

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 June issue by
Thursday 23rd May 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.
All **daily newspapers** are catered for along with the sale of
bread, eggs and milk.

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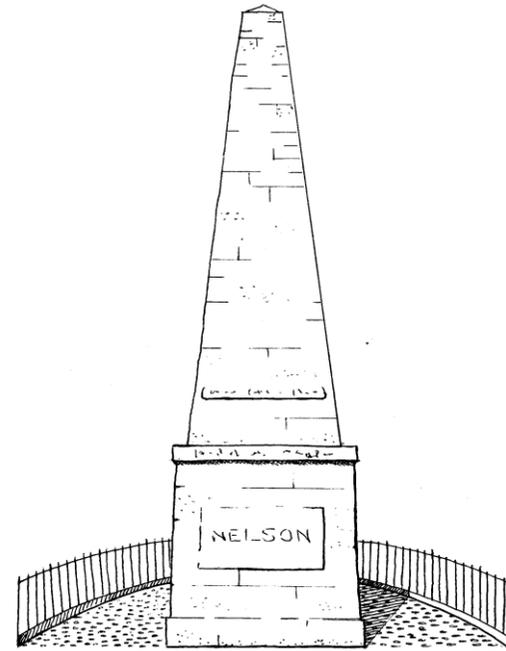
**SWARLAND VILLAGE
WORKING MEN'S CLUB**

Available for private parties by arrangement.

Tel. 01670 787 825

Swarland Club is pleased to sponsor *The Column*.

The Column



April 2019

Produced by

Swarland Village Action

Newsletter 100

**Where can you see Horace Silverman
and the White Gardenias?
Swarland Village Hall - see inside**

Welcome to your latest (100th) issue of **The Column** and if you're new to the area, welcome to you too. If you wish to put something into the next issue **please supply it for inclusion in the June issue by Thursday 23rd May. Send it to: The Editor, Bryan Stanley, on 01670 787 916 or by email at maxitoby1@gmail.com .**

Swarland Christmas Tree Thanks

Although it's almost Easter I'm sorry I missed the deadline for the last issue of The Column with a Thank You message about the village Christmas tree. The tree was kindly donated this year by Mike Shirley and felled by John Richardson. Thanks must go to Andrew Hastie for helping with all stages of the decorating etc and to Mike, Anna, Greg and Darren, not forgetting the enormous help from Chester Bears, without whom the tree would not have looked so splendid with all its baubles. Thank you everyone for making the festive season bright.

Susan Richardson

Many Congratulations on reaching your Century!

As the Chairman of Swarland Village Action, I agreed with the rest of the team at our first meeting that the best way to promote our plans and fund-raising activities was to establish a Newsletter to go every home in Swarland. George Nicholson came up with idea of using "The Obelisk" (on the old A1 near Swarland) as a name. We later decided that "The Column" was a more apt name. From the outset, Bryan Stanley kindly agreed to take on the important task of editorship. I had the pleasure of writing the content for the first issue. At that time it was our intention to try and get the other groups in the village to include information about their activities in the Newsletter. Obviously over the years this has been expanded with highlights from across the parish, to include Parish Council meetings and activities in our Village Halls, at Vyner Park and also items from Felton. Well done Bryan, for reaching the century and thanks to all our contributors who have helped The Column to continue so well. In addition I must not forget those kind volunteers who deliver The Column every other month. Long may The Column continue for the benefit of existing villagers and newcomers who come to live in our lovely area.

Len Coates.

An Appeal for Information about the Jubilee Hall

We are putting together as much information as we can both for archiving and to place on our new Jubilee Hall website. If you have any photographs, letters, documents, programmes or posters from special events, or anything else that illustrates the history of the Hall, please contact Alison Cowen at clancowen@outlook.com or any member of the committee.



Neighbourhood Watch Update January - March

Swarland / Longframlington:

I'm happy to write that there is nothing to report regarding our area. However there are several points to note:

*Please do not be complacent regarding door-to-door salesmen. I pointed out to the last salesman who called the sticker regarding uninvited traders. His response was that other residents had readily purchased goods although they had the same sticker. I hope that this was wishful thinking on his part.

*Poaching seems to be taking up a lot of police resources at the moment. Please be vigilant with regards to this and report any suspicious activities to the police.

*If you own a quad bike please ensure that it is stored securely, and preferably have a tracker device fitted. Apparently it is not unknown for thieves to hide a stolen machine behind a hedge, and then observe the location, to see if it is collected. If they are convinced it doesn't have a tracker, they then remove the stolen bike at a later date.

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*

Think before you drop bread in the woods

"I wonder if something could put in The Column regarding leaving bread all along the path to the left as you enter Swarland Wood. For a few weeks now there have been big piles of bread left along this path, presumably for birds? Bread is not good for dogs and can upset their stomachs, especially when the bread has been left for a while. Food on the ground also encourages rats into the area and they may then make their way to neighbouring houses. If people do want to feed the birds, can they please do this in their own garden or at least hang it from trees above ground level."

A Swarland resident

**Deadline for items for the June issue of
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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.

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.

Thanks for plant pots for Plant Heritage Charity:

A big thank you to all those who contacted me with offers of plastic plant pots. I was pleasantly surprised and hopefully will now have enough larger pots to complete the propagation of extra stock for our **Plant Sale at Kirkley Hall on Sunday 19th May** and our **Plant Fair at Blagdon Hall on Sunday 7th July**. Also, this all helps to keep plastic in use and out of the environment.

Bryan Stanley, Vice Chairman, PHNE.

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NotM & Swarland Parish Council

Parish Councillors met on 27th March in Swarland Village Hall. Its next meeting will be at 7pm on Wednesday 24th April 2019 in the Jubilee Hall, NotM and as usual, members of the public are encouraged to attend and ask questions.

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

Local Plan

Northumberland County Council (NCC) recently completed the final stage of consultation over its draft county-wide Local Plan before submitting it to the Secretary of State for formal independent examination. Having already undergone several earlier stages of consultation in recent years, the scope for seeking any alterations now is very limited: basically, to verify that the draft Plan is sound, consistent with national planning policies, justified and effective. The PC decided to make representations on two elements. On the **settlement policy**, it welcomed the designation of tight village boundaries around Swarland and NotM, but indicated and queried a number of apparent errors, not least in the designation of numerous tracts of private enclosed woodland as 'protected public open space'. On the **renewable energy policy**, it challenged the designation of most of the parish as being potentially suitable for wind-turbine developments, and asked for a more discriminating procedure to be used, if and when local communities are consulted over proposed wind turbines. The PC is grateful to the Northumberland and Newcastle Society for bringing this matter to its attention.

Protecting Swarland's Heritage Assets

Several planning applications for small estates of new houses have caused us to remind NCC of the presence and significance of protected historical features in Swarland, including the listed buildings on Park Road and Nelson Drive, and various clusters of protected trees. A large portion of the tree belt in Swarland is protected with a Woodland Cover Order which is unpopular with residents as technically a TPO planning application to NCC is needed in order to clear brush, and suckers from trees. Because of the unpopularity of the Woodland TPO, NCC has been asked if the TPO arrangements can be changed so the same conditions as applied in a building conservation area could be applied. This would allow self-seeded trees (under 10cm diameter) to be removed without formal permission from NCC. It was expected that a response would have been forthcoming from NCC on this issue by the end of February but they have deferred it to a later meeting.

Contractors have been appointed by Harrisons, the new owners of the Percy Wood Golf Course, to repair the Grade 2-listed circular animal shelters on the golf course. It has not been possible to protect the shelters from the winter weather, as bats could be roosting in cracks between the masonry.

(turn over)

(Cont.)

A1 Pedestrian Safety

In response to a Highways England letter regarding some proposed improvements to bus-stops on the A1 (none in our parish!), we have taken the opportunity to raise the lack of provision for pedestrians from NotM to access their nearest inter-urban bus stop at Hampeth. We have also asked that thought is given to widening the central reservation refuges at junctions along the dual carriageway, to accommodate longer vehicles, including buses, lorries and farm vehicles.

Contact the Parish Clerk on janandersonpc@gmail.com or 01665 575 145.

Swarland Moor Local Heritage Group

Our speaker in February was Norma Sadler who gave an enlightening talk on Weldon Hall, a substantial property just beyond Longframlington, which has now completely disappeared from sight and most memories.

In March, Janet Brown talked to us about the North East War Memorials Project. Over thirty years Janet and others have been painstakingly recording where these Memorials are and she explained the different forms these could take. It was a fascinating talk in which Janet spoke of how the memorials were selected and why some families chose not to have names placed on them. As a footnote, one or two people felt inspired to go off and look for Memorials about which Janet had spoken.

Our speaker on **Tuesday 9th April** will be **Michael Thomson**. Michael has given us several excellent talks in the past. His knowledge of his subject is superb and his talks are delivered with great humour and are designed to challenge a perhaps otherwise accepted view. We look forward very much to this month's talk, "**Resisting the Vikings**".

On **Tuesday 14th May**, our speaker, **Andrew Clark**, will give a talk based on his local findings using a metal detector. Andrew has been granted special permissions for this work and has made some exciting discoveries in the Felton area. Needless to say, we are looking forward very much to his talk entitled "**Digging the Past**".

Our final speaker of this season (**11th June**) will be no stranger. **Vera Vaggs** will be giving a talk on one of Swarland's more colourful past inhabitants, "**Alexander Davison, Saint or Sinner?**" Vera's talks about Swarland are always well researched and of great interest to many who now live in the village and about it. Sadly, little of Davison's Swarland Nile Park has survived but this is a chance to relive for a while its glorious past.

Membership of the Heritage Group will be pro rata from now on to the end of June. Guests who simply want to listen to a particular speaker or talk 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 Swarland Village Club. I look forward to seeing you.

Any queries please ring 01670 787 121.

Caroline Thomas

It's party night at Swarland Village Hall 11th May 7.30-11pm

Horace Silverman and The White Gardenias

is a fabulous 6-piece band, packed full of talent and style. They play a mixture of music that is guaranteed to take you back to a more sophisticated era, as well as getting your feet tapping.

So, if you would like to dance the night away or just sit, relax and enjoy an evening of high quality entertainment, book your tickets (**£7.50 each**) now, as places are limited.

Please feel free to bring your own drinks and refreshments.

**Proceeds to St Marys Church,
Longframlington Bell Tower restoration.**

Box office – Sue on 07900 136 318

www.Horacesilverman.co.uk



Can Men's Saturday League Football return to Swarland?

Are you 16+ from this summer and interested in playing for, coaching or helping with the administration of a Swarland team in the North Northumberland Football League?

If so, please contact Samuel Palin on **01665 714 567** on evenings or weekends or email Sam at [**sjpalin75@gmail.com**](mailto:sjpalin75@gmail.com) .

Home matches at Vyner Park, Saturdays, 2pm kick-off.

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An Update from Felton Films

Four months in and our new venture seems to be fairly successful. We got off to a good start with 'The Greatest Showman' in November, but our plan to please the small people with a sing-along to 'Frozen' in December was not quite so popular.

January's movie, '**The Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Pie Society**' tempted a most appreciative audience of more than 70 to the Village Hall. The bar and ice creams were very popular in the interval and there was a very convivial atmosphere in the Hall.

This was the first outing for our new sound system and we were thrilled by the quality of sound it produces. We shall be eternally grateful to The Kerry Grassroots Foundation, Felton Fair Committee and the Pantomime Society for their generous donations which enabled the Village Hall to buy it.

As expected, our sing-along double bill of **Mamma Mia! 1 & 2** proved more popular with women. Some came for one or other of the films but the hard core sang their way through both. The Flying Fryer agreed to supply fish & chips after the first movie. These were delicious, piping hot and efficiently served. We were all in great voice as vinegar, endorphins and wine flowed - there was even some dancing in the aisles at the end!

It's a little frustrating that our licence dictates that we can only advertise the titles of forthcoming showings within the Village Hall. Here are some future dates for your diary - fill in the blanks in this easy quiz on the film names:

30th March: "D_____ H_____" Just before dawn? Gary Oldman stars as Winston Churchill. 6 Oscars, 9 BAFTAs, including Best Film and Best Actor 2018

27th April: "B_____ R_____" Unconventional bliss? Rami Malek stars in this Freddie Mercury biopic. 5 Oscars, 7 BAFTAs including Best (British) Film and Best Actor 2019.

25th May: "I, D_____ B_____" Eponymous working class hero fights for his rights. 5 BAFTA nominations, winner Best British Film. Dave Johns stars, directed by Ken Loach..

15th June*: "A S____ Is B_____" The emergence of a new celestial body? Oscar & BAFTA-winning musical starring Sam Elliott, Bradley Cooper and Lady Gaga.

27th July: "The F_____" The one you like best? More 2019 Oscars and BAFTAs than you can shake a sceptre at. Olivia Coleman, Rachel Weisz, Emma Stone star. Winner Best Film, Best Leading Actress & Best Supporting Actress.

** Please note the change of date for June to avoid clashing with Giulio Tamplini.*

All welcome, ticket sales on the door are a very affordable **£3 for adults** and **£1 for under-16s**. Wine, Prosecco, beer, soft drinks, teas, coffees and ices on sale.

Sylvia Allan, Treasurer, Felton Village Hall

Citizens Advice Hunt for Trustees



Citizens Advice Northumberland is currently seeking new trustees to join its board to further strengthen its reach and impact on communities in Northumberland. Last year it supported 16,627 people with 37,889 issues.

Who are Citizens Advice Northumberland?

We give people the knowledge and the confidence they need to find their way forward – whoever they are, and whatever their problem. Life can be tough for everyone at times and the need for **free, confidential, independent advice** in the coming years will be more important than ever as we are set for a period of uncertainty, complexity and change. 2019 marks the 80th anniversary of our service and we're still reaching those in need of help 80 years on.

What are we looking for?

We are currently seeking new trustees to join our board to further strengthen our reach and impact into the communities of Northumberland.

In this round of trustee recruitment, we particularly welcome applications from people with specialisms in fundraising, communications and press, legal services or political strategy or previous experience of governance and board-level management, such as experience of chairing meetings, committee work and leadership skills exercised through a period change.

We would also encourage applications from individuals who would wish to hold an office within the charity as we will be looking to appoint a new Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer from within our number as the current incumbents' terms end over the course of 2019/20.

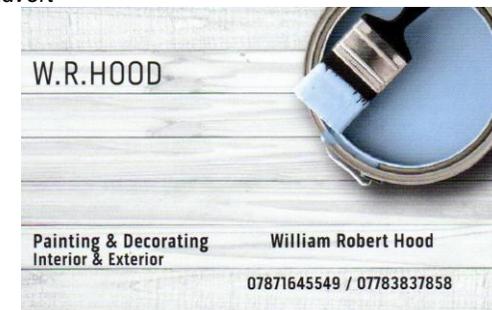
Further details of the role can be found at:

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/about-us/support-us/volunteering/about-volunteering-with-citizens-advice/what-our-trustees-do/> .

How to apply

For a full application pack or for any further information about the trustee roles, please contact janebrown@citizensadvicenorthumberland.org.uk or 07384 510 724.

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Wasps and other insects.

Contact Rory Brotherton
01670 788 174 or 07769 176 666

Events at Jubilee Hall, Newton on the Moor

Our **Easter Coffee Morning**, with plenty of cakes and lovely raffle prizes, will be on **Saturday 13th April**. Come and enjoy a warm welcome with excellent coffee and good company. We shall be running a second-hand bookstall during the morning, with plenty of bargains – contributions welcome.

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

Our popular **Pilates Classes** take place on Thursday afternoons from 5.30 – 6.15. No previous Pilates experience is necessary and Alix Westgarth-Taylor explains that this is exercise without stress or running about. Exercises can be shaped for individual needs and for those with particular health issues. More details from Alixwestgarhtaylor@hotmail.com.

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.

We've joined the 21st century by setting up a web-site for the Jubilee Hall. You can access it at Newton-on-the-moor.btck.co.uk.

A Very Special Evening – Not to be Missed

The next event in the **Music on the Moor** series will take place on **Thursday 18th April** (Maundy Thursday) and will be an unusual evening with **C'hiwanez**, a group of Breton musicians who will perform songs for us and lead the audience through traditional Breton dances.

There will be an afternoon dance workshop from 4.00 - 5.30pm, costing £1.00, and the evening's entertainment will run from 7.30 - 10.30. Tickets for the evening on the door will be £6.00. We shall provide French-themed snacks for everyone and wine will be appropriately French.

During the evening, the pipers of Robson's Choice will play for us during a break in the dancing, and Martin Dunn and Gillian Birnie will also entertain us while we get our breath back. This promises to be a wonderful evening - so do join us at the Jubilee Hall.

Alison Gallico, Jubilee Hall Secretary.

Swarland & Newton on the Moor Show

Saturday 31st August 2019

Sponsorship & Advertising

We are looking to offer local businesses the opportunity to either sponsor a show event or advertise in the show programme.

Event sponsorship – Price £100

Sponsor names will be listed on the Show Programme and on the Show's dedicated Facebook page. Advertising materials, as agreed, can be situated on the Show field and sponsor details will be broadcast throughout the Show by the Show's compere. Sponsors will be invited to place a half page colour advertisement in the Show programme (see below). There are five events available for sponsorship – Classic Car Show, Dog Show, the Competition Tent, the Beer Tent and the Brass Band.

Advertising - £25 quarter page & £50 half page

Colour advertisement inserted in the Show programme, which is circulated both online, through Facebook and as a hard copy to visitors on Show Day. The Show programme includes a breakdown of the day's activities, timings, events and supporters.

Stall Holders

We're now taking bookings on a first come, first served basis for stall holders at this year's Show. This is a perfect opportunity to showcase your small business to local people.

If you would like a stall inside our 'Market Place' tent there is a small charge of £10, payable upfront. If you wish to provide your own shelter / tent there is no charge. We can also rent you a table for £5. Last year's Show had over 800 people attend, that's 800 potential customers. For further information please contact us.

You can message us via Facebook - Swarland Show - or contact the Show Secretary at janandersonpc@gmail.com or 07775 060 430 by 1st May 2019.

What a Load of Rubbish!

This year the parish clean-up took place on Sunday 24th March. Organiser Greg Anderson reports that there was a good turnout again (18) and although collectors felt that there wasn't as much litter as in recent years, there was still a surprising amount when it was all piled up together at the end! Well done and thanks to everyone who helped.



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Swarland to Newcastle Airport or Central Station - £30
Morpeth Station - £15, Alnmouth Station - £12.50.

BOOK BY PHONE OR TEXT 07595 618 001
or EMAIL falwayprivatehire@hotmail.co.uk .

NOW BASED IN SWARLAND



Mobile Library Dates

The NCC mobile library comes to our parish on some Wednesdays. 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: 3rd April and 1st May**. If you value this service "use it or lose it".



Red Squirrels Need Your Help

Only about 3 years ago, Red Squirrels were often seen in Swarland and surrounding areas. They have now become very sparse and their survival is being seriously threatened by the increasing number of Grey Squirrels moving into our area.

Your local Lower Coquetdale Red Squirrels group (formerly Swarland Red Squirrels), urgently needs volunteers to assist in discouraging the Greys. Can you help us - on the ground, fund-raising, delivering leaflets or with admin? If so, please get in touch – email us on info@lcreds.org.uk or make contact with Rosie on 07436 893 947.

Thanks very much – and please keep reporting any sightings of Reds or Greys to our website -www.lcreds.org.uk (please note the old mobile phone number is no longer supported). A bookmark is enclosed as a reminder!

Vyner Park News

Welcome: We're pleased to welcome new Community representative Elliot Smith to the management team; as a tennis player he is particularly willing to help with the refurbishment of the courts. We await kinder weather.

Jubilee Gardens: We've removed the fence along the north side of the Jubilee Gardens, as it was damaged when part of a tree fell on it during a gale. The area now looks more inviting, and is still enclosed along the roadside for safety.

Dog fouling: We recently had a report of dog fouling on the tennis court. We try to avoid too many prohibitions around the Park, but following our own risk assessment guidelines, namely to keep the playing field, playground, bowling green, tennis court and MUGA dog-free, we have decided to put up additional No Dogs signs. We know the majority of dog owners using the Park are responsible, but in view of the seriousness of Toxocariasis to children, would ask that you do keep dogs out of the fenced games and play areas and off the playing field, and that you always clean up after your dog(s) elsewhere on the Park. Bags and bins are provided.

Hedges and trees: By the time you read this, there should be fewer gaps in the eastern boundary hedge. We're currently replanting with hawthorn and hornbeam. When what's left of the old hedge comes into leaf, we can tell how much dead wood still needs to be cut out. We're getting a team together to plant (very) young trees (bird cherry, birch, crab apple, hazel, oak and rowan) at the east end of the Park.

Boundary lines: The north boundary of Vyner Park is the Mere Burn; if you cross this (as apparently some people do, despite a fence and a No Access notice) then you're in someone's private garden. Please respect residents' privacy and stay within the Park.

Would You Like an Outdoor Gym? We know there is some interest, but we'd like to gauge public opinion more widely, as equipment can't be funded out of existing money, so we would need people to get involved in fund-raising for it. If you think outdoor gym equipment at Vyner Park is something you would use, please contact Jan Anderson, the Charity Secretary on 01666 575 145 or janandersonpc@gmail.com.

Suzanne Stanley on behalf of the VPC Management Team

Alnwick and District Choral Society

will perform the wonderful

Johannes Brahms' German Requiem

at 7.30pm on Saturday 6th April 2019

at St Paul's Church, Alnwick.

The concert will be conducted by Peter Brown,
accompanied by Alan Gidley on Organ
and will be supported by soprano, Veronica Gilbert
and baritone, Paul Gibson.

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Would You Like an Outdoor Gym? We know there is some interest, but we'd
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existing money, so we would need people to get involved in fund-raising for it. If
you think outdoor gym equipment at Vyner Park is something you would use,
please contact Jan Anderson, the Charity Secretary on 01666 575 145 or
janandersonpc@gmail.com.

Suzanne Stanley on behalf of the VPC Management Team

Alnwick and District Choral Society
will perform the wonderful
Johannes Brahms' German Requiem
at **7.30pm on Saturday 6th April 2019**
at **St Paul's Church, Alnwick.**

The concert will be conducted by Peter Brown,
accompanied by Alan Gidley on Organ
and will be supported by soprano, Veronica Gilbert
and baritone, Paul Gibson.

