

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

From the Editor

I sit here finishing the magazine on the 27th of February. I have NEVER finished an issue this early! (just ask Geoff how late I usually am). After 10 years I'm finally getting better with my deadlines!

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Andy

I've been thinking again... Its Dangerous!

In the past I've had a few hairbrained ideas and recently I've had another.

Podcasting! (For the oldies, podcasting is kinda like on-demand radio shows)

I've run this past a chunk of the Hear Abouts team and also sounded out Pete at the Community Foundation about applying for some funding to do it alongside the Hear Abouts remit of community communication in the parish.

So, I'm keen to give it a go - what I'm asking for is if anyone out there fancies helping out, contributing, learning about the processes and technology behind audio recording and podcast production.

Drop us a line! Andy

Next Lunch Club

On March 18th 12noon South Charlton Village Hall

Join us for Soup and Pudding - All Welcome!

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".

100 Club Draw

February

1st - 8 Joanne Angus - £25 2nd - 84 Peter Marriot-Lodge - £15 3rd - 14 Gary Sharp - £10



Tennis Club Activity 2020

This year, Eglingham Tennis Club is planning to offer further coaching with Grant Watson, starting in or around Easter, building on the success of last year.

The coaching will be for all abilities, beginners, refreshers, intermediate etc. There will be no more than 4 to a group and we are going to try and accommodate people that can attend during the day and those that would prefer evening coaching.

We hopefully will be running junior and toddler sessions through the summer holidays again too.

Please contact me if you are interested. It's lots of fun so don't be shy! Look forward to hearing from you.

Nicky

07919172355.

PS. If anyone is interested in a pony share for riding/care and general horsey stuff please give me a call. Thanks.

Leek Club Dates

Quiz Night - March 18th
Easter Bingo - March 28th
Easter Show - April 11th (for details p.t.o.)
More dates to be confirmed soon!

All at South Charlton Village Hall, 7:30pm starts

Easter Show Schedule

Easter Saturday (April 11th)

Staging 11am-12noon

Adult Classes:

Eggs -

3 Dyed Eggs 3 Dyed Eggs (onion peel only) 1 Decorated Egg 1 Painted Egg

Flowers -

2 Vases of 3 Daffodils
3 Daffodils (yellow)
3 Daffodils (other)
1 White Daffodil
1 Coloured Centre
3 Doubles
3 Mini Daffodils
Arrangement of Spring Flowers

Baking -

A Decorated Cake 4 Decorated Buns

Other-

Any Craft Depicting Easter

Childrens Classes:

1 Painted Egg3 Decorated Buns

Age Groups

3-7 years

8-12 years

13+ are entered in the adult classes.

Entry Costs - Children's classes - 30p per entry Adult Classes - 50p per entry

Auction of Products 2:30pm

Plant stalls for North Northumberland Hospice Open Gardens

Last autumn I put out a begging letter for plants for the Open Garden events starting in June, and the response was great.

This is just to jog memories, and should you be able to donate plants please get in touch with me and I will be able to collect if necessary.

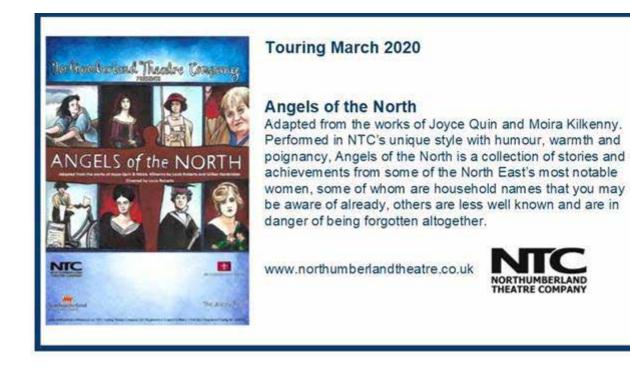
The Open Gardens is a very successful event enjoyed by many people and the plant stalls are very popular, but because of this we need a lot of plants!

Thank You.

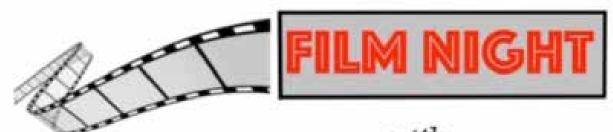
Contact Judi Rutherford Mobile 07939 478814

Northumberland Theatre Company comes once more to Eglingham Village Hall

Thursday March 26th Put the date in your diaries!



Eglingham Village Hall



with Nibbles

Fríday 6th March 7pm

Bring your own drinks

(glasses provided)



FREE ENTRY

Woofing Out About Wooler

Windswept George here, reporting on behalf of Alexa's Animals; we've had a bit of weather disruption at Patterson's Kennels, Storm Ciara meant that Blue and I had to be evacuated because it was blowing right into our little homes. As you can see from the illustration, I am well kitted out for cold weather, but Blue has some whippet heritage so was a shivering wreck. Only a week later Storm Dennis turned up and started making the roofing sheets go "woop, woop" so Minnie and Ruby had to move houses too.

Fortunately we haven't had many new arrivals this month – just Jasper the Akita so there were a few options for re-housing. Shivering Blue looked so pathetic that he blagged a foster placement until the weather warms up or he finds a permanent home, whichever is the sooner. Harvey the lurcher has gone out on trial; he's had a few sleepovers with his people and their other dog so we have high hopes that he will be adopted.

I have been asked to have a few woofs about Wooler, a town that is close to my heart as I lived there before my humans got too poorly to take me hiking in the hills. As our regular readers will know, Alexa's Animals has a shop on Wooler High Street that is open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10am until 4pm. We will also be open between 10.30 and 2.30 on Sunday 12th April for Wooler Farmer's Market and Sunday 19th July for the Wooler Festival. Perhaps the longer days have

inspired you to do a bit of Spring cleaning; we would welcome any clothing or bric a brac that is surplus to your requirements. The easiest way to do this is to drop it off at the shop or give our people a ring on 07792 049081 so they can arrange to collect it.

On a personal note I think I am ready for a change of scene; I would like some humans who have enough energy to go for long walks, throw balls and generally be up for a giddy half hour as I have found my inner puppy and am keen to work off some of my tummy. You can register your interest at www.alexasanimals.com I will view applicants on a first come, first served basis, arf, arf.

Yours, George



Help!

Eglingham and Old Bewick Churches are holding a coffee morning in the Glendale Hall in Wooler on Sat 21st March

Could you spare a couple of hours to help out? Or donate a few prizes for the Tombola or Raffle or do some baking for the cake stall? Donations can be left at the back of the Church in Eglingham or contact Patricia Fleming to offer help on 01668 217009.

Please support your local Church.

All help gratefully received

Chitlins at the Chop

Alnmouth railway station and a new Azuma train pulls to a halt. It is best part empty all the way along as I make for First Class. I fancy a breakfast on the way to London and hunt out the guard to see how much it will cost to sit in a slightly less uncomfortable seat and eat a perfectly ordinary plate of grub. The lady studied my ticket and pulled a face. 'With that ticket', she said, 'it will cost £100'. Miffed, I wandered



back to Carriage J which I had all to myself and devoured a cheese sandwich. Twenty two minutes later, I was in Newcastle. And we stayed on time all the way down. These days, that is remarkable in itself!

I continued rattling down the country in my empty carriage. Durham, Darlington, York. All nice stations. Newark. That is not nice. Peterborough. Dire. It is made of rendered brick, dirty grey box profile and plastic. All the best stations on the line are in the North. Waverley is good as well. Perhaps that is why they inflicted Northern Rail on us. You cannot have it all your own way. Oh no. If you have nice stations you get crap trains.



Anyway, I was deposited at Kings Cross only a few minutes late and hungry as hell. Instead of heading off to my usual trough, 'Cappadocia' (all day breakfast £8.00. Take heed, LNER), I carried on walking to Farringdon. I had read about a restaurant that did mince on toast and it was famous for it. How do you get to be famous for mince on toast? I was going to find out.

The Quality Chop House, it informs you, has been a restaurant since 1869. And it retains a Victorian feel once inside, nostalgic and atmospheric, giving the warmth an

expectant pleasure brings. A smart young thing with a neat cutty sark showed me to





a seat infront of the small bar. I had a view over the whole room.

A menu was produced, but to be honest, I just needed a starter as the mince was a given. 'What are Cornish Cod Chitterlings', I said to the sark, before settling down and sinking into the ambiance of the room. She rattled on about fish, but I was far from listening. When she stopped talking, I said 'Ok, I'll have the chitlins followed by the mince'. In no time at all, a large pudding plate arrived containing a bunch of bleached worms tied in a knot. Looking just as they do in the enclosed picture (which is filched from the net, incidentally), only with more Dashi and a lump of sourdough. I tucked in. They were lovely. All soft and creamy with a mild meaty flavour that was enhanced by the Dashi. I mopped it up with the bread and cleaned my plate. I had no idea what it was but it tasted pretty good.

Onto the mains and the legendary lump of sour dough with mince and a handful of watercress dressed in light mustard arrived. Infact, that is my dinner in the picture. Yep. Sad as it is, I took a photo of my dinner. Forkfulls of the richest, juciest mince I have ever had the pleasure of masticating. How do they do this? How do they put so much umami into such a simple thing as mince? Imagine searing a steak on a very hot griddle. Every 30 seconds or so you pick it up and shave off the cooked bits. Then you whack it back down, burn it again. More shaving. Repeat

until you have a pile of all the tastey morsels in a heap. Perhaps that is the basis of the dish, the starter mince? Who knows. I just know it was worth three and a half hours on a bone hard Azuma seat and a twenty minute walk from Stabbing Central (KGX) to Farringdon. And all for the princely sum of £24. Not robbed, eh? I finished with a 1970's curry flavoured ice cream that I

swear had sultanas in it.



Replete, I wandered from Farrington right across central London to my bed for the night just off Tottenham Court Road. Then I got to wondering. What actually are Cornish Cod Chitterlings? The wonders of google can be a bit blunt some times. I will leave you to do your own homework on that one. Should have paid more attention to the cutty sark.

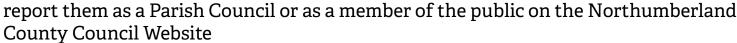
County Councillor Report

wendy.pattison@northumberland.gov.uk

Tel. 07779 983072 and also on Facebook

EGLINGHAM PARISH

Potholes – I have reported to NCC Highways a number of potholes in around the Longhoughton Ward. However, please don't hesitate to



http://mapreport.northumberland.gov.uk/potholes/

AONB – I have been appointed as a member of the Northumberland Coast AONB Partnership which was first formed in 2003. I have replaced Alnwick County Councillor, Robbie Moore who was elected as an MP for Keighley and Ilkley at the December 2019 General Election. I look forward to helping and ensuring that the natural beauty of the Northumberland coast is conserved and enhanced.

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY - NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

On a restricted BYWAY, you have ALL the rights of a bridleway. In addition, you can take a non-mechanically propelled vehicle. On a BYWAY OPEN TO ALL TRAFFIC, ALL users have a right to use the path, including those in mechanically propelled vehicles. The county council, as highway authority, is responsible for asserting and protecting the rights of the public to use public rights of way. They ensure that:

- the public rights of way network is properly maintained
- public rights of way are free from obstructions
- public rights of way are signposted where they leave metalled roads (surfaced roads)

They also ensure landowners and managers comply with their legal responsibilities regarding the maintenance of stiles and gates on public rights of way and the reinstatement of paths that have been disturbed through cultivation.

The landowner or occupier is responsible for:

- providing and maintaining stiles and gates
- cutting back overhanging vegetation that may obstruct a public right of way
- not obstructing or damaging the surface of a right of way
- ensuring that field edge paths are left free from cultivation for the legal minimum width of 1.5m for a public footpath and 3m for a public bridleway
- reinstating cross-field paths so the route is visible on the ground within 14 days of ploughing or 24 hours of any subsequent disturbance of the path surface
- ensuring paths through arable crops are free from obstructing crop growth to the legal minimum width of 1m for a footpath and 2m for a bridleway

HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE FUTURE OF LIBRARY SERVICES IN NORTHUMBERLAND

People in Northumberland are being asked for their views on the future shape of library services in Northumberland.

The county council has launched a public consultation, which went live on Wednesday 18 Dec, asking for people to submit their comments and ideas of how the service should be delivered in the future.



The consultation is open to all, whether they are a regular library user or not, and the council is also engaging with schools in order to get the opinion of youngsters in the county.

People have until March to respond to the questionnaire which is available at https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NCCLibraryConsultation and as a paper copy in all libraries in the county.

It is hoped the consultation will help identify the most valued aspects of the service and the barriers to library use across the county. The results of the consultation will help the council focus on how the service is delivered in the future.

A series of drop-in sessions will also be held for residents to ask questions or provide verbal feedback.

To find out when and where the drop-ins will be held go to www.mylibrary.co.uk

HOME COMPOSTING

WHY START HOME COMPOSTING?

Home composting is a very cheap, easy and effective way for keen gardeners to be environmentally friendly, help their gardens flourish and save money.

Composting assists in reducing waste and 40% of your household waste can be composted, meaning it saves money on buying compost through retailers.

It also helps improve the condition of your soil, and allows plants and flowers to flourish by suppressing plant disease.

GET STARTED - ORDER YOUR HOME COMPOSTING BIN

To get started, the first thing you will need to do is buy a home composting bin.

NCC are working with getcomposting.com to offer residents a range of home compost bins, wormeries and accessories at special offer prices.

- Compost bins start from £18.50 for 220 litres, or £20.50 for the 330-litre bin.
- There will also be a delivery charge of £5.99 per order (sorry, the local collection option is no longer available).
- Why not take advantage of the 'Buy One Get one half price' offer and pay just the same £5.99 delivery charge.
- Please allow up to 28 days for items to arrive with you.

Northumberland County Council has proposed that it should take direct charge of providing links for broadband into some residents' homes

It wants to direct the efforts at connecting isolated homes and communities across the county through taking responsibility for laying the cables into specific areas. The authority has begun discussions with Digital and Broadband minister Matt Warman and Hexham MP Guy Opperman, with the former asking it to provide a full business case ahead of the Government's Budget.

This follows the earlier provision of £12 million under the Government's Local Full Fibre Networks Programme to provide fibre internet connections to public buildings. Nick Oliver, the county council's cabinet member for corporate resources, said: "It is one of those lightbulb moments when you start to think about how we connect some of our most rural homes to broadband, when major companies are unwilling or unable to link them up. "Within the council we already have in-house vast expertise in terms of planning, laying trenches, building infrastructure and IT. The council said that if the scheme wins approval the work could begin later this year.

Letters to the Editor...

Dear sir,

Re: Proposed nuclear waste storage facility at Wandylaw

Thank you for your recent enquiry regarding the Council's proposals for a subterranean nuclear waste repository in your area.

While plans are still at a relatively early stage, I can confirm that the facility will almost certainly be located in an excavated chamber beneath the existing Wandylaw wind farm. Not only will this ensure that our region's contribution to national energy needs are concentrated in one relatively small 'hotspot', so to speak, but if - and I must emphasise that this really is a moderately big if - there ever was a catastrophic disaster, the turning of the turbine blades would help to disperse escaping radioactive materials over a much wider area of the county. Which I'm sure you'll agree is only fair as we wouldn't want it all landing on the same village.

According to current estimates, the concrete-lined repository will be capable of storing up to 1 trillion tonnes of radioactive material, where it will remain safely contained and in the capable hands of future generations for the next 24,000 years, or thereabouts.

In terms of the vast amounts of spoil which the excavations would inevitably produce, there are a number of options under consideration. These include the infilling of Embleton Bay to facilitate a dazzling, multi-million pound, Disney Worldstyle theme park which could be constructed on the spot where there is now just boring old sea; the creation of a new mountain in the Cheviot range (with cablecar access to the summit); levelling out the Weldon Bridge section of the A697 to preclude the need for the current crawler lane; and selling it all off at local garden centres as bags of top soil.

With regard to your concern about potential terrorist threats, I can assure you that every measure will be taken to protect the repository and prevent hazardous radioactive materials from falling into the wrong hands.

For example, we are currently working on plans to erect roadblocks at half-mile intervals along the A1 in both directions between the Morpeth and Belford interchanges. These will enable the papers and permits of all vehicle drivers to be checked repeatedly by members of the special services, and will thereby reduce the chances of intrusion by subversive elements. In addition, a permanent exclusion zone will be established in the airspace above the area, with helicopter gunships patrolling day and night in the skies above the locale. A series of large anti-aircraft, surface-to-air missile batteries will also be constructed along all hilltops within a 10-mile radius of the site, and the beaches from Druridge Bay to Budle Bay will be

equipped with landmines and razor wire to deter any attempts at incursion via the North Sea.

I can further assure you that disruption to commuter services at Alnmouth station will be kept as minimal as possible, with consignments of highly volatile spent fuel rods from Sellafield arriving and being offloaded at the station outside rush hour travel times whenever possible.

Finally, if budgets allow we are hoping to issue film badge dosimeters to all residents in the area. These will be totally free of charge and will alert wearers who have been exposed to potentially lethal doses of radiation.

I do hope this information is reassuring to yourself and your readers, but please don't hesitate to contact me again if you have any further queries.

Kind regards,

Cher Noble Team Lead, Isotope Isolation Think Tank Northumberland County Council

Eye on the Parish

Remember if you spot something out of the ordinary, humerous, artistic or create such things. Do send them in to us!

Here's a scene Malcolm Angus emailed in...

Windfarm fund sees windfall for young mechanic

Ayoung apprentice from Shipley, in Eglingham Parish, has received £2,000 from the innogy Renewables UK Middlemoor Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund at the Community Foundation to help him get started in his career as a mechanic.

The fund, which provides £81,000 per year, is associated with the 54MW Middlemoor Wind

Farm which has the capacity to power up to 29,200 UK homes per year.

As the Fund reaches the half-million-pound milestone there is further good news for Eglingham Parish, as innogy Renewables UK and the Advisory Panel has established an endowment fund at the Community Foundation that will support residents for generations to come.

Harvey Coxon, aged 22, is one of the beneficiaries from the latest round of funding





which saw six grants totalling £5,168 awarded for the benefit of residents within Eglingham Parish. The grant aims to support Harvey in his apprenticeship with Belford MOT Centre, where he works 4 days a week and attends Northumberland College in Ashington one day a week. The journey involves a 60-mile round trip, making it difficult for Harvey to invest in the tools required for the job.

Harvey explains:

"I'm currently an apprentice mechanic, and attending college, and the money will help me to

purchase tools that are required for my job.

"It can be quite difficult when you're an apprentice, as you don't earn a lot of money, to purchase tools which cost thousands of pounds, as well as running a car to get to work and college, and to live some sort of lifestyle!

"The £2,000 grant will help me purchase the base tools I need to complete the job such as an electric ratchet gun or common hand tools such as spanners. So, the £2,000 helps me purchase the tools and makes my life easier and I have extra money that I can use to support myself."

"To anyone thinking of applying, I'd say go ahead and do it. The money is there for a reason and is meant to help people like us as it's definitely helped me."

The award marks a milestone for the Fund, which has awarded over £500,000 to local people and causes in Eglingham Parish over the past six years. innogy Renewables UK and the Advisory Panel has established an endowment fund at the Community Foundation which will continue to support charitable, educational, environmental or community purposes for the benefit of the residents the parish of Eglingham in perpetuity, meaning residents will benefit for generations to come.

Katy Woodington, Senior Community Investment Officer, innogy Renewable s UK said;

"innogy are excited to see that the panel are thinking of new ways to invest the fund and support local people and we'd like to wish Harvey every success with his apprenticeship. By choosing to save a part of each year's fund into an endowment fund we hope the wind farm will leave an even longer legacy that can continue supporting initiatives like this that are important to the local area beyond the lifetime of the wind farm."

Community groups, charities, parish councils and schools can apply for grants from £250 upwards for a range of projects. Individuals can apply for grants up to £2,000. Priority is given to applications that come from, or benefit residents within the Parish of Eglingham. The Fund is currently open for applications until Monday 24 February 2020.

Pete Barrett, Senior Programme Adviser at the Community Foundations adds:

"To date more than £500,000 has been awarded to support the residents of Eglingham Parish, and we're delighted that this is going to continue in perpetuity with the new endowment fund which sees a long term investment that will benefit residents of Eglingham Parish for generations to come.

"With the Fund now open again in 2020, we hope to see lots of applications from community groups, charities, parish councils and schools as well as local individuals too."

For more information about making an application, visit <u>www.communityfoundation.</u> <u>org.uk/apply</u>

The Rant by Peter Marriott-Lodge

Is it just me or are all the things we now have at our disposal which are designed to make life easier, tend to make life a lot more difficult and sometimes damn well impossible. I recently had a problem with a fridge/freezer that was under warranty. I purchased it from Argos via ebay so I settled down at my desk with a cup of tea thinking this would be a straightforward matter and I rang the number on the ebay information regarding the warranty.

This is where the story really starts. I am fed up with companies that use these modern answer phones that tell 'Hello, thank you for calling us good bye, you are number 26 in the queue and that your call is very important to us. If it was that important, they would employ more people to answer the phone. I am now listening to a horrendous squeaky rendition of green sleeves and I make my second cup of tea.

When I eventually did get a person on the other end they had such a poor grasp of the English language that I eventually had to ask if I could please speak to someone who can speak English.

When I did eventually get to speak to someone who I could understand, I asked her if she would like the original order number. She told me that she does not have access to order numbers and could I give her my name, post code, house name, date of birth, my wife's name, my dog's name and no doubt if I had a budgie she would want its name as well. When I had done this for the third time she then asked me to please hold while she finds my file. Why was she not looking for the file while I was giving her all this information? Surely it would have been much simpler to use the order number. I complained about the answer message being a bit abrupt and not identifying the company etc. She told me that she knows nothing about the answer phone as it is a different company, so I ask her why then does her company endorse it. She told me her company doesn't endorse it. I tried to explain that because her company uses it they are effectively endorsing it. The logic of this statement was a bit lost on her, maybe I should not have bothered. She then asked me for security reasons to confirm some of the information I had just given her. I am only trying to report a faulty fridge/freezer, not launch a nuclear attack on Russia. Then she asks me to please hold while she transfers me to a specialist member of their team who can assist me further. I am now number 17 in a new queue and once again not enjoying green sleeves but of course they tell me how important my call is to them! Cup of tea number three. THEN, THEN, when I eventually get to speak to the so called specialist she wanted me to confirm all the information again. And this is all supposed to make life easier!! The specialist told me that I need to ring the supplier who will be able to help with my query. Now only number 6 in this queue however the music is a bit better. Gerry and Pacemakers are ferrying across the Mersey and once again, my call is very important to them.

More of this saga next month...

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

Have you found the Parish Website yet?

It has pages for all the local organisations, back issues of Hear Abouts, Parish Council meeting notes and much more. It now has a new feature "Upcoming Events" which lists, well, upcoming events.

The web address is: www.eglingham.info

Once there you use the menu 'hamburger' in the top right corner (depending on the size of screen) to select which page you want.



The website is now being updated with new content more frequently so why not bookmark it in your browser and keep in touch with all that is going on in the Parish.

Residents@EmailList

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

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

Next Issue:
Early April 2020
Content Must be submitted by 20th March