

# Hear **Abouts**

October 2011

A Newsletter for the Civil Parish of Eglingham

<http://www.eglingham.info>



**to ACTUALLY reply  
with your opinion  
on something very important”**

**DETAILS INSIDE - Plus Works set to begin on Windfarm**

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

**Editors Notes:** Another packed issue this month, back to 16 pages though to keep the greens happy, so no room for my patter. Or any jokes unfortunately, or fortunately if you are of a Politically correct disposition. A very newsy issue this month, so get your reading glasses cleaned up ready to digest news that could (and will change our Parish).

*Andy Gray*

## New Parish Councillor

Eglingham Parish Council has a vacancy for a Councillor and is currently going through the process to recruit a new member.

After the Returning Officer at County Hall was notified of the vacancy, notices advertising the vacancy were posted on the notice boards at Eglingham, South Charlton and North Charlton. The Statutory Notice period ended on Friday the 23rd of September and as nine or less people had written to the Returning Officer at County Hall requesting to be a councillor then no election needs to take place. In place of an election, a new member can be co-opted on to the Council by the Parish Council members.

The procedure for doing this is to advertise the vacancy and ask any potential candidates to submit a brief CV to the Parish Council clerk Alan Hodgson at 12 The Village South Charlton Alnwick NE66 2NA or [alan@hodgson12.plus.com](mailto:alan@hodgson12.plus.com)

Hear Abouts is the obvious means of notifying everyone of this vacancy as it is delivered to every home in the Parish, so please get your CV in to Alan by the end of October in order that Alan can circulate them to the other members of the council in advance of the next Parish Council Meeting.

The next meeting will be at Eglingham Village Hall on Friday the 11th of November at 7.30 pm and this will be an item on the agenda. The various CVs will be discussed and a ballot will be taken to decide the successful applicant.

**EGLINGHAM VILLAGE HALL**

# **Table Top & Car Boot Sale**

**Sat 22nd Oct**  
**10.00am - 1.00pm**  
Teas ~ coffees  
light snacks

**£5 per table/car boot**  
To book a space tel:  
Penny (01665) 578 327  
Joanne (01665) 578 342

## EGLINGHAM AND BEWICK PARISHES

Eglingham Parish Council became aware only very recently that the Parish of Bewick doesn't now have any Parish Council representation as the saga of the wind turbine application for New Bewick unfolded. Eglingham Parish Council were sure that Bewick was part of Tillside. It appears that since the Bewick Council ceased to exist it has turned down an approach from Tillside to join their Parish.

Eglingham Parish Council was consulted by the County Council on the wind turbine planning application, but it was made clear that the proposed development was outwith our Parish Boundary and our views would have limited influence. This process has highlighted that there may be people in the former Bewick Parish who feel that they have been deprived of a voice at Parish council level and may benefit from being part of a Parish.

This situation coincided with the Eglingham Parish Councils meeting with the Northumberland County Council representatives doing their rounds of the Parishes informing us of what we would all have to pay for in the future, while we were able to show them that most of the services they wished us to pay for were either not provided to us, or already provided by ourselves voluntarily. During this meeting the Bewick situation was discussed and we were advised to seek advice from Paddy Gascoigne at County Hall.

If enough Bewick residents wished to join Eglingham Parish, they would be entitled to have a Councillor on Eglingham Parish Council, the downside is Bewick residents would have to pay the same precept as everyone in Eglingham, but the upside is the added benefits of getting every issue of Hear Abouts magazine delivered to their door free of charge, and of course Eglingham Village Hall is the hub of a thriving village community with a huge range of events being organised, and we are in the process of acquiring the school field from Northumberland County Council, and it will soon be available as an added village amenity with a variety of uses for it currently at the planning stage.

Below is the statutory text provided by Paddy Gascoigne which states that views are sought from residents of both Eglingham and Bewick, so if you have any views on the subject please contact Paddy Gascoigne at County Hall, details at end of text. On this occasion Hear Abouts will be delivered to every residence in the Bewick Parish so that those who don't normally receive it will see what a vibrant magazine we have in addition to a Parish Council that strives to achieve the maximum it can for it's residents within the financial constraints that it operates within.

Official bit from Northumberland County Council...

***The County Council has powers to change the governance arrangements for parish councils. This is done through the process of, "community governance reviews". Eglingham***

*parish Council has expressed an interest in grouping with the parish of Bewick which does not have its own council. This is with the view to creating one common council shared by the two parishes. The residents of Bewick must have at least one councillor on the new council.*

*Before the county council can agree to such a change it needs to seek the views of the residents in both parishes. If you have any views or would like further information please contact Paddy Gascoigne, Democratic Services, County Hall, Morpeth, NE61 2EF or [Paddy.Gascoigne@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Paddy.Gascoigne@northumberland.gov.uk)*

**Penny for the Guy – Saturday 22nd October 12.30**

**Eglingham Bonfire Party - Friday 4th Nov 6.00pm**

Do you remember the time, towards the end of October, when you used to raid the wardrobe and shed and painstakingly craft a wonderful “Guy”? The fact that it looked more like a disfigured alien than any human form was irrelevant. Then you trundled it round all your neighbours on a cart or in an old pram politely enquiring “penny for the guy?” The excitement of counting up the pennies and rushing off to the newsagent to buy bangers and rockets. Well in these days of “elf and safety” it’s no longer that easy. But now’s your chance to help your children or grandchildren catch a little of that excitement.

This year the Eglingham Community Association is going to revive the Eglingham Bonfire Party that the Youth Club put on so successfully for many years. It will be held on the old school playing field on Friday 4th November and then back to the Village Hall for refreshments. As part of the build up we are organising a “make a guy” day; come along to Eglingham Village Hall from 10.00am on Saturday 22nd October (the day of the Table Top sale) where we will help you lovingly craft your own ‘guy’. We’ll have some materials on hand but bring along any stuff that you want to use to make your ‘guy’ special. At the end of the table top sale each guy and its owner (plus responsible adult) will go round the village to request donations (hopefully more than a penny) to put towards the cost of the fireworks for the 4th November bonfire party. George and Mary Elliot have kindly agreed to place a collection box in the Tankerville Arms for donations towards the fireworks.

Many people have said that they miss the fireworks and bonfire that the youth club organised so we are hoping to fill that gap. After the fireworks you can make your way back to the hall where there will be a selection of tasty treats on sale to round off the evening. We have chosen the 4th so as not to clash with South Charlton’s excellent firework event on Saturday the 5th. So for real fireworks addicts you can have two bites of the cherry.

## **Great North Run**

A BIG thank you to John Waters who, despite turning his ankle in training and then going over on it again just before the race, completed the course and raised over £200 for Eglingham Village Hall. That’s what you call “The Right Stuff”. Thanks John, we’ll put it to good use.

# South Charlton Village Hall

## 8th October 7:30pm - Social Night

If this edition gets out in time then you are all warmly invited to South Charlton Village Hall for an informal Social Night. We all enjoy the many evenings of entertainment that both the Hall, and Leek Club put on, but don't you sometimes just wish we could all just have a good blather and not sit in silence for 30 mins looking interested in whatever's going on at one end of the hall, or feel rude as we talk through someone bashing out a tune on their keyboard? Well this is the night for you! An excuse to chat the night away with neighbours and friends you don't see often, over a beer, glass of wine or for those wild ones out there - even a cuppa!

With no pub in the village we in South Charlton miss out on this general meeting place, sit shut away in our homes with dreadful TV series melting our senses, and with winter rapidly approaching (sorry to remind you) the likelihood of spending an hour chatting over the garden gate will be nigh-impossible.

So come along and enjoy a sociable night, we'll draw our 1st **100 number draw**, and we'd love to hear any ideas you have for making our Village Hall more successful like Eglington have been in recent months with their reinvigorated committee.

A Bar will be available, plus other refreshments, and a pooled supper.

## Bonfire Night - November 5th 5pm

After all the excitement of the fireworks display on November the 4th at Eglington, come along to South Charlton for the November the 5th extravaganza starting at 5.00pm at the village hall. There will be a bonfire and an amazing fireworks display (well the best you can get for 50 quid) along with homemade soup and sausage sandwiches, so catch up on the news and meet everyone you couldn't see outside in the dark, and all for the same inflation busting price as last year when we find someone who can remember what we charged way back then.

## 100 Draw

After the success of our 100 number draw (completely different from Eglington's - honest!) we will be starting another one soon after the winner is drawn for the first one at our social night on Saturday 8th of October. The next one will be drawn at the Village Party in early January assuming we have sold all the numbers by then, but with the chance to win £50 for an outlay of only £1, I'm sure they will go like hotcakes.

# Middlemoor Wind Farm

Dear readers of Hear Abouts,

I am writing to you as the project manager for RWE npower renewables' Middlemoor Wind Farm to give you an update on our project to install 18 turbines to the West of North Charlton.

Construction work is now due to begin in October and by the time you read this, you may have already seen some initial activity on site. This relates to archaeological investigation works which we are required to carry out prior to the main construction activities starting. To date we haven't found anything of major significance, but our reports will be given to the County Archaeologist should anyone be interested in finding out more.

Our next milestone will be to open up an on-site borrow pit which will provide materials for the next phase of the construction - the laying down of access tracks, hard-standings and the concrete foundations. This work will take around six months to complete.

Turbine deliveries and their installation are due to start in September 2012. Transportation of the turbine components will take place during quieter times in the day such as mid afternoon, avoiding as far as possible, peak times in the morning and early evening.

Once operational, the 18 Turbines will have a maximum installed capacity of 54MW producing enough electricity to meet the demands for up to 27,900 homes<sup>1</sup>.

The coming months will see an increase in activity on site, including building a new junction from the A1 to reduce potential road congestion caused by delivery vehicles. We take very seriously our responsibility to ensure all construction work is carried out as sensitively as possible. We are working closely with the Local Authority and Highways Agency to minimise any potential inconvenience for local residents and businesses.

Our aim wherever possible is to be a good neighbour whilst the construction works are ongoing and I would like to thank everyone in advance for their patience.

We are very 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/middlemoor](http://www.npower-renewables/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 01738 825124.

Kind regards

Martin Kelly

Footnotes:

Energy predicted to be generated by the proposal is derived using wind speeds monitored in the local area and correlating to a Met Office station providing longer term data. This enables a calculation to be made to estimate the average annual energy production for the site based on 18 turbines each of rated capacity 3 MW. The energy capture predicted and hence derived homes equivalent figures may change as further data are gathered.

Equivalent homes supplied is based on an annual electricity consumption per home of 4700 kWh. This figure is supported by recent domestic electricity consumption data available from The Digest of UK Energy Statistics and household estimates and projections from the UK Statistics Authority.

## *Standing up and being counted*

Sometimes there is a need in life for all of us to actually get off our backsides and make our opinions known. To motivate ourselves. To make a response so that proper decisions can be made for the benefit of all.

In our Parish, we have many people who voluntarily give of their own time for the benefit of the wider community. The Village Hall Committees at both South Charlton and Eglingham, for example. Church groups, Women's Institutes, Leek Club's, your very own Hear Abouts. The Parish Council. All people from throughout the area giving freely of their own time and effort to make things happen and look after the interests of the Parish. And most of the time, that is all you need.

But, every now and again, more than this is required. Two issues spring to mind. First, the proposal that Bewick Parish joins Eglingham, mentioned elsewhere in this magazine. The reasons are well set out in the article and I don't wish to comment one way or the other. If the residents of Bewick wish to join the Council (or equally, if they do not) then they can speak to any member of Eglingham Parish Council, but in particular Ian Grant, Fiona Robson or Bill Purvis and let their views be known. These will be relayed back to Paddy Gascoigne at County Hall. Please let your views be known. If you don't, then perhaps Mr Gascoigne will make a decision on your behalf. Is that really what democracy has come to, leaving a faceless bureaucrat to make our decisions because none of us can even be bothered to tell them what we want?

Secondly. After Eglingham School closed, the village and surrounding area was asked what they wished to do with the field. Did they wish to adopt it and turn it in to a community asset? A staggering 90% response said yes. So far so good. The field is in the process of being legally transferred from the County to the Parish Council, incurring legal costs as you would expect. Once this process is complete, the Parish will have to maintain the field, which at present involves a lot of grass cutting. This however, might not be the best use that the field can be put to for the benefit of the whole community. In order to try and develop the site, a number of ideas were floated in a leaflet in last months Hear Abouts. If the 90% who responded that they would like the field to become a village asset would respond as to how they would like to see it develop then that would be fantastic. Development could begin at once.

If there is no response, does that mean that no one is really bothered. It can stay as a field, undeveloped. It was only wanted by the village so that no-one else could have it. As a consequence the Parish Council (and subsequent rate payer) has been saddled with a maintenance bill of over £1000 a year. Surely we are better than that?

*Hayheck*

## Stay-at-home Christmas?

Are you staying at home for Christmas? Would you open your home and share Christmas with a student from China, India, or some other part of the world, who would otherwise be stuck at an almost deserted UK university? HOST invites you to give Christmas, perhaps for the first time in their life, to someone who is a guest in this country, who would love to experience your way of life and make your stay-at-home Christmas special. HOST will match you with one or two guests to suit your household. More volunteer hosts are urgently needed for 1-3 days at Christmas, and weekends all year round. Please see [www.hostuk.org](http://www.hostuk.org) or call your local voluntary organiser for a chat: Kerrie Jopling 01697 324473

## Eglingham Oil Buying Group

As the weather cools and thoughts turn to winter, have you checked your oil tank and do you need a re-fill or top-up? Would you like to save some money by joining a bulk order scheme before the inevitable price hikes that come with winter? Last month (August) ten households in Eglingham and South Charlton saved 5-10% against the price of individual orders - good news for them and the delivery driver was quite chirpy too (saved him time and fuel).

Contact David Jackson on 01665578606 or [david.tj24@btinternet.com](mailto:david.tj24@btinternet.com)

## Notes from the Parish Council Meeting 10th September 2011

Bill Purvis presided

An apology was received from Marion Wilson, all other councillors were present -- Eddie Jean June Fiona April Ian Alan and John Taylor.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed by Bill.

Among the correspondence received was a letter from NCC asking for updates on the Local Transport situation. John Taylor mentioned repairs to the main road through Eglingham were in hand. It was also noticed that bin collection days were being changed in the County but for some the days would remain as previous.

A special meeting between the County and the Parish Council was arranged by the County because of their inadequate details of services within the Parish. Earlier in the year they had sent details of services that were non-existent in this Parish. The meeting resolved the services and the

Parish would be responsible for all bins, one seat, bus shelters (but more details on shelters were required from NCC) Information on merging with neighbouring Parishes and a schedule of road sweeping and gully cleaning to be forthcoming.

Advice on procedure for co-opting on to the Parish Council had been taken and notices advertising a vacancy had been put in place and the Election Office at County notified.

Costs of litter and dog bins had been obtained but Eglingham Councillors wanted further information.

Procedures about amalgating Bewick with Eglingham Parish was discussed and it was proposed to seek further details via the magazine Hear Abouts.

A site visit to the location of a proposed wind turbine at New Bewick Farm was

arranged by NCC and invited a Councillor from Eglingham to attend, no one offered. It was agreed to send further observations on the proposed development to the County as the initial information supplied by George F White, the agent, was misleading. Visual impact, size, location were not greatly assessed in the submission.

Planning approvals for development at land west of North Charlton Farm and 2, Brockley Hall Farm Cottages were received from NCC.

Eglingham School Playing field was ongoing with the solicitors looking with concern into aspects of the transfer such as drains, rights of access, boundary details etc.

Speeding situations around the Parishes were reported by John Taylor. The system was to provide volunteers with speed guns, supplied by the County at a cost of £250 to monitor traffic and report to the police. Eglingham were satisfied with their present system. South Charlton do not qualify because there being no houses on the south side of the main road, no speed limits could be imposed so no chance or point of a speed gun.

Eddie mentioned the hedge at Rock Lodge impairing the visibility for traffic, it was suggested to write to County Highways.

The next meeting was arranged to be at Eglingham Village Hall on Friday 11th November 2011 at 7.30pm.

## Thanks

I would like to thank the people who sent cards, but didn't "drop in" for a blather for my 90th birthday and once again for the people who did come. Around 50 cards arrived, presents and good wishes all much appreciated. We blathered about the price of petrol the year I was born, three shillings a gallon in 1921 and of South Charlton stone maybe going across the pond, I wonder what my Grandfather would have said?! Folk asked me what was my secret of reaching 90, I said keeping active as long as you can, Ruby's good cooking and faith. Some asked what I remembered most, apart from the war, there are several, walking in Red Square Russia, walking on the Great Wall of China, having a Hot Air Balloon flight over Kenya at 6:30am, seeing the wild animals waking up and roaming the huge plains especially the wildebeest, hundreds of them. I had two lovely days, Sunday the family had lunch at the Meadow House Restaurant - a lovely meal.

Remember the old gypsy woman at the door said I'd live to be 100!?

Many thanks to you all again for a lovely birthday, it was much appreciated.

*Joe Bowden*

## St James' South Charlton - Autumn Fayre

**Saturday 12th November 2011 at 2pm**

Cakes and produce Raffle 2nd hand books and DVDs Teas Tombola Lucky Bottle Dip and lots more!

Why not come along and bag yourself a bargain or a sweet treat!

If you have any donations for any of the stalls (especially books, bottles or raffle prizes), please contact; Rev. Marion (578250), Linda (578419) or any other PCC member. Thank you - We hope to see you there.

# Leek Club

## Leek Show

The show was once again a great success. First class quality leeks and vegetables and a good show of cookery from the ladies not forgetting the handicrafts.

It was good to see so many people at the auction who bid freely for the produce.

Thanks to Charles Armstrong our President for presenting the Trophies and to everyone who helped in any way to make the show the success it was.

### Results:

1. Glyn Davies - 305.21
2. Jin Layton - 233.39 (plus Best Leek)
3. Derek Charlton - 193.85
4. Dot Stuart - 190.33 (Highest Lady)
5. Martyn Robison - 136.87
6. Peter North - 136.86
7. John Dobson - 157.64
8. Susan Robison - 164.88
9. Ernie Pringle - 94.01
10. Julie Bakr - 158.32

Most points in veg. Classes - Bob Stuart

Best Exhibit - Bob Stuart

Best Single Onion - Bob Stuart (A new trophy kindly presented by Derek and Jennifer Charlton)

Best 3 Onions - Jim Layton

Most points in Industrial section - Muriel Holmes

Best Industrial Exhibit - Anne Brewis

Congratulations to all and I look forward to next years show which will be the 40th anniversary show, which I hope will be something special.

*Bob Stuart.*

## Leek Club Dates:

**Fish & Chips plus Entertainment** - Sat 15th October

7:30pm

Tickets £9, numbers asap to Bob 579317

**AGM** - Wed 26th October 7:30pm - South Charlton Village Hall, all welcome.

**Quiz Night** - 9th November 7:30pm



## Cabbage Competition

The Cabbage Competition organised by the Hall Committee was very successful with over 40 cabbages being returned for weighing.

Jim Layton was the winner with a very impressive 22.06kg, closely followed by Bob Stuart with 21.80kg, 2nd was Paul from the Willows Garden Centre with 19.46kg.

In the children's section the winner was once again Andrew Smith with 4.22kg.

The booby prize for most pathetic specimen went to local farmer Michael Stafford with 0.22kg, who really must do better.



## Hanging Basket Competition

This was open to all who purchased plants and baskets at the plant sale, was won by Tracy Sprigg of the Coach House, Brownieside. Well Done.

## A True Act of a Christian

While a dozen or so of South Charlton die-hards worked to give St James's Church an "Autumn Clean" tea was served and Andrew taking delight in photographing us in various poses, an act behind the scenes was being hatched.

Lorna had kindly invited us to her home for the "workers" to be fed and to be there for 5 o'clock. We were duly asked into the dining room and settled ourselves beside two tables. What followed next was a total surprise and very kind indeed. Gavin said

Grace and we were served a delicious three course meal of homemade leek and potato soup followed by home-cooked gammon, new potatoes, cauliflower cheese and peas beautiful. Then it was Lorna's special lemon cheesecake or trifle. Tea and coffee followed. It was a total act of kindness and I couldn't help thinking of Jesus and His Disciples seated together for their last supper - there were twelve of us invited guests including our new Vicar Marion and husband Bill. This was certainly a new beginning for us and not at all A LAST SUPPER but certainly an act of true CHRISTIAN values.

So Lorna and Gavin, a HUGE THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH - a delicious and truly unexpected treat, and a true act of friendship and kindness.

*Florence Hodgson*



# Marion Penfold

We've been hyping her arrival for months, now that she can't escape, we forced her to complete a Parish Portrait!

## About You:

I was born in London many years ago!

I married my beloved Bill in 1969 in St. Magdelines in East Ham, London, we were very young and after three years of married life in London we came up to the North East to live as Bill's work brought him here. We lived behind West Ham football ground and we are still supporters to this day.

We have lived in the North East every since.

In 1977 we had our Son Jamie (although a Geordie supports West Ham too) who lives at the coast and is married to Jo (who is my best friend not many mother in laws can say that!) and they have two children who we love to bits, Lottie 9 and George 6. They are brilliant children and when we can it's good to have them stay, unfortunately I can't be a weekend grandma but when they do come we make the time special... we are truly blessed with our family.

I worked in Social services for many many years. My good friend and mentor Canon Kate Tristram who lives on Holy Island ask if I had thought about going into the ministry, which I laughed about and came home to tell Bill and he said I have always thought that you would do that! for once I was speechless! And then the Process started.

I trained and got my title as a curate in Alnmouth, Lesbury, Longhoughton and Boulmer which was a splendid time for me, and I was sad to see Boulmer church close, as it was such a special place.

I went to Rededale in 2003 and loved the valley there and the people were wonderful to walk along side all very supportive of my ministry.

Now I find myself in the parishes of Eglington with Old Bewick, South Charlton and

# Parish Portrait



Ingram, all very different parishes but very rich in their own way.

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

I was always told by my principle at my college “You can’t be all things to men and women, some will love you and other will not” and I have held on to that piece of advice.

Also my Mother always said “If it doesn’t feel right in your stomach don’t do it”

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

Archbishop of York!!!

**What is your favourite...**

**Book:** I read many detective books and I have found a brilliant source in Eglington for swapping books.. you know who you are.. see you soon for more swaps!

**Music:** Bill and I love Music we love all types from classical to jazz we often go to open air concerts and let our hair down. Bill likes a little bit more rock than I do though.

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

I love to have dinner parties and although I’m not like Hyacinth Bucket! I do like having people around to chat and if I was to have anyone famous I would have Richard Armitage (the actor), Tom Wright (who was the Bishop of Durham) Jools Holland (jazz player) Miranda Hart (to make us laugh)

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

If there was one thing I would like in the Parishes I serve, is that we will work together in peace and harmony and help each other.

**Downtime:**

I don’t really have much spare time of late and since I said I was going to have a Monday as my day off, that hasn’t happened and I have had no fun time (no weeping). When I can I like to Nordic Walk with Bill and our dog Penny (border terrier) who we love to bits, she is nearly 4 year old.

And to spend time with my beloved Bill and our other interest is Cyprus.. that’s for another time.

**Eglington Village Hall 100 Club**

The first winners of the Eglington Village Hall 100 club were drawn at the Coffee and Chats held on September 3rd 2011 at the Hall. Due to some reason that I can not recall, it was decided that only the winning numbers would be published, not the winning names. So, first prize of £25 went to the dashing number 65. Second came number 90, winning £15 and trailing in in third, number 68 collecting £10.

Well done to all concerned.

## A note from the Vicarage.....



Well, nearly two months in the parishes and I still can't believe how lucky I am to be able to live and work in such gorgeous surroundings. There can't be many vicars who have such stunning views and beautiful countryside as they travel about their parishes. I keep pinching myself to make sure that it's all for real and never stop thanking God for calling me here. Now, of course with the changing seasons, the purple of the heather on the hills has gone but the trees are turning to the red and gold of autumn. Absolutely breathtaking!

During the past weeks I've been meeting lots of new people. We know that coming to church each week isn't everyone's thing, and so that I can meet as many people from our communities as possible, I've been knocking at doors, almost at random! I've been welcomed by most people when I've turned up on their doorstep and I've had lots of friendly chats over lots of cups of tea.

I have now had meetings with all of our Parochial Church Councils (PCCs) where we have discussed issues and concerns relating to the life of our churches. The two issues that come up all the time at these meetings are the rising cost of maintaining our buildings and churchyards and the falling numbers of people attending our services.

As I said earlier, we know that regular church attendance doesn't suit everybody, but we are really a friendly bunch and usually quite welcoming. But, even if they don't attend church on a regular basis, most people see the churches as a central part of our communities: we share their joy when they bring newly born babies for baptism, we share their happiness when they celebrate a marriage and we mourn with them in bereavement. Nobody is ever turned away and the door is open to all. But if the doors are to remain open and the churches in our communities are to survive, then we all have to work together, whether we are 'church-goers' or not.

Our churches will be very busy in the coming weeks and months (no – I don't just work on Sundays!) and I hope to see many of you at the various seasonal services that I've listed here. The doors are open to all and I always say that there are no strangers, just friends we haven't met before.

Looking forward to seeing you soon,

*Revd. Marion*

**NEXT ISSUE - EARLY NOVEMBER**  
**DEADLINE FOR CONTENT 20th Oct**

## Forthcoming Services in our Churches

### Harvest Thanksgiving:

9th October: 9am, Harvest Festival at Old Bewick

9th October: 10am, Harvest Festival at Eglington

9th October: 11.30am, Harvest Festival at Ingram

23rd October: 6pm, St. James "Little Lambs" Harvest Festival - Everyone is welcome to come and join us

### Remembrance Day Service, Sunday 13th November

9am, Holy Communion at Old Bewick

10.50am at the war memorial in Eglington Village,

followed by a Remembrance Service at St Maurice's church, Eglington together with the communities from South Charlton and Ingram.

### Advent & Carol Services

27th November: 6pm, Christingle Service at South Charlton

11th December: 3.30pm, Christingle & Carol Service at Ingram

11th December: 6.30pm, Carol Service at South Charlton

13th December: 3pm, Carol Service at Grovewood

22nd December: 6pm, Christingle Service at Eglington

23rd December: 6pm, Carol Service at Old Bewick

### Christmas services

24th December: 6pm, Christmas Communion at Ingram

24th December: 11.30pm, Midnight Mass at Eglington

25th December: 9.30am, Holy Communion at Old Bewick

(please note the time of the service)

25th December: 11am, Holy Communion at South Charlton

26th December (St Steven's Day): 9am Morning Prayer

at Eglington (if anyone wants to join me!)

## The Little Lambs

Following the arrival of our new vicar Marion, child friendly worship in South Charlton is undergoing a transformation, which has started with a new name!

"The Little Lambs" meet at 6 pm on the fourth Sunday of each month and our upcoming services are as follows;

Sunday 23rd October                      6 pm Harvest / Growing together

Sunday 27th November                  6 pm Christingle

Anyone young or old is welcome at the services, which aim to be informative yet fun, and refreshments are served afterwards.

The planning group will meet on the 3rd November to discuss themes for the coming year, as well as exploring possible changes to the service format and would welcome any new ideas or suggestions. If you have any comments or would like to join the planning group, please contact Rev Marion (578250), Linda (578419) or Ruth (579430).

Hopefully we'll have room to include everyone's submissions next month, unfortunately sometimes we just don't have enough room to print all content. Please do keep sending it in - we'll print it eventually!

## A Quick Report from the National Pot Leek Society Show

The showing of leeks at national level, has made a great come back at this years national show, held annually at the causey inn Stanley. This year was the biggest entry since 1993, with 113 entries in five classes, all top quality leeks.

In the two pot leek class, it was noticeable that out of 72 entries, 50 were Joe Calvert's Cumbria leeks, and only 4 Sammy X, which were the most popular leek during the 1990's. Also at the same venue, the world record for the heaviest leek was broken by John Pearson with a massive Yorkshire Giant, weighing in at 20-5lbs and measuring 204.7 cube, perfect in every way. Is this the leek of the future, going by that leek I would say it is definitely in the hunt! Noted also was, Joe Calvert has a new leek, this was shown by Terry Nyczaj it was placed 5th, another leek to watch out for maybe?! Congratulations go to Alan Davison on winning the main class with two superb leeks measuring 5.5x6.0 and 5-0 x 15.7 = 221.89 cube, and the master, Peter Holden who won the intermediate class, the blanch leeks and the society class.

### Useful Numbers

#### Vicar:

Rev. Marion Penfold 01665 578250

#### Village Hall contacts:

##### South Charlton

Andy Gray 07730 559223

##### Eglingham

Penny Blackmore 01665 578327

#### Local Councillor

John Taylor 01665 603825

NHS Direct: 08 45 46 47  
[www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk](http://www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk)

Consulting Rooms 01665 602388

Bondgate Surgery 01665 510888

#### Parish Council Chair

Bill Purvis 01665 579255

#### Clerk to the Parish Council

Alan Hodgson 01665 579494

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

A5 leaflet or flyer  
Commercial: £15 to deliver 200  
copies (1/4 page ad also to be  
taken)

'Hear Abouts' design & print:  
£38.00 produce & deliver 200  
copies (no ad required)  
'not for profit' organisation in  
the parish ; no charge for  
delivering your leaflets  
ring 01665 579479

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