

Swarland Village Action Group Committee:

Chairman: Neil Mansfield, Secretary / Editor: Bryan Stanley,
Treasurer: Susan Richardson.
Committee Members: Robert & Sue Brotherton, John Richardson,
Suzanne Stanley, Caroline Thomas.

Write it Down Now !!!

Please supply information to the Editor for
inclusion in the April issue by
Thursday 28th March 2019.



The cost of production of this issue of

The Column has been met by

**Newton on the Moor
& Swarland Parish Council**
and
Swarland Club

The Club operates the newspaper service for the area.
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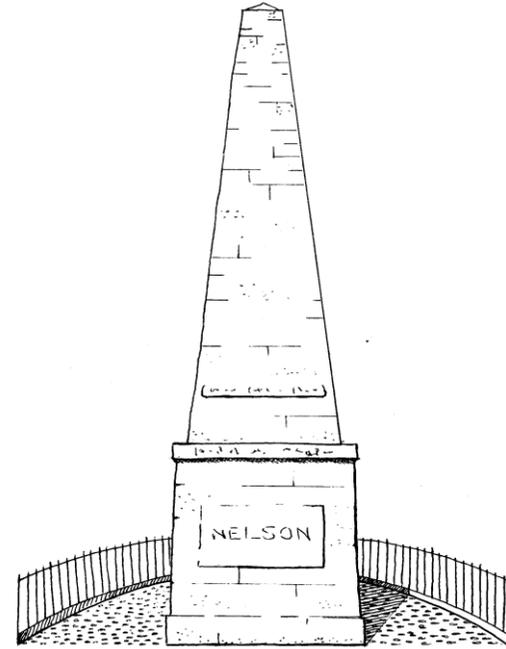
**SWARLAND VILLAGE
WORKING MEN'S CLUB**

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Swarland Club is pleased to sponsor *The Column*.

The Column



February 2019

Produced by

Swarland Village Action

Newsletter 99

**Swarland Village Hall vacancy.
We're looking for new blood to help
develop the Hall – see inside**

Welcome to your latest issue of **The Column** and if you're new to the area, welcome to you too. Belated New Year Greetings to you all. If you wish to put something into the next issue **please supply it for inclusion in the April issue by Thursday 28th March. Send it to: The Editor, Bryan Stanley, on 01670 787 916 or by email at maxitoby1@gmail.com .**

Swarland Village Hall

The Hall is run as a community facility (Reg. Charity No 1058471) and offers seating space for up to 120 people, with lighting and a modern sound system (plus hearing loop), kitchen and toilets. Its PPL/PRS Licence means hirers can legitimately use music at their events.

If you wish to book the Hall for a group or private event use **please contact Bryan Stanley**, see details elsewhere.

The Hall Management Team is looking for new blood to look after SVH for the community. If you'd like to know if you can help, please contact **Bryan Stanley** on **maxitoby1@gmail.com**.

Current activities in the Hall include:

Archery Practice indoor sessions will continue on Monday evenings till the end of March. The Club can supply all equipment. For details contact Steve on Family.Woolfrey@outlook.com or 01670 787 883.

Karate Classes on **Tuesdays 5.30 - 8.30pm**. Contact Gary Davidson on 07930 838 872.

Qi Gong (Chinese Energy Exercise) Class on **Wednesdays 10 - 11am**. £3.50 per session. For details contact Anne Raine on 07934 425 844.

Swarland Craft Group meets on **Wednesdays, 1.30 – 3.30pm**. New members always welcome. For details ring Margaret on 01670 787 705 or Joyce on 01670 787 855.

Swarland Carpet Bowls on **Thursday evenings from 7pm**. Late August till March. New members are always welcome. If you would like to give it a try, just come along. For more information, contact Joan Nesbit on 01670 783 140.

Recycling Corner

Why not recycle your unwanted items through The Column? Recipients of free items are asked to make a small donation towards this newsletter's running costs. Items for sale? – If successful, the seller is also asked to make a small donation towards our running costs.

Wanted: Plant pots for Plant Heritage (Charity No. 1004009):

If you have any unwanted plastic plant pots, please don't put them in your wheelie-bin or take them to the tip – I am looking for larger pots (more than 9cm across) to use to propagate more stock for our next Plant Sale at Kirkley Hall on 19th May, where we'll have hundreds of unusual garden plants grown by members. Please ring Bryan Stanley on 01670 787 916 or email maxitoby1@gmail.com and I will call and collect.

Neighbourhood Watch Update November - January

Swarland / Longframlington:

There have been no reported events in our area since October but on 4th January, whilst on patrol, officers noted lights in a field in NotM area, a silver Subaru Forester estate was stopped and the male spoken to. Further enquiries are to be made into disclosed offences.

Events Elsewhere:

5th December - 02.00hrs. A report was received of the theft of a Honda ATV Quad bike. With support from the dog section, motor patrols & Newcastle Air Support Unit, officers from Morpeth & Ashington located and arrested the suspects. Enquiries are ongoing.

11th December - Counter Terrorism Officers & police arrested a 33 year old man in Newcastle, on suspicion of terrorism offences. He lives in Newcastle and was taken to a police station in West Yorkshire for questioning.

17th December - A property was burgled, after entry was forced via a back door. The property was located just off the A697 and near to the Granby Inn.

If residents have information on any crime, please report this via the following numbers: Emergency issues 999, non emergency issues Tel. 101. To contact Rothbury Police, phone 101 ext 61353, e-mail alnwick.npt.northumbria.pnn.police.uk , or call in at the office on Front Street, Rothbury. If the office is unattended please use the yellow phone on the wall and an officer will be able to assist with your enquiry.

*NW Co-ordinator, Harold Hinchliffe, 2 Nile Drive, Swarland.
Tel.01670 783 669 or Mob.07713 097 250*



Qi Gong for Health – New Class Update

Due to the increased popularity of the Wednesday morning Qi Gong class, a waiting list has been introduced. I am hoping to start a new class in Swarland after Easter, and details will be provided nearer the time through 'The Column' and on local notice boards. For those folk who already have their names on the waiting list I will contact you personally.

In the meantime, if you would like to add your name to the waiting list please contact me on my mobile: 07934 425 844. Thank you.

Anne Raine, Qi Gong Instructor

**Deadline for items for the April issue of
The Column: Thursday 28th March 2019.**

Swarland Moor Local Heritage Group

It seems a long time ago now but in December 20 members of the Heritage Group enjoyed a delicious traditional Christmas Lunch at Nelsons. A good time was had by all and our fervent thanks go to Kelly, Lynn and all the staff who prepared, cooked and served. What an asset you are to the village. Thank you very much indeed.

On **Tuesday 12th February** our first speaker this year will be **Norma Sadler** and her talk is entitled “**The Lisle family of the forgotten Weldon Hall**”. This talk will be of real local interest as Weldon bridge is just beyond Longframlington and I understand the Hall was in that vicinity. It promises to be an enlightening evening.

On **Tuesday 12th March**, **Janet Brown** will be giving a talk and update on the “**North East War Memorials Project**”.

Membership in February for the remaining five talks will be £6.25 per person and from that point will be pro rata. If you simply want to come for a particular talk or speaker or to bring guests, you are just as welcome at a charge of £2.50 per person.

We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Concert Room of the Swarland Village Club. I look forward to seeing you.

Any queries please ring 01670 787 121.

Caroline Thomas

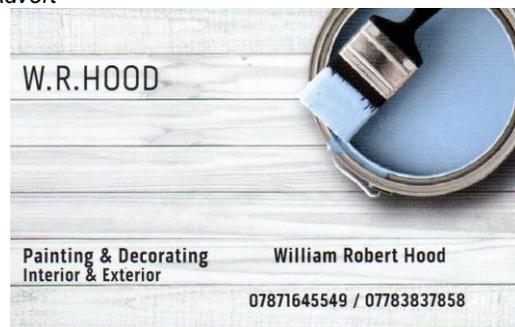
Newton on the Moor Jubilee Hall - Your memories wanted

Does anyone have any pictures, photographs or other memorabilia of events that have happened in the Jubilee Hall, Newton on the Moor over the past 132 years that they would be willing to give to the Hall?

We are looking to create an archive of the Hall and hopefully a small display to show the numerous visitors what a wonderful place the hall is and how it has evolved over the years.

Please drop me a line via our Facebook page - Newton on the Moor Village Hall or e-mail me at clancowen@outlook.com.

Advert



NotM & Swarland Parish Council

Parish Council Budget & Precept for 2019/20

One of the main items discussed at the January meeting was the PC budget for 2019-20. Our overheads continue to be very small, but additional provision is needed to replenish the fund from which we support improvement projects in the community buildings (such as the village halls and Vyner Park pavilion) in our parish and to reinstate our small contingency reserve. The precept (amount required from parish residents) was agreed at £22,700 which is an increase on the £19,000 required in 2018-19, mainly as the result of higher insurance premiums following a professional revaluation of all the PC's assets.

Eshott Airfield

Increased air traffic using Eshott Airfield has led to increased complaints in the immediate vicinity from local residents. Thirston PC has contacted us to ask if any residents in our parish are also affected by noise or other disturbance. Complaints can be made to Northumberland County Council, but do please also send details to Thirston PC at thirstonparishcouncil@gmail.com and to our Parish Clerk.

Shooting on and around Percy Wood Golf Course

There have been several reports of shooting on the golf course with one incident of damage to property, and shot hitting the public footpaths. This is taking place without the permission of Harrison Leisure who own Percy Wood and do not allow any shooting by the public on their land. They have asked residents to report all incidents directly to Northumbria Police on 101 or text on 07786 200 814.

Safety of A1 Junctions

The Parish Council is contacting Highways England to raise concerns about the safety of the A1 crossing-points within our parish. These concerns include the inadequate length of certain of the central refuges to accommodate long vehicles, including buses, and also the huge challenges facing pedestrians having to cross the dual carriageway and navigate its rough verges. We understand that Highways' England plans to address the road safety issues at the known fatal accident locations.

Vacancy

There is a vacancy on the Parish Council and applications are sought for co-option in the form of a CV or letter explaining why you think you should be co-opted onto the PC. We are keen to have a good gender/geographic balance so we are particularly looking for applications from women, and / or from outside the two main villages: eg the Old Swarland and Newton Hall areas. If you feel that you can actively contribute, contact the PC Clerk, Jan Anderson.

Meetings

The PC met on 23rd January in Swarland Village Hall, and will next meet at 7pm on Wednesday 27th February in the Jubilee Hall, NotM. As usual, members of the public are encouraged to attend and ask questions.

Agenda papers and minutes can be viewed on our website: <http://newtononthemoorandswarlandparishcouncil.org.uk/>.

To contact the PC Clerk: 01665 575 145 or janandersonnpc@gmail.com.

Felton & District History Society

Happy New Year to one and all! The Society completed 2018 with two excellent events. First, in November, Davina Thompson came to tell us all about the lesser known female saints of Northumbria. Davina's extensive research had revealed many notable women who, we are sorry to say, we had never heard of. It also revealed that the choices of many women from noble families were extremely limited!

This was followed by a very convivial Christmas lunch, enjoyed by 26 members and friends, at the Running Fox. Many thanks to the Running Fox who made us very welcome.

Our first event of the New Year will probably have come and gone by the time you are reading this. **Monday 21st January** will have brought Nick Lewis to give us an update on the recent renovations and discoveries at Lindisfarne Castle. Read the next History Society article in The Bridge to discover what we found out.

On **Monday 18th February**, Chairman Eleanor George will be speaking on "The Bainbridges: Department Store to Eshott Hall". Come along to find out how the son of a Weardale hill farmer went on to found what is claimed to be the world's first department store and then to buy Eshott Hall.

Monday 18th March will be the AGM. This is a very short part of the evening and it will be followed by Andy Griffin who will be coming to tell us about the "History of the Old Time Music Hall" (with songs and music). Those of you who came along to Gallery 45 in November will recall Andy's musical presentation on the songs of WW1; it was excellent and the audience joined in with gusto! At our March meeting, wine and nibbles will be served to lubricate people's throats so get along early to get a good seat. As with all other meetings, it is free to members with visitors paying £3.

Put **Monday 15th April** on your calendar as that is when we are expecting Barry Mead. Some of you may have seen in the press that Barry was recently voted Community Archaeologist of the Year by the Council for British Archaeology and he received his award at a prestigious awards event in York. Barry will be coming along to tell us about the recent archaeological dig at Cresswell Pele Tower and also the exciting plans for the next phase of development there.

Everyone is welcome to all meetings. Free tea, coffee and even a biscuit (or two) are available before the meetings which are all held in Felton Village Hall at 7.30p.m.

Alison Jackson

Mobile Library Dates

The NCC mobile library comes to the parish every other Wednesday. It stops in **Swarland opposite The Square from 10.00 - 11.00am** and **Newton on the Moor from 11.10 - 11.30am**. If you miss either of these it's also in **Guyzance from 11.40am - 12.00** and **Old Felton from 12.15 - 12.35pm**.

Unfortunately due to staff shortages the service is currently only available once a month. The next dates are: 6th February and 6th March. If you value this service "use it or lose it".

Vyner Park News

Tennis: Unfortunately we were unlucky with a recent grant application to refurbish the tennis courts. However, we have a working party in place to sweep and de-moss the courts again, and to repaint the lines before Easter. We would ask all of you who use the courts to continue to make your valued donations (via the collection tin in Nelson's - just ask) towards maintenance. Sadly, we've also lost Phil Barron, our professional tennis coach, who has worked here since the old Swarland Sports & Recreation Club days. A combination of changed work arrangements and "poor commitment by players to participation in 2018" have resulted in his withdrawal. If sufficient demand arises in future, we would welcome a new coach.

Mere Burn: We have a programme of work planned to clear and manage the vegetation along the south side of the burn on our northern boundary, and to clear the burn itself where it has silted up, in order to keep the water flowing freely.

Our budget: We have prepared our budget for 2019-20, which has happily resulted in a reduced request for money from the Parish Council precept. This part of our funding, paid by you as part of your Council Tax, is used for grass cutting plus park, playground and pavilion maintenance. As the PC owns the whole of Vyner Park, these expenses would have to come out of PC funds to manage the Park even if the Charity didn't exist. Money raised by the Charity, through hire fees and events such as Bonfire Night, is used for specific projects such as funding the planned upgrading of the car park. Andy Ferguson has taken over from Stephen Gallico as VPC Treasurer following the latter's resignation from the PC and therefore the VPC management team. We thank Stephen for taking on this role 18 months ago.

A Vacancy: David Blackshaw has left the management team, but fortunately is going to continue to manage the grass cutting of the east field (the one NCC doesn't do) - thank you David! We therefore have a vacancy for a Community member - see elsewhere in this issue for details.

Suzanne Stanley, VPC Management Team

Swarland & Newton on the Moor Show Committee

The Swarland and NotM Show committee is looking for local businesses who might be interested in either advertising or sponsorship at this year's Show, on Saturday 31st August 2019. If you are interested, please speak to any of the Show Committee - Alison Cowen, Andy Ferguson, Andrew Hastie, Elizabeth Hilton, Katie Brotherton, Kate Ferguson or Judy Williams. Alternatively drop us a line at swarlandmoorshow@gmail.com or you can find us on **Facebook - Swarland Show**.

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Events at Jubilee Hall, Newton on the Moor

The **February Coffee Morning**, with plenty of cakes and other seasonal goodies, will be on **Saturday 9th February 10 – 12 noon**. Our December and January coffee mornings were amazingly successful, so come and enjoy a warm welcome and excellent coffee and cakes.

Polish up your artistic skills at the **Drawing and Painting classes with Angela Nunn**. This new Monday venture at the Jubilee Hall commenced on 14th January and runs in 6-week blocks. Classes are in the Reading Room from 1.30 – 3.30 and the whole series costs £30, or £6 per session if you cannot manage all of them. No previous art experience is necessary. Angela is an experienced and well-qualified fine art teacher currently teaching throughout Northumberland. If you would like to sample a session or join the class just to see how it goes, please phone Alison Gallico (01665 581 173) or email alison.gallico@btinternet.com.

Carpet Bowls continue on Tuesday evenings and new members are always welcome. Contact John on 07717 700 011 for further details.

Church Services are held on the third Sunday of each month at 12 noon.

To book the Hall please phone Liz on 01665 575 680. We offer the use of the delightful Grade II listed Reading Room for small meetings, lunches or parties, or the main hall with a larger capacity and staging as required. A small bar can be provided by arrangement with the Trustees.

Alison Gallico, Jubilee Hall Secretary.

Advert

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Felton Film Club

Some months ago, Felton & Thirston WI generously donated an electronic, retractable viewing screen to the Village Hall. Rising to the occasion, the Hall's Management Committee decided to buy a projector to offer to our users. With Alnwick Playhouse closed for major refurbishment, the nearest cinema is now quite a distance from Felton. An idea began to form.....why not use the projector and screen to show films in the Village Hall?

The sound output from the projector was not adequate for this, so we sought advice from our local PA and sound guru, Rev. Ed Butlin. Ed offered us the hire of his system for the first two screenings at a generous discount. A film licence was purchased and we were all set.

Last November our first film was 'The Greatest Showman', with an audience of about 50. Next, something for the children was requested. We showed 'Frozen' the following month. Sadly, the attendance was not high - the children were greatly outnumbered by adults.

So, should the Village Hall buy its own sound system? 'YES!!' was the response. In addition to the film shows, the Pantomime Society and live theatre events would benefit greatly from it. Ed counselled that we should use a DVD player rather than a computer to 'send' the film to the projector and we would buy one of those too. The shopping list began to grow.

With Ed's guidance, we looked at some very modest affairs initially but decided that we should invest in a truly professional system. The cost of this would be significant and grant funding would be needed. At this point we were thrilled to be promised a donation of £1500 for a sound system from The Kerry Grassroots Foundation. Felton Fair Committee and the Pantomime Society then topped this up with generous contributions of £500 and £300 respectively. The purchase of a professional-level DVD player and sound system are underway as I write and we hope that they will have been in use for our January movie.

So why do we leave out the title of the films on the publicity posters? We're not careless or bonkers about this – it's a condition in our licence that we can only display the name of the movies at the Village Hall itself. It also stipulates that we cannot sell tickets to watch the films, but we can have a film club and charge for membership for the evening.

The entry price is very affordable at £3 (£1 for children) and ice creams and wine are available, too. Hope to see you there and please let us know if there's a film you would particularly like to see. Film nights are created as events on the Felton Village Hall Facebook page. The dates that we will be showing films throughout the rest of the year are: **Feb 23rd, Mar 30th, Apr 27th, May 25th, Jun 29th, Jul 27th, Aug 31st, Sep 28th, Oct 26th, Nov 30th**, December still to be agreed.

Sylvia Allan (Treasurer, Felton Village Hall)



LOOK OUT! The Golden Guide for Over 50s is out again!



This FREE guide for Northumberland is well-known for information on activities, clubs and social groups across Northumberland. Readers also discover how to find expert advice on their health, their home, their care and their money.

New things to do this time include Social Fridays, Core music sessions, Railway Walks, Sailing and Archery. Then there's more Money and Consumer advice, plus the Side-by-Side befriending scheme, the Friendship Line and all kinds of health and social care information. You'll find out how to get online too!

Ask for a copy at: - Libraries; Northumbria Healthcare Care teams, Age UK, Alzheimer's Society, Women's Institute branches, Carers' Northumberland, Healthwatch, Royal Voluntary Service, British Red Cross, Citizens Advice, Golden Age Forum, GP surgeries – ask the Care Navigators and Practice Nurses, and also at selected Boots Pharmacies.

Postal copy: - If you can't get out or can't find a copy, ring Age UK Northumberland on 01670 784 800 and they will post one out to you free.

Online: - The full edition is also online at www.goldenguide.org.uk
For all enquiries please contact either: **Heather Alabaster, 0191-386 5918**, or email heather@goldenguide.org.uk.

Advert

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Swarland Village Action

Sale of Golf Balls

Golfers please note that golf balls are available at the excellent price of **20p** each. **Please knock at No.5 The Square, Swarland.** Proceeds go towards SVA-related community projects.

Citizens Advice Change of Address

**citizens
advice**

The Citizens Advice service provides free, confidential information and advice on a wide range of subjects including benefits, debt, housing and employment problems. You can get help from us in a number of ways:

- By telephoning **Northumberland Adviceline** on **03444 111 444 open Monday to Friday 9am to 4.30pm.**

- By calling into our drop-in sessions:
9.30am to 3.30pm on Tuesdays - **Alnwick Office, Adult Learning Centre, Lindisfarne School, Lindisfarne Rd, Alnwick NE66 1AX.**

9.30am to 12.30 on Tuesdays - **Amble Office, Fourways Centre, Bridge St, Amble NE65 0DR** - Debt advice is also available **Monday to Friday on 01670 339960 or text DEBT to 81400.**

OR by going on-line at www.citizensadvice.org.uk for e-mail advice or self-help.

Broadband update - January 2019

In the last edition of The Column we highlighted that some residents in Swarland have been experiencing problems with their broadband – typically this can be slow speeds or 'drop-outs'. Many thanks to those people who responded with details of their issues, which have now been passed onto iNorthumberland.

We've also had some information about similar problems in Newton on the Moor, so regardless of where you live in the parish please let us know of any issues. If you can provide details of when the issue occurred that would be really helpful. **Please contact Parish Cllr Liz Clark at Liz@cabrit.co.uk.**

Vacancy - Vyner Park Charity Management Team

The Charity manages Parish Council-owned Vyner Park with a team of 4 Parish Councillors and 4 Community Representatives. We currently have a VACANCY for one Community Representative on this friendly team which has quarterly official meetings and regular informal contact.

If you are interested in actively contributing to the management and promotion of the facilities and events, we would like to hear from you **by Friday 8th February**. We currently lack representation from those under 25, though all applications are welcome.

For more information, please contact The Secretary, Jan Anderson: janandersonpc@gmail.com or Chairman Suzanne Stanley: smstanleypc@gmail.com.

