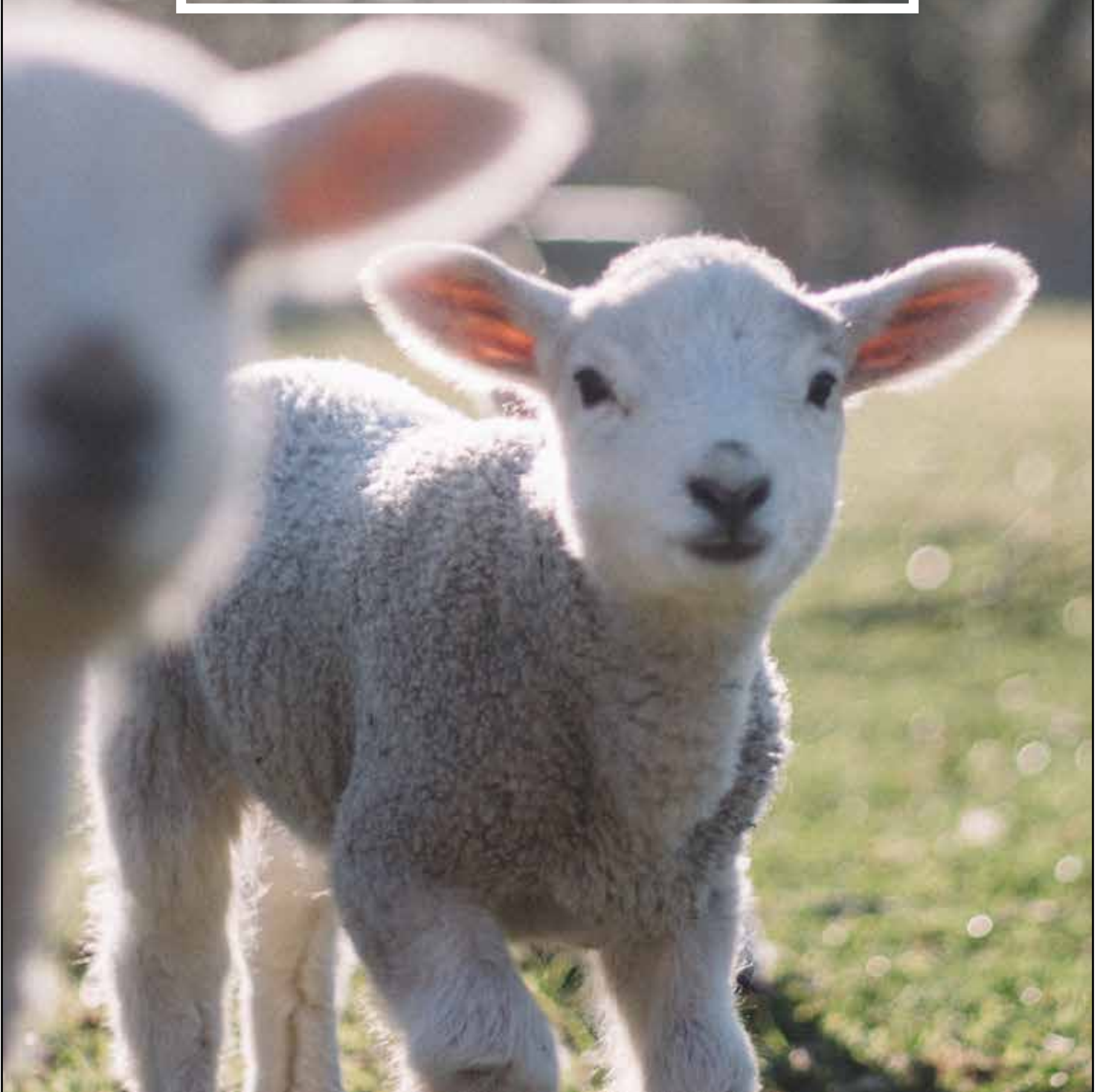


HEAR ABOUTS

APRIL 2020



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

From the Editor

In the words of Private Frazer “We’re doomed!”

Well this is all a bit of a mess isn’t it?!!

This issue is more limited and any information in it may be out of date by the time it reaches you. We’ve had 3 meetings about this issue already as everything changes at great pace day-to-day.

All I’ll say for now is stay safe, take care of your loved ones and heed government advice/instructions.

We’ll be back!

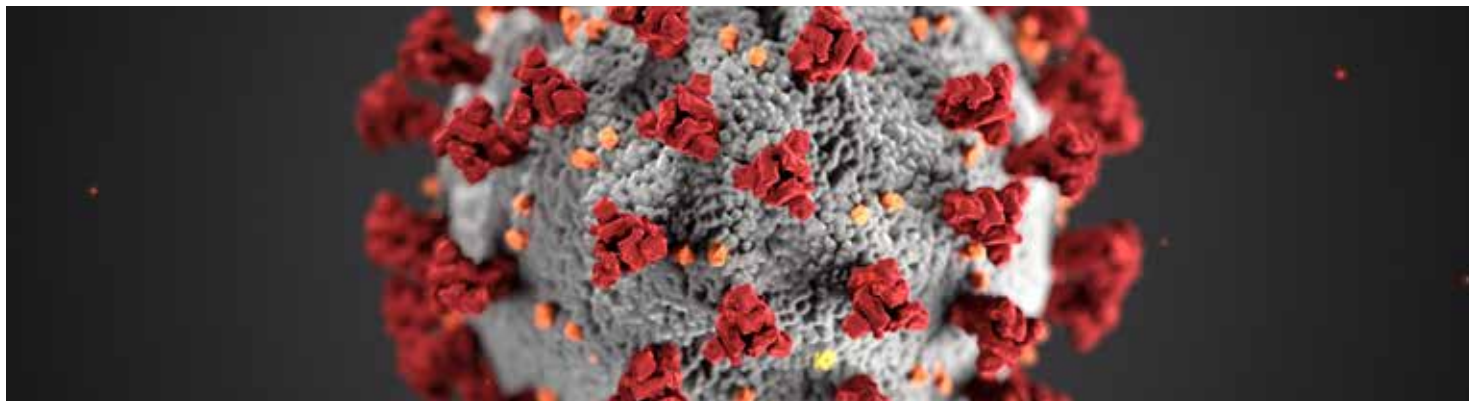
Andy

Email: hearabouts@outlook.com

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

Your Stories

We thought that Hear Abouts could be a good way to bring together people’s stories during this pandemic, so as the weeks go on, if you have interesting experiences during the coming weeks, please do write it up and send it in to us via the usual means.



www.eglingham.info

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

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

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

DISCLAIMER

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

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

HEAR ABOUTS

DIGITAL ONLY

By the time May rolls around and its time for the next edition we may be in a world where we can't provide Hear Abouts in its usual paper format delivered through your doors for the foreseeable future. That decision can't be taken right now though...

If we have to go down the digital only route for a while, then we **implore you to sign up to be part of the residents@ email list** this will be the prime way of distributing the magazine in those circumstances, via a link to download to your device.

Please also remember that the residents@ email list is a service that many organisations will use to notify residents of important information at the best of times, not just at the moment as we try to live our lives during this covid-19 pandemic.

If you haven't already, please sign-up by emailing david@eglingham.org.uk

We will of course also put the digital copy on the website www.eglingham.info as normal.

Everything is OFF

With the new government instructions for everyone to STAY AT HOME, unless you are doing so for the reasons advised by them, everything is closed.

The Tanky, all 3 Churches, both village halls amongst all other venues nearby.

All events, such as the Easter Show, postponed or cancelled...

Schools closed, home-schooling begun. At least Disney+ launched on the right day! (24th) So we have something else to watch. We can all bin our Sky Sports subscriptions as it'll be a while until there's live sport, and earlier they even postponed the Olympics! Crazy days...

100 Club Draw

March

- 1st - 76 Ronnie Bell - £25
- 2nd - 86 Jane Marriot-Lodge - £15
- 3rd - 4 Clair Leishman - £10

A message from Eglingham Parish Council

COVID-19 and Eglingham Parish

The Government has recently issued guidelines to help in the delaying of the spread of the Covid-19 virus.

These changes are going to have a significant effect on people's lives. The likelihood is that these changes to our lives will continue for some time and may even be increased to be more stringent.

The Parish Council has been liaising with representatives of other organisations in Eglingham and area including the WI, Eglingham Church, Eglingham Community Association and various individuals in an endeavour to make use of existing networks to help to support people in the Parish who may require some assistance. All of the above have offered support.

To this end a number of individuals have already come forward offering to provide help. If you wish to offer your time to help people in the community then please email eglinghampc@gmail.com with your contact details.

Should you find yourself in a position where you may require some additional assistance - this might include a chat on the phone, help with shopping, collection of medication or general advice (PTO for details) - please in the first instance contact any of the people listed below for your community who will either be able to offer direct assistance or signpost you to someone who can:

Eglingham area:

Jane Hamilton - 01668 217179 mob: 07546 487121 jane.hamilton99@sky.com

Jess Angus - 07912 625195 jess.angus101@hotmail.co.uk

Brenda Robertson - 01665 579337 brobertson2852@gmail.com

South Charlton area

Sue Courty - 01665 579295 thecourtys@gmail.com,

Lorna Turner - 01665 579212 gavin@middlecroft.co.uk,

Sue Jackson - 01665 579470 susan.jackson@green-synergy.co.uk

North Charlton:

Terry Carrington Wathey - 07963 366898 terry1ra@hotmail.com

Or contact representatives of the WI, Eglingham Church, Eglingham Community Association or the Parish Council whose contact details are on the last page of HearAbouts and are also listed on the Eglingham.info website.

If you are self-isolating, feel vulnerable or are ill you might want assistance with some of the following:

Food collection and distribution

If you contact one of the people overleaf with your essential shopping requirements these can be ordered, collected and then brought to you.

Medications.

Again these can be ordered, collected and brought to you. Alternatively arrangements can be made for you to collect from the rear entrance of Boots, to avoid having to enter the shop.

Social contact or general advice

If you just want a chat on the phone or some general advice get in touch with one of the contacts in your area. They may be able to help there and then or will get someone to ring you back either for a chat or with information.

Exercise

The advice is that we should try to exercise to stay healthy. This could be indoors or perhaps more beneficially in our lovely countryside. Previous years parish walks are going to be put on the parish website to help you get out and about. It is also hoped to put up links to appropriate exercise routines.

Staying in touch- digitally

Information and useful ideas will be shared through the residents@ email list and the Parish Website. If you are not using these please see the details in this edition of Hear Abouts for how to access them. If friends or neighbours aren't using them you could help them to get access. Or if they don't have internet access then you could pass on any info or ideas to make sure they don't miss out.

Meals on [Community] Wheels?

With the announcement made on Friday evening that all bars/restaurants and leisure facilities (amongst others) were to close at the earliest opportunity one question entered my mind... 'what about the food at the Tankerville?'

When I arrived, I was greeted by George and Mary who also had a similar question on their mind. I suggested packaging up some of the food as meals and we could give them to those who are self-isolating in the parish – try and help during these uncertain and worrying times. They jumped at the chance. On offer was Steak and ale casserole with mashed potatoes, roast beef, Yorkshire pudding and roast potatoes, Fish pie, cottage pie, Pheasant breast wrapped in bacon with mashed potato and vegetable lasagne. Doesn't seem a lot to some but to others could be a massive relief if they haven't managed to get supplies at the local shops.

Within an hour of putting out an email with the offer, the community spirit of the parish was in evidence. Some of the residents in South Charlton thanked George, Mary and me for the generous offer but "fantastic neighbours and villagers" had sorted them out. Others contacted me with names of residents that may not have got the email. Within an hour and a half, all meals had found a home – all to self-isolating residents. The meals were delivered/dropped off with neighbours by lunchtime on Sunday 22nd March. May I take this opportunity to thank the whole parish for their community spirit. Knowing that everyone is looking out for each other eases some of the uncertainty during these times. Stay safe and keep well.

Jess Angus

Community Spirit

While we are in the early part of this health crisis, many in our community began organising themselves to help others in our area before many of the government guidance notes appeared. Since these restrictions began to come in, many businesses in the parish have had to scale back or stop altogether. These business owners lent their expertise immediately.

Above we've read about George, Mary and Jess's efforts in Eglingham, well down in South Charlton one man in particular has brought much relief and cheer.

The toilet paper fairy visited all the houses in the village leaving supplies where they were needed after the shops ran dry 2 weeks ago, and then a few days later following closing his hut at Craster treated us to Kippers in a bun or burgers to those who wanted one after a leaflet drop through each door. Thanks Andy Grant!

Indeed thank you to everyone who have given help in any small way, throughout our community, we'll need it more as time goes on.

Be kind, be safe, stay healthy and stay home.

Andy Gray



Spotted this in the Parish

The Farming Year - Past and Present

We may only be three months into 2020 but plans are already being made for next year's Eglingham Calendar and we have chosen the theme 'The Farming Year – Past and Present.

As usual we will be looking for photos taken in and around the parish of Eglingham but this year focusing on farming related activities through the seasons.

Since the meeting at which we discussed the calendar, circumstances have changed dramatically but if it is safe for you to do so, get busy now with your camera to catch early spring activities. Whether social distancing or self isolating, getting out of the house is recommended for most of us and to name just one good example, lambs, if not already, will very shortly be in the fields, providing plenty of photo opportunities. Images of farms and farm buildings around the parish would also be suitable.

With schools and colleges closed, we would be particularly pleased to receive entries from younger members of the community. A smartphone camera can capture excellent quality images.

If you are not able to get out, then perhaps you have some old photos stored away or maybe hanging on the walls. These could be ideal for the calendar as we will be looking for historical images as well, showing aspects of farming from years gone by, old farm machinery, milk churns, horse drawn carts and ploughs...

There must be examples hidden away in albums or in old framed photos in houses around the area and we would love to hear of them.

Whatever the form of the photo, digital for modern images or either colour or black and white slides or prints in the case of older ones, we would be delighted to receive them.

Digital images should be emailed in jpg format to eglinghamcalendar@gmail.com and if you have older prints you would allow us to borrow for a short time, could you let us know via the email address and when it is safe to do so, we will arrange collection / delivery.

We will not require the photos until mid September but feel free to email them as soon as you wish.

Please remember that for digital images we require them in landscape format in order to fit the calendar page.

Thanks in anticipation of your support in providing a wide variety of photos. Despite the current problems, let's make next year's the best Eglingham Calendar yet!

Julian Tyley

On behalf of Eglingham Community Association

Face to Face Communications

For a lot of our more fragile residents who are now not seeing friends and family, will be feeling it. A salvation can be the tools we have for video conferencing.

Also, meetings that have need to be held through the parish have had to move into the digital world. The Hear Abouts team have already met this way a couple of times and the last I heard the “Stretch and Flex” class attendees were going to continue digitally until the village hall is able to open again.

So what equipment do I need?

An internet connection, faster the better but anything over 2mb should be ok for 1 on 1 conversations or a 4G signal on your phone.

A device, such as:

A computer with a webcam (laptop or desktop)

A Tablet (iPad etc)

A Mobile Phone (a reasonably modern smartphone)

Widely used services:

Skype (almost everything)

Facetime (Apple devices)

Whatsapp (phones)

Other computer based services:

Zoom (zoom.us)

GotoMeeting (gotomeeting.com)

The service that Hear Abouts have been using is meet.jit.si as its simple and works within your standard internet browser without much complication.

Here we are testing it out... The Future is here!! Though the biscuits are lacking..



Eglingham WI

At our February meeting a warm welcome was given to our visitor, Norma, a former member who had moved to Spalding some years ago. Sue Molloy gave a cookery demonstration using local produce. She made a variety of dishes from starter, mains and dessert. There were lots of samples to taste afterwards and the favourite seemed to be the cranachan dessert which Sue had made using apples and Calvados instead of the usual raspberries. It was amazing how she made about six dishes using lots of ingredients in a confined space.

At our March meeting we discussed our latest project Woman to Woman. Our members are helping women who have escaped domestic abuse situations. We are donating a wide variety of personal items, which in the future, will be handed over in bags - specially made by the Eglingham craft group. For our annual summer outing it has been decided to visit Howick Hall, where there will be an opportunity to see the beautiful kneelers in Howick church followed by a walk around the garden and afternoon tea.

Our speaker was David Sayer from Trading Standards. He told us of many scams taking place and how to protect ourselves. One of the obvious being do not trust callers at the door. He had amusing stories too. Apparently on one occasion he engaged an Indian scammer in a lengthy discussion about cricket!

Following Government guidelines our future meetings will be postponed until further notice.

Pat Ives

County Councillor Report

wendy.pattison@northumberland.gov.uk

Tel. 07779 983072 and also on Facebook



EGLINGHAM PARISH

Rural Roads - An extra £15 million funding for rural roads and path repairs across the county has been earmarked for this year's budget.

With over 5,000kms of roads in Northumberland, many of them connecting smaller communities, the major new initiative will create widespread improvements for residents, visitors and businesses.

The new investment, split equally over the next two years, is on top of this year's overall funding for roads, walking and cycling in the Local Transport Plan of £18.5m.

9 Parishes Meeting - A meeting with all of the Longhoughton Ward Parish Council representatives has been arranged with MP, Anne Marie Trevelyan on Friday, March 13th 2020.

Items on the agenda for discussion are;

1. Small Business Rate Relief Anomalies regarding holiday lets
2. Lack of any Mobile Phone signal in Craster, Howick and an intermittent mobile signal at Eglingham
3. Faster Broadband (lack of) in rural areas

Terrier Invasion

At ease company, Major Pax here to give you a "sit. rep." on three serious issues. Firstly, some of you will have read in the Gazette about a joint operation with the constabulary and NCC Dog Wardens which liberated more than 20 dogs locally. As is typical with the human media they didn't mention the role of the canine commandos! When I parachuted into the Rescue Block at Patterson's Cottage last month many beds were filled by large dogs who I can only describe as Kennel Blockers; yes Millie, Lexi, Ruby and Taz I am talking about you. Anyway, after I put a bit of stick about, they shipped out to new homes meaning there were spaces for the five adult Border Terriers and four puppies that the authorities wanted to billet here. I am delighted to report that one of the adults and all of the puppies have already picked their humans and moved on.

My second issue relates to this virus that seems to be causing havoc among the two-legged population; we have had to ask people not to call in with donations and loads of you are banged up even though you've not so much as done a wee on the carpet. My contacts at Inter-Paws tell me that many French and Italian dogs are being over-exercised as walking a dog is one of the four reasons that people in those countries can be out of their cells. Now, I don't mean to sound smug, but I have many fully vaccinated and eager squaddies here who would be happy to help provide physical contact, social interaction and exercise. That said; please remember that a dog is for life, not just for coronavirus.

The third issue is a consequence of the second; other than shortened hours at the shop in Wooler (opening times updated on our Facebook page) all fundraising work has ground to a halt but our vet's bill keeps on growing - quite frankly we could do with some help. If you would normally put a couple of quid into one of our buckets at a street collection then please take the time to go to www.alexasanimals.com and hit the DONATE NOW button. Alternatively, if you make purchases via Amazon perhaps you could add something from our Wish List?

Chin up chaps, it'll all be over by Christmas!



Navajo lamb stew

from the Hairy Bikers on BBC Food



Preparation time
less than 30 mins

Cooking time
over 2 hours

Serves
Serves 4–6

Ingredients

2 tbsp oil or lard
1kg/2lb 4oz lamb or mutton neck fillet, cut into chunks
2 onions, roughly chopped
2 garlic cloves, roughly chopped
1 tbsp coriander seeds, lightly crushed
1 tbsp dried thyme
2 tbsp tomato purée
3 celery sticks, trimmed and cut into large chunks
4 carrots, peeled and cut into large chunks
2 large potatoes, peeled and cut into chunks
½ pointed or hispi cabbage, cut into wedges or chunks
250g tin sweetcorn or hominy, drained and rinsed
salt and freshly ground black pepper
finely chopped celery leaves, to garnish

For the cornmeal dumplings

125g/4½oz medium fine cornmeal or polenta
125g/4½oz plain flour
1 tsp baking powder
1 tsp dried thyme or oregano (optional)
50g/1¾oz butter, chilled and diced
125ml/4fl oz milk
salt and freshly ground black pepper

Method

- 1** Heat the oil in a large casserole over a high heat. Season the meat with plenty of salt and pepper, then add the lamb to the casserole and sear on all sides until it has developed a rich brown crust. You will probably need to do this in two batches. Remove from the casserole and add the onion. Fry until lightly browned, then stir in the garlic, coriander seeds, thyme and tomato purée. Continue to cook for a few minutes, stirring constantly, and then pour in 1 litre/1¾ pint water.
- 2** Return the lamb to the casserole and bring to the boil. Turn down the heat, cover and leave to simmer for 1 hour. Add the celery, carrots, potatoes and cabbage, cover and cook for another hour.
- 3** While the vegetables are cooking, make the dumplings. Mix the cornmeal, flour, baking powder and thyme, if using, in a bowl and season with plenty of salt and pepper. Add the butter and rub it in until you have a mixture resembling fine breadcrumbs. Gradually add the milk and work until you have a dough. Divide the dough into six dumplings.
- 4** Add the sweetcorn to the casserole and push down into the liquid. Place the dumplings on top, cover and cook for around 20 minutes, until the dumplings are well risen and cooked through.

Useful Contacts

Local Councillor

Wendy Pattison: 07779 983072

Clerk to the Parish Council

Amy Smith: 01665 603755

Vicar - during Vacancy

Contact either

Ali Wrangham 01668 217329

or Brenda Robertson 01665 579337 for

Eglingham and Old Bewick

South Charlton Village Hall (bookings)

Andy Gray:

andrewsgraydesign@gmail.com

Eglingham Village Hall (bookings)

Julian Tyley: 01665 578460

Oil Buying Group

geoffosmond2@gmail.com

residents@ Email List Admin

david@eglingham.org.uk

Now is the time to keep an eye on the Parish Website!

The web address is: www.eglingham.info



Residents @ Email List

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

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

**Next Issue:
Who Knows?!!**

Please continue to submit content as normal