

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 August issue by
Thursday 25th July 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

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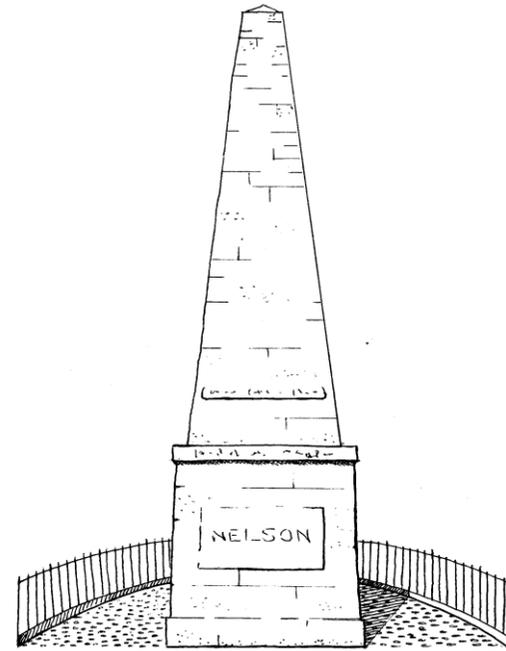
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Swarland Club is pleased to sponsor *The Column*.

The Column



June 2019

Produced by

Swarland Village Action

Newsletter 101

**Would you like to help improve your
parish? Join the Parish Council and
make a difference. See inside**

Welcome to your latest 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 August issue by Thursday 25th July. Send it to: The Editor, Bryan Stanley, on 01670 787 916 or by email at maxitoby1@gmail.com .**

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).

Do you want to help? The Hall Management Team is looking for new blood to help manage SVH for the community. Please contact **Bryan Stanley** on **maxitoby1@gmail.com**.

Current activities in the Hall include:

Archery Practice indoor sessions will re-commence on Monday evenings in October. 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 Barbara on 01670 787 592 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 details, contact Joan Nesbit on 01670 783 140.

Recycling Corner

Why not recycle your unwanted items through The Column? Recipients of free items can make a donation towards this newsletter's running costs. Items for sale? – If successful, the seller can make a similar donation.

On Offer: I have some items which are free to a good home:

IKEA white plastic high chair, plus cushioned insert for smaller babies. A metal oil drum. A wicker laundry basket (large). For more information contact 07903 603 005.

Neighbourhood Watch Update April – May 2019

Swarland / Longframlington:

I'm happy to report that I am again unaware of any criminal incident in our area to date. However please be aware of the following:

04/05/19 Following the death of a lamb attacked by a dog in Stannington the police issued the following reminders:

* Always keep dogs on a lead when walking in rural areas where livestock is kept.

* Be aware that even small lap-dogs can attack farm animals.

* Report attacks by dogs and sightings of dogs roaming the countryside to local farmers or police.

* Familiarise puppies with farm stock from a young age to reduce the risk of these attacking sheep or cattle at a later age.

The police ask all those people who rent out cottages or have B&Bs to ensure that visitors are made aware of the above.

09/05/19 On the above date a Lamb Creep Feeder was stolen from a field near West Road, Longhorsley. Any information - call 101 ref.656090519.

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*

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 normally available just once a month. **The next dates are: 26th June and hopefully 24th July.** If you value this service "use it or lose it".

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.

Swarland Moor Local Heritage Group

Our speaker on Tuesday 9th April was **Michael Thomson**. His subject was "Resisting the Vikings" and once again Michael did not fail to disappoint his audience with his knowledge and verve for history. We look forward to welcoming Michael back in the near future with yet another fascinating talk.

Our speaker on Tuesday 14th May was **Andrew Clark**. His life-long passion as a Metal Detectorist, meant his chosen subject was "Digging the Past", and revealed the excitement and sometimes disappointments encountered. His visual presentation along with artefacts proved a popular subject, as many of his objects were discovered in the Felton area.

Our last speaker on Tuesday 11th June will be **Vera Vaggs**. Vera's talks have always attracted a lot of interest, and this time her subject is "Alexander Davison, Saint or Sinner?" looking at his connection to and the importance of Swarland Nile Park and its part in local history.

Date for your diary:

Annual Trip - Thursday 18th July, Preston Park Hall and Museum. Leaving Swarland 10am. For more information please contact Caroline Thomas at thomcap@btinternet.com.

Breaking News: Swarland Moor Local Heritage Group has been awarded a grant of £400 by the Sir James Knott Trust. This will enable us to go ahead with the erection of the Interpretation Board which will record Nelson's ships signified by the arrangement of trees of Swarland Nile Park. Thanks to the committee for all the hard work involved, especially to Vera, Caroline and to Phil who secured the funding.

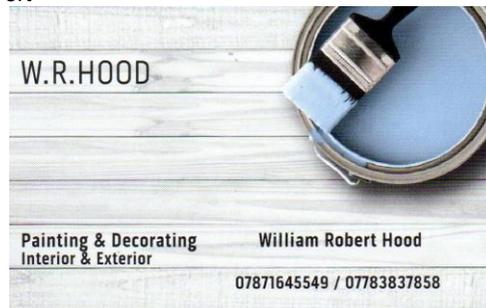
We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Concert Room of Swarland Village Club. The next meeting will be Tuesday 10th September. The speaker will be **George Nairn** talking about "Picture Postcards".

Please come along and join us either as a guest or becoming a member. All will be very welcome. Any queries please contact 01670 787 654.

Lesley White

**Deadline for items for the August issue of
The Column: Thursday 25th July 2019.**

Advert



NotM & Swarland Parish Council

Both the Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council meeting took place on 22nd May. The previous meeting was on 24th April. Its next meeting will be at 7pm on Wednesday 26th June at Jubilee Hall, NotM and as always, members of the public are welcome to attend and ask questions before the meeting starts.

Annual Parish Meeting

A series of reports were presented, covering the work of the Parish Council (PC), Vyner Park Charity, Swarland Village Hall, Jubilee Hall, and the Felton Joint Cemetery Committee (a partnership between ourselves, Felton and Thirston PCs). All the reports are available to read in full on the PC's website. Only two members of the public attended the meeting and questions covered serious concerns about the condition of the unadopted roads in Swarland, the condition of the road surface in Old Park Road, and the WW2 so called 'tank turning' pads.

Annual Parish Council Meeting

As usual, we covered a large number of annual matters. David Francis and Steve Woolfrey were elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively. Most appointments to committees and outside bodies remained unchanged, although Karen Howard-Row has succeeded Suzanne Stanley as a member of the Vyner Park Committee, and Liz Clark has joined the PC's Finance group. The annual accounts were approved, and will be available for public inspection along with other end-of-year documents, after our June meeting. Because the PC's income was less than £25,000 in 2018/19 it will be subject to an independent internal, but not external, audit.

A meeting with NCC Highways Department is to be organised to detail concerns about poor road conditions in the parish, and to pursue the full adoption of Swarland's estate roads.

The PC is continuing to press for works to be done by Harrison Leisure to restore the Grade II Animal Shelters on its golf course and it is disappointing that despite promises, there doesn't appear to have been any activity. NCC has now become involved and it is understood, is considering formal action. There is no further news, yet, of road safety measures which we hear are being planned for the area around Swarland School.

Defibrillators

If necessary, the PC is prepared to take responsibility for the defibrillator attached to the side of the Vyner Park Pavilion; it was provided by the Stephen Carey Fund and Rothbury WI. Current ownership is unclear. The PC is also contributing to the provision of a defibrillator for Hazon which is largely being funded by local residents' donations. If needed, this too may be taken into the PC's ownership.

(turn over)

(Cont)

Superfast Broadband

We were alarmed to hear that NCC's i-Northumberland initiative has failed to include provision in its latest contract for upgrading the Broadband infrastructure in the Hazon area. This work had already been costed, and a commitment was made in writing to local residents. We hope that this is an honest mistake, and we are pursuing this further with NCC.

Parish Councillor Vacancy

There is a vacancy on the PC, and applications are welcome for co-option in the form of a CV or letter explaining why you think you should be co-opted to the PC. We are keen to have a good gender / geographic balance so we are particularly looking for applications from women, and from the Swarland area. If you think you have got what it takes, please contact the Parish Clerk - Jan Anderson on 01665 575 145 or at janandersonpc@gmail.com .

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

Vyner Park News

Outdoor Gym

There has been some interest in response to our piece about this in the April issue of The Column, so Jan Anderson and Andy Ferguson met with a representative of a supply company to get an idea of costs. A reasonable range of equipment for the space available would be about £6,000. There are grants available for sports and play equipment, but usually some match-funding is involved, so if those interested and willing to support the idea can think up and run some fund-raising events, that would be a great help.

The Pavilion

There are constant maintenance jobs somewhere on the Park, but some are larger (and more expensive) than others. It's time for the external woodwork on the Pavilion to be re-sealed and varnished, and we have a contractor lined up to do this during the summer months. It won't affect access to the Pavilion or Nelson's.

And it's farewell from me . . .

This is my final Vyner Park News as member and Chairman of the Vyner Park Charity Management Committee, as I'm standing down at the VPC AGM on 12th June, having been Chairman of the old Parish Council Vyner Park Sub-Committee for two years, Vice-Chairman in 2015 (under Robert Brotherton's Chairmanship) of the then newly-formed VPCMC, and Chairman since 2016. We now have clearly defined aims, objectives and routines, and a very strong team to carry them forward. It has been a pleasure to work with past and present members, and I'll continue to take an active interest in the Park.

Suzanne Stanley on behalf of the VPC Management Team



Swarland & Newton on the Moor Show

Saturday 31st August 2019

The Swarland and Newton on the Moor Show schedule of classes has now been finalised.

Are you an amateur gardener? - Now is the time to start planning your entries for this year's show. Classes will include apples, plums, beetroot, potatoes, runner beans, carrots, onions and tomatoes. Flowers will include dahlias, roses and mixed vases.

We're not looking for Royal Horticultural Society standards, nor are we looking for the biggest specimens, just the best example of each particular class.

Who needs Bake Off when we have Swarland and Newton on the Moor Show cookery classes? You really don't need to be Mary Berry or Pru Leith. Everyone has a good Victoria sponge in them. As long as cakes are well risen and scones evenly baked, you're in with a chance.

Go on, have a go. At worst you lose 30p, at best you could get your hands on a gleaming silver trophy.

All Children's classes are free to enter.

To obtain a copy of the schedule please either send us a message on Facebook – Swarland Show, drop an e-mail to clancowen@outlook.com or speak to any member of the Show committee. There will be paper copies available in the Working Men's Club & in Nelson's in the coming weeks.

We look forward to a show tent bursting with colour, smelling delicious and making our mouths water. Good luck everyone.

Alison Cowen

Jazz & Blues Workshop

Do you play a musical instrument?

Would you like to get together with other like-minded musicians of all abilities, to share and develop your hobby in a fun and relaxed environment?

If enough people are interested, I'm keen to organise a regular workshop, where we could learn some jazz standards, modal jazz and blues progressions etc. Sight reading music is not necessary for this type of event.

Please feel free to contact me for a chat or further information on 01665 575 555. Alternatively you can email: david@ballacrye.plus.com .

David Harrison

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Felton & Thirston Pantomime Society



In recent years, if you have laughed at Felton and Thirston Pantomime Society's (FATPS) self-penned performances and thought "I'd like to have a go at that!" then this is your chance!! We don't want to give away anything that is too obvious - but if our next planned production involved several popular pupils from a well-known wizardry school 'saving the day' in Felton, might that be a reasonable clue as to what we have in store for you?

If so, read on for more details. FATPS is a multiple award-winning Company whose recent productions include 'Jill and Ted's Distinctly Average Adventure', 'Alice In Wonderland – But, Not As You Know It!' and 'Peter Pan – Well, Sort Of?'

As this is a complex pantomime, the Society is keen to recruit teenagers and adults across all parts - i.e. cast members, back-stage, lighting, front / rear of house, costumes, choreography, music direction, etc. Every role is crucial to the whole production!!

Don't worry about any lack of experience as the main skill that we require is enthusiasm and a regular commitment to rehearsals / preparation most Sundays evenings (5pm-7pm) from early September through to performances in early February. Although this is a busy programme of work it is conducted at Felton Village Hall in a relaxed and good-natured environment.

So, do you want to be a part of FATPS's next hilarious production? If so, contact the Society's Producer - Grace Aynsley (on 01670 787 283 or grace.aynsley@btinternet.com) specifying which role(s) interests you. The Society will then invite everyone to a 'meet and greet' social evening during July when you will meet current FATPS Company Members who will 'cast a bit of light' on what you are interested in doing.

More details? Ah, yes, I did say so! Every recent pantomime has adapted an existing storyline and put its own spin onto it by introducing wholly unexpected features along the way – picking up on topical 'things that have happened' locally and / or nationally - e.g. Brexit!!!



Now, there's a comedy!!! Come and join us, we'll have some fun – "Oh Yes, We Will" !!!

Neal Skelton



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Kill or Cure

Now I'll tell you a story to kill or cure
About speeding restrictions in Newton on the Moor
The Parish Council campaigned for some time
To set up a limit and put up a sign
For Brands Hatch drivers to reduce their power
And to keep to twenty miles per hour
Now has it worked? You may well ask
And has it been a worthwhile task?
"Why diven't talk se stupid, man"
They're driving faster than they can
Pedestrians with dogs and sticks
Riders on horses and cyclists
Have to duck and dive with open jaw
While drivers persistently break the law
So we're taking down numbers of cars going fast
And sending them off to the police to bomblast
We don't want a casualty in Newton on the Moor
So please kill your speed to be part of the cure.

Jen Oliver 2/5/2019

Advert

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From the Archives – The Column, June 2009

Official Opening of The Square, Swarland

As you will now know The Square, Swarland was officially opened by The Right Honourable Sir Alan Beith M.P. on the 30th May 2009. The event was well attended by the public, including some of the original settlers. Swarland Village Action formally handed The Square back to Councillor Derek Baugh, Chairman of Newton on the Moor and Swarland Parish Council. The information book regarding the details of the inscribed bricks is now at the printers and will shortly be distributed to all those who purchased bricks.

I must now thank Messrs L Blewitt and his staff for their practical work to The Square, the residents of The Square for their patience in putting up with the noise and dust. However, I am sure they much prefer the new square, to the old one, so it has been worth it. Back to my thanks, Laul Blewitt kindly donated the new flagpole, Bryan Stanley the Northumberland flag. Ken Long had originally donated money for the flag, but as Bryan already had a flag, Ken's donation went into the fund. Thank you Ken. Joe Robinson donated the soil filling for the flower box and I thank him for that.

None of this would have been possible without our committee. I must thank the following for all their hard work over the years: John & Susan Richardson, Avril Plumpton, Marion Clark, Kate Hobson, Jim Close, David Bradbrook and our ever patient secretary Bryan Stanley, who kept us all right! My thanks also to John McQueen for the use of the Sports Pavilion at the official opening.

As I said at the AGM I am now planning to resign from the SVA and I would like to say that I have enjoyed being part of SVA and I wish the team 'All the Best for the Future'.

John Taylor



Events at Jubilee Hall, Newton on the Moor

Our **June Coffee Morning**, with plenty of cakes will be on **Saturday 8th June**. Our theme will be strawberries, so come and enjoy a warm welcome with excellent coffee and good company. Weather permitting, we can bask in the sun and take coffee and strawberry cake on the terrace.

Music On The Moor: Our series of musical events will continue on **Saturday 6th July** with a choral performance by the very popular Coquet Singers. They will be joined by members of the Alnwick Accordion Club and other musical guests. Doors open at 7.00 for a 7.30 start and there will be a bar and snacks.

On **Saturday 13th July** we shall hold our **Midsummer Coffee Morning** at 10.00. If the weather thinks it's still Summer, bring your shady hats and summer dresses to enjoy elegant coffee and cakes on the terrace.

Dudley Williams is arranging another of his popular **Wine Evenings** for **Saturday 20th July**. We shall again be joined by Suzanne Lock who will talk on a theme to be announced early in July, but cost will as usual be £15.00, with non-alcoholic drinks, bread and cheeses included. Doors open at 7.00 for a 7.30 start. (Please note, if the theme is English Wine there will be a surcharge of £5.00 for wine drinkers).

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. Contact Alix on Alixwestgarhtaylor@hotmail.com for more 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 Cowen has set up a web-site for the Jubilee Hall which you can access at www.Newton-on-the-moor.btck.co.uk.

Alison Gallico, Jubilee Hall Secretary.





