

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 October issue by
Thursday 26th September 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.

This service is open from 7.30 to 11am

Monday to Sunday inclusive.

Newspapers and magazines may be ordered and reserved.

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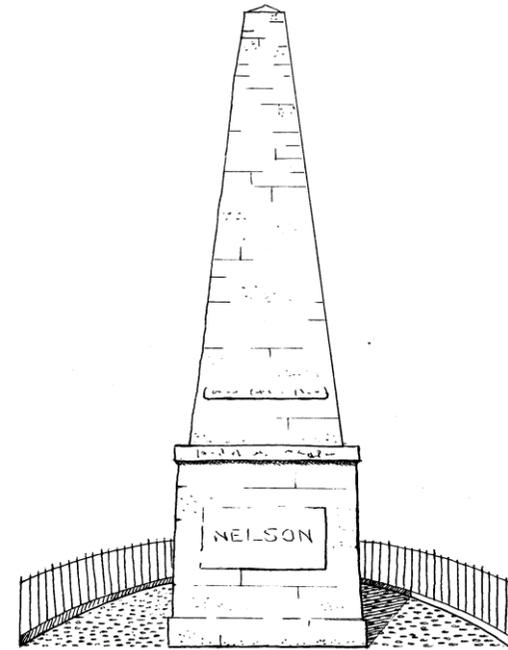
**SWARLAND VILLAGE
WORKING MEN'S CLUB**

Available for private parties by arrangement.

Tel. 01670 787 825

Swarland Club is pleased to sponsor *The Column*.

The Column



August 2019

Produced by

Swarland Village Action

Newsletter 102

**Would you like to help fund-raise for
an outdoor gym? 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 October issue by Thursday 26th September. 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 group use or a private event 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 re-commence at 7pm on Monday 28th 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.

A 7-week beginners group starts Monday 9th September 5.30 – 6.30pm £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, from 29th 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.

Felton Film Society

Please note the following for your diaries;

Saturday 31st August. "Fisherman's Friends"

Saturday 28th September. "Stan & Ollie"

Films start at 7.30pm. Pay at the door, doors open 7pm, £3 for adults, £1 for under-16s. Wine, beer, tea, coffee, soft drinks, ices available.

Sylvia Allan, Treasurer, Felton Village Hall

Neighbourhood Watch Update April – May 2019

Swarland / Longframlington:

Again, I'm happy to report that I am unaware to date of any criminal incident in our area. But please note the following police alerts:

06/06/19: Please be aware that some scrap metal collectors are not legitimate dealers. You need to check the dealer's licence for Northumbria before doing any business with them. Some "dealers" are simply seeing if anything is worth stealing in the future.

04/07/19: It is now harvest time and hare coursers and poachers are starting to utilise the newly cut fields. The most obvious sign is a group of vehicles parked by a gateway to farmland, on a grass verge, farm track or bridle path. The police ask all those people who rent out cottages or have B&Bs ensure that visitors are made aware of the above.

Call 101 to report any suspicious activity or if you see a crime or wildlife crime taking place. The advice is to always dial 999.

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 in the Coquetdale Centre, Church 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: 24th July, 21st August and 18th September. If you value this service "use it or lose it".



Make a note in your diaries!

**ANNUAL FIREWORKS NIGHT AND BONFIRE
VYNER PARK, SWARLAND**

Friday 1st November 2019

Gates to open 6pm, Rockets up at 7pm.

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: Titan green polyethylene coal bunker for sale. Can also be used to store logs, compost, etc. 600 kg. Capacity. Measures 120 x 97 x 114cms. **Originally cost £240. Open to offers. Tel 01670 787 359.**

Swarland Moor Local Heritage Group

On **Tuesday 11th June** our last speaker, **Vera Vaggs**, ended the season with her talk "**Alexander Davison Saint or Sinner**". Vera has always had an interest in the life of Alexander Davison and her presentation together with artefacts gave an in-depth insight into his life, his connection with Swarland and Lord Nelson. Among the audience was a surprise guest, Mr. Martin Downer, author of Nelson's Lost Jewel, Nelson's Purse etc. who also thoroughly enjoyed Vera's talk.

Thursday 18th July was our Annual Trip. This year we visited **Preston Park Hall and Museum**. The weather was kind to us and everyone seemed to have enjoyed the day, as there was something to interest most people. Well worth the visit. Many thanks again to Caroline for organising the trip and keeping everyone updated, also thanks to Phil for taking the reins on the day.

On **Tuesday 10th September** our speaker is **George Nairn** and will speak on "**The History of Picture Postcards**" with special reference to the local area.

On **Tuesday 8th October** we welcome back **Michael Thomson**. This time he will talk about "**The Palace of Gefrin at Yeavinger**", one of the most important Anglo-Saxon sites in the country.

On **Tuesday 12th November** **Jessica Turner** will talk about "**The Bamburgh Ossuary and Anglo-Saxon Remains**". This also sounds a fascinating talk.

Christmas Meal: In September I will be asking for menus from the Cook and Barker and Nelsons for a Christmas Lunchtime Meal. At the October meeting following a decision on venue, I will take firm bookings and a deposit of £5 to secure the booking. At the November meeting I will take orders for your menu choices, and the balance of food payment. Drinks and tips to be paid on the day of meal. Also I will give each person a written reminder as to their menu choices.

We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Concert Room of Swarland Village Club. Membership will be due in September. Should anyone new to the village be interested in becoming a member, the cost is £10 and £2.50 for guests. Please come along and join us. All will be very welcome. Any queries please contact 01670 787 654.

Lesley White

NotM & Swarland Parish Council

The Parish Council (PC) met on 26th June and 24th July.

Defibrillators

A 'defib' was installed at Vyner park 5 years ago, through the fund-raising efforts of the Coquetdale WI and the Stephen Carey Fund (a local charity dedicated to promoting the availability and use of defibs). It has been regularly inspected by local volunteers. To address the uncertainty about its future security and maintenance, the PC has now agreed to formally accept its ownership. Following a meeting with trustees of the SCF, a defib is now being installed at Hazon, with financial support from the PC and local residents. The PC is happy to consider further provision within our parish, subject to there being sufficient local demand.

Road Improvements and Safety

We have been considering a number of highways matters at our recent meetings, including:

i) The NCC's Local Transport Plan: following consultation through The Column last summer, we proposed three priorities for inclusion in the 2019 LTP, all of which have subsequently been rejected by NCC: Lower Leamington Lane, Swarland - speed reduction 60mph to 40mph. Rejected because a reduced speed is not appropriate for this road which is open countryside, has no frontage development, no footways and no recorded injury accidents. B6345 Old Swarland – road widening from Old Hall west to Swarland Burn. Rejected because road widening will require land acquisition that is likely to make the cost prohibitive and there have been no recorded injury accidents on this stretch of road. Kenmore Road, Swarland - tarmacing the unmade up section. No reason given for rejection.

ii) The PC would like to invite comments and suggestions from local residents (by 5pm on Wednesday 21st August) to help inform its discussions and decision on three parish priorities to be submitted for the 2020 / 2021 LTP. Please can you send these to the Clerk.

iii) The PC is pursuing with NCC the resurfacing of several minor roads, including in the Hazon area and part of Old Park Road (Swarland).

iv) The PC is pursuing the formal 'adoption' of the lower part of Kenmore Road, which was confirmed by NCC in 1994, but has since been rejected by it due to the failure by a local builder (subsequently bankrupt) to make-up one section of roadway in the area.

v) The PC is pursuing some road safety improvements on the A1 dual carriageway junctions and central reservation, for both pedestrians and vehicles.

vi) Further to the introduction of new speed limits within NotM last year, the PC has requested that NCC conducts some speed-monitoring, in case further measures are justified. In the meantime, a request is being submitted to NCC for 'Caution – Horses' signs to be installed.

vii) The PC is still awaiting news of some road-safety measures that are being planned by NCC for the vicinity of Swarland School.

(turn over)

(cont)

Parish Councillor Vacancy

There is still a vacancy on the PC. Applications are sought for co-option in the form of a CV or letter explaining why you think you should be co-opted to the Council. It is keen to have a good gender / geographic balance, so is 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.

Parish Clerk – Jan Anderson at janandersonpc@gmail.com or on 01665 575 145.

Swarland & Newton on the Moor Show Saturday 31st August 2019

We hope you will all agree that the Swarland and Newton on the Moor summer show is a great afternoon out for all the family.

For just £3.50, the price of a cup of coffee in some establishments, children can burn off their energy with unlimited use of a giant inflatable slide, a bouncy castle, bungee trampolines and lazer quest. The whole family can bring out their inner Robin Hood or Maid Marion with the Bowmen of Rothbury Forest or admire the classic cars. You can sit back and listen to the Alnwick Playhouse Band or be amazed by the birds of prey flying display. There will also be a beer tent, BBQ and refreshments from Nelsons – who donate the profits from the day to the Show.

There are many other attractions, including a marketplace, craft demonstrations and an enjoyable dog show. Not only are you enjoying yourself and having fun, but you are helping the local community, as profits from the Show go back into local amenities. Last year donations were made to Swarland Primary School, the Village Halls in both Swarland and Newton on the Moor and to the Vyner Park Charity.

The Show would not be possible if it were not for the support of everyone who comes along on the day either as an exhibitor, crafter, seller, volunteer, sponsor, advertiser, or of course spectator. There is also a back-room team of volunteers who put up tents, sell raffle tickets, manage stalls and marshal cars to name but a few of their roles.

We would like to appeal to all our wonderful bakers out there. The cake stall needs cake donations to sell on the day. We received excellent feedback on the quality of the home baking donated last year!

Do you have any new / unused toy donations for the children's tombola or bottles for the Topsy tombola? All donations are gratefully appreciated.

Your village show needs you! Could you spare an hour or two to help run the show - for example, taking money on the gate, selling raffle tickets, help marshal the car park or even give a member of the committee a tea break? Please contact the Show, either by either sending an e-mail to swarlandvillageshow@gmail.com or message us via Facebook.

Swarland & Newton on the Moor Show Committee

Qi Gong for Health – Swarland Class



In May, 2019, Swarland Qi Gong class members celebrated three years of Qi Gong practice. A very special occasion for Instructor, Anne Raine, as there are 15 class members still attending from the initial taster session in May 2016!



Smiles all round as Swarland Qi Gong class members proudly show off their special anniversary certificates!

To celebrate this significant occasion Anne presented Certificates of Achievement to all class members, after energising our Qi first! A cuppa and home-baking was then enjoyed by all and brought our third anniversary celebrations to a happy end.

Qi Gong (Chinese Energy Exercise) systems are a series of repeated exercises which contribute to the growth and movement of Qi (Energy), adding to one's life energy and delaying the process of ageing! Qi Gong practice is an enjoyable and beneficial way to improve mobility, posture, balance and circulation. It is a calming, gentle but powerful way to exercise and seems to suit all fitness levels and abilities.

Fancy giving it a try? I am pleased to confirm that the new beginner's Qi Gong class will start in **Swarland Village Hall on Monday 9th September, from 5.30 to 6.30pm for a 7-week block. Cost will be £4 per session.** No special clothing is required for practice, but it does need to be comfortable and easy to move in. Shoes should be flat soled to ensure good balance and posture.

For those folk that I've previously contacted, I look forward to seeing you on Monday 9th September, however if you do have any queries please do get in touch. In the meantime, if any new people would like to register their interest in the new class then please contact me on my mobile: 07934 425 844. Thank you.

Looking forward to sharing the joy and benefits of Qi Gong with you all ☺.

Anne Raine, Qi Gong Instructor

Your Blue Bin and what to feed it

Parish Councils were recently invited by NCC to visit the West Sleekburn household waste recycling facility, where our Blue Bin waste is processed. Greg Anderson and I were impressed by its size and the complex sequence of sucking, blowing and magnetised sorting equipment, conveyor belts, and human hands involved. Seeing it first-hand sheds light on exactly what should and shouldn't go in our blue recycling bins:

Blue Bin – YES

Paper, card and cardboard.

Food and drink cans, steel or aluminium, rinsed.

Aerosol cans without their lids.

Plastic bottles (“as long as it’s bottle-shaped, we want it”), any shape, any colour, with or without lids, and now including trigger bottles.

Don't bag them - mechanical and manual sorting methods need loose items.

What happens to Blue Bin waste?

This high grade waste is sorted, separated, bailed, and sold to recycling and manufacturing companies to produce re-usable materials and commodities.

Blue Bin – NO, Green Bin – YES

Shredded paper, which is a fire hazard in the machinery at West Sleekburn, and causes expensive technical problems for paper mills.

Wrapping paper if it bounces back when you scrunch it up, or, as with many greetings cards, is decorated with glitter or other materials.

Yoghurt & margarine tubs and other food pots, tubs and trays, as these are low-grade plastics for which there is no market. They are also often unclean and contaminate recyclable paper and card.

Foil food trays – also often contaminated with food.

Food waste.

What happens to this waste?

It is sent to the Energy from Waste facility on Teesside where it is burnt and currently produces 9.6MW p.a. of electricity, enough to power a town the size of Morpeth for a year. Aluminium and steel are recovered from the ash.

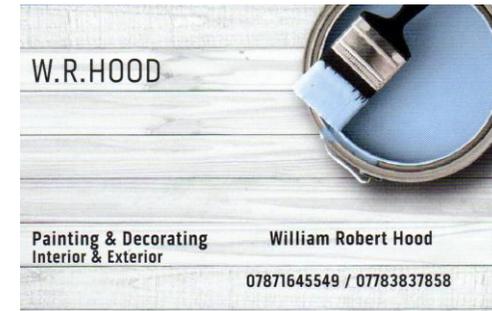
And the rest?

Take glass, metal, garden waste, and all mixed materials items to your local Household Waste Recovery Centre (Alnwick for us) and use the appropriate skips or containers. Clothing and textiles should go to charity shops or clothing banks. Some waste still goes to landfill, such as difficult bulky items like mattresses, but it is down from 93.2% in 2001-02 to 14.8% (22,000 tons) in 2017-18, still too much in NCC's eyes, but there are plans in development to further improve recycling.

Suzanne Stanley, NotM&S Parish Council

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Advert



Events at Jubilee Hall, Newton on the Moor

Our **August Coffee Morning** will be on **Saturday 10th August**. We just about managed to sit outside for the July coffee morning, so let's hope we can do that again in August. As usual there will be plenty of cakes and Jen's gorgeous assortment of scones to eat in or take away.

The **September Coffee Morning** will be held on **Saturday 14th**, as usual at 10.00.

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** will resume on Thursday afternoons from 5.30 – 6.15 on 5th September. No previous Pilates experience is necessary and Alix Westgarth-Taylor explains that this is exercise without stress or running about. Details from Alixwestgarthtaylor@hotmail.com.

The **Alnwick Fiddle Club** continues to meet on the first Wednesday of the month. **Alnwick Pipers Club** is taking a break in August but resumes on 1st September. For both these activities contact Susan Clarke on 01665 711 977. **The Alnwick Accordion Club** is also taking a break; meetings resume on Wednesday 11th September – contact Jimmy Little - 01665 576 681.

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 Newton-on-the-moor.btck.co.uk

Alison Gallico, Jubilee Hall Secretary.

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Wind Musicians

The wheels are in motion to create a concert / wind band to perform a concert in December using players from the Felton, Swarland and the local area. It has naturally emerged from the various ensembles clustered under Felton Music umbrella.

We hope to attract players of wind instruments which normally make up the standard concert band including percussion. It is envisaged that rehearsals will take place locally on Wednesday evenings, starting in September. As there will not be many rehearsals before the proposed concert, players need to be of intermediate level (e.g. grade 4 and above) and to be able to read music proficiently.

If you are interested please contact Derek at sanddbelshaw@gmail.com or 07891 245 201.

The Great North Run, Sunday 8th September 2019

Postie Pete (Swarland's Postman) has entered to run again this year.

Thank you to all for your support these last two years. This year I'm running on behalf of Coeliac UK, a charity for people who have the disease, (including my recently diagnosed son) and need to live gluten free.

If you'd like to sponsor me please see me personally or contact me on my mobile 07739 315 050 or go to www.justgiving.com/fundraising/peterunsforcoeliac.

Advert

FALWAY PRIVATE HIRE **AIRPORT AND STATION FARES**

Don't worry about car parking whilst on holiday. Relax and let Falway Private hire take the strain.

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

Empowering Communities

This new project was launched in June by NCC, in partnership with Northumbria Healthcare Foundation Trust. It's designed to improve the links between health services and local community-based activities.

A key element of the project involves the recruitment of five 'Locality Coordinators,' one for each Local Council area as identified by NCC.

From November, the tasks of these Coordinators during their initial six months are as follows:

- Build links with communities, the Voluntary & Community Sector, businesses, NCCI, GPs, Northumbria staff, town and parish councils, development trusts.
- Work in partnership with local communities to map and mobilise the knowledge, skills and time of individuals and the resources ('assets') within communities, develop new and existing assets, and link people to assets.
- Use participatory methods with communities and wider stakeholders in that locality to find out what would strengthen those assets.
- Support existing, or set up new, locality network(s) and forums.
- Explore with communities the need for, and best way of, developing a county-wide directory of groups, organisations and services that includes locality-specific information.
- Agree with communities and other stakeholders the best approach(es) for that locality.

The five posts will continue until March 2021, during which time the aim will be to implement the findings from the first 6 months and embed any good practice as far as possible.

In North Northumberland our Locality Coordinator is Ruth Armstrong. It would be of great benefit to Ruth to be informed of any community groups in this area for asset mapping purposes and such information can be passed on directly via the details below.

If you are part of a group or would like to set up a group and require some support with funding activities or physical support from the team, please get in touch with Ruth (see below) and she can come and meet with you to discuss this further.

Ruth Armstrong, Locality Coordinator N Northumberland, Northumbria Healthcare Trust, Bell View, Belford at 07967 809 325 or Ruth.Armstrong@northumbria-healthcare.nhs.uk

Vyner Park News

This is my first Vyner Park News after taking over from Suzanne as Chairman. I would like to thank Suzanne for all her hard work and for leaving the Park and Pavilion in good order with an enthusiastic management team. She will be a hard act to follow.

If you have any issues or suggestions for the Park, then please contact me – details are below. We are also always looking for volunteers to help with various projects, so again, if you would like to help then please contact me.

Rabbit Control Measures

Over the last few weeks, routine inspections of the playing field have revealed significant damage caused by rabbits attempting to dig new burrows. These holes create a potential safety hazard for anyone playing on the field and therefore the Management Committee has little choice but to try to remedy the situation. Although the holes can be filled in when discovered, the number indicates that there is a large rabbit community living on the playing field borders. After taking advice from local pest controllers, the Committee has decided that the rabbit population requires controlling, and the most effective way to do this is by shooting. Therefore, a licensed (and insured) pest controller will be employed over the next few months – they will shoot only at night and will be using a high-powered air rifle. Appropriate warning signage will be erected at entrances when this activity is taking place.

Outdoor Gym

In the last issue of the Column it was mentioned that there had been some interest in an outdoor gym area, adjacent to the existing children's play area. Our County Councillor has kindly agreed to contribute £2000 pounds to the project from his personal County fund, but we still need volunteers to lead the project and raise an additional £4000. If anyone is out there willing to help, please get in touch. We cannot do it on our own and need more help. Equally, it would be a great shame to lose the £2000 – it will not be available for ever.

Steve Woolfrey on behalf of the VPC Management Team 01670 787 883

Building Noise - a reminder

Complaints from Swarland residents would seem to indicate that some builders working on individual projects are not abiding by the nationally adopted regulations (under the 1974 Control of Pollution Act), which are **that there should be no noisy building work (diggers, stone-cutters etc) on Sundays or Bank Holidays, or outside the hours 8am - 6pm Monday - Friday and 8am - 1pm Saturday.**

If you are aware of infringements, note dates and times and contact Northumberland County Council.

NotM&S Parish Council

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Swarland Tree Belt – what you can do to manage it

Those of you who own part of the tree belt included in the Woodland Cover Protection Order on Leamington Lane and The Avenue are well aware that technically you've had to submit a planning application to remove anything tree-shaped, regardless of size and whether self-seeded or otherwise. Unless you've been prepared to do this, it has been very difficult to avoid over-crowding and provide the best conditions for you and for the trees. After consultation with NCC, we've received the following decision:

It is considered that the definition of a tree as given in the Trees in a [Building] Conservation Area legislation can be applied to trees within the Swarland Woodland TPOs. The definition is as follows: "A tree in this instance is defined as anything with a stem diameter above 75mm when measured at [a height of] 1.5 metres".

This means that in order to manage your woodland effectively, you can remove anything under that stem diameter without obtaining permission, if you think it is causing overcrowding or is in the wrong place. NCC reminds us that this a) **does not** remove the need to apply for planning permission to remove anything exceeding this definition except for removing deadwood, and b) **does not** change the requirement to replace protected trees with suitable alternatives and within the time specified. We should also remember that the tree belt is subject to a *Woodland Cover Order*, and aim to retain and protect this valuable woodland with its mature trees, an understorey of native shrubs and (if we're lucky) woodland flowers. Not only is it a reminder that The Avenue was the entrance to Swarland Hall, but also ensures that the village retains its attractive tree cover, and acts as a wildlife corridor.

Suzanne Stanley, NotM&S Parish Council

Advert

Pest Management Services

Fully licensed and insured

Moles, Rodents, Rabbits,
Wasps and other insects.

Contact Rory Brotherton
01670 788 174 or 07769 176 666

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.



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