's meeting at Hexham.....'

Marvellous. Catch it before it is cut.

BBC  
NEWCASTLE

*Hayheck*



## Middlemoor Wind Farm

Update on the Middlemoor Wind Farm from RWE npower renewables Project Manager, Martin Kelly.

*Dear readers of Hear Abouts,*

*Work is now underway on site to install 18 wind turbines at the Middlemoor Wind Farm to the West of North Charlton.*

*At present, we have started to extract rock from an onsite quarry to lay the 12 km of site tracks needed and, to build the hard standings in preparation for the turbine delivery.*

*The majority of the construction plant will stay on site during this period so disruption to local residents will be minimal. The planned work on the A1 access road is scheduled for March, after which, all construction traffic into the site is expected to use this new access road.*

*Once the site tracks have been built, work will start to build the turbine foundations and the on-site substation.*

*We are anticipating that turbines will start to be delivered and installed in September and we will look to provide more detailed information on these nearer the time.*

*We provide community benefit funds at our operating renewable energy sites throughout the UK, providing a valuable long term, sustainable and reliable source of income for the local community.*

*In the autumn, we will be encouraging the local community to get involved in shaping plans on how to spend the community benefit fund by taking part in a community consultation exercise. This will allow local people to give their views on how best to structure the fund. For the Middlemoor Wind Farm, the community benefit fund is approximately £1.6 million for the life of the wind farm, which is usually 20 years.*

*As noted previously, our aim wherever possible is to be a good neighbour whilst the construction works are ongoing – we appreciate that at times there may be some localised disturbance and we would like to thank everyone in advance for their patience.*

*We are grateful to the editors of ‘Hear Abouts’, for letting us place an article in this magazine. As the project progresses, we will endeavour to provide updates for general interest and also for details of how you can contact us with any questions or concerns.*

*In the meantime, more information about the Middlemoor Wind Farm can be found on the website [www.npower-renewables.com/middlemoor](http://www.npower-renewables.com/middlemoor) which we will update regularly throughout the construction process. You are also welcome to contact me directly by email on [middlemoor@npower-renewables.com](mailto:middlemoor@npower-renewables.com) or by phone on 01738825124.*

*Kind regards*

*Martin Kelly*

*Project Manager*

## Nature notes for January and February

It has been a strange start to the New Year. Periods of typically cold weather are followed by several days of unseasonally warm weather. This has had a knock on effect to our wildlife. Some daffodils, crocuses and ornamental cherries are flowering earlier than usual and some are still flowering from last year e.g. hogweed and creeping buttercup.

This unseasonally warm weather has prompted a question:

What are the earliest dates recorded for certain species. Springwatch has arrived in the parish. Below is a list of species and your task is to record the earliest date. These can be sent into the editor and I will produce a summary later in the year. Best of luck.

### *Jack Daw*

---

Primrose	..... /...../.....
Peacock butterfly	/ /
Frog / toad spawn	/ /
Swallow	/ /
Cuckoo	/ /
Hazel catkins	/ /
Bats outside the house	/ /
Rooks gathering sticks for their nests	/ /
Blue tit carrying nest material	/ /
Bluebell in flower	/ /
Willow catkins	/ /
First lamb in the fields	/ /
Displaying lapwing	/ /
Ian Grant without a woolly hat?!	/ /
Brown hares boxing	/ /

Cut out and either send in your record (address on cover) or hand it to Andy or any of the editorial team at an upcoming event

## Cuddles & Walks Wanted

Hello, My name is Millie and I'm 8 years old. I wondered if there was a kind person in Eglingham who could help me.

My 2 big sisters have died and I'm lonely in the house when my mum goes to work. I would love some company occasionally, I wouldn't ask for much, a cuddle and a walk would be lovely.

If you think you could take me for a short walk and cuddle me sometimes, please call my mum, Gwen on 578 881 or email her on [gwen.bateman@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gwen.bateman@hotmail.co.uk)

Thank you

*Millie*

## "Sing with me"

Local resident Avril Huntly of Hepburn Bell has started a new business venture called "Sing with me". She is offering preschool singing and music sessions in and around Alnwick. Avril who is a qualified Early Years Practitioner says that these sessions help with children's personal, emotional and social development helping children to grow in confidence and help their learning. But more than that they are a way of spending fun and friendly quality time with your children! Some of you may have heard the beautiful singing of Avril, or her daughter Ami, at events in Eglingham Village Hall. For more details of "Sing with me" ring Avril on 07772 794872.

## Eglingham with Old Bewick Churches

We were pleased to welcome so many friends and visitors to our Christmas services at both churches. No-one is a stranger in our churches - just a friend that we have not met before and we enjoyed meeting so many.

We held our community Carol Service at Old Bewick for the first time which was very successful and helped by the mild weather. How very different from a year ago when we had to cancel services due to snow and ice.

At the Carol Service we presented our organist, Sheila Young with flowers to mark 20 years of playing for us in both Churches. There have been very few occasions when Sheila has not made the journey from Longhorsley, despite winter weather and detours on the roads and we are very grateful to her for unstinting support.

We also gave out tubes of Smarties after the service which hopefully are now filling up with 20p pieces. When full they can be returned in the collection plate at any of our services or handed to a Churchwarden.

The New Year brings changes to our services at both Churches. Old Bewick have already started using the Book of Common Prayer for the services there along with the King James Bible and this is being well received.

From 1st March the times and schedule of services at both Churches will change. All Sunday morning services at Eglingham and Old Bewick will be at 9.30am. The Parish Eucharist on the 1st and 3rd Sundays in the month will be at Old Bewick and on the 2nd and 4th Sundays at Eglingham with other services as set out below. On the 5th Sunday the service will rotate around the four Churches in Rev Penfold's Parish - Eglingham, Old Bewick, South Charlton and Ingram.

These changes will give the vicar more time to speak with her parishioners after a

service and still travel safely to her next destination.

*See a list of services at the back of this issue.*

Wedding Our best wishes go to John Russell and Maureen Sullivan who were married at Old Bewick on 3rd December

## Eglingham W.I.

### January Meeting 2012

The first meeting of 2012 for members of Eglingham W.I. was very well attended - in fact we had three visitors who hopefully might be joining us! The weather helped a good attendance but it was probably the fact that we were all looking forward to the slideshow of superb photographs taken by our very own Jean Findlay.

Jean is a very accomplished photographer and her subject for the evening was, "A Love of Stone." Her main topic recalled her stay at Denman College, the centre of education for the W.I. Jean had enrolled on a stone carving course. We were able to see her experiences on the course and the building itself and beautiful gardens. The bedrooms allocated to Northumberland F.W.I. looked wonderful, no doubt guaranteeing a good night's rest after all one's hard work! Jean could be congratulated on her finished carving which was a snail carved in relief on a slab of stone which is destined for the garden.

More stone came under Jean's scrutiny and camera on a visit to Orkney, the "Land of Stone." It was from a trip to a stone centre in Derbyshire with the U3A Geology group that Jean furthered her interest in stone. Her beautifully artistic photos in Orkney reveals the stone in its natural state and how it is used on the island.

Jean's third show was entitled, "An Abundance of Flowers in France" which started in Burgundy and took us through a changing terrain, (including stone!) down to Provence. Some amazing flowers and colour! Just what we needed on a cold January evening! However we were reminded how lucky we have been so far this winter by the last show "The Arctic Comes to Alnwick." Again, some wonderful shots of a winter we won't quickly forget!

Anne Bagley gave a well deserved vote of thanks to Jean and her two helpers from the Wooler Photography Club who had helped set up the presentation.

A feast of a supper followed when members were able to catch up with each others news after the Christmas break. It was fitting that the raffle was won by Jean Finlay! The competition of a New Year's resolution was won by Joan Sharpe.

Our next meeting takes place, as usual, at Eglingham Village Hall, on Thursday, 9th February, at 7.00pm. The speaker will be Mr Julian Tyler who will be talking about "Norway - Land of the Midnight Sun." Visitors are always welcome.

# Colin Kerr

Those of you who read Colin's excellent article on Hog Hunting in Benbecula will be familiar with his work. He lives at White House Folly with his wife and two children and has worked in the area for many years.

# Parish Portrait

## Where were you born?

I was born in 1957 in Castle Douglas, Dumfries & Galloway.

## Education

Lockerbie Academy.

## What was your first job?

I started work as a trainee gamekeeper at Buccleuch Estates, Drumlanrig Castle. (Queensberry Estate)

## Current position

Fieldworker for Scottish Natural Heritage on the Outer Hebrides catching Hedgehogs!



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

Working in the open air. Being trusted to work on my own in a wild, salubrious and inclement isle.

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

Enjoy yourself whatever you do. If you want to do something go for it, this is not a dress rehearsal you've only got one chance.

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

An old gamekeeper once told me "You've heard the old saying son that hard work never killed anyone?" I nodded my head... "Don't you believe it!" I wish I'd listened to him!

Also if you are a hunter or just like watching wildlife a North American Indian once told me "The hunter who moves a little sees a lot." It's absolutely true!

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

I enjoy what I am doing now although I would prefer stalking deer in the same kind of wild area. Making lots of money has never bothered me.

## What is your favourite:

### Film-

Best war- Apocalypse Now, S.F.-Blade Runner and Dune, Musical-The Blues Brothers, scary nun! Musical with a body count-Zulu, Fantasy-Lord of the Rings, True story-

Into the Wild and Jeremiah Johnson.

### **Book**

I like lots of books. The one I'm reading now The Name of the Rose by Umberto Eco is good, Centennial by James A. Michener, anything by Stephen King, John Connolly, Ian Rankin, Iain Banks or Iain M. Banks. The Bourne Trilogy by Robert Ludlum makes the films look ordinary and if I want a laugh Tom Sharpe books the first time I laughed out loud reading.

### **Music**

Heavy Rock- Led Zeppelin, Deep Purple, Black Sabbath. I saw Sabbath in Carlisle many moons ago when they were called Earth, my ears still bleed!

Classical- Beethoven. Pure class.

Some folk and both kinds of music Country and Western, good music to listen to in the pub.

### **What is your favourite or most interesting experience?**

Lots of experiences with wild life, I've followed badgers while stalking through woods just 5-10 meters in front of me, one night an old boar knew something was amiss would run off then run back stamping it's forelegs and growling. While watching and waiting I've had all types of deer, foxes, badgers, squirrels, in fact virtually every British animal within a few meters of me and they didn't have a clue I was there. My latest was on North Uist, while setting a mink trap beside a stream flowing through large pipe a wave came past me, I thought that's strange and looked up the pipe. There was an otter, two meters away! He looked me in the eye and shot back up the pipe stopping to look back when he reached the end. My camera was still in my pocket..

I was introduced to Kevin Costner when they were filming Robin Hood near Alnwick we shook hands and I said "Have you seen the lad with the deerhounds?"

"Yes, he's over there." He said pointing.

"Thanks." I replied and off I went. I'd never heard of him.

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

Billy Connolly, Jeremiah Johnson, Jim Corbett and Cher.

Met B.C. in the parra's when he was a Humble bum, good fun. J.J. incredible life would be good to sort the facts out from legends. J.C. he stalked man eating tigers and leopards on foot!! The first reserve in India was named after him. Cher clever woman and WOW!

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

Eglingham needs some more houses (Council?) which are affordable to rent by local workers. It would help to liven up the village which is filling up with commuters, second homes and retired people. I do like a bit of controversy.

### **Downtime**

I like to eat, drink and blether. Any good food, I eat most things, I drink beer, whisky,

red wine or a nice cup of tea. I will talk about anything or just listen, but not football! History has always been an interest of mine or just going for a walk with my binoculars.

## Wild in Botswana 2012

The last few months have been hectic, all of us having Botswana on the brain. Fundraising has been manic with another event almost as soon as the last one was finished. The Lamb sale, followed by the wreath making, then Andy having his head shaved, the Christmas fair in Eglington raising £144, all of which everyone was really enthusiastic about. Everything had been going so well it was tempting fate,

and true to form, our Wooler Christmas disco was a flop, with only five people turning up. But even from the disastrous disco we learnt how we could improve our future events, learning that communication and advertising were key. Especially remembering to advertise where the event was taking place, and not just another random hall in Wooler, pre-booked tickets are another must, so we have something to fall back on when people who said they were coming didn't turn up. We didn't even have the Christmas holidays off instead having 2 bag packs and the south Charlton Village party, which thanks to the generosity of everyone there raised £184.71. This was followed by a successful curry evening in the Newcastle Hotel Rothbury. We are now almost up to £14,000, which is well over our £12,000 target for the end of February. However we are not done yet. At the request of two local organisations we are putting on a presentation for each of them to explain in more detail the content of our expedition with the hope that they will sponsor us as well as more fundraising events.



Tsamayang Sentle (sam I yang sint lee)  
Goodbye! Go Well! (more than one person)

*Charlotte Robertson*

### Future Events:

Ceilidh at St. Michaels Hall Alnwick 25th February  
Adults £5, Under 12s £3

Pooled Supper

Contact - 01665 604 363 or 01665 603 377

Band Night Alnwick Cricket Club 9th March -  
£5 including food

Contact - 01665 574 638

Wooler Pantomime, Wooler Middle School  
24th March Evening and Matinee

We are still collecting for stuff a sack if anyone would like bags please ring 01665 579 248

### Contact Me

01665 579248 /Shipley House,  
Shipley, Alnwick NE66 2LP

Please contact me to make donations or if you are interested in any of the events coming up.

Donations payable to UK-Africa Scout Expeditions

Registered Charity Numbers  
306101 (England and Wales),  
SC038437 (Scotland)

## Eglingham Village Hall

The Events Group for Eglingham Village Hall are back in action for 2012 planning for the year ahead!

The first event will be a **“Diamond Jubilee Planning Evening” on 7th Feb at 7.30pm** in the village hall. This meeting is open to all parties/groups interested in joining forces to organize a celebration for this special event at the beginning of June this year. This will be an event for everybody so need ideas of what people would like to do and to discuss dates to avoid clashing with any other events that may be planned. Everyone is welcome to come along - the more ideas the better!

Remember The Turks’s Head or Louvre Cafe in Bondgate within? Alnwick’s first Chinese Restaurant The Green Bamboo? How about Pitts, The Globe, Maynards, Johnson’s Toy shop, the cafe in Fenkle Street or the Co-op shoe shop?

On **March 10th**, Adrian Ions will be giving a slide show on **“Old Alnwick”** in the village Hall. Adrian has a tremendous archive of photographs of old Alnwick collected over many many years and this will be a fascinating show of how much Alnwick has changed.

Start time is 7.00pm and admission will be £3 to include tea or coffee.

We also plan to have the fish and chip van call that night and the Post Office Bar will be open for business!

In April, **‘An Evening of Music, Song & Laughter’** with a pooled supper is being organised. Dates still need to be confirmed so more details will follow in the next edition of Hear Abouts.

Coffee and Chats continues to be held the first Saturday of the month where you have the chance to buy home baking and books, the 100 Club is drawn as well as catching up on what is happening out and about!

The next meeting of the Events Group will be on Monday 20th Feb 7.30pm in The Tankerville Arms. Anybody who is interested in joining us will be very welcome.

## Eglingham Christmas Market

Now that we are into February, things that happened before Christmas seem like ages ago. However, comment must be made on the success of the first Christmas Market held at Eglingham Village Hall on Sunday 18th December. Diligent work in promoting the event by the Hall Committee resulted in an excellent turnout, with some stalls being stripped of their produce within the first half hour. Gingerbread Houses, Chocolate, Sloe Gin, bread and jam flew out of the doors in amazing numbers.

On top of this, a makeshift team served tea and coffee to all the shoppers. Special mention must be made of Caroline Brewster, without whom most people would not

have been served, Jill Archer who gallantly brewed coffee for nigh on two hours solid and Janice Myers who stood in the freezing entrance lobby collecting the £1 entrance fee and doing the raffle.

This was the last event of the year at the Village Hall. We would like to thank all who have helped and supported the different things that have been put on throughout the year, from the Royal Wedding Party to the Christmas Market (via dances, wine tasting and fireworks parties). It has created an upsurge in community spirit that has been a joy to be a part of and gone a long way to ensuring the future of the Village Hall.

## Thanks

South Charlton Village Hall would like to thank Marcus Paine from **Hutton Stone Ltd.** who operate Hazeldene Quarry at South Charlton for their kind donation of wine for the Village Party held in January! As you can imagine this was very well received and we are grateful to Hutton Stone for treating us well, supporting local community projects and importantly to all, driving slowly through our village.

## Notes from Parish Council Meeting 13th Jan 2012

Bill Purvis presided and began by welcoming David Alston as a new Councillor. All Councillors were present, no apologies for absence.

Discussions on the amalgamation of Eglingham Parish with Bewick have been held by Bill and the County Council. Latest figures showed parishioners in Bewick to be 14 for, for the proposal with 6 against. Ian raised a question about Council Tax being affected. John Taylor replied he would seek advice from the County. It was agreed to keep a resolution on the proposal of amalgamation on hold.

Planning Applications received were reported.

The request from the County Council for the precept for 2012/2013 was discussed and the proposal to have the precept for £2500 was accepted.

It was reported the Auditor has asked for a risk assessment to be carried out.

Bill invited Andy Gray to outline a project he had undertaken and that he wanted to share with the community. A printer became available from another Parish so Andy had taken the opportunity to obtain it and be able to provide a service to all sources within the community.

Bill mentioned the Eglingham School Playing Field situation and said that information was still awaited from the County Solicitor. John Taylor suggested a letter stressing urgency was required.

Eddie Stafford mentioned the hedge at the A1 junction had not been cut, visibility was bad. John Taylor said he would see the Highways Department.

The next meeting was arranged to be at Eglingham Village Hall on Friday 9th March 2012 at 7:30pm.

## From the Vicarage...

Dear Friends,

*“To everything there is a Season”*

*The New Year is just out of the way and, as I said in my last letter, Easter is already in sight. However, before we rush ahead we have the season of Lent which will last from the end of February to the first week of April.*

*Lent is a season for the experience of giving your life over – in each moment, bodily, deliberately, to Christ and to what the Spirit is showing you. God wants you to surrender yourself, and let the Spirit work in you. Lent is a season for self-discovery of the parts of ourselves that perhaps we'd rather not discover, through prayer, fasting, and other disciplines. It is the opening up, the turning over to God, the repenting of our sins, the turning away from that which does not please God.*

*Most of what is done and learned in Lent is true for the rest of the year, too, but with a different feel. Forty days is long enough not to be short term, but too short to be thought of as a substitute for year round Christian living. A short burst, such as forty days, can go a long way. But only for those who make some hard decisions.*

*To everything there is a season. It is the season to be focused on turning from wrong-doing and dedicating anew to the kind of life that Jesus taught us to live. In Lent, it's traditional to give up something, This 'giving up' is done as a discipline for learning self-control, to free our minds from the chase after material things, as a reminder of Christ's suffering and what our true pleasures are as followers of Christ.*

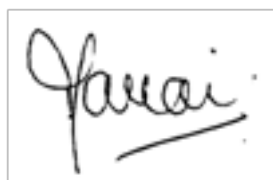
*Sometimes we don't notice how certain things we do have gained power over us and dictate our actions. In Lent, we discover these things and give them up so that God can be in charge. Franciscans use the term 'detachment': the less that 'stuff' preoccupies our life, the more room there is for God. But our Lord isn't looking for self torture, self hatred, 40 day starvation and oceans of tears.*

*Lent isn't all about giving things up, either. It is also about adding good things to our lives or to others' lives – the kind of good things that follow on from what Jesus asks of us. Reconcile yourself to someone you don't like, or you've had a difference with, or just intentionally stayed away from. Do acts of kindness for people, just because they're there, give them a little taste of God's love. And if you've got out of the habit, try to make time each day for bible reading, quiet prayer and meditation. Lent is a time to appreciate the value of a relationship with God and of life itself.*

*Lent isn't just for giving up chocolate, which can be resumed in a great binge on Easter Day, does little good and can easily fill us with an unhelpful sense of spiritual achievement. Lent is an opportunity for Springtime cleansing and we should encourage one another in observing it. Why should Weight Watchers have a greater care for one another's progress than followers of Jesus Christ?*

*There is a season for everything under God's heaven: let us walk together to that Glorious Easter morning.*

With all Gods Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yavai", enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

## Eglingham & Old Bewick Church

### Services for February;

Feb 5th

10am. Holy Communion Eglingham

Feb 12th

9am. Holy Communion Old Bewick

10am. Holy Communion Eglingham

Feb 19th

10am Holy Communion Eglingham

Feb 26th

9am Holy Communion Old Bewick

10am Service of the Word Eglingham

### Services for March

Mar 4th

9.30am Parish Eucharist Old Bewick

6pm Holy Communion Eglingham

Mar 11th

9.30am Parish Eucharist Eglingham

6pm Healing Service Eglingham

Mar 18th Mothering Sunday

9.30am Parish Eucharist Old Bewick

9.30am Service of the word Eglingham

Mar 25th

9.30am Parish Eucharist Eglingham

# SRP Tree Care

'Professional tree care'

- . Tree Felling
- . Tree Dismantles
- . Tree Pruning
- . Tree Lifts/Reductions
- . Stump Removal
- . Dead, Dying and Dangerous Trees
- . Tree Inspections and Reports
- . Site Clearance
- . Fully Insured and Qualified

Mob-078 5454 7037

01665 572 142

srptreecare@gmail.com

# NEXT ISSUE - EARLY MARCH

# DEADLINE FOR CONTENT 20th Feb

*Note: Graphics and photos not supplied by persons contributing to the publication have been mercilessly ripped from Google Image Search. Copyright for these images remain with the original authors.*