



# HEAR ABOUTS

NOVEMBER 2019

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

## From the Editor

As I sit here on the evening of 1st of November writing this, I have just seen the “horror” of the first Christmas tree decorated and in a window in the village! Some of you really do get in the Christmas spirit early! My Christmas spirit kicks in as I’m sitting down to Xmas dinner! Bah Humbug!! haha

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I just want to say thanks for you all being so prolific the last 2 months. Most of the year we’d struggled to properly fill an issue, to the point the team came up with some ideas for “space fillers”. Since then we’ve had to hold articles over, nevermind utilise these new features. This month is a 20 pager!! No doubt you’ll see them in a future issue when events/articles are thin on the ground.

Andy

## Lunch Club

We’re at it again. Every 3rd Wednesday in the month is Lunch Club day and everyone is welcome!

A choice of homemade soups, followed by homemade puddings.  
12noon on 18th November at South Charlton Village Hall

Also coming in December is our Christmas Lunch!  
Book your place at the next Lunch Club!

[www.eglingham.info](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.eglingham.info) and is searchable worldwide, so any information you provide will be published “beyond our borders”.

# 100 Club Draw

## September

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

## October

- 1st £25 - Jennifer Grant (81)
- 2nd £15 - Hannah Scott (9)
- 3rd £10 - Penny Blackmore (65)

## The 2020 Eglingham Calendar is now on sale!

The theme for this year's calendar is Colours of Eglingham and we would like to thank everyone who submitted photos. There was a tremendous response this year which made the selection process even more difficult than in the past!

As in previous years we are selling the calendars at the bargain price of just £5. The calendar is spiral bound and A4 size, making it ideal for posting to family and friends.

The Eglingham Calendar is always very popular and so be sure to buy yours while stocks last. Please note that we cannot reserve copies – payment with order please.

Calendars are available from:  
Julian Tyley, Copper Beech, Eglingham  
Tel 578460

*They will also be available from the Eglingham Community Association stall at the Christmas Market in Eglingham Village Hall on Sunday 1st December.*



## Leek Club Dates

- AGM - Nov 11th
- Quiz Night - Nov 13th
- Christmas Bingo - Nov 30th
- Quiz Night - January 15th

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

# Changing Lives

Eglingham WI would like to ask again for your support of Changing Live's Christmas Appeal. This is the fourth year we have collected for this important charity in Newcastle who work tirelessly to help those who have fallen through the cracks in our society and are extremely vulnerable.

The feedback we had from the charity last year was that many people who had never received a present before, had gifts to open on Christmas Day which they described as being 'very humbling and extremely moving'.

Their poster will give you ideas about how you can help, but please note that this year they are asking only for new items.

Donations can be left at the back of St Maurice's church in Eglingham during the month of November. Please help us to make a significant difference to some of the most excluded people in our society this Christmas.

Changing Lives could not do their work if it was not for the support of their friends in the community, and they are always very appreciative of our efforts.

Thank you

Eglingham WI

## CHANGING LIVES

## Reverse advent calendar 2019

**WARM CLOTHES**  
We reach out to people sleeping on the streets. Warm gloves, socks and hats help keep vulnerable people warm over winter.

**GIFT SETS**  
Gift sets of toiletries make a lovely treat for residents who may not receive any other gifts this Christmas.

**SLEEPWEAR**  
Pyjamas can be a luxury when you're living in poverty and nights can be cold if you can't heat your home. Can you help vulnerable people get cosy this Christmas?

**TOILETRIES**  
We always need deodorant, body wash, shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and sanitary products.

**A WARM BED**  
A donation of £20 can get someone off the street and into one of our safe, warm beds.

**DIARIES**  
People who use our services often have a lot of appointments. Diaries are always useful and popular.

**A SAFE HOME**  
A regular donation to Changing Lives gives vulnerable people a real chance of finding a home.

**TOYS AND GIFTS**  
Some of our residents aren't able to provide gifts for their children. Can you donate new toys, books and craft items for parents to give this Christmas?

Find your local drop off point at:  
[www.changing-lives.org.uk/RAC19](http://www.changing-lives.org.uk/RAC19)



## A Festival of Christmas Trees



**In St. James' Church,  
South Charlton.**

**NE66 2NA**

**Open every Sunday in December  
2pm-4pm**



**Refreshments, Christmas Bakes  
& a Christmas activity for the children.**

**Free entry, however  
donations will be gratefully received**



## Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund

List of the awards made from the Innogy Renewables Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund for the last Fund year, 01 October 2018 to 30 September 2019, total spend for the year on community projects and support for young people in educational or sporting endeavours is £98,099.

St James Church PCC (South Charlton)	Replacing oil-fired central heating system	£13,300
St Maurice's PCC (Eglingham)	Church heating	£6,163
Little Acorns Pre-school	Off-site educational trips	£720
Private Individual	Online editing course	£1,560
Private Individual	Educational support	£2,000
Little Acorns Pre-School	Intergenerational seasonal activities	£280
Private Individual	Educational support	£2,000
Individual, young person under 18	Support for cricket training/ travel and associated costs	£2,000
NTC Touring Theatre Company	Performance in Eglingham Parish	£1,000
Eglingham Community Association	Gate repair and tennis club support	£2,000
South Charlton Village Hall	To purchase small folding tables	£1,377
Eglingham Community Association	towards running costs of the Eglingham Craft Group	£1,000
South Charlton Village Hall	To replace all of the external guttering	£6,127
Breamish Hall	To purchase a commercial oven and extraction canopy	£4,589
Private Individual	Educational support	£2,000
Eglingham Village Hall	Kitchen refurbishment	£30,000
Eglingham Village Hall	Creating Eglingham WI centenary garden	£1,155
St James' Church South Charlton PCC	Churchyard tree maintenance	£3,650
Hear Abouts Magazine	Printer rental and supplies for five years	£12,155
South Charlton Community Network	Support for grass roots activity in the South Charlton	£1,000.00
Private Individual	Educational support	£1,833.00
Eglingham Community Association	Pilates classes	£1,000.00
Private Individual	Educational Support	£2,000.00

*Pete Barrett*

Senior Programme Advisor, Community Foundation Tyne and Wear & Northumberland  
Email: [pb@communityfoundation.org.uk](mailto:pb@communityfoundation.org.uk) Tel: 0191 222 0945

## Eglingham WI

October's meeting had a fairly full programme. We were joined by two visitors, one of whom was from a newly formed WI in Stannington Park. Invitations from other WIs in our group were read out and it was announced that the venue for our Christmas meal was now The Percy Arms in Chatton. Our two speakers were volunteers from the Daft as a Brush charity based in Newcastle. It was a very interesting talk and the work they do helps thousands of cancer patients each year. People undergoing chemo and radiation treatment are collected from their home and taken to the Freeman and RVI hospitals and returned home once treatment has ended. We were able to buy small items such as pens etc to help raise funds. Brenda gave a vote of thanks. Our WI had organised a raffle to help the family of little Willow Dodds and had sold all the tickets printed, which raised £2,000. There were 17 excellent prizes and the draw for these took place during our supper. The prize winners were to be notified later. The normal raffle was won by one of our visitors.

*Pat Ives*

## Growing for Hospice Plant Stalls

I know that next summer is a long way off but would any keen gardeners be able to pot-up a few seedlings or cuttings to be used on our Hospice plant stalls at Open Garden days next June?

These plant stalls are always very popular but we could always sell more plants. If you are putting your garden to bed shortly then you just might see a rogue seedling – we can give it a home!

Please contact me if you may be able to help

Judi Rutherford

tel. (01665) 579316 or email [judi.rford@gmail.com](mailto:judi.rford@gmail.com)

## Cycle Challenge

Keen Cyclists, Sisters Karen Renner and Tracy Coxon recently completed a cycle challenge from Milan to Venice in October. The cycle ride was part of an International fundraising organisation called Dream Challenges, raising funds for Women V Cancer.

Karen and Tracy did a lot of training in preparation for the event. Regularly cycling weekly local routes of over 60 miles + and participating in cycling sportives such as Tour O' The Borders, Caledonian Etape, and The Wooler Wheel.

The challenge involved cycling over 3 days covering approx. 370km.

First day, they went from Milan, cycling through the hills of Northern Italy to Brescia and Lake Iseo.

Second day Brescia to San Bonifacio, cycling on the Southern edge of the Dolomites to Lake Garda, Italy's largest lake, with stunning scenery.

Final day Bonifacio to Mestre. Cycling through a vast National Park and its rolling hills to Mestre, part of mainland Venice.

"This event was amazing and rewarding", said Karen. "The group we were with raised approximately £150,000 towards the charity. All our hard work training paid off and we were proud to be part of such a good cause".



# Eglingham Tennis Club

The Eglingham Tennis Club has gone from strength to strength throughout the 2019 season.

The newly refurbished tennis court, in its lovely community field surroundings, has been well used and attracted all ages from within the Parish.

Adult coaching, by Grant Watson, successfully started in May and continues into the autumn. There has been 3 adult classes on Tuesday mornings, catering for beginners to more experienced players and Grant reports that there has been great improvement in play at all levels!

Throughout the summer holidays 2 toddler groups were coached weekly on Tuesdays, as were juniors on Thursday afternoons. The toddler sessions, in fact, were over subscribed and the juniors very well attended. Most importantly, all were thoroughly enjoyed. The kids on the court and the mums and dads on the side lines chatting!

Further to this, interest was shown by adults who couldn't attend during the day, so 2 further coaching sessions were organised through the holidays on Thursday evenings.

In addition, for those players wanting a bit of competitive play, a double tennis ladder has been set up and is available to all. Anyone interested stick your names and contact details on the white board in the tennis hut.

The tennis court has been generally very well used, as has been evidenced by the contributions made into the 'honesty box'. It continues to be £1 per player.

Thanks to all who have participated this year, there has been so much fun and laughter on the court as well as keeping fit and getting together with members of the community.

Thanks to Grant Watson who has coached throughout, to Paula Scott who organised the toddler sessions and Louise Hodgson for arranging the juniors.

Finally, thanks to the wind farm grant that subsidised some of the community coaching. Thank you.

*Nicky.*

Ps. Anyone who is interested in joining in in the future please get in touch with me via email.





*Eglington Village Hall*



# Christmas Market

**SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER  
1-4PM**

**ADMISSION £1**



**REFRESHMENTS**





## **EGLINGHAM PARISH**

**South Charlton** - The results on the consultation with South Charlton residents for a 30mph speed limit through South Charlton Village were 100% in favour (21 for, 0 against. This has now been approved by NCC Traffic Management and it will be implemented shortly.

**Eglingham Traffic Design Scheme** – The new draft road safety traffic design scheme for the village is currently being looked at by Parish Councillors and it will be made available for all residents to look at and give their opinions.

**B6346 – Bridge** - Currently there is no footway across the bridge and pedestrians are walking in the road. A build out is proposed on the West side of the bridge to force all traffic to use the southern area of the bridge in a priority working system. The remaining area of the bridge to the North is to be utilised for pedestrians. This area is to be segregated from the carriageway by the use of “kerb orca” rubber kerbs that are usually used to segregate cyclists from motorists where cycle lanes are present.



*Kerb Orca Example*



*Surface Mounted Rubber Kerb Example*

The introduction of the priority working system provide a traffic calming measure in the centre of the village, whilst the narrowing of the bridge also assists in slowing down traffic. NCC have funding available for the bridge works during 2019/20 and if there is support for this work to be done it could potentially be implemented during 2019/20.

The other elements of the design scheme can be put forward as Parish priorities for the 2020/21 Local Transport Plan.

There is much more to the Eglingham Traffic design plan and I have just selected two of the suggestions in the report.

New Village signage has been suggested and examples of suitable Gateway Signs are available in three colours, White, Light Oak or Dark Oak.

# EGLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk; Amy Smith 01665 603755

Email; [amycartmell@googlemail.com](mailto:amycartmell@googlemail.com)

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday October 2nd th 2019 at Eglingham Village Hall.

Matters arising;

**Eglingham Traffic Management** – Neil Snowdon of Northumberland County Council Highways Programme had sent through the proposed Eglingham Village Traffic Calming scheme as a result of a site meeting with councillors earlier in the year. It is proposed that a footway will be installed on the West side of the bridge in Eglingham for the safety of pedestrians and with the introduction at the bridge of a priority working system that will also act as a traffic calming measure whilst the narrowing of the bridge will also assist in slowing down traffic. In addition there are proposals for new improved and better located signage at all junctions and entrances to the village including LED signs and refreshed road markings. Mr Snowdon had explained that funding was available in 2019/20 for the bridge works and suggested that other elements of the scheme be proposed by the Parish Council in the Local Transport Priorities for 2020/21. The chair proposed that the Parish Council approve the bridge works to go ahead in this financial year and to consider the other parts of the proposal at a future meeting. This action was approved and the clerk will write to Mr Snowdon to confirm.

**Hedges/trees cutting back;** The tree works on Beanley Road are scheduled for Monday 14th to Wednesday 16th October with a road closure from 9am to 3pm to allow for the works to take place.

**Glen Sanderson response to road resurfacing request;** In response to a letter from the clerk highlighting the poor state of the road between Eglingham and Alnwick, Mr Sanderson confirmed that the road does need a lot of money spending on it and that NCC is hoping it can be looked at next year. He suggested the PC put it forward as a Local Transport Priority which was done following the previous Parish Council meeting.

**Proposal to invite prospective new councillor to next meeting;** The clerk had circulated a CV and covering letter for Gordon Leishmann who had expressed an interest in becoming a coopted member of Eglingham Parish Council. It was agreed to invite him to the next meeting as a new councillor.

**Eglingham Neighbourhood Plan update;** The chair reported that 4 residents had attended the public meeting at South Charlton on Monday and 8 residents at Eglingham on Tuesday. He reported that those who attended the meetings had seemed engaged and supportive of what the Parish Council is planning to do but no further issues had been put forward to form part of the plan. The chair suggested that something about climate change should be part of the plan as this would become an increasing issue during the life of the Neighbourhood Plan. It was mentioned that some residents had been put off completing the questionnaire because of the need for a signature at the bottom however this had been an advised requirement by the Neighbourhood

Planning and Infrastructure Officer.

**Eglingham Community Field Proposals;** The chair reported the results of both consultations. The initial consultation was on the principle of establishing a children's play area and the provision of adult training equipment. The results of that consultation were that 56% of respondents opposed the idea and 33% were in favour with 11% undecided. A second consultation based on detailed plans and costings put forward by the Eglingham Community Association were published in Hearabouts and solely for a children's play area. The results of the second consultation were 69% opposed, 31% in favour with concerns in both consultations at the cost and in light of the small number of children within the parish. On this basis the Parish Council voted unanimously not to pursue the proposal for a children's play area on the community field, proposed by the chair and seconded by Cllr McIver.

**\* Following the meeting the Parish Council apologised to residents for its mistake in agreeing the results of the consultation prior to the publicised end of the consultation on October 9th. The matter will be considered again at the November meeting taking into account all comments and the consultation has been extended to October 16th to allow residents time to make any further comments.**

**Data protection fee** Following advice from NALC that Parish Councils should register as Data Controllers because they are processing data for the provision of local services, it was agreed the clerk will do so and the Parish Council will pay the annual fee of £40.

**Planning matters;** Received between meetings and no objections; 19/02001/FUL Proposal for 4no; timber stables, hay-store, feed and tack room, West Mires Cottage, South Charlton. 19/02159/REM; Reserved Matters application for proposed access re 18/01718/OUT – Land South of Yarrow Cottage Ditchburn Road, South Charlton. No other plans had been received. No other plans received.

**Correspondence; Eglingham Village Field Maintenance;** The Parish Council had received correspondence from Eglingham Community Association requesting increased maintenance of the field. In light of the consultation on the children's play area the chair felt this was premature and proposed that there should be a discussion at a future meeting regarding a strategy for the use and maintenance of the field. Obstruction of Public Footpath- the clerk and Cllr Pattison had received a complaint that a public footpath was being blocked and Cllr Pattison had referred to the footpaths officer, Tribute to the Fallen 1914-1920 Men of Alnwick, Amble, Rothbury and Wooler districts book copy-the clerk had received a copy of this book from the Western Front Association Northumberland Branch. It was agreed to keep it at Eglingham Village Hall so it could be accessed by those interested

**Any other business; Remembrance Day Wreath** Cllr McIver explained that the chair had kindly organised for the area to be tidied up. The clerk explained that wreaths must now be ordered from the national Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and donations made directly to them as the local organisers had retired from the role. It was agreed to order a wreath for Eglingham and for South Charlton with the suggested donation for each of £17.

Cllr McIver raised whether the new bin in the bus station was being emptied as

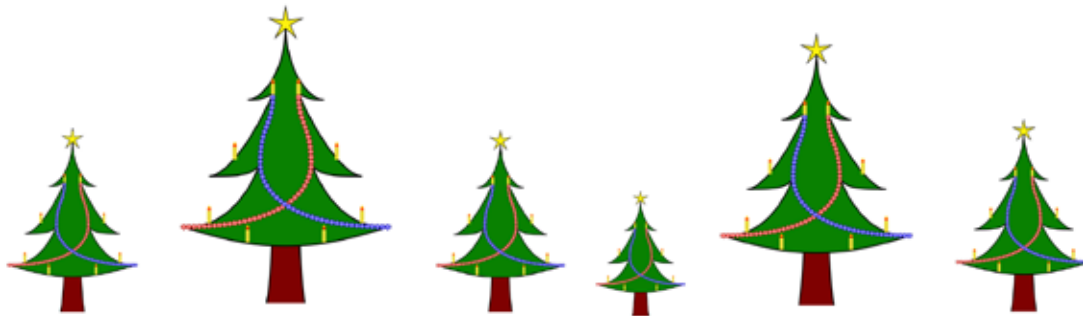
regularly as it should be as it is always full although it is nice to see it is being used. The clerk will chase this up with Neighbourhood Services.

**Date of next meeting;** - The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday November 27th at South Charlton Village Hall.

### Dates for your Diary *Christmas 2019*

**ADVENT** from 1<sup>st</sup> December at South Charlton each Advent Sunday view 2.00 – 4.00 p.m.

### FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS TREES



#### Services at Local Churches:

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December Carol Service 6.30 -7.30 p.m.

*(9 Lessons & Carols)*

St Maurice's Eglingham:

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December Candles & Carols 4.00 p.m.

St James' South Charlton

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December Midnight Communion 11.30p.m.

St Maurice's Eglingham

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day 9.30 a.m.

Holy Trinity Old Bewick

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day 11.00 a.m.

St James' South Charlton

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December Group Service 10.30a.m.

Holy Cross Chatton

Please note change of date  
Come and make your own  
Christmas wreath.

With Alex Charlton.

Friday 29th November 7pm to 9pm  
South Charlton Village Hall

Seasonal refreshments and all materials supplied.

Tickets £TBC.

From Sue Jackson 579470 (mobile 07793032697)

**Booking essential.**

Last day for tickets Monday 19th November.



## The WI Does it Again!!

You may already have heard about Willow Dodd. In May, she was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer. She is only two years old and whilst her Mum stays with her during her intensive chemotherapy treatment at the R.V.I., her Dad, who had been a chef at The Tankerville Arms in Eglingham, had to give up his job to look after the older siblings.



Eglingham W.I. was approached to see if there was anything we could do to support the family. Initially, there was to be a raffle to be held at a coffee morning but due to the generosity of local businesses donating some amazing and unusual prizes including the designing and printing of the raffle tickets, we realised we needed to up the scale of the raffle. Besides Eglingham W.I. members selling tickets, W.I. members within the Cheviot Group and also Hepple, all did their bit. By the time the raffle prizes were drawn, two thousand tickets had been sold.

A cheque of two thousand pounds was presented by Eglingham W.I. President, Brenda Robertson, to Willow's parents, Karla Heathcote and Graeme Dodd who is holding Willow, on Saturday, 19th October at The Tankerville Arms, Eglingham.

## Whae's Maykin Aall The Munnie?

That was the question I was asked by a desolute elderly farmer the other day. Over the last two years beef prices have dropped by £250 per head - about 20%. My response was no one in the chain but the consumer. Not the farmer, the abattoir or the retailer (supermarket). Since Aldi and Lidl came on the scene with a competitive vengeance, every supermarket from Waitrose to Asda are now selling two steaks for £7, so the fall in the retail price has eventually rattled down the production chain to the primary producer - the farmer. Since all the food scares there is no poor-quality beef from British farmers particularly going to the supermarkets. Beef farmers are Farm Assurance audited to within an inch of their lives. Never has the consumer had better quality, higher animal welfare or cheaper red meat produced from UK grown grass.

Unfortunately, despite all these positives for the legendary 'housewife' (a demographic that only sticks in the minds of over 55s), we (housewives or the rest of us) have eaten 14% less red meat so far this year. In addition to the intense retail competition Greta Thunberg and her Extinction Revolution chums have got it in for the beef and dairy sector. I know cows burp, but that's not carbon dioxide it's methane, which has a ten year half-life, so because there's I think about 20% less head of sheep and cattle in the UK than there was 10 years ago, carbon from bovine methane is in fact reducing not increasing. In the minds of XR UK red meat production seems to have been clumped together with the Amazon destroying, water intensive, Feed Lots of the Americas, which are undoubtedly reprehensible. There's some very dodgy science going on. Patrick Holden of the Sustainable Food Trust wrote a very good article in The Telegraph last month advocating that in pastoral Britain and Ireland we should be eating more red meat and dairy products, not less! Growing green grass captures a remarkable amount of carbon, but grass doesn't grow unless it's cut (grazed) or fertilised (cow's pee and poo).

On top of that since early September we've not had a dry spell long enough for farmers to get their wheat drilled. So, they're all very grumpy, even grumpier than normal (with good cause). Like Kenneth Williams in an Ealing Comedy - Infamy, infamy, they've all got it in f'me.

However, my colleagues and I have had the privilege of conducting three displenishing sales (where all their farm machinery is auctioned) over the last three Fridays for three farmers who are retiring. (Wise guys considering my previous ramblings). I've done lots of these over the years and they're always enjoyable events where the farming community, far and wide, comes together to give the retiree the best send-off that can be managed. From £50,000 combines to £5 pitch forks, everything must go. We embraced social media some time ago pioneering cataloguing each lot (from the pitchfork to the combine) online. We copy and paste the catalogue onto our Facebook page which seems to be the current currency of farmers - even the older ones. For last Friday's sale we had what to me was an amazing 12,477 likes! Not sure if Mark Zuckerberg knows. (I certainly don't do Fb personally because I don't want pictures of me horizontal at a wedding published).

That's where the industry is now. But to look back a year or two, I have recently been captivated by a book written by mother in law's cousin, Roger Robson, who is part of the Robson clan of Netherwitton - farmers, molecatchers and Cumberland Wrestlers. He was/is a bright boy who went on to read English at Durham University but always went home in the years just after the war to help his father mole catching. He wrestled to a high standard all over the North from Kendal to the World Championships at Alwinton! He has mined a remembered archive of family stories and legends on which he has embroidered tales to create a 'faction'. He says "The heroes of my stories are always ordinary folk in unusual circumstances: molecatchers, Cumberland wrestlers, farm-workers, shepherds and poachers. And, always my stories are told with love and ironic humour about actual people, in places and events from a bygone era". He has interspersed his book with gorgeous family pictures. The book is called *The Understanding* by Roger Robson and is published by The Bookcase in Carlisle (01228 544560 or [bookscumbria.com](http://bookscumbria.com) at £10 plus p&p). It's a series of short stories, the first a delightful one about one of his ancestors, a molecatcher working on Ingram haughs, a gamekeeper, a poacher and the shepherd at High Blakehope and it is wonderful. I thoroughly recommend this collection of very local tales as a Christmas present.

*Jamie Logan*



Border Livestock  
Exchange Ltd

12,477  
likes





## Hairy Panter and the rockets of fear

Greetings muggles! Big Ron here, talking on behalf of we Weasleys. Brother George and I found ourselves here at Patterson's Cottage when one of our Fred's experimental magic tricks backfired. Although George has managed to hang on to a bit of the distinctive Weasley ginger colouring he has otherwise gone "full dog" and gets very excited whenever anyone throws a ball. George, don't do that, no licking while I'm reporting please. I try to retain a bit of wizardly decorum but it is difficult when everyone around you is... well, how can I put it...barking.

We've been trying to assess the extent of Fred's mistake; Draco was obviously caught in the fall out and is currently presenting as a white Staffy. I have to say he has a much nicer personality as a dog than he did when we were at school together. Next door is a huge, hairy person; for a long time I was convinced that this must be Hagrid under transfiguration. George, however, has thrust his doggy nose into the situation and says the giant is a lady Caucasian Shepherd who is looking for a flock to guard. Apparently she is called Minnie, but I think he is having me on.

Last month some nice chaps came and chopped back the tree that hangs over our kennels, it is now much lighter inside with fewer nasty noises on windy days. When you have your bonfire please remember that, unlike we Weasleys, not all dogs are relaxed around explosions and brightly coloured flames. You should make sure that they are safe and secure when the rockets start to whizz and bang; a nice distraction from all the fuss is a smear of peanut butter on a favourite chewing toy.

Our fundraisers in Wooler are gearing up for Christmas with late night shopping on 28th November and Santa visiting on 1st December. There's also a Christmas Fair at Northumberlandia on 7th and 8th of December – wrap up well if you are coming along. Our collectors will be at Kingston Park from 22nd November through to 24th December, if you make any purchases from Pets at Home please consider adding a £1 donation to your bill; this will buy two meals for a rescue dog – or "one per Weasley" as I prefer to look at it.

Regards,

Ron.



# Why Is It Important To Write A Will

Statistics show that over half of the UK population die without making a valid Will and 5.4 million people don't know how to make one.

Many people are of the belief that if they die without making a Will, any assets they own including property, money and any savings, will automatically go to their spouse and children. Unfortunately, this is simply not the case.

If you die without making a Will, your estate will be dealt with according to the laws of the intestacy. This is where the term someone dying "intestate" comes from. The laws of intestacy set out a hierarchy of distribution of an estate where a person dies without making a Will.

Only married or civil partners and some other close relatives can inherit under the rules of intestacy. For unmarried couples, same-sex couples not in a civil partnership, those who have recently divorced, no longer in a civil partnership, relations by marriage i.e. stepchildren or cohabitees are not automatically entitled to inherit anything from the deceased's estate. For those couples who are separated but still not divorced or divorce proceedings have not completed, the ex-partner could still inherit.

## Intestacy Rules

### **Surviving spouse but no children**

Where there is a surviving spouse but no children, the spouse inherits everything.

### **Surviving spouse and children**

Where there is a surviving spouse and children, the intestacy rules will share the estate as set out below.

The spouse of the deceased will receive everything up to the value of £250,000 including personal chattels.

Anything in addition to the £250,000 is divided in two. Half will go to the spouse and any children will receive the other half when they reach the age of 18.

### **Children but no partner**

If there are children but no married or civil partner, the children will inherit everything and all proceeds will be equally split between them. "Children" includes adopted children but not stepchildren.

### **No partner and no children**

The estate will fall to the deceased's parents. If the parents of the deceased have themselves died, the assets will be allocated in the following order:

- Brothers and sisters (or nephews and nieces if the sibling has died)
- Grandparents
- Uncles and aunts (or cousins if the uncle or aunt has died)

Failing the above, the estate goes to the Crown which is known as "bona vacantia."

## What happens to joint assets under intestacy?

If the home is jointly owned, the deceased's share will automatically pass to the surviving partner by way of survivorship.

If the home is owned as tenants in common, the survivor isn't automatically entitled to inherit the share of the property and therefore the deceased's share will pass in accordance with the laws of intestacy.

Couples may own joint bank accounts or building society accounts. The survivorship

rule applies in this instance also where the surviving partner will automatically inherit all the money in the account.

Quite simply, the rules of intestacy may not distribute the estate in the most tax efficient way or in a way the deceased would have done if given the choice. The effect of this would mean people who the deceased may have wanted to provide for won't be, or worse still, people that the deceased would have wanted to exclude from inheriting any of the estate, could inherit under the laws of intestacy.

Take, for example, a couple who have legally separated but not divorced. If Mr dies without a Will, Mrs will inherit the estate when Mr may not have wanted this at all. A Will prevents a scenario like this from arising.

There is a common misconception that you only need to make a Will when you are "of age" which simply is not the case. You should make a Will where you are married, have children, have a positive net worth or in a civil partnership.

Making a Will is one of the most important things you can do because it allows you to decide how your assets will be distributed and to whom on your death. Not only does a Will enable you to do this, but also to make provisions for your children by appointing guardians, provisions for pets, gift personal items to loved ones and donating to a charity by appointing responsible and trustworthy executors who will deal with your estate in accordance with your wishes.

My name is Peter Marriott-Lodge. I am a professional Will and Trust specialist and I live locally.

*Peter Marriott-Lodge*

07771905936 or email [marriottlodge@gmail.com](mailto:marriottlodge@gmail.com)

## More from your County Councillor Wendy Pattison

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## 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](mailto:andrewsgraydesign@gmail.com)

Eglingham Village Hall (bookings)

Julian Tyley: 01665 578460

Oil Buying Group

[geoffosmond2@gmail.com](mailto:geoffosmond2@gmail.com)

residents@ Email List Admin

[david@eglingham.org.uk](mailto: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](http://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 @ 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](mailto:david@eglingham.org.uk) and you will get added.

Next Issue:

Early December 2019

Content Must be submitted by 20th November