

HEAR ABOUTS

OCT 2022

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

6/10/22

I'm going to save you from another rant this month, even though there is plenty to rant about! All I'll say is, it is clear, after 12 years there is zero "talent" left to run the country sensibly. Highlighted by this last week or so. Let hope some of them poles are right...

Anyways, here is a rather nice fogbow I managed to grab on the dog walk early in September! (hopefully it prints okay)

Andy



Hear Abouts is aided by the Middlemoor Windfarm Fund

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".

Next Issue:

Sometime in November

All content must be received by the 20th of October

www.eglingham.info

Beware Bullocks!



Not a Bull in a China shop, not even in a field, not even a bull, but bullocks and many of them!!

A herd of free ranging bullocks/heifers (?) had come clattering down the road in the early hours of the morning on the 21st September heading straight for Eglingham! The vicar Rev. Tracey was awoken from her slumbers as they had been diverted and in their panic were now marauding through the churchyard. The Police, the owner of the cows and other local farmers were already on the scene, trying to contain them. Apparently this was only a breakaway group from the main herd, farmed five miles away, who had escaped through an open gate!

Church Lane leading to St Maurice's is not a dead end, and not a suitable place to corral a herd of twenty plus cows. The Breakaway Bullocks had forced open the gates, and those young beasts, now 'spooked' by their ordeal, had bounced through the graveyard with no regard to the memorial stones, knocking many over in their path!

They were eventually 'persuaded' to move through the village to be contained in a local farmer's field on the south side. Phew

On a more serious note, around 16 gravestones were dislodged in the process. The Diocese and the Insurers have been informed. Photographs have been taken.

We do not know if any more damage was done to other property or the animals
If you have graves which been affected by this please contact the vicar: Rev.Tracey Usher: tel: 01665 578619 E-mail: revtracey@icloud.com

(Please note that Margaret the author of this piece was not actually present on the night and details of the sex of the cows may be inaccurate. All other facts are correct at the time of going to press! I think.)



**We're here
to help...**

For free and confidential support and advice
call our friendly team on 01670 784 800

**We provide services that support, enable and inspire
you to live well and thrive in your local community.**

We can help with...



Information & Advice
Help with Welfare Benefits &
Attendance Allowance Claims
Advocacy Support
Health & Wellbeing Advice
Friendship Services
Social Groups
Activities and Exercises
Home Care Advice & Support

Call our friendly team on 01670 784 800, email info@ageuk-northumberland.org.uk or visit www.ageuk-northumberland.org.uk



Registered charity 1072394

We're Back with a New Pilates Class

suitable for all levels

From Monday 26 September

At Eglington Village Hall.

**To book your place call
07977071566**

From 11am

**Classes
delivered by
Traci Robertson**



Pilates brings awareness to posture, mobility and core strength. Any specialist equipment will be provided, let us know if you do not have your own mat.

Ralph needs rules



My name's Ralph and, with my monochrome coat, I follow both Alnwick Town and NUFC. I'm not fussy though, I need a home and am even prepared to consider Man United supporters so long as they don't have children. At just over a year old, I'm not small but still quite puppyish and like to chase a ball whenever possible. Being a young dog, I really need someone who knows how to set the rules and stick to them; things get out of hand if I think I might have to be in charge. The ladies describe me as "a collie dressed as a lurcher". I don't know what that means but they're smiling, so I hope it's good.

The end of the summer has been quite busy with fundraising; our Trustees would like to thank Warkworth Show for inviting us to shake a donation bucket and Bamburgh Cricket Club for the chance to sell tea and cakes.

Thanks are also due to the lovely people at Pets at Home, Morpeth who welcomed dogs and humans from Northumberland Dog Rescue on 10th September. As well as allowing us to ask for cash, Pets at Home have a donation point where their customers can leave things like tinned or dried food that their own pet doesn't like. There are other, sadder, reasons why people might have surplus dog food, but we don't like to talk about those!

Having got a lottery licence, the charity will be running a "dog stuff" raffle in October and a Christmas themed raffle starting 14th November. Tickets will be available at the kennels, in the shop at Amble and from our volunteers. Due to all this activity, the charity would really like to recruit some new, local trustees; they are looking for people with energy, time and a desire to get involved. Being an NDR Trustee will involve less stress and conflict than being on the Parish Council (some of us dogs can read!). If you are interested, please send your phone number to anniewallace60@gmail.com and Annie will talk you through what it involves. Something that I do want to go along to is the Adopted Dogs Walk at Druridge Bay on 2nd October starting out at 10.30am—more details on our Northumberland Dog Rescue Facebook page – but I need someone to adopt me first. Please apply at www.northumberlandogrescue.co.uk

See you at Druridge, paws crossed,
Ralph

Summer Season at Eglington Village Hall

Before memories of the dry summer of 2022 fade away here is what we can look back on from this year.

We look forward to the Autumn Season and to more music, film, talks, entertainment, food and drink! Look out for more details!



Bones & Blooms!



Entertainment - Local History and Information Evenings at Eglington Village Hall 2022

During the month of May, EVH provided the stage and facilities for two lively and informative evenings. We had an illustrated talk on The Bamburgh Bones project from Jessica Turner, plus our very own Gardener's Question Time. Jessica introduced us to the story of the Bamburgh Ossuary project. Over the centuries, the sandy soil of an ancient burial ground had eroded, revealing a huge number of perfectly preserved skeletons in the 'Bowl Hole', south east of Bamburgh castle. What was



To find out more about these remarkable people and how to visit the crypt - go to:

www.bamburghbones.org

originally considered as a possible Viking graveyard was soon disproved when work began in 1996, as many bodies were unearthed which had been laid east to west, a classic early Christian tradition. Through forensic analysis of the bones, it was found that many of the people buried there had travelled from all over Europe, as well as Ireland where Aidan and many of the Lindisfarne monks had originated. The Crypt of St Aidan's Church is now the last resting place of people who lived on our coast nearly 1,400 years ago, when Bamburgh was the cosmopolitan and spiritual centre

of the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Northumbria. It was a fascinating talk, with a lively and informative delivery and an insight into past lives. There was a chance to buy the beautifully illustrated book covering the historical background as well as photos and explanations of the archaeological dig and the findings.

At our Gardeners' Question Time Evening, we followed the usual format of this popular radio programme: a team of experts, advance questions with photos from the audience, and actual examples of plants to discuss. Tom Pattinson, journalist and broadcaster chaired the evening, with Sarah Davidson from Lilburn Tower, and Robert Jamieson Head Gardener at Howick Estates. We had queries about shrubs that would not flower, a tree that would not fruit, vigorous hedges which were out of control, other plants not thriving, swathes of daffodils which needed to be dead-headed or not,



The GQT Panel

whether dog hair could be used in the compost (actually yes, as well as horse hair!) and much, much, more! Each of the panel brought examples of plants from their gardens to inspire us, as well as sharing what had been particularly successful on their patch this year and why. It was good to be with a group of like minded people and we all left with plenty of information as well as tips on how to enhance our gardens. Both events were well attended with close to 50 people at each event. Teas and coffees were served as well as alcoholic drinks. There was no admission fee, donations were welcomed.

Another local history event was on 14th of June – ‘the History of Lindisfarne’ by Nick Lewis of the National Trust. Admission was free.

Margaret Bell

Eglingham WI

Our September meeting was tinged with sadness as it was the evening of the death of our much-loved Queen. A few of us had arrived and did not know the news until other members came and announced it. As our speaker had already arrived it was decided to go ahead with the meeting.

Romaine Barclay-Kim as vice chairman asked for a minutes silence before the meeting began. She then gave an update on Brenda Robertson’s health, who is awaiting a new date for her operation.

Our speaker for the evening was Nick Lewis who gave an interesting presentation on the history and geography of Lindisfarne with slides of the changing landscapes over the years.

Our next meeting is on 13th October when our speaker will be Daniel Turnbull.

Pat Ives

TENNIS NEWS



Throughout the school holidays (weather permitting!) tennis coaching was offered to toddlers, juniors and adults. All groups were well subscribed to particularly the toddler groups which were fully booked within 24 hours of being advertised, with a waiting list for those that had missed out. That was 2 groups of 15, 30 toddlers in total!! Brilliant! Could Eglington have a budding Emma Raducanu or Andy Murray? Yes, if we keep nurturing and encouraging these little players. Whilst coaching took place, siblings ran around and played on the community field and parents relaxed knowing it was a safe environment.

The new pavilion is being well used for storage, registration for coaching and sheltering from the rain. The pavilion itself still requires some internal and external “finishing off” but it has blended into the already lovely community field beautifully. Once all the work is complete there will be an official opening to which all the community will be invited. Probably spring next year.

In the meantime, if anyone would like to use either the tennis court or pavilion, or would be interested in joining in tennis coaching, please contact either myself (07919172355) or Gilian Ridgeway (07808881730).

Thanks to Paula Scott and Louise Hodgson for organising toddler and junior coaching and thanks to the Wind Farm grant for supporting it.

Best Wishes
Nicky Dickinson



NORTHUMBERLAND LINE AND A1 DUALLING ACCELERATION WELCOMED

Transport opportunities in Northumberland are being accelerated thanks to the Government's Growth Plan.

It was announced today, Friday 23 September by the Department for Transport that both the A1 dualling programme between Morpeth and Ellingham and the Northumberland Line will be accelerated as fast as possible.

Council Leader, Councillor Glen Sanderson, said: "I am extremely pleased to hear this announcement from the Chancellor. I had only this week written to the Transport Secretary asking for a decision and I am pleased that government is listening and investing in our infrastructure.

"Our residents, our businesses and our visitors need this. It will open up so many opportunities for the county and those travelling in and out of it.

"Our young people will gain greater access to learning and employment, and it will go a long way in supporting our future generations.

"It will provide a real incentive for potential employers to relocate to and invest in the area and create greater opportunities for those already here.

"By investing now, we are investing in the future."

The Northumberland Line will bring passenger trains back into service between Ashington and Newcastle – stimulating and supporting economic growth, regeneration and community development in Northumberland and the surrounding regions.

"We are already in a great place with the Northumberland Line. Work has begun and this acceleration will mean we can push forward; providing new and improved transport links for local people and businesses and opening up new opportunities for education and travel," Cllr Sanderson continued.

The dualling of the A1 between Morpeth and Ellingham will in addition provide vital infrastructure to help deliver the region's aspirations for population and economic growth, creating much needed additional capacity, with better connectivity for people and business, and safer journeys for all.

"The A1 has been, for too long, a dangerous road in this area, claiming too many lives and causing injury to many, so I am pleased the spotlight has come back on improving it.

“It’s a hugely important road, not only for this county, but the whole country and will further strengthen links between England and Scotland.

“Our beautiful county is not one to be missed, and this dualling will, without doubt, bring more people here to work, live or visit.”



WHAT IS A WARM HUB?

‘Warm Hubs’ have been created by COMMUNITY ACTION NORTHUMBERLAND as places within the local community where people can be assured of finding a safe, warm and friendly environment in which to enjoy refreshments, social activity, information and advice and the company of other people’.

WHY IS THIS PROJECT NEEDED?

Northumberland is one of the most sparsely populated counties in England with just 63 people per square kilometre. 40.7% of Northumberland’s population – 151,885 people live in rural areas (defined as small towns & fringes, villages, hamlets and isolated dwellings). Of these more than 20% are over the age of 65, 15,075 people report themselves as having a limiting long-term illness and 17,550 people are income deprived.

There is a nationwide agenda to tackle the problems associated with fuel poverty but rural isolation presents a significant barrier to reaching many of those most in need. This project seeks to overcome this barrier. Community Action Northumberland has a long history of working with rural communities and has a strong network of links with community anchors such as parish councils and village halls.

They believe that village halls and other community buildings provide a natural access point through which to reach local communities.

WARM HUBS - YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

CAN’s award-winning Warm Hubs project was showcased at a conference held in Newcastle on 17th October 2019. Delegates from as far afield as Surrey came to find out about Warm Hubs and to discuss how other parts of the UK might start to benefit from the Warm Hub approach.

HOW CAN A VENUE BECOME A WARM HUB?

Community Action Northumberland works with village halls and other community buildings to ensure that:

- The building is ‘fit for purpose’. CAN staff will support the management committee to undertake risk assessments, energy audits and accessibility checks. A small grant can be made available to carry out simple upgrades as well as support to find funding for more extensive work
- Governance and policies are in place
- Appropriate insurances and licences have been acquired
- Suitable volunteer recruitment processes

- Volunteers receive ongoing support and training in Dementia Awareness, Food Safety, Equality and Diversity, First Aid and more.

HOW ARE THE WARM HUBS RUN?

The scheme is very flexible and each Warm Hub will be run by local people for local people – ensuring that the scheme best meets the needs of their own community.

CAN staff are available to offer ongoing advice and support on a range of issues, including funding.

WHO DO I CONTACT IF I WANT TO BE INVOLVED?

If you are interested, please contact Christine Nicholls at christinenicholls@ca-north.org.uk or phone 07827 403837.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Life can sometimes feel overwhelming.

One in four people in the UK experienced mental health issues in the last year. This means that most people in England know someone with mental health problems or have personally experienced them.

But we don't need to wait until we are struggling with our mental health; there are lots of things we can do to protect ourselves and prevent problems escalating, just as we do with our physical health.

Every mind matters has great tips on how to look after your mental health including a Mind Plan quiz that helps you feel more in control, deal with stress and anxiety, boost your mood and help you sleep. Please contact for more help and information - Dealing with life's challenges - Every Mind Matters - NHS (www.nhs.uk)

WELLBEING

There are a number of free services available through the Northumberland County Council Wellbeing team.

They can work with you on, how making some simple lifestyle choices, can improve health and finances. For example, the savings that can be made from quitting smoking, reducing alcohol intake, healthy cooking on a budget or exploring some of the free options around increasing your physical activity.

Visit our specialist pages about wellbeing

Starting Well - <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Care/Integrated-Wellbeing-Services/Eating-well.aspx>

Ageing Well - <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Care/Integrated-Wellbeing-Services/Keep-Active.aspx>

Stop Smoking - <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Care/Integrated-Wellbeing-Services/Stop-Smoking.aspx>

Health Trainer - <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Care/Integrated-Wellbeing-Services/Health-Trainers.aspx>

Health Champions - <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Care/Integrated-Wellbeing-Services/Health-Champions.aspx>

300 word stories will return!

With Hear Abouts only happening in a rush most of 2022, its taking us longer to get more organised so we'll begin getting your monthly starting phrases out earlier and in future editions printed here again!

For the meantime though please enjoy this story from Marcus from before we closed down for the summer...

'You'll be fine,' she said. I closed the door behind me and set off down the path...

'And... cut!' bellowed Constantine without a hint of irony. 'Wonderful work, everyone. Kiki, you were fabulous, darling. And Nigel, I just *loved* how you used the severed hand to wave goodbye. Inspired improvisation,' he added. 'Everybody, take five before we move on.'

Nigel. That's me. And Constantine is the director of this preposterous little movie we're making. It's titled, 'What Is This Thing Called Love?'. Or at least that's what my agent, Asparagus Narnia, told me. It's incredible the difference a tiny comma can make.

'It must be some kind of romcom. I wouldn't be at all surprised if it's going to be the next Bridget Jones,' she purred enthusiastically when she rang to say I'd been offered the part. 'What, with no audition?' I replied somewhat incredulously. 'Can you believe it?' she went on. 'Apparently they loved your performance as the accident-prone wall of death rider in Coronation Street soooooo much, they just knew you were their man.'

So I said yes without thinking about it. More fool me.

The first time I saw a copy of the script I noticed the comma immediately. Right there on the cover page. 'What Is This Thing Called, Love?'. Surely that was something altogether different.

As I turned the pages, the full horror of what I'd let myself in for became apparent. Had I really agreed to play the husband of a woman with selective amnesia and alarming anger management issues? A woman who lashed out with a machete every time she couldn't remember what something was called?

The make-up girl applied more fake blood to the prosthetic stump at the end of my left arm. It was my life-or-death bus ride to A&E scene next. My character wasn't going to be fine. And quite frankly, neither was my career.

Marcus

Cycle

Sisters **Tracy Coxon** and **Karen Renner** have raised nearly £4,000 for cancer charities since 2019. They have achieved this mainly by completing a fundraising cycle ride from Milan to Venice and more recently a decidedly colder and wetter ride as part of Team Macmillan in the Etape Loch Ness. They are both keen time trialists but they also enjoy more leisurely rides around the beautiful back roads of North Northumberland.



This year the ladies will be supporting **Doddie Weir** who will be known to many for his legendary performances as part of the Scottish Rugby Union Team. Doddie sadly has Motor Neuron Disease (MND) which he has helped to highlight awareness of and he has also initiated substantial fund raising into this devastating disease. An annual cycling sportive has been held every year since 2019 in

The Borders as part of these fundraising efforts which Tracy and Karen have taken part in. Tracy says “Doddie is well known in the farming community as well as for his commendable rugby career. I have known his family for some time and supporting the My Name’s Doddie Foundation is something I feel honoured to be part of.”

By the time this is printed the **Doddie’s Ride** will have been held but the ladies would invite anyone who wishes to support Doddie to contribute directly. Make a donation to **My Name’s Doddie Foundation** (enthuse.com) - <https://myname5doddie.enthuse.com/donate#!/>

Alnwick and District Choral Society

Saturday November 12 at 7.30pm in St. Paul’s Church, Alnwick

Our concert for Remembrance weekend. We will be performing the “Messe Solenne” by the French composer Louis Vierne. The mass was written at the end of the 19th century. In addition there will be a number of other pieces, including Peter Brown’s “For The Fallen”, John Rutter’s “Prayer who s For Ukraine”, and Mozart’s “Ave Verum Corpus”, which will be sung in memory of Colin Start, a previous conductor of the choir and who sadly died earlier this year.

Saturday December 17 at 6pm in St. Paul’s Church, Alnwick

Our Christmas Concert switches to a Saturday but at a time to allow you to bring along the children and grandchildren. We will be performing Benjamin Britten’s “Ceremony of Carols” as well as a good selection of Christmas carols, some of which give our audience a chance to participate.

Saturday April 1 2023 at 7.30pm in St. Paul’s Church, Alnwick

For our Spring Concert we will be performing Handel’s “Messiah”. I will give you more details nearer the time.

Brian Corbett

Alnwick and District Choral Society



ALNWICK CREATIVE STITCHERS are a friendly group of people interested in a wide range of textile related crafts. We meet together on the 1st Saturday of the month at Lesbury Village Hall, NE66 3PU, when we enjoy a variety of afternoon talks and full day workshops.

New members are always welcome, and anyone interested in joining the group may attend an afternoon session as a visitor for a fee of £5.

For further details about the group, you are welcome to contact the Secretary on 07960509325 or by email at alncrest.sec2021@gmail.com

Fantasy Premier League Hear Abouts Championship Season 2022/23



Current standings of the new season after Game Week 9...

1st - Jon Waters - 496 pts

2nd - Andy Gray - 493 pts

3rd - Kay Waters - 458 pts

4th - Jack Dhawar - 378 pts

If you'd still like to join in, the league code is **x1xfl8**

Sign up at -

<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 we'll endeavour to get you added.

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