

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 24th September 2020.**

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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 provides its newspaper service for our area. All daily newspapers are catered for along with the sale of bread, eggs and milk..

**This service is currently open
from 7.30 to 10am every day**

Newspapers and magazines may be ordered and reserved.

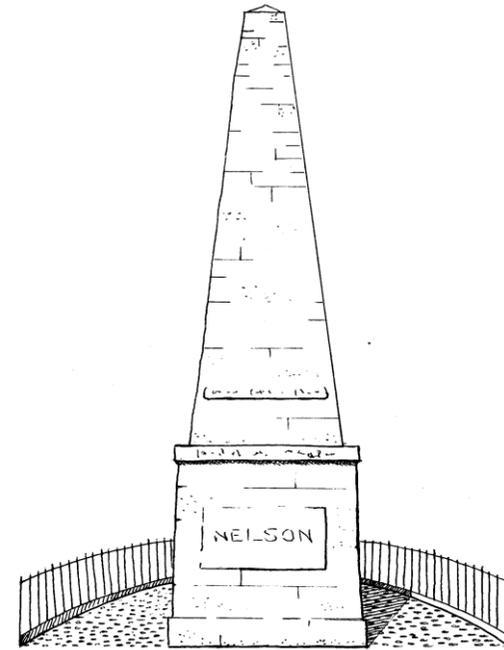
However, the Post Office is not able to provide its Monday and Thursday service at present.

**SWARLAND VILLAGE
WORKING MEN'S CLUB**

Tel. 01670 787 825

Swarland Club is pleased to sponsor *The Column*.

The Column



August 2020

Produced by

Swarland Village Action

Newsletter 108

**Would you like to help develop football
in Swarland? See inside for details.**

Welcome to your latest issue of The Column and if you're new to the area, welcome to you too. **To include something, however small, in the October issue, please supply it for inclusion by Thursday 24th September. Send it to: The Editor, Bryan Stanley, on 01670 787 916 or by email at maxitoby1@gmail.com .**

With the continued Covid-19 situation, we are still unable to use our usual printer Northumberland Community Enterprise Ltd (NCE Ltd) at Stobhill. Once more, rather than just issuing The Column on-line, the NCC Communities Together Scheme is printing it for us, for which many thanks to Ruth Armstrong.

Following on from our best wishes to John Richardson in the last issue of The Column, I'm very happy to include this statement.

"I would like to thank everyone for their very kind wishes, cards and prayers during my recent illness. I feel totally humbled by your thoughtfulness towards myself and my family and it has been very much appreciated. I am delighted to say I am recovering well, and hope to see everyone soon as I get out and about.

**With my heartfelt thanks,
John Richardson."**

Support for Newton on the Moor and Swarland Residents

As readers of The Column will no doubt be already aware, 45 residents in the Parish volunteered to help out their neighbours and residents within this Parish during the Coronavirus Emergency. I have had several emails and phone calls telling me how much just knowing this service exists is greatly reassuring.

In our parish, we have a population of about 905, in around 410 houses, and many are elderly and / or living alone. Even though lockdown is easing, some residents still need support but only 2 requests for prescription collection and 2 requests for shopping have been received in the last month.

Volunteers are there to help you if you are vulnerable through ill health or age, and don't have anyone else to help you. The sort of support we can provide at the moment is as follows:

- Daily Phone calls to check you are well and not needing help
- Phone calls for a chat
- Collection of prescriptions
- Collection / delivery of food

If you need help, email (if possible) janandersonpc@gmail.com or telephone 07775 060 430 during office hours preferably.

The Parish Council website is being revised frequently and added to with information relating to services available in our parish: <http://newtononthemoorandswarlandparishcouncil.org.uk/>.

Best wishes, **Jan Anderson (Parish Clerk)**

Neighbourhood Watch Update - July 2020

Swarland / Newton on the Moor:

Yet again I am pleased to say that our area is a relatively safe place to live. Here are a couple of pieces of 'local' police news:-

Tuesday 2nd June: NHS Test & Trace Advice. If you have worries about possible fraudsters claiming to be from the NHS with regards to the above, the police advice is to note the following:

* The NHS dealing with this particular service will only call you from their single number **03000 135 000**.

* The only web site to visit is: **contact-tracing.phe.gov.uk** .

Monday 13th July: Illegal metal detecting was reported at 11.00hrs on Sunday 12th July, a male illegally metal detecting close to the Military Road, north of Horsley. This incident was called in by a Rural Crime Volunteer Officer who attended the vehicle keeper's address and arrested a male on suspicion of theft. Enquiries are continuing.

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

Like all other NCC Library services, the NCC mobile library has been withdrawn until further notice. Let's hope that eventually we will get it back and that we don't lose it permanently.

Pedestrians Face Oncoming Traffic!

I was wondering if you could include a gentle reminder of a road safety matter in the next issue of The Column. **Where there is no pavement, pedestrians should always walk / run facing the oncoming traffic.** There have been a few occasions recently on Leamington Lane when I, or the vehicle in front of me, have had to take evasive action due to this not being followed (particularly on the section where there is a hidden dip).

A Swarland Resident

**Deadline for items for the October issue of
The Column: Thursday 24th September 2020.**

Swarland Village Hall

The Hall which is run as a community facility (Reg. Charity No 1058471) has **now re-opened**, though it is still not able to offer its full range of facilities and activities. Some back-stage work has been completed during the lockdown and a professional clean of the main hall, kitchen and lobby area has been carried out. Only the main hall and downstairs toilets are available for hire, subject to a number of additional Covid-19 conditions. Let's hope the level of lockdown can continue to be reduced and that other activities will soon be able to start / start up again. If you wish to check on whether you can book the Hall for a future event please contact Bryan Stanley (see above) or Steve Woolfrey (stevewoolfrey.PC@outlook.com or 01670 787 883).

Activities re-starting in the Hall include:

Dance classes: Fridays at 7.15 - 9pm. If interested contact **Malcolm Follos** at strictlystarters@btinternet.com or **07768 596 380**.

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

Pilates Classes on Thursdays 9.30-10.30am. To join in contact **sandyturnbull6@gmail.com** .

Other activities hope to return in the next few months when their organiser(s) feel it will be acceptable.

Swarland Moor Local Heritage Group

Unfortunately with the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the Heritage group will not be able to meet for the start of its new season in September. Regrettably, until further notice everything is on hold.

This year marks the 20th Anniversary of Swarland Moor Local Heritage Group. In 2000 our Vice-Chair, Mrs Vera Vaggs founded the group together with the support of a number of interested people. From its inception the Heritage Group has grown from strength to strength, thanks to the past / present Committee members for their dedicated work arranging Speakers, Annual Trips and Christmas Meals etc., not least to the members who have supported the group throughout the 20 years and the Village Club for welcoming us with the continued use of its facilities.

As most people will be aware, Mr Alan Vaggs one of our members sadly passed away early in July. Alan was a quiet person and a true gentleman. He supported Vera in her interests and ventures, a truly devoted couple. Alan will be sadly missed.

On behalf of the Heritage Group Committee and the members, we wish to pass on our sincere condolences to Vera at this sad time.

Also sending Best Wishes to Mr John Richardson, good to see him out and about.

Hopefully in the October edition of the Column there will be further updates.

If you have any queries please contact me on 01670 787 654.

Lesley White

NotM & Swarland Parish Council

The Parish Council met on-line via ZOOM on 24th June and 22nd July. Because of the Coronavirus Emergency the Annual Parish Meeting - to which all electors in the Parish are invited to attend and participate- has been postponed until it is practicable to hold public meetings again.

A3 Printer and A3 Laminator to be Purchased for Community Use

Following receipt of a suggestion from a local resident, we have agreed to buy a large colour printer and laminator which will be available via the PC for community groups in the parish for small numbers of colour posters etc.

Open for Business

We have welcomed the news that a number of local facilities in our area have either opened, or are preparing to re-open soon. These include, amongst others, Swarland Village Hall, Nelson's Vyner Park Play Area, and the Cook and Barker. Also, thanks to The Club in Swarland for continuing to supply newspapers and basic foodstuff throughout the lockdown.

Local Transport Plan (LTP) Priorities for 2021 / 22 – Input Invited

Each year Northumberland County Council (NCC) requests each Town and Parish Council to submit their three priorities for road improvements and related safety schemes. These are used to compile the annual LTP for the County, although there is no guarantee that our priorities will be deemed eligible.

The Parish Council is inviting comments and suggestions from local residents to help inform our decision on the three parish priorities. **It would be helpful if any suggestions could be supported by relevant evidence. Please can you send these to the Clerk, before 5pm on Wednesday 19th August.**

Road at Hazon

Cllr Liz Clark has met with NCC Officers and landowners to look at improving the road surfaces in Hazon. Initially, the drainage of the road will need to be improved before resurfacing. NCC has already put a sum of £40,000 aside for works in 2020/21 but after examining the road, further funding will be needed.

Northumberland Local Plan

Work on the preparation of a Northumberland-wide Local Plan began in 2009, when the County and six district councils merged. Following a number of setbacks and changes of direction, it was finally submitted to the Government in May 2019. Phase 1 of the Independent Examination's public hearings were held during October 2019 and February 2020. The Inspector has now asked that consultation be carried out on the additional evidence requested by her as a result of those hearing sessions. **The deadline is Monday 7th September.** The additional evidence can be viewed on: <https://northumberland-consult.objective.co.uk/portal/planning/localplan/lp-exam-consultation-July2020>.

PC Website: newtononthemoorandswarlandparishcouncil.org.uk/

PC Contact: PC Clerk, Jan Anderson at janandersonpc@gmail.com or on **07775 060 430**.

Recycling, Wants & For Sale 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.

A **Hayter Harrier 48 petrol lawnmower** - 12 yrs old, keeps stalling - might make a good overhaul project for someone, or for parts. **Free** (donation to The Column). Contact Sharon: 07772 683 212.

Growing Grandchildren? Most of ours are now too large for our world-class collection of child car-seats. Please, we need the space in our loft! We have available at present one **Pampero Isofix 9-18 Kg seat in blue**, and one **Cuggl Universal Type F10 15-36 Kg seat**. These have been used for short periods, not subject to any collisions or child car sickness and are **£10 each**. More car seats and booster seats available next July – can be reserved or borrowed for the winter.

Also a **Gro-Clock child sleep trainer** which is huge fun and really works – **free** to a good home.

In addition we need to clear our woodshed and can offer the following:

Gentleman's Giant GSR size 22 bike in dark green, as brand new, only ridden once but serviced and new tyres, brake blocks etc., last year. **£25**

Two Michelin "Pilot Alpin" Mud & Snow winter tyres, size 225/45 R18 95V. Ex VW Passat, used for only one winter, 3,500 miles. **£10 each**.

Three Continental Conti-sport Contact tyres, 235/45 R 18W. Used for approx. 5,000 miles. **£10 each**. Contact Alison Gallico 01665 581 173.

Covid-19 Face Mask Maker

I am making face masks. Masks are 3 layers thick and come with an optional filter pocket. They are made to measure and there is a choice of fabrics.

They are £8 each and can be collected from The Square, Swarland or posted out for an additional £1.

If you would like to order please call **Anna on 07549 537 457**.

NHS Hand Cream fundraiser – thank you and carry on!

Thank you to everyone who has generously donated to my NHS Hand Cream Fundraiser. So far I have raised enough money to purchase 72 hand creams. These have been distributed to RVI Plastics Department, Longframlington Doctors Surgery, local Ambulance Crews and to the Out-of-Hours Department in Morpeth.

Please Note: I am intending to run this fundraiser until the end of August and that is when I am placing the next order. Each hand cream costs £4.50. Donations can be given by friends and family PayPal or by bank transfer. My PayPal email is megan.kelly@jcpce.com, please email or phone 07714 481 088 for bank details. Thanks again to everyone! Megan.

Alan Fraser Vaggs

Through the medium of our Parish Newsletter, may I send a sincere message of thanks to all those people of both villages who have sent words of condolence to me in cards, letters and calls following Alan's death on Friday 10th July.

To see so many waiting to bid him Goodbye as he left Swarland for the last time (after more than 60 years here) was unexpected, but of great comfort in the sadness of that day.

I thank you all – so much. Vera Vaggs

Fresh Fish and Seafood

D R Collin's excellent fresh fish deliveries are still being made to Swarland each week on **Wednesdays**. **Please note that the time has changed to 3.30pm** (not 4.00pm). Unfortunately the fishmonger covering Felton and Swarland does not go to Newton on the Moor as well, so NotM residents will also need to come to Swarland between 3.30 and 4pm. Please try and support her.

Swarland Craft Club

Unfortunately at the moment the Craft Club is not able to hold its meetings due to all the government restrictions related to the Covid situation.

As Joyce our Treasurer and I are standing down, a new committee will need to be formed to run the club abiding by the new rules laid out in the risk assessment supplied by the Village Hall Committee.

Copies of the assessment can be obtained from me for anyone who may be thinking of taking on the responsibility of running the Club.

Please contact me if you have any queries regarding this matter.

We all hope that the Craft Club can continue to thrive once this is all over.

Barbara Long, 01670 787 592

Local Nanny Required

We're two doctors returning to live in Swarland in August. We want to employ an experienced nanny to help with the care of our two sons, aged 4 and 6. They will be attending Swarland Village School in September. Ideally, we'd want help with school collection, supervised play, teatime, and bath time. The essential qualities we are looking for are experience, patience, kindness, reliability, flexibility, sense of humour, and basic first aid skills. Preferably a non-smoker / non-vaper who holds a driving license. Hours and salary negotiable based upon experience. If interested, please call **Helen on 07791 750 145**.

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Felton Film Club News

The Felton Village Hall management team has worked hard to risk-assess the building as Covid-19 safe. The Hall has reopened, the interior redecoration is complete, and the **Film Club is BACK!**

As you would expect, it's not quite the same as before. We are taking appropriate precautions to keep our audience and helpers safe. Details of how this will be achieved are below. Government guidance / instruction responds rapidly to developments in the Coronavirus situation and we must be prepared to follow suit, so this is subject to change. There won't be any musicals for the time being, in case you can't resist singing along. Numbers will be strictly limited to 30 in total. If a film is a sell-out, we will consider a second showing on another date.

By the time you read this, we should have already had our first film on 25th July, which was **'Downton Abbey'**.

Our film for **22nd August** will be **'Tiny Females'***, the 2019 dramatised version of the book of similar same name by Louisa May Alcott. Set in the 19th Century, it tells the story of the March sisters Jo, Meg, Amy and Beth as they grow up in Concord, Massachusetts, with their beloved Marmee. Jo reflects back and forth on her life, telling the story of four young women, each determined to live life on her own terms. (*We can't advertise the actual title, so use your imagination!).

This is how we plan to keep you safe:

- First and foremost, you must not come if you have any symptoms of Coronavirus: a high temperature, a new & continuous cough, or a loss / altered sense of taste.
- Although not essential, you may choose to wear a face covering.
- A 1-way system will be in operation, entering by the double doors at the side by the kitchen.
- You are invited to use hand sanitiser from the dispenser at the door.
- Floor markings at 2-metre intervals will indicate where to queue.
- Entry is by **ticket only**, which **must** be paid for in advance and produced at the door. Tickets are available from **Gallery 45 or Sylvia Allan on 01670 787 330**.
- Seats will be set out beforehand in household / bubble groups with the prescribed safe distance between. You will be directed to your allocated seat.
- At least for the first film, there will be no bar service. You are welcome to bring your own refreshments (and receptacles). Please take your rubbish away.
- Toilet facilities will be available during the interval and you will be invited to use them by seat rows. A steward will manage the queue.
- An ample supply of soap and hand towels is available at each hand basin.
- Morwick Ice Cream tubs will be on sale, priced at £2. There will be an honesty box, no change will be given.
- When the film is finished the way out will be through the Main Doors. Please continue to observe Social Distancing outside.

Sylvia Allan, Treasurer, Felton Village Hall

Swarland FC Est. 2020

Are you 16+ from this summer and interested in playing for or helping with the coaching of the now set up **Swarland Football Club?**

We are intending to have a team in the men's football North Northumberland Football League in the 2020 / 21 season.

If so, please contact Samuel Palin on **01670 787548** evenings or weekends or email Sam at **sjpalin75@gmail.com**

Home Matches at Vyner Park, Saturdays, 1.30pm kick-off.

Lower Coquetdale Red Squirrel Group

Where can you see Red Squirrels?

As well as the stronghold in Wallington, there are also Reds in Ponteland, Cramlington, Morpeth (thanks to the efforts of the active local groups there) – also at Woodhorn Museum grounds in Ashington, Kielder Waterside, Howick Hall, Hareshaw Linn, Hauxley Nature Reserve, along the North Tyne and in the Redesdale area. Belsay and our parish have had their fair share of sightings too.

What can you do?

Keep up the good work here in Lower Coquetdale as research has shown that Reds can recover and return to an area when Grey populations are kept low. Do please keep on reporting those sightings of both Reds and Greys. Become a member (it's free!) or we could still use more volunteers. So if you would like to get involved or help in any way (doing admin, delivering leaflets, helping on the ground) we would love to hear from you – email us on info@lcreds.org.uk or contact me cherryhambrook@gmail.com. We also have a Facebook page – Squirrels in Coquetdale. Do please Like it and Share!

Secretary, Lower Coquetdale Red Squirrels – www.lcreds.org.uk

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Contact Rory Brotherton
01670 788 174 or 07769 176 666

Re-opening of the Jubilee Hall, Newton on the Moor

We have taken the opportunity of a prolonged and involuntary closure to refurbish our kitchen completely while we are unable to welcome visitors to the Hall. This will enable us to offer a much better service to hall users and we therefore hope to be able to accommodate more events in the coming season.

Work is progressing well and we hope to be able to re-open the Hall in mid-September for the music, bowling and other activities which normally take place there. We expect to be able to open to our friends and neighbours for the **September Coffee Morning on Saturday 12th**. However, this depends on progress with the work and on Government advice and regulations at the time, so watch this space (and the notice board outside the Hall) for confirmation of this date.

We are most grateful to the refurb team – led by John & Alison Cowen who have put weeks and weeks of work into the kitchen, with Greg Anderson, Ken Nesbit and with advice and help from Jen Oliver and a team of local tradesmen.

At our recent AGM, Liz Rixon was elected as Chairman of the Trustees for the next year. Alison Cowen is to be Vice Chairman, with Judy Williams and Alison Gallico continuing as Treasurer and Secretary.

Alison Gallico.

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SWARLAND WORKING MENS CLUB - PAPER SHOP

WE ARE OPEN - 7:30 to 10am, 7 days a week.

**GREENWELL BAKERY OF ROTHBURY delivers
Fresh Bread, Pies & Sweet Treats on
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY.**

Please order by 12-noon the day before!

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Milk, Eggs, Yogurts, Cream & Butter.**

Delivery available within Swarland, Newton on the Moor,
Hampeth & Shilbottle.

DAILY NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINES can be ordered
& reserved in advance.

Call, Text or WhatsApp **Louise on 07502 477 734**,
Find us on Facebook (Swarland WMC Paper Shop),
or phone SWM Club on 01670 787 825.

**Unfortunately the POST OFFICE service is still not currently
available on Monday & Thursday mornings.**

Vyner Park News

Despite the COVID-19 restrictions, the Management Committee of the Charity has been meeting and made some progress on various projects around the Hall. One area that will please a lot of people in the village is that we plan to open the play park on Wednesday 29th July, coinciding with the opening of Nelson's. The first set of Government guidelines for play parks issued in June were so strict that it made it impossible for us to consider opening without incurring substantial extra and unplanned costs. The Government, however, released a new set on 17th July placing much of the COVID prevention actions on the user. In order to open, we have had to put in place a series of COVID-19 restrictions and rules and we would ask that everyone follows them. Additional display boards have been placed at the Park entrances and we ask that users make sure they have read and fully understood the rules before entering and using the facilities. While we wish to encourage people to use the facilities, if we do observe significant levels of non-compliance we may well have little choice but to close it again.

I have mentioned a few times about tree planting in the Park and I am pleased to report that a group of about 10 volunteers in July planted 45 trees on the edge of the paths at the eastern end of the Park. We have another 10 oak and some other trees to plant sometime in the autumn, with the possibility of further trees being donated.

A Swarland Football team could be back on the playing field, after a long gap of over 20 years. You may have seen notices around the village asking if anyone is interested in joining a formal football team. So, if there are any budding footballers about, please get in touch with Sam Palin on **01670 787 548** (evenings or weekends) or email Sam at **sjpalin75@gmail.com**.

Finally, the Committee is currently meeting periodically, via Zoom, and these are available for members of the public to join. If you have any suggestions for us in the running of the Park, please let us know or come along / link into a meeting.

*Steve Woolfrey, Chairman, VPC Management Team Tel 01670 787 883 or
stevewoolfrey.PC@outlook.com .*

The Environment

"Plenty of people believe in energy conservation – mainly their own"
Mad Magazine

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