

HEAR ABOUTS

OCTOBER 2020



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

From the Editor

Welcome to an issue that is the last of an era for Hear Abouts.

Hopefully we'll have more clarity by the time the next issue rolls around in November, but this issue is the last that Geoff is printing.

He is due to move soon and therefore he is

escaping our clutches! Dammit!! We can't be too mad at him though as he has basically been the beating heart (and whip-cracker) in the Hear Abouts team through the whole of its 15 years existence. Starting off as editor then reducing his duties (or so he thought) to printer and editorial team member when I took over the correlation of articles.

I'd like to thank Geoff for his help and support over the time I've been part of the team and wish all the family the best in their new home.

Andy

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Alnwick

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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:

Early November (hopefully)

Please continue to submit content by the 20th as normal

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_article.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".

The Parish Council have appointed a NEW Parish Clerk

The Council were very sorry to receive the resignation of Amy Smith who has served the Council well over a number of years and wish her well in her new career as a teacher.

The new Parish clerk is **Lesley Long** who lives in Alnwick and she can be contacted on : eglinghamclerk@gmail.com

Eglingham Parish Council

Christmas Baking

This year I am proposing to take orders for **Christmas Cakes to raise funds for Eglingham Church**. These all butter moist cakes are made using vine fruits and are soaked in brandy, then covered in marzipan and fondant icing.

Prices are as follows:-

Mini cake £9

6" square. £23

7" round. £26

7" square. £30

8" round. £33

8" square. £42

Also available mince pies £1.60 for 6

All orders to Brenda Robertson 01665 579337 or email brobertson2852@gmail.com

Thank you

Brenda Robertson

Next Month:

A report from a very different looking Leek Show

More Covid Island Discs

Plus the regular pieces and updates

...and potentially a different feel to the magazine as we go through some changes.

Eglingham Parish Design Code

During these difficult times the Parish Council have been busy working to develop a Neighbourhood Plan. To this end they have established a small Steering Group to take forward the production of this Plan.

As a part of this process a Design Code for the Parish has been developed. The code was produced following a public consultation in September and October 2019 when 81% of responders supported the principle of a Design Code for the Parish.

The Code was produced in partnership with AECOM, who provided technical advice and support.

The intention of the Design Code is that it should be used by all applicants to inform and influence the design of any proposals for development within the Parish so that they provide a 'good fit' with the existing built environment.

A number of factors were taken into consideration in the preparation of the code:

- Maintaining the existing village and hamlet settlement patterns
- Ensuring new development is of a similar scale to the existing built form
- Maintaining the physical and perceptual connections to the surrounding landscape
- Retaining key views to and from landmarks and the countryside
- Ensuring new development is responsive to the existing architectural styles and materials
- Encouraging innovation regarding ecological and sustainable design
- Retaining existing protected open spaces

The document provides design codes to inform all scales of development including working with the site character and its context, street scene and public open space, built form and sustainable development features. Ultimately it is hoped the Code will form an integral part of the adopted Neighbourhood Plan.

If you are interested in viewing the document then the completed design code is available on the Parish website www.eglingham.info under Parish Council info and documents.

Eglingham Parish Council

The Covid Creative Corner

Lots of us have suddenly had plenty of time on our hands. Time we'd spend usually going to work, or other inane activities and we've had the chance to spend time being creative!

If you'd like to send in examples of your lockdown creations, please email pics etc to the usual address.



Jean Sawyer has been busy again!

She's been so productive over this time we've asked her to join the Hear Abouts team!





Community
Foundation

RWE Renewables Middlemoor Wind Farm Fund

Will open for applications on Friday 28 August 2020

The deadline for submitting applications is Monday 12 October 2020 for consideration at the Panel meeting in November 2020

Applications are invited for the RWE Renewables Middlemoor Windfarm Community Benefit Fund at the Community Foundation.

Area of benefit:

- Priority consideration will be given to applications from individuals, groups, projects and activities based within the Parish of Eglington.
- Consideration will also be given to applications from groups and organisations outside of Eglington Parish that provide services and activities that are deemed by the Fund to be of benefit to residents of the Parish.

Groups can apply for a minimum of £250 up to £81,000.

Individuals can apply for a minimum of £250 up to a maximum of £2,000

See guidance notes on the Community Foundation website for individual applications:

www.communityfoundation.org.uk/apply

and please contact the Community Foundation before applying for an individual

How to apply:

Please apply online at www.communityfoundation.org.uk/apply

For further details please contact:

Pete Barrett, Senior Programme Advisor, Community Foundation Tyne and Wear & Northumberland

Email: pb@communityfoundation.org.uk

Tel: 0191 222 0945

RWE Renewables Middlemoor Wind Farm Fund For Individuals

What can be funded:

The Fund will consider grant requests from £250 up to £2,000 from individuals residing in the Parish of Eglingham, with a view to promoting education, volunteering and good citizenship, the arts and amateur sport.

Examples include:

- encouraging and nurturing talent;
- supporting individuals to access learning and personal development opportunities that might not otherwise be accessible to them;
- enabling access to apprenticeships, vocational training courses, or further education.

The Fund will also consider applications for educational grants benefitting children of primary and secondary school age (see below for more details).

In all instances you are strongly encouraged to contact the Community Foundation to speak to the Fund Manager before applying for an individual award:

Pete Barrett, Senior Programme Advisor:

0191 222 0945

pb@communityfoundation.org.uk

Type of award and award limit:

Primary School: a one-off award up to £500

An application could be considered for equipment, books, materials, educational trips etc. You will need to clearly show how any award will support the educational needs of the individual.

Secondary School: a one-off award up to £1,000

An application could be considered for equipment, books, materials, educational trips etc. The applicant will need to clearly show how any award will support the educational needs of the individual.

*Awards at a higher level could be considered in exceptional circumstances where the applicant can demonstrate a higher level of need, e.g. where a young person has an Educational Health Care Plan and the application does not cover support that is a statutory duty of the Education Department or local authority.

Post 16 Education and Training: Award of up to £2,000 per annum (please note, we cannot support applications towards University course fees, or items that are deemed to be the responsibility of statutory services in any circumstances)

Applications to support travel, materials, equipment, educational trips that enhance the educational experience etc. can be considered.

You will need to clearly show how any award will support the educational needs of the individual.

Letters to the Editor...

Dear Ed,

Coming soon! Creative Writing Courses!

Not a lot of people know this, but I live pretty local and am a writer by trade (over-30-years at the keyboard!!!!) So I thought, you know what? it might be a great idea to use what I've learned in all of that long time to do a few sessions helping any one else round here who fancy having a go at it. WHO knows, they say that every one has a book in them - so we may unearth the next Geoff Archer!!

1-on 1 consultants or group classes - the choice is yours!

I'm dead happy to offer face-2-face tuitions should some one be interested in that kind of thing. Or... (and TBH I reckon this could be more appropriate and make me more dosh) work with larger groups on their writing style & technique, character development, the art of getting a plot spoton, and ever thing else that can turn a half baked idea in to a no one best seller!

Commercial writing

As well as offering my know ho to help others get a book publish, I am also some thing of an expert at writing marketing stuff. So if one of your readers wants to try their hands at that kind of tosh, then I'm there 'person' (all vPC, eh?)!!! Over these years I've wrote every thing from brochures and leafletting guff too websights and hole advertisement campains. So you could say I have been round the bloc a few times!!! And for a reasonably fee, I can sit down and learn any one with an interest in that kind of thing how to go about to do it.

Just for the hell it!

Come on every body! Turn-off those TV's and get writing! It doesnt have to be with the intention of making money, it can be just for FUN!!!! IMHO their's nothing better than letting your imagination flo throuh you're finger tips and on to the page of your lap top. So what if its all a load of old crap?! Its a grate way to let you're mind run rioting and see were it takes you. WHO knows, they say that every one has a book in them - so you may be the next Geoff Archer!!

Get in touch!!!

If you've red this letter and are think 'Wowza!' I'd deffo like to give that a going! then give me a bell or come over and say hi next time you see me in Sainsberries as I always enjoy having a` good natter about writing as its one of them things in life that I really love and have a deep pashion for so dont worry about tapping me on the shoulder and introduce your self as Im always up for a natter about it and if for some reeson it isnt convenient right then then i can always give you my number and we can have a natter latter when its a better time and mutually convenience

Cheers!

PS< I also offer a very professionalistic proof reading service, if any one need a hand in that dept. two?!!!

PPPS Dont worry... all writing classes I run will be sochially distansted, obv's!

Church of St Maurice Eglington



Welcome

to

Holy Communion

Service

Sunday,

11th October 2020

at 10.00 a.m

This is what you can expect at the service.

If others are waiting remember to remain **2 metres apart**.

Please **wear your face covering**, which is now mandatory. You will be asked to use the **hand sanitiser** from the table in the porch.

Our usual service has been adapted and shortened. New printed service leaflets will be on the table inside the door, for you to collect. You may take this away for future use. If you choose to leave it behind it will be 'quarantined' until the next service.

**If you would like to contribute to church funds there will be a collection plate at the entrance. There will not be an Offertory procession during the service.*

We cannot exchange the Peace with a handshake, but we can adapt our own sign language.

We will only be receiving the Communion Bread. The Vicar will use a visor for the distribution of the bread.

Please come to the table at the front to receive it. The Vicar will take the wine on behalf of the people.

We will listen to downloaded hymns being played, but we will not be singing. There will be music during the preparation of Communion.

At the end of the service, please leave the building without gathering to chat near the door. Please chat outside, and maintain social distancing.

We hope to welcome you again soon

A great deal of thought has gone into preparing the church and the services so that we can worship together without additional risk.

Thank you for observing the Covid safety code.

Losing the Lockdown Pounds

Wotcha! I'm Ella and in this photo I am wearing my medium-sized tongue after having a plod round the paddock. I have a longer, redder version that I wear at the end of my two mile woodland trots - hard to believe I know. When I first arrived here, about 5 weeks ago, I was carrying so much excess weight that my little bow-legs could barely carry me from kennel to field but now that I am getting regular exercise and limited food I can really enjoy a two mile walk. At last I have something called "a waist" as well as a jaunty little swagger; anyone who is not sure how heavy their dog should be can always ask their vet. As a rule of paw - if the head looks small then the body is too damned big, and it takes something to make a Staffy's head look small, arf arf!



There's been a fair bit of adoption recently. Archie from last month has a new home, Luna has moved in with Zeus (two Huskies, that human certainly gets enough exercise) and a couple of terriers went out very quickly so currently there's only Chance, Rex and me ready for adoption. Debbie and Russell have done more work on the Sensory Garden – the boys love the Pee Post but personally I prefer sniffing through the maze. The boarding dogs, who come here on their holidays or while their people are at work, have been leaving positive reviews on Kenneladvisor

Our Pop-Up in an empty shop in Wooler at the end of August brought us in an extra £1600 so thank you very much to everyone who donated items or came and bought something. Our regular retail outlet on the High Street is going so well that we are now open every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10am to 4pm. Rather than waste energy planning fundraising events then have to cancel them later Trustees have decided to put all their efforts into retail so please keep the results of your lockdown de-cluttering coming. This year we will be stocking Christmas cards so please hold your hounds if you are just about to place an order for charity cards from a catalogue; even if you scooped up a few boxes in January you know you will need a spare dozen as the day approaches.

Holmes and the Mystery of the Ancient Door

This was an unusual case for Holmes. The door to the ancient 12th Century Chapel: Holy Trinity at Old Bewick was never locked: no one knew why. Was there a key? If so where was it? Why was it not used? After investigating further and taking statements from locals, Holmes tracked down an old rusty key. Even though it appeared damaged, it did fit the lock. Hoorah! But it would not turn! Boo! The key was bent and the mechanism in the door was jammed. It was beginning to look like The Confusing Case of the Clapped out Casement.



Mr Holmes - Lawrence Holmes a local resident, is a man of many talents. He removed the whole casement box from the door and took it to his shed. He lubricated the mechanism, he jiggled the key in the barrel, he warmed it, he examined it in forensic detail. The case/ casing seemed well and truly jammed: redundant, not fit for purpose, a solid piece of beautiful well – crafted scrap! Holmes would not to be beaten,

neither would the bent key! He found a Locksmith, in Worksop, who was skilled in traditional crafts. The Repair Shop would do well to seek out this craftsman should they ever have a case involving ancient locks and keys. This was a Turning Point, and yes, the key turned too! It was returned to its original shape, and another copy was made. The mechanism had been dismantled, cleaned, reassembled and lubricated. It came back in full working order, along with a 'traditional' matching duplicate, fashioned from the same metal!

Our Mr Holmes, Lawrence Holmes – a man of many talents, was then able to refit the casement to the Ancient Door. It was the Year of the Great Pandemic, and the building could now be secured, and kept virus free until The Return of Normal Life, which was still a Great Mystery, a mystery which neither Sherlock, nor even Lawrence Holmes could solve!

(Costs were covered from the Heritage Fund Eglington & Old Bewick Church and Churchyard Funding which is separate from church finances, and is dependent on donations, gifts and legacies.)



**Workshop in Worksop! Photos from Richard Taylor Master-Locksmith. Woodsets. Worksop S81 8RL*

PANDEMIC TALES: Stewie the Stoat

During lockdown, I was so grateful to have my two Labradors for my only company. I was also extremely thankful to live in such a beautiful part of the world and in the midst of a large farming estate up at Harehope. Initially, when exercise was restricted to one hour and at home, we walked in the margins of the rapeseed fields outside my gate. When the Health Secretary, Matt Hancock, said that it was acceptable to travel for 5 minutes or so to a green space for exercise, we resumed our walks at Hepburn Wood.



My two Labradors, Paddy and Piper were rehomed to me from Guide Dogs. Paddy, who is six, is a city boy. He hates getting dirty, won't walk through mud and it has to be really hot for him to take a dip. Piper on the other hand, aged 3, is only happy when she's filthy, stinking and wet through. She really missed her true vocation in life, to be a cadaver dog. She can sniff out a corpse from a mile away.

One beautiful spring day at the end of April, we were walking through the bluebells in the wood. I noticed that Piper was at my feet with something in her mouth. She dropped it and I saw it was a hairless rodent. It was very long in the body and I thought, what a shame, it had died before it had had a chance at life. When I looked at it more closely, the little wrinkles on its body moved very, very slightly. My goodness, it was alive! But only just. I picked it up and its poor little body was cold as ice. I put it inside my glove. As I held it there, the warmth from my hand revived it and it started to wriggle.

We were on the home stretch of our walk. I carried the little mite with me in my glove. By the time we got to the car, it was wriggling for England. I really didn't know how I was going to contain it on the drive home. Then, I remembered I had a box of tissues in the glove compartment. I put it inside that on the passenger seat. I drove home with one hand on the steering wheel and the other over the opening of the box.



When we got home, I inspected our house guest carefully. He was definitely a he. His head was very otter like in shape and he had a long tail. He had a little fur, some on his head and a little black tip developing on his tail. His eyes were still tightly closed. I thought he must be a stoat kit and I called him Stewie. I made a little nest for him in a cardboard box and put him on the top of my central heating boiler to keep him warm.

Then the reality set in, how shall I feed him and what with? It was a Sunday. But it was lambing time and I knew the shepherd, in the nearby farm cottages, would have ewe replacement milk. So I ran over and asked if I could have some powder. I told him that I'd found a baby hedgehog. I didn't dare tell him I had a baby stoat, he'd have thought I was mad! I had syringes at home that I'd used for the dogs. So, I set about

feeding Stewie, who by this time, was not only wriggling but squeaking. He struggled with the syringe but eventually, we both got the hang of it.

The dogs knew that something was going on. I would feed Stewie in the bathroom behind the closed door. They'd be there, the other side, sniffing away! But Stewie had a few little ticks and I didn't want him to pass those on! Besides, in the bathroom, I could put Stewie on the floor to practise crawling. I fed him every two hours during that day and on the Monday, decided to try and find him a home.

Due to the Pandemic, no rescues were taking animals in. I made so many phone calls. I eventually spoke to a lovely lady called Kaye Rollo at Berwick Swan Sanctuary. She had hand reared many stoats and weasels and told me what to do. I have to say, Stewie responded very well indeed to toileting. I would massage his little bottom with cotton wool and he would do the biggest of wees. I just didn't know where it all came from because he was such a little mite. I phoned my lovely vet Nick at Cheviot Vets. He very kindly gave me some pipettes and some out of date kitten replacement milk. Finally, I tracked down a chap from the Mustelid Society at Manchester University. Stewie had tiny, tiny teeth so he told me to give him minute scraps of raw chicken. He said that Stewie wouldn't open his eyes for a week or so yet. He asked me to take his photo next to a ruler and send it to him. From that he would be able to tell his age. It turned out Stewie wasn't a stoat at all, he was a baby weasel! He was also very underdeveloped for his age, and would probably have been thrown out of the nest by his mother to die. She wouldn't have spent her energy on trying to rear him.



Poor little Stewie. Well, he was worth my energy! So for five days, I diligently fed him every two hours throughout the day. His fur began to grow and he became more mobile. When I came down each morning, he would be squeaking away in his little nest box on top of the boiler. I started to worry about what I would do with a tame weasel. It certainly wouldn't go down well on a commercial shooting estate!

On the sixth day, I came down and the box was silent. Poor little Stewie had died in the night. It was with mixed feelings that I buried him in the garden. It was terribly sad as I thought we were winning and we had both tried so hard. On the other hand, I just don't know how I'd have coped with a young weasel running around with two Labradors. I have hand reared several animals and birds, but never a weasel before. I learned a lot and spoke to some very interesting people. To think I began lockdown not knowing how I was going to spend my time!

Jane Hamilton



EGLINGHAM PARISH

9 Parishes Meeting – A meeting with MP Anne Marie Trevelyan took place on Friday September 11th at Brownieside.

Due to concerns regarding the new Government regulations which were due to come into force on Monday, September 14th for 6 people only allowed to meet together, parish member numbers attending the meeting were lower than expected.

Matters Discussed at the meeting are as follows;

Lack of a mobile phone signal at Craster and also in the surrounding area – Anne Marie was surprised this issue had not already been addressed and promised to look into this further and will also speak with phone companies/providers.

Holiday Lets and Small Business Rate relief - If you own a property in England and it is available to let for short periods that total 140 days or more per year, it will be rated as a self-catering property and valued for business rates. The Valuation Office works out the rateable value of the property based on its type, size, location, quality and how much income you're likely to make from letting it. If you only let out one property and the rateable value is less than £15,000, you may be eligible to claim small business rate relief. This means that you may not have to pay any Business Rates or Council Tax! Parish Councillors and residents feel strongly that this situation is unfair to local residents mainly because the property owner is not paying anything towards local facilities/services in the village /town which are all completely free to them and this benefits not just the owner of the property but also the numerous visitors who stay at the property (this does not include trade refuse). Anne Marie will look into the issues arising from this.

Concerns regarding trade refuse provision not being paid for by the property owner, were allayed by NCC Officer, Mr Paul Jones. It is NCC's policy to charge self catering accommodation owners for any waste collection services provided to them as they are legally categorised as a commercial waste producer (The Controlled Waste Regulations 2012). NCC charge full commercial waste rates that would look to charge any other business, which includes both collection and disposal costs and Duty of Care administration fees. There are internal arrangements in place to ensure that any new business rate registrations for holiday lets are notified to us so that people who purchase a domestic property and use it for holiday lets are listed.

Longhoughton Division Coastal Summit - I expressed concern to NCC Cabinet Colleagues about our small coastal villages being completely overwhelmed by visitors during the summer and the ongoing and problematic parking issues. The format of the summit is currently being discussed and more information on the date etc will be given shortly.

Anne Marie was very interested in plans to hold a Coastal Summit in November and

extremely keen to be involved. Northumbria Police have also expressed interest in joining the summit.

Affordable Community LED Rented Housing – It is vitally important that local people, both individuals and families have access to stable, high quality, affordable, rented housing.

As this kind of initiative is so very important to our area, I wanted to convey how proud I feel of the Embleton Joint Burial Committee and also of the incredible support given by three coastal Parish Councils, Craster, Embleton and Newton by the Sea. Spitalford Cemetery and Cemetery House (now renamed Gatehouse Cottage) belong jointly to Craster, Embleton and Newton by the Sea Parish Councils. The former Cemetery house had fallen into disrepair and needed complete renovation.

Approximately two years ago, the idea was formed at a meeting of the Embleton Joint Burial Committee to renovate the former Cemetery House which is located at the entrance to Spitalford Cemetery, and to make this property into a high quality, rented, Affordable Home for a local family. Local Parish Councillors are very much aware that there is a need for decent, rented, affordable housing in the area. This initiative was a Community LED Housing project which can be run by small individual community groups such as the EJBC. Community-led housing is where people and communities play a leading role in addressing their own housing needs. Support for this project was also given by the Glendale Gateway Trust, Wooler.

Craster, Newton by the Sea and Embleton PCs jointly own Spitalford Cemetery and also the former Cemetery House which lies at the entrance to the cemetery. The house has now had its name changed to Gatehouse Cottage.

The EJBC comprises of the Chairman, Cllr Terry Howells, Embleton PC, Cllr Andrew Chillingsworth, Embleton PC, Cllr David Cooper, Embleton PC, Cllr Margaret Brooks, Craster PC, Cllr Elizabeth Pearson, Craster PC, Cllr Derek Gerrard, Newton by the Sea PC and Cllr John Roper, Newton by the Sea PC.

The former Cemetery House is now ready for occupation and tenants will be found via Northumberland Homefinder.

Fantasy Premier League Hear Abouts Championship

After Gameweek 3, your top 3 are...

1st - Gordon Leishman - 150 pts

2nd - Kay Waters - 141 pts

3rd - Andy Gray - 141 pts

Its not too late to join in! Use the League Code: **6bpxly** once you've setup your team on <https://fantasy.premierleague.com/>

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:
Early November
Please continue to submit content as normal

www.eglingham.info

DISCLAIMER

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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".

Covid-19 Help and assistance

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 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.