

July 2011

Hear **Abouts**

A Newsletter for the Civil Parish of Eglingham

<http://www.eglingham.info>

Beware! The Thieves Are About

On the night of Wednesday 8th June our area was again subject to the attention of members of the criminal fraternity. The incidents that I am aware of happened between Belford and Alnwick at farms fairly close to the A1. Items stolen include a quad bike, diesel, various lots of tools, a pickup, jeep and a horse box from Rock Moor. The tools stolen from the farm near Adderstone were valued at £3500 alone so you can imagine what value of equipment was stolen that night.

It appears that although we have the least amount of darkness at night at the moment, it is no deterrent to these people so you can be sure they will be back again at some point in the future.

Bill Purvis



Queen Visits

Alnwick:

**We have the view
of two Parish
Residents inside...**



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

Eglingham Parish 4th Annual

Summer Stroll & Country afternoon Tea

Saturday July 16th

Start from

Eglingham Village Hall

Register between 1.00pm and 1.30pm

Teas from 2.30pm

Choice of 3 walks from 1/2 mile to 5 miles to suit all abilities.
Appropriate sturdy footwear desirable.

£3.50 adults £1.50 children (under 14)

Which includes a walks leaflet and map
a delicious tea

and free entry into the prize draw!!

Plus there will be a Tombola and a bookstall

Or if you don't fancy the walk just
come for the tea;

Adults £3.00 children £1.50

Coffee and tea courtesy of PUMPHREY'S



Please follow the country code. All dogs to be kept under close control

Upcoming Events

South Charlton Village Hall & Leek Club

BBQ

Saturday July 2nd 7pm

Bar, DJ, Raffle etc

Contact Bob for further details and tickets on 579317

Open Gardens at East Ditchburn - Never opened before!
by kind permission of the Dixon Family

Sunday 10th July 2 - 4:30pm

Stalls and Teas

In Aid of St James Church, South Charlton

(Note: This is instead of the Church Fete due to be held on 9th)

The Rector of Glendale and Chrch wardens of Ingram, Eglingham with Old Bewick,
and South Charlton
Invite All Parishioners

To the Licensing of The Rev. Marion Penfold As Team Vicar
@ St Michaels and all Angels, Ingram
On Sunday 17th July @ 3:00pm
Followed by Tea in the Village Hall

Leek Club

Sunday 24th July

Garden Fete in the grounds of
Groewood House by kind permis-
sion of Mr & Mrs Bakr

2:30pm

All the Usual Stalls

And don't forget your Tattie in
a Bucket for weighing! (Remove
Shaws only)

Sat 6th August

Bingo @ South Charlton Village Hall
7:30pm Start

Sunday 14th August

Coffee Morning 11am to 1:30pm
@ North Charlton Farmhouse by
kind invitation of Mr and Mrs C.

Armstrong

£5 includes admission to the Farm
and Household Museum

Sat 3rd September
Leek Show

Staging 11am to 12 Noon

Show Opens 4pm

Auction of Produce 7pm

Blokes on Spokes

Six years ago the 8 blokes (including our very own Iain Robertson of Shipley) first took to their saddles to cycle from Land's End to John O'Groats via Ireland to raise money for the Great North Air Ambulance. Through sponsorship, auctions, raffles and a party they raised the amazing sum of £65,000. And they've been at it again! This time they cycled from Beal in Northumberland to Toulon in France in order to raise money for two charities that are close to their hearts.

Stoma Nurse Specialists; who care for children with bowel and bladder disorders and help to manage their conditions at home, at school and in a hospital environment. Some children require radical surgery in order to achieve bowel or bladder continence and it is this team of specialist nurses who provide the knowledge, support and guidance required to meet the needs of the child and their family.

The Wooden Spoon; as all of the blokes are former rugby players The Wooden Spoon is a charity that is very important to them. Wooden Spoon is the Charity of British and Irish rugby supporting mentally, physically or socially disadvantaged children. Founded in 1983, in the last 25 years over half a million young people have benefitted from £15 million of charitable support.

The blokes are still receiving donations from their latest venture and if you'd like to donate please send Iain a cheque or go to their website <http://www.8bos.co.uk/> and follow the 'donate' link.

Here are some excerpts from Iain's diary of the trip.

Day 1: Left the Barn at Beal in high spirits with family and friends seeing us off, however my lack of observant servicing meant I set off with a cracked back wheel, an inauspicious start! So a pie and pit stop at Breeze's of Amble to replace 2 wheels! Not just mine. The ferry was caught with 10 minutes to spare! We set off for the bright lights of Amsterdam with a number of different hen and stag parties.

Day 2: Awoke to the massive fields of wind turbines and moored tankers awaiting their unloading berth just off the Dutch coast. Immediately Sebastian had us onto the network of cycle paths that cover Holland, although we did seem to see Schiphol Airport from most sides. We were getting into our stride however that did not stop a few tumbles at junctions and traffic lights. One hundred miles in the day took us Helverenbeek and our first night abroad.

Day 3: Continuing our ascent of the Saone River meant mostly steady but gentle climbs we crossed the border to find that the roads of Belgium were not as good nor the drivers as friendly to cyclists. Arrived Namur and stayed in Casino; no funds gambled!!

Day 4: Rain! The showers short and sharp, but we needed the wet weather gear. The "Backup" team were having problems finding any shops open to feed us but succeed again. Lunch taken in Givet beside the river, nice place, cycle track excellent. But attention is paramount cycling in close formation, oh dear a collision, Anthony clips Robbie's back wheel and falls heavily with his helmet fortunately protecting his grey matter, running repairs done we arrive in Sedan tired, hungry, wet and sore!!!!

Day 5: Sedan to St. Mihiel Early start Robbie sets a cracking pace much to the disgust of the other cyclists ! Back up have problems finding open cycle shops! Lunch taken in Verdun what a nice place by the river, sadly no time to pay respects at war graves! Good time made to St. Mihiel to be met by thunder lightning and rain. In excess of 400 miles covered.

Day 8: Friction becoming an increasing problem with the team as time in the saddle takes its toll. Still concern due to lack of vineyards en route arriving in Lyon. Staying in prisoner cell block h style accommodation headed out for pasta to refuel tired limbs. Only three days to go with some severe climbing to come.

Day 10 A big day so the scenic routes was forgotten as we cracked on, fortunately the wind was in our favour and we managed 70 miles before stopping for lunch. We were now well and truly in the south with prolific numbers of vineyards, fruit trees and vegetable production on the lightest ground. We were glad to reach our destination even if it was in an enormous industrial estate some 125 miles further south.

Day 11: We climbed all morning out of the Rhone valley having started at 7.30 knowing we had 75 miles to go. Reaching the summit we saw the Mediterranean in the distance and it was a real boost, and then began the best descent I have ever enjoyed 4 to 5 km with no need to pedal - bliss indeed. Through Toulon and another 25 km took us to our destination, to be greeted by wives and family, some of the Toulon rugby committee met us at la londe beach bar owned by the saint andre and friends. After a refreshing dip in the sea we took lunch. Very pleased to have finished a never to be repeated experience, with just shy of 1660km behind us and now a flight home.



Thankyou from Kay and John Waters

A quick thanks to those in the Parish who provided small boxes for use of sending packages to our nephew in Afghanistan. We now have enough. Thank you very much for your support.

Afternoon Tea

On Saturday 18th June we had afternoon tea in the garden of Bill & Cath Newton. It was a perfect afternoon, plenty of food and good company, the weather not too bad but above all else, perfect hosts. On behalf of the leek club and everyone there I would like to thank Bill & Cath for all the hard work they put in on the day and the week before, much appreciated. We raised in excess of £250 for Leek Club funds.

Bob Stuart

Eglingham Ceilidh

The ceilidh night in Eglingham Village Hall was very well supported and proved to be a great success! Local band "N.E. Time" kept everyone on their toes – even the most reticent of dancers got to their feet and really enjoyed themselves.

The newly named "Post Office Bar" was kept busy and, at supper time, pies and peas were served which went down extremely well. During the interval the raffle was drawn – first prize being



won by Joanne Angus. Also, during the interval, a beautiful impromptu duet was given by Frances Buckingham and her daughter, Charis. The second half of the evening proved just as enjoyable with dancers being twirled and hurled around the floor with much frivolity – age proving no limitation with both children and adults having great fun.

As a fundraiser, the event contributed just under £500 to the hall funds, which will be needed for the upkeep of such a worthwhile village facility.

Please keep a look out in "Hear Abouts" for future events being planned with the intention of breathing new life into the village hall - if they are supported as well as the ceilidh then we should have a vibrant and thriving amenity for everyone in the community to enjoy.

Finally, as the person asked to oversee the organising of the ceilidh, I should like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of the evening.

Joan Sharp

Our Own International Sports Star

Here in South Charlton we have bred our own Sports Star in the form of 16 year old **Steph Courty** who has been chosen to be part of the Great Britain Tetrathlon Team, a team that usually starts picking member at 18-19 years old. Here Steph talks us through what she does and whats coming up for her in the near future!

As much as I love lots of sports, tetrathlon has to be my favourite. Tetrathlon consists of four different phases, shooting, swimming, riding and running. As a Senior Girl I have to shoot a turning target from 10 metres with an air pistol, swim as far as I can in 3 minutes, run as fast as I can over natural country of 1,500 metres and ride around a cross country course jumping a number of different obstacles, set at 3'6" high. I have competed in tetrathlon competitions all over the country since the age of 9 and have loved every minute.

In 2007 when I was 12, I was selected to compete in my first regional competition in Scotland. It was an amazing experience being part of a team of girls from Yorkshire and Cumbria, Durham and Northumberland, battling it out against the best of the rest from the UK, but on this occasion my nerves got the better of me, I had a disappointing shoot and finished in 32nd place out of a field of 65. In 2008 I was luckily enough to be asked to compete again for the North of England, and this time I achieved personal best



Steph competing at the age of 15

scores in all four phases and went on to win the Junior UK Regional title. The following year I moved from the junior to intermediate level and I qualified to compete at the National Championships at Hartpury (Gloucester) where I finished 5th individually. Last year, 2010, I moved up to open level where I was competing against girls who were 21. I was privileged to be asked to be a part of the Senior Regional team, which involved a very lengthy journey to Carmarthen, in Wales for the competition. We, the North of England girls team won the event, a feat which had never been done before, and I finished 2nd individually, two weeks later, this time in Gloucester I came 3rd in the National Competition. As a result of my performances in 2010, I was invited to attend a training camp and participate in the selection trials for the Great Britain team.

I flew down to Somerset in early April for what was going to be the hardest 4 days of training in my life, sure enough it was! But strangely enough the more pain the coaches put us through, the bigger the buzz I got from it all. The other tetrathletes there were some of the nicest people I have ever met. They were so friendly and helpful and kind towards me as I was the youngest at the camp and had never been to the trials before. My time there seemed to fly by and soon enough I was back at school

and waiting to find out whether I was on the team or not.

The letter came in the post, an agonising 4 weeks later, but that was the best day ever. I had been selected to represent Great Britain, my all time goal since I was 9 and I never actually thought I would ever get on the team! Now all the serious training has started and the nerves have already kicked in! We will compete in 3 competitions during August against Teams from



Steph competing at the age of 9

America, Canada , Australia and The

Republic of Ireland, the first in Leicestershire at The UK Regional Competition, the second in Dublin at the Irish National Champs then finally back to Gloucester for the UK National Championships and in between times we have the opportunity to play hosts to our guests with plenty of sightseeing and a little partying!

Sports Fixtures

Eglingham CC

Sat July 3rd - Robbos (h)

Sun July 10th - Bamburgh (a)

Sun July 17th - Tillside (h)

Sat July 23rd - Doncaster Railwaymen (h)

Sun July 24th - West Percy Hunt (h)

See Right for Details

Sun July 31st - Blagdon (h)

Sat August 6th - Novos (h)

Sun August 21st - Genetics (h)

Sun August 28th - St George's Rovers (a)

Sun Sept 4th - Manderston (h)

Sun Sept 11th - Tillside (a)

The Terrier Show

This year seems to have flown past, and it's show time again. Saturday 9 th July on

the Cricket field, the show will start about 1pm. This year we are donating all the money raised to the R N L I, so we hope to make quite a nice bit.

Although the show is mainly for working terrier breeds, there will be classes for any other breeds of dogs, so everybody will be very welcome to come along with there dogs and have a go. There will be a Challenge Cup for the best any variety.

Refreshments will be available. Scot with his burgers, and other light refreshments in the club house, There will be a good raffle again, last year nearly everybody won a prize. We looking forward to seeing as many folk as possible all will be welcome.

For any more details 01665 578371. *Geoff Sugars*

Sunday 24th July brings one of the highlights of Eglingham Cricket Club's season, when they welcome a team representing the West Percy Hunt to the picturesque Beanley road ground. They will compete for the **Peter Cotham Trophy**.

Eglingham Cricket Club and the West Percy Hunt were two of Pete's greatest loves, and an annual match between the two is such a wonderful way of remembering him and all he did for both.

April Potts, president of the club, would like to take this opportunity to invite all supporters to tea and cheer on their local team, "fortified" by Pete's family and friends, and watch village cricket in an idyllic rural setting.

Queen Visits Alnwick

Joe and I enjoyed a wonderful day at the Queen's visit to Alnwick. As collectors of poppies for Earl Haig's fund for sixty two years the legion asked us to attend. We were very pleased to do so.

8000 people were invited to the Garden party and as guests we were met just through the Barbican having parked in the Pastures we were taken by bus up the Peth. Three firm's buses were used to transport people. We found a good place to sit as we had brought seats. Then the storm broke and lasted for three quarters of an hour, everyone donned rainwear but all was soaked. However the pipe band played on through the rain to keep spirits up, four bands in all played all day.

The Queen had arrived at Green Batt to open the new Youth Hostel and then made her way through the streets to the Castle. Promptly at 11:15 the trumpets sounded from the battlements and the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh stepped out to greet the people. Dressed in a lavender pinky dress with matching hat with a pale green feather, she did not look 85!

The rain had stopped and the dresses and fashions were so colourful, cameras clicked away everywhere.

The Royal party walked to the garden and a cake was cut over looking the water features. Again much excitement, flag waving and bunting everywhere.

A lovely buffet was given in the Guest Hall by Greggs, advised by Leslie Williamson who lives here in South Charlton. The strawberry tarts were lovely!

The Queen and guests lunched in the Castle. Joe and I had a look at the gardens and enjoyed a lovely cuppa.

Then back to visit the Castle via the lift. Fifty odd years since we visited and saw many changes & found it more cosier too. We saw Norman Tulip's dressed sticks on permanent exhibition. Our guide showed us where the Royal party had lunched, where they sat all thirty of them and the menu (Salmon the Duke had caught). So much to see in the Castle, pictures & furniture etc. We arrived back home at 5:30 after a simply wonderful day, despite the rain, meeting so many people. The whole day was so well organised and all the throngs of folk so pleased to see the Queen who had come to see us in little old Alnwick.

Ruby Bowden

What a Wonderful Surprise!

As I drove into Alnwick at 9a.m. on Wednesday 22nd. June with Marion Wilson and Carolyn Brewster, little did I think that it would turn out to be such a memorable occasion.

Through the Mothers' Union I had been invited to attend the Northumberland Carers

and Volunteers Party in the Inner Bailey of Alnwick Castle in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh. Having parked in the Pastures we were taken by Dreadnought bus up to the castle and since it was raining we were quickly ushered into the guest hall to receive some refreshments. We managed to shelter in there until the rain ceased and then we proceeded to the Inner Bailey. Bands were playing and the excitement was mounting. The Queen and the Duke walked through the arch heralded by a military fanfare trumpeted from the battlements. The superb organisation was such that everyone was able to see the royal couple close at hand. The Queen was looking absolutely radiant and the Duke was obviously enjoying himself chatting to everyone and there was a very relaxed atmosphere.



After they had departed in the royal Bentley heading for the Alnwick Garden we decided that we would lunch in Alnwick and then Marion and I would stand in Bondgate so that we could see the royal couple once again. Crowds were gathering lining the route so we had to decide where to stand. The Police told me that they were hoping that the Queen would walk the length of Bondgate to the Hotspur Tower but she could get into the Bentley at any time as it was following her close behind.

We chose a spot halfway along Bondgate next to the Press area which was cordoned off. Very soon the Police decided to reduce this area by half. I then asked if we would be able to stand at the barrier next to the Press and the Police said that would be fine. With so many heads and cameras in front of me in the morning I had not been able to get a good photo of the Queen so I thought that I might be able to achieve this in the afternoon.

The Duke was having a great time speaking to a lot of children on the other side of the street and the Queen was gradually making her way along our side of Bondgate. All of a sudden I saw the Queen approaching and took a lovely photo of her. When I lowered my camera the Queen was standing right in front of me. I said "Your Majesty" She gave me a lovely smile and remarked on the fact that there were so many cameras. I agreed with her and then she asked me if I lived in Alnwick. I told her that I lived in Eglington, a small village seven miles away. Then she moved on.

I could not quite believe it. Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine that this would happen! Truly, truly amazing!

Tyne-Tees television then interviewed me and asked what I had thought of the day.

It all felt quite unreal and at 6p.m. there I was on Tyne-Tees News speaking to Her Majesty. What a wonderful day!

Prudence Marks

A short leap from Communism to Community

Unless you live in the world of farming you probably will not know the level of difficulty you can get in to trying to keep your sheep tagged correctly. A tagging question arose at the mart the other week with the arrival of a quantity of hoggs (last year's lambs) bearing slaughter tags. A brief resume of the argument is as follows:

Sheep must be tagged before they leave their holding of birth or when they reach nine months of age. By twelve months of age, they must be electronically tagged. You can tag them straight off with double matching tags, one in each ear, one of which must bear a microchip and be 'electronically readable'.

This costs about £1.30 per sheep. It is an expensive operation if the lamb is destined for the slaughterhouse where the head is the first thing into the skip.

In recognition of this, a lamb destined for slaughter can be tagged with a slaughter tag, which is a single plastic tag costing about 15p. Once a lamb has left it's holding of birth, the tag can not be removed.



Store lambs coming off the hills in September/ October are sold to finishers on lower ground who have the grass and grain to feed them. The vast majority are tagged with slaughter tags as that is their ultimate destination. They are taken away and fed on turnips or grain or expensive manufactured feed to try and get them fat enough for the slaughterhouse to pay the farmer more than the cost of the lamb and the feed combined. Some lambs take longer to finish than others. So what happens to the ones that reach 12 months and need to be double tagged with electronic tags? The slaughter tag can not be removed and to add extra tags is illegal.

The answer is that there is no answer. The system does not accept that the situation could arise. The only option that I can think of is to have the animal destroyed and removed by Warrens (cost £12) for incineration as it can not be made to fit in to the tagging system.

So stupid did this sound that I checked it out with the Head of Sheep and Goats Regulations at Defra. Not only were my assumptions right, but if Defra Inspectors find any sheep on a farm over the age of one year old bearing a slaughter tag then the farmer will suffer a deduction to their single farm payment as the animal should have been slaughtered prior to it reaching 12 months of age.

Hayheck

Julian Tyley

I have lived at Copper Beech in Eglingham since 1997. I moved to the village from Maidstone in Kent when I became Headteacher at Belford First School. I spent much of my career away from the north east, teaching in primary schools in Somerset, Rutland and Kent but having been brought up in Whitley Bay, I have always wanted to return to Northumberland at some stage.

After 13 years at Belford, I retired last summer and am now gradually becoming accustomed to the new lifestyle. I am certainly keeping busy and still make occasional visits back to school as a volunteer to help with special activities and outings. It is

good to see the staff and children without having the responsibility for running the school.

Retirement has enabled me to spend more time helping at Whitley Bay Football Club, the team I have supported since the age of nine, and in May the Club returned to Wembley winning the FA Vase for a record breaking third year in a row, in doing so breaking every record in the competition's history. No other team at any level of the game has achieved such success in a national cup competition!

I spent the whole weekend with the team and as club photographer I was allowed on the sacred Wembley turf after the final whistle to photograph the celebrations. What an experience!

Where were you born?

Tynemouth

Education

Dame Allan's School, Newcastle; Bede College, Durham.

What was your first job?

Primary School teacher, East Coker, Somerset

Current position?

Retired

Parish Portrait



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

Being in charge of my life, choosing what I want to do and when I do it. Being able to relax on Sunday evenings (any teacher will understand why I say this!)

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

Since becoming a Headteacher, I have been offered many pieces of advice (not all of which I have taken!) Possibly the most valuable may be obvious but is easily overlooked – look after your staff but also ensure you have a proper work/life balance. This sometimes means saying 'no' when asked to do something by the powers at County Hall! Good decisions are not made when exhausted and stressed!

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

Don't believe everything you read in the newspapers or hear in the pub!

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

I don't want another job now but looking back, I would not change my decision to become a teacher. It was a privilege and very rewarding to play such an important part in the lives of so many children.

What is your favourite:

Film: Chariots of Fire; Bridge on the River Kwai

Book: Any book by Gervase Phinn; Non Fiction books – Local History of places where I have lived,

Music: A wide range – 60's/70's pop, Classical, Brass band, English folk music

What is your favourite or most interesting experience?

Favourite – watching Whitley Bay FC win at Wembley three years in a row!

Interesting – sitting opposite Frank Carson on the train from King's Cross to Newcastle, three hours of non stop entertainment!

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

Dinner party?? – I don't do them.... but instead an evening out with David Attenborough, Brian Johnston, Brian Redhead and my Infant School Headmistress, Miss Hindmarsh (made famous by The Likely Lads, whose script writer went to the same school)

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

Re-open a village shop or failing that bring back a mobile shop

Downtime:

Retirement is downtime!! Hobbies include gardening, walking, photography, travelling, watching football, athletics and cricket.

Eglingham Village Hall

As you will have read in last month's Hear Abouts we have changed the way Eglingham Village Hall is run. The AGM was very well attended and a new committee was formed and a direction set for how folk wanted things to happen. The new committee is: Geoff Osmond (chair) David Alston (vice-chair) Penny Blackmore (secretary) Julia Robson (treasurer) Janice Myers (W.I. representative member) Joanne Angus (events group co-ordinator). This last post gives a clue to the most significant change; the view of the meeting was that running the hall should be split so that's what we've done. There is a Steering Group, as listed above, who will look after the managing of the hall and then an Events Group consisting of 14 people who will make the events happen! And they've certainly done that with two fantastically successful events, the Royal Wedding Party and last week's Ceilidh.

Not to be outshone the Steering Group are beavering away on ideas to sustain the hall. We have drawn up a maintenance and renewal schedule and are in discussions with councillor John Taylor and Community Action North to try to find funds for this. We are also planning to relaunch the Friends of Eglingham Village Hall scheme whereby people make a small annual donation to hall funds. And we are launching a brand new fundraising idea - a 100 Club. So as they say "onwards and upwards".

Geoff Osmond

Oil Buying Group

The Eglingham Oil Buying group is born but needs to grow to guarantee success. The first bulk order was placed in May and achieved a 10% saving on the average market cost for just seven residents. It was interesting to note that the oil suppliers were quite keen to provide a service as it is a win-win situation for both sides. Apart from the obvious consumer cost saving, another advantage of an oil buying group is that whereas an individual can only achieve a reasonable price based on a minimum order of 1000 litres, a bulk order can accommodate individuals needing only 500 litres. Time will tell as to whether more savings can be achieved with larger numbers and larger quantities, but it was a good start for a relatively small group of people.

Interest in the group is growing slowly and it is likely that the next bulk order will be placed in August/September as the weather starts to turn and oil consumption starts to increase with falling temperatures. What a thought!

However, to be successful we will need quite a large group of people to achieve the flexibility to cater for different requirements and rates of consumption. Not everyone will need a delivery at the same time and it will certainly need a little forward planning to notify requirements and coordinate orders. But this first trial has shown that as few as half a dozen individuals can benefit.

If you are interested please contact David Jackson on 01665 578606 or e-mail david.tj24@btinternet.com

Strange Folk

The other day we had a call from a Gypsy woman with the usual patter we would both live to a hundred. So I began to think where are the old characters we used to have in the countryside? Every village had one. In our village we used to have several at different times.

The first I remember was Rhubarb Jimmy who used to walk with one foot on the path and other in the gutter, then we had the Rev. Lane who used to toss his umbrella after the bus when it went straight by, but he surprised everybody when his daughter got married, she had seven bridesmaids and they were all dressed different, all the colours of the rainbow. Then we had Jack Haddon who used to ride down from the field on the cows back to the byre to be milked and he wouldn't allow a Sunday paper in the house on a Sunday. Then we had Billy Middleton, a great story teller, if you met him twenty times in the day he'd have a different story to tell you. I am sure if he had been here today he would tell you that Kate Middleton was some relation to him!

Then we had all the peddlers who used to come around the doors, Old Nellie the sweep, a canny old woman with her pram and smoking a clay pipe, poor soul was killed down Denwick Lane one dark night. We all liked Nellie. Then there was Willie Miller with his tin trunk, his first words would be "I've got black laces, brown laces ...any colour of laces!" There was also Charlie Smart who collected glass bottles, we didn't need a bottle bank in those days. There was a "Killie Kranky" who would sing a song or two and give a dance then about once a month or so two strapping lads would come in kilts and bag pipes marched up and down the doors everyone turned out to see them.

On the road you'd meet several odd types, I remember in 1939 I was helping to paint the white lines by brush on Heiferlaw Bank when we saw this joker about a hundred yards back on his hands and knees trying to roll the fresh painted lines up. As I was the youngest I was sent to help clean him up. After the war this fellow came along with a sail fastened to his bicycle, as it was a calm day it was folded down, but he gave me a demonstration, it was quite clever. Of course now he would not be allowed to use it, far too much traffic and that "Health and Safety". Yes I miss the old characters, as I say to everybody...

"THERES NOUGHT THE SAME NOW!"

Joe Bowden

For Sale

Model Railway 8ft x 4ft

Includes controllers, engines and rolling stock.

Scenic Layout

£300 ono

01665 579 317



DIY Corner

Hidden dangers in the loft with down lights

Having gone to a clients house this week with a suspected earth fault on the downstairs lighting i was shocked to find that the down light had become so hot that it had melted the cables, the plastic junction box and scorched the surrounding material around the down light .



The saving grace here was the fact that the consumer unit had been upgraded and the rcd and mcb kicked in to switch the power off preventing a short circuit and subsequent fire.

Now i don't want to be alarmist here but the steady rise in loft insulation in order to meet part L of the buildings regs brings with it a danger that very few residents are aware of and sadly too few contractors and developers. The risk comes when you combine thermal loft insulation with down lights.

The problem is that many down lights pose a potential fire threat even when following exact installation instructions. If they are installed in a

loft with thermal insulation laid over them heat will build up and there is a risk that this can ignite material around the down light.

The electrical safety council notes that being covered in thermal insulation or other material is reportedly the one main reason for down lights being a source of fires. Unfortunately in order to meet part L of the building regs there is no other option.

So what to do.

Firstly if you have down lights check them regardless of their age. If you find burn marks , melted wires or burnt labelling it is time to replace them.

Secondly check to see if they have any fire protection around them. This can come in 2 forms.

1. loft covers or loft caps which are placed over the down lights in order to separate the light from thermal insulation



2. Fire protection is built into the down light in the form of an elongated metal casing.

If you have neither and after what i have seen this week then i cannot stress enough the importance of getting this potential hazard sorted.

If you have any electrical related queries or problems then please do not hesitate to contact me at www.rsfelectricians.co.uk or on 01665 578825

Richard Faulkner

Church Business

Eglingham & Old Bewick

Welcome to our new vicar:

On 17th July we will celebrate the licensing of Revd. Marion Penfold as our new minister. We are delighted to welcome her and her husband, Bill, to our parish and working with her over the next few years.

The licensing service will be at 3.00 pm at Ingram church, followed by refreshments in the village hall. All are welcome. (There will be no communion that morning.)

Bye bye buy:

From Wednesday 6th to Saturday 9th July Eglingham & Old Bewick churches will be running the Charity shop on Wooler High Street. This shop provides a major contribution to our finances so please come along to see if you can pick up a bargain. You will be AMAZED at the things which are donated to the shop. (If you can stay and help as well that would be much appreciated.) Sadly we will be the last charity to use the shop as the lease expires on the 9th July. It is estimated that this shop has raised over £80,000 for local charities over the last few years.

A great outcome!

St Maurice's now has a new glass and oak screen between the nave and the tower, this is a beautiful solution to the problem of cold air whistling down the tower and across the congregation! Having this screen installed is something of a miracle. After paying a substantial deposit the craftsmen who made it went into liquidation the day before it was to be installed! The new owners of the company (Adderstone Group) honoured the contract and the screen is now in place, looks beautiful.



South Charlton Services

3rd July 11am - Holy Communion

17th July – NO MORNING SERVICE – Licensing of Vicar @ Ingram 3pm

24th July – NO SERVICE @ 6pm

31st July 11am – Holy Communion

This will be the 1st service taken by the new vicar. Tea & biscuits will be served after the service.

Dates of Note

Friday 30th Sept – St James Harvest Thanksgiving 7pm

While we are still officially “Vicarless”, if you need to speak to someone about Church matters, please contact to one of the churchwardens, namely:

Eglingham:	Ruth Hunter, (01665) 578944
Old Bewick:	Patricia Fleming, (01668) 217009
South Charlton:	June Lawson, (01665) 579207
	Eddie Stafford, (01665) 579262

If you need the services of a priest, please contact, in the first instance, the Team Rector:

The Revd Bob Burston, (01668) 281551.

Otherwise contact: The Revd Jeffry Smith, (01668) 281468.



NEXT ISSUE - EARLY SEPTEMBER
DEADLINE FOR CONTENT 20th AUGUST

Editors Notes:

Wow! What an issue! Our normal issues are 16 pages, this month we've had to expand to 20 to fit in all your content! Many thanks to all who have contributed over the last year, we wouldn't have magazine without you all. The more we get the better the issues as you really don't want to read 7 articles by me and the rest of us on the editorial team. Keep up the good work after the summer too, see you in two months!

Andy Gray

...and finally some jokes

My girlfriend asked, "Do you want to get married?" I said, "Sure." She said, "Great, when?"

I said, "Well like every other guy, when I meet the right girl."

BBC News - Zawahiri 'becomes Al-Qaeda chief'

Note to Americans, check his house first.

Kevin Nolan is having a medical at West Ham.

Presumably he's getting his head examined.

Noah's diary : Day 39...

Unicorn pie is absolutely delicious!

My wife said I'm an idiot who can't do the simplest of things right.

So I packed her bags and left.

Only way is Essex... Geordie Shore... Made in Chelsea...

Say what you like but at least Big Brother had the decency to lock their lot up.

I was driving my wife to work this morning when she suddenly pushed my hand from the gear lever "What are you doing?" I asked "Well," she said, "I've kept quiet for too long and I'm sick of you not concentrating on your driving - you do the steering and I'll stir the petrol."

Christine Bleakley and Frank Lampard got engaged in Los Angeles, It was a private moment shared with just two people.

The audience of Daybreak.

I am always amazed at how much faster technology is these days.

When I put £10 petrol in my car it takes far less time than it used to!

My teacher said "Whoever answers my next question correctly can go home."

Straight away I threw my school-bag out of the window. "Who just threw that?!" She shouted. "Me! Can I go home now?"

My brother thought onions were the only food that could make you cry.

So I hit him in the face with a watermelon.

I'm just a farmer's labourer, but when girls ask what I do, I find 'Farm assist' sounds better.

Due to the decreased price of cucumbers and another vegetables, I think it's time to spread a rumor that E.coli is caused by petrol, water, electricity and gas...

I hate it when my Dad walks Naked down the road.

Stupid name for a dog anyway.

Mental Note: Actual notes work better.

And a few more...

I went to the horse racing for the first time ever at the weekend. I haven't got a clue about betting, so I walked up to the counter and said, "Excuse me. Could you explain to me what an each way bet is please?" The man said, "No problem Sir. An each way bet is split into two stakes. The first is a bet on the horse to win. The second is a proportional bet on the horse to finish in a place. This can be first, second, third or even fourth, depending on the amount of horses running in the race."

I said, "That sounds perfect for me! Can I have two pounds each way on number four please?" "No," he replied. "Oh," I said, "And why's that?"
"This is a hot dog stand."

Saw a werewolf at the bus stop this morning. Or possibly just a very hairy guy. Either way, the silver bullets worked.

After a recent issue was delivered this rather bulbous woman came up to me, "I didn't appreciate your obesity jokes" she said, "How do you think I feel?"
I said, "Squidgy".

Useful Numbers

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

Consulting Rooms 01665 602388
Bondgate Surgery 01665 510888

Parish Council Chair

Bill Purvis 01665 579255

Clerk to the Parish Council

Alan Hodgson 01665 579494

Jesus promised the end of all wicked people. Odin promised the end of all ice giants.

...I don't see many ice giants around!?

Yahoo news: Pippa Middleton reveals how she maintains her fit figure.

Can't she just reveal it and we'll guess?

Advertise In Here

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

A5 leaflet or flyer

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

'Hear Abouts' design & print:
£38.00 produce & deliver 200
copies (no ad required)

'not for profit' organisation in
the parish ; no charge for
delivering your leaflets
ring 01665 579479

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.