

Swarland Village Action Group Committee:

Chairman: Vacant, Secretary / Editor: Bryan Stanley, Treasurer: Susan Richardson.

Committee Members: David Bradbrook, Robert & Sue Brotherton, Neil Mansfield, John Richardson, Suzanne Stanley, Caroline Thomas.

Write it Down Now !!!

Please supply information for inclusion in the October issue by **Wednesday 28th September 2016.**



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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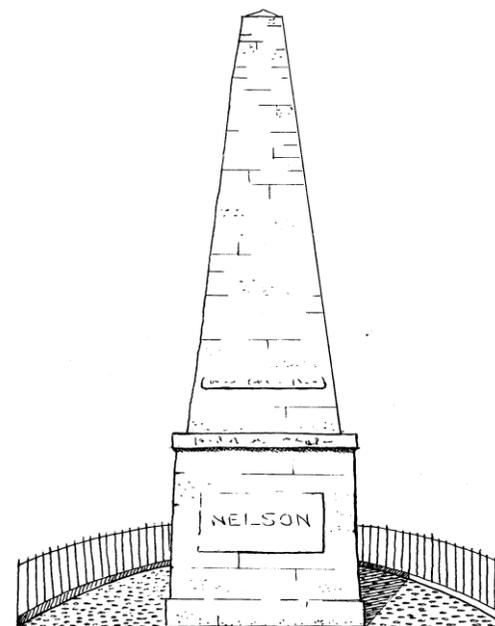
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WORKING MEN'S CLUB**

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Swarland Club is pleased to sponsor *The Column*.

The Column



August 2016

Produced by

**Swarland Village Action
Newsletter 84**

**Show schedules available now.
For more details - 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 Wednesday 28th September.**

Please 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.**

Swarland Moor Local Heritage Group

Our last speaker before the summer break, Chris Hunwick, the Archivist at Alnwick Castle, treated us to a fascinating talk about the archives. We learned about archers' equipment from hundreds of years ago and also painstaking work being undertaken researching members of the Castle staff lost in the First World War so that their names can be added to the Castle memorial. The varied number of questions reflected the great interest Chris aroused.

Our speaker on 13th September will be Mr Peter Cryer, who is part of a group called Old English. They use performances with songs, guitar, whistle and Northumbrian small pipes to illustrate their talk entitled "Pressed". This mainly focuses on the role of the notorious Press Gang which operated in the north east and forced enlistment into the navy.

In October John Davies will be talking about the "Excavations of Lower Hauxley".

The remaining talks for the year are entitled "The Greys of Fallodon and Howick" - Peter Regan; the "Swarland Settlement" - Vera Vaggs; "Acton Hall and Acton House" (just across the A1 from us) - Eleanor George; "King Arthur, Local Boy made Good" - Michael Thomson; "Be amazed, Belsay"- Geoff Hughes and "Sons of the Desert - Laurel and Hardy" - Freda Thompson. I hope there is something there for everyone. I'm looking forward very much to this year's programme.

Membership subscription for the year from September will remain at £10 per person for the year, to cover the eight meetings. Whilst our members are our lifeblood, we appreciate that you may just want to hear a particular speaker or talk. You will be very welcome indeed. Charges for visitors are £2.50 per person. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Swarland Village Club.

Any enquiries about the Heritage Group, please ring 01670 787 121.

Looking forward to seeing you.

Caroline Thomas



Neighbourhood Watch Update: April / May 2016

SWARLAND / LONGFRAMLINGTON

Between 12 noon Saturday 11th June & 7.30am Monday 13th June, a burglary occurred at an empty property in Park Road, Swarland. The offender(s) gained access to the rear of the building by smashing a window and taking items from inside. A number of tools / lawn-mower were removed, to a value of £420.00.

Between 2pm on Thursday 16th June & 9am Sunday 19th June, a caravan was broken into at a site in the Longframlington area. The offender(s) gained access to the caravan and stole items valued at over £1000, which included two tvs and two mountain bikes.

Between 7.30pm Friday 24th June & 7am Saturday 25th June, offender(s) broke into storage areas at the new housing development in Longframlington, Fenwick Park and stole tools valued at over £3000. These included Stanley hand tools (hammers / 10" bolt lever / spirit level / mash hammer), a jet wash, and a Stihl saw.

A purse was stolen from a coat pocket on the evening of Friday 17th June between the hours of 7.30pm & 9.30pm. This occurred whilst the owner was inside a public house.

Between 7pm Tuesday 28th June & 7.30am Wednesday 29th June, an attempt was made to steal a quad bike from a farm in the Longframlington area. The theft was unsuccessful but damage was caused to a chain and padlock securing the vehicle.

A report of a family based dispute was received from an address in the Longframlington area. Officers spoke to all parties; a formal harassment warning was issued to one party.

Residents are reminded that if they have any concerns as to the well-being of neighbours / family / friends, then please contact the police. Or you can contact an independent domestic violence body that will be happy to speak to you, such as - National Centre For Domestic Violence on 0844 8044 999 or www.hcdv.org.uk , or Women's Aid on 0808 2000 247.

A/Sgt 2867 Paul SYKES, Rothbury Police Station, Tel 101 ext 61353, e-mail paul.sykes.2867@northumbria.pnn.police.uk .

If you have information on any crime, please contact the following numbers: Emergency issues 999, Non emergency issues Tel. 101.

Contact Rothbury Police by e-mail alnwick.npt.northumbria.pnn.police.uk or on 101 ext 61353, 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).

Harold Hinchliffe, 2 Nile Drive, Swarland. Tel. 01670 783 669 Mob. 07713 097 250

**Deadline for items for the October issue of
The Column: Wednesday 28th September 2016.**

Mobile Library Dates

The mobile library comes to the parish every other **Wednesday** morning. It stops in **Swarland** opposite **The Square from 10.00 - 11.00am** and in **Newton on the Moor from 11.10 - 11.30am**. If you miss these it's also in **Guyzance** from 11.40am – 12.00 and **Old Felton** from 12.15 – 12.35pm. The next few dates are as follows: **3rd, 17th & 31st August, 14th & 28th September, 12th & 26th October**. Value the service? "Use it or lose it".

Swarland Village Hall Activities

The Hall offers seating space for up to 120 people, a stage with lighting and a modern sound system (plus hearing loop), a kitchen and toilets. The Hall now has a PRS Licence, so hirers can legitimately use music in support of their events.

Please note that it is planned that during August there will be work undertaken to improve the Hall. It is hoped that that there will be no problems, but the Hall Team wishes to apologise to all Hall users in case it does interfere with your usual activities during this period.

Current activities in the Hall include the following:

Boxercise classes on Mondays 5.30 – 6.30pm. £2 / person.

Karate Classes every Tuesday 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. New members welcome. For more information please contact Anne Raine on 07934 425 844.

Swarland Craft Group on Wednesdays from September to July **1.30 – 3.30pm**. £1.00 per session includes refreshments. New members always welcome. For further details ring Margaret 01670 787 705 or Joyce 01670 787 855.

Swarland Carpet Bowls Club on Thursday evenings from August to end of March. New members are always welcome. If you would like to give it a try, just come along. For more information, contact Jack Dobson on 01670 787 836.

If you wish to book the Hall for a group or private use **please contact Bryan Stanley**, details at the front of The Column.

Craft Group Summer Holiday

The Craft Group will be having its usual summer break during July and August.

Sessions will re-commence on Wed. 7th September from 1.30 – 3.30pm.

For further details ring Margaret 01670 787 705 or Joyce 01670 787 855.



NotM & Swarland Parish Council (June / July)

The Parish Council (PC) met on Wednesday 27th July at Jubilee Hall, Newton on the Moor.

Boundary Review

The proposed review of the Parish Boundary was discussed. The PC is asking NCC to review and change the boundary so that the area to the north of Leamington Lane, Swarland (which is currently within Felton Parish) is transferred to NotM&S. The formal request has now been sent to NCC.

Road Conditions within the Parish

Parish Councillors continue to put pressure on NCC to improve the roads within the parish, and whilst pleased that requested repairs have been carried out, especially to the access roads from the A1 to NotM, there are many roads in the parish still in a poor condition.

Swarland & Newton on the Moor Show

The PC is pleased to continue to support the Show, which this year will take place on Saturday 27th August in Vyner Park and all are welcome. Help is needed to set up the Show, and to take it down afterwards; even a couple of hours would be appreciated. If you can help, contact the Clerk [*and see more information about the Show elsewhere in The Column. Ed.*].

Reminder - Bus Service on Wednesdays

The new Spirit Buses service operates on Wednesday afternoons. Several journeys are available in each direction, between Swarland, Percy Wood Caravan Park, NotM and Alnwick, allowing a few hours for shopping, visiting etc. The timetable is displayed on parish notice boards and on the PC website. The service is being operated at no cost to the PC, users don't have to pre-book, and concessionary passes are accepted. Please do make a point of using the service.

Potholes and Fly Tipping

Residents are urged to report potholes, and incidents of fly tipping to NCC on **0345 600 6400**.

Vacancies on the Council

Due to the resignation of Cllrs Heal and Sells, we can now fill these two vacancies by co-option (ie a bye-election is not necessary). Ideally, we would like to appoint people from our entire area (Swarland, NotM, Hazon, Hartlaw) but this will depend on who applies. The PC meets monthly on Wednesday evenings, and there are opportunities to join and contribute to PC committees, such as the Vyner Park Charity Management team.

The appointments will be made by the PC, preferably before the next meeting (24th August). If you would like to be considered, please apply by email to the PC Clerk, by not later than 17th August, with a 'personal statement' (max. 250 words) telling us about yourself and what you can offer to the role.

If you have any comments or queries please contact the PC Clerk, Jan Anderson at 16 Newton on the Moor, Morpeth NE65 9JY.

Tel. 01665 575 145 or jananderson3000@gmail.com .

Swarland First School News



We are delighted to report that Swarland First School received a **GOOD** grading in our recent Ofsted inspection. Swarland First School was inspected in May for the first time since it was previously rated **good** in September 2010, but in the interim, the Ofsted inspection regime has become tougher.

The grading reflects the hard work of our pupils, staff and Governors. In her letter reporting on the outcome, Her Majesty's Inspector, Fiona Manuel, said:

"The leadership team has maintained the good quality of education in the school since the last inspection. Pupils are recognised and celebrated as individuals. Each pupil's interests and capabilities are of prime importance as you develop a creative curriculum to meet their collective needs. The views of pupils and parents, as well as staff, are seen as vital ingredients in shaping improvement planning to realise shared goals. In this way, an inclusive and nurturing environment in which all are invested, has emerged.

You have developed a creative curriculum that aims to stimulate pupils' interest, capture their imagination and inspire them to practise and develop new skills as well as strengthen their existing capabilities. This means pupils' behaviour in lessons is good and their attitudes to learning, positive. Similarly this enriching of the curriculum is preparing pupils well for the next stage in their school career and for later life.

Pupils are friendly, happy and get along well together. They are unfailingly polite and extremely respectful of adults. Pupils state with certainty that bullying does not happen in their school and they are confident that any infrequent misbehaviour is dealt with firmly and fairly by adults. Pupils describe each other as kind and well-mannered. All parents agree that pupils are well taught and all would recommend the school to others."

Queen's Birthday

Thank you to Swarland and Newton-on-the-Moor Parish Council who kindly bought each child in our school a commemorative medal to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday. Helen Handyside from the Parish Council came to school to make a special presentation to each child in an assembly.

Louise Fletcher, Head Teacher

Advert

Local Pilates Classes

Felton Village Hall

Friendly, established class. Come along and tone your muscles and strengthen your back.

All ages welcome 16+.

Courses start up after the Summer, Monday 5th September, 5.30pm - 6.15pm.

£60 per 8-week course OR £8.50 pay as you go.

Please contact: alixwestgarthtaylor@hotmail.com.

Show Piece

This year's Show is scheduled for Bank Holiday **Saturday 27th August**. We have all the usual attractions on offer, including vintage vehicles & motor cycles, fun dog-show & have-a-go dog / human agility, Alnwick Playhouse Concert Band, lots of crafts & stalls including locally produced beer & ice cream.

Children's activities are again free on entry.

Schedules of the categories in the exhibition tent are available from show team members, Nelson's, the Village Club, Percy Wood & distribution points on Coast View & Nelson Drive.

Raffle tickets are also available to purchase at these points, with a great selection of prizes on offer, all generously donated by local business & families.

As a small team, we really need a bit of extra help over the show weekend. We'd be grateful, if people who are able to spare an hour or two on any of these days (Show Day in particular), could contact me on 01670 787 078 or Claire Preston on 01670 787 475.

We would also be grateful for donations for our cake stall - we are happy to refund the cost of the ingredients.

Any other queries please give us call.

Sue Brotherton, Chair - Swarland & Newton on the Moor Show team

SMLHG Summer Visit

For those of you who haven't yet joined or got to a meeting of Swarland Moor Local Heritage Group, perhaps this will encourage you. The summer visit this year was to Auckland Castle at Bishop Auckland, home of the Zurbaran paintings which have had so much media publicity. It was an exceptional visit, not least because of our entertaining guide, the Library restaurant (for coffee), an excellent lunch in the Pavilion and the very friendly and committed staff. The Palace is closing on 30th September for a lengthy period of restoration, but is worth a trip before that happens.

Our visit also included Escombe Saxon church which is a fascinating little building. Our guide had almost as much to say about individual stones in the external walls as he did about the interior!

Suzanne Stanley

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01670 788 174 or 07769 176 666

Papered Postage Stamps for Red Squirrel Support

Thank you to all of you who passed some papered stamps on to me to add to the kiloware for the Red Squirrel fund.

Remember, don't throw out your old envelopes as I'm happy to take stamps still on a piece of envelope and trim them down, to be bagged up and sold to raise money for Lower Coquetdale Red Squirrels. Anyone willing to pass on their papered stamps, please contact Bryan Stanley – details elsewhere.

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 asked to make a small donation as above.

Vyner Park Management Team

Vyner Park is owned by the Parish Council and managed as the Vyner Park Charity by a team of 5 Parish Councillors and 4 Community Representatives. The team meets formally 4 times / year, plus a lot of informal contact as the need arises.

**There is currently a
VACANCY**

for one Community Representative.

If you are interested in actively contributing to the management and promotion of the facilities and events, we would like to hear from you; we currently lack representation from Percy Wood and those under 25.

For more information, please contact The Secretary, Jan Anderson: janandersonpc@gmail.com or 01665 575 145.

The Vyner Park Management Team

Felton Surgery News Summer 2016

Doctor First

Along with many other practices throughout the country, patients have told us that they are frustrated at the time it can take to see or speak with a GP at their practice. Listening to your feedback we have introduced a new appointment system in Felton called "Doctor First". This system is in operation in many practices around the country including Northumberland.

Our aim is to create a more efficient appointment system with immediate access to a clinician, thereby ensuring that you receive the most appropriate care straight away. The main change to our system will be that our patients will have all their appointments (urgent or routine) with a doctor booked through a doctor after speaking to them on the telephone. Appointments to see one of our practice nurses are booked through reception as before.

Doctor Appointments

When you request an appointment, the receptionist will confirm your contact details as before. We will ask you to confirm your phone number; you will then be put on a list for the doctor to call you back (usually the same morning / afternoon). Our receptionists will ask each patient for the basic details of the nature of their problem. This is so that call-backs can be prioritised appropriately based on clinical need. You can of course decline to give this information.

Some of the advantages to the new system are:

The doctor may be able to deal with your problem while you are on the telephone (eg advice, prescriptions, referrals etc) saving you a journey. If a face-to-face appointment is still needed, then the doctor will ensure that you are given the most appropriate appointment to suit your individual needs. This will mean that you are seen by the most suitable clinician within a suitable time-span (on the same day in most cases). It may be suggested by the doctor, whilst on the phone, that you need further investigations / tests before coming in to see the doctor. Again this saves an unnecessary journey to the Surgery. With this system, we are ensuring that you will be speaking to the person most qualified to assess your problem, rather than a receptionist.

We are always available to answer any questions you might have. If you would like to speak to any of us privately this can always be arranged.

Ask us if you would like to order your medication on-line. This can be set up very easily for you at Reception. It must be done in person and you may be asked for photographic ID. You can also book appointments on-line using this system.

Contact the practice by phone on 01670 787 353 or visit our website for further info www.feltonsurgery.nhs.uk.

We aim to provide the highest quality service to the community we care about.

Music Activities in Felton

Over the last year we've been trying out various music activities for adults. They are all held in Felton, but word has got out and a number of people who live outside the village come to join in. If you haven't already picked up information about what is available and might like to take part, you will be very welcome.

The Bridge Singers, a four part choir that gives concerts, meets on Monday evenings. All the other activities are organised by Felton Music. These are not about giving performances, except incidentally. The focus is on enjoying participating in music close to home, and, for those who want, improving skills and knowledge. Where there are charges, these are to cover premises hire, materials and refreshments.

There's a regular Drop-In Singing session on a Tuesday evening – singing in company for the fun of it, with no need to read music, have a “good voice” or make it every time. We're just about to start a madrigal singing group to give people a chance to improve their music reading, and there are going to be some recorder groups, working at different levels. Several people are interested in having a go at starting the recorder, so we're planning an informal course to help them get going.

From September to November, there will be a music literacy course running on 7 Saturday mornings. A number of people took up this opportunity in the spring and found it useful and interesting.

On two Wednesday evenings a month, wind players get together for an ensemble which aims to help those with less experience develop the skills you need to play well in a group. Some very capable players come too, so we can play music that gives everyone a good time.

We'll be singing through another musical on Saturday morning in the autumn. My Fair Lady and Oklahoma have already had an outing, and people are voting now to decide which to do next.

To find out more about these and other opportunities, contact Alison Rushby: a.rushby1@btinternet.com or 01670 787 859.



Le Quêlie – May 2016

Jubilee Hall, Newton on the Moor

Every **Tuesday** evening it's Bowls Club with lots of matches coming up with other villages in the area. New members are always welcome.

Friday 12th August: - Dance to Milburn Music. Pooled supper, 8 - 11.30pm, £4 on the door.

Saturday 13th August: - Coffee Morning, 10 - 12, come and meet friends, chat and enjoy delicious home-baked goodies.

Saturday 10th September: - Coffee Morning, 10 - 12pm, as above.

Friday 16th September: - Dance to the music of Terry Deane, details above.

Saturday 17th - Concert by Voicemale and Fiddlezonly, 7.30pm, £7 includes supper. Pay on the door, we also have a bar. For more details or to book a table call Susan on 01665-711977.

Wednesday 28th September: - Parish Council Meeting, 7pm, all welcome.

Judy Williams, Jubilee Hall Treasurer

Red Squirrels Update

If you want to check out / use our new website, you can go to www.lcreds.org.uk, which is now live. ☺

We have had a number of reports of Reds in the area recently. This is good news, though tempered by the presence of some Greys as well.

Please continue to report your sightings of Red or Grey Squirrels (alive or dead) anywhere in the area by **phoning 07779 69 40 06 or 01670 787 916 or emailing swarlandredsquirrels@gmail.com (ideally with an OS Grid Reference or at least a precise location) so that we can pass your sighting(s) on for recording as part of the RSNE region's figures.**

If you'd like to get more involved, please contact Bryan on 01670 787 916 (or maxitoby1@gmail.com) or Rosie Mould on 01665 570 129 (or rosiemould@hotmail.com).

Bryan Stanley

Boxercise continues in Swarland

Graham Keefe, of Active Northumberland, arranged a short series of training sessions, starting in June from 5.30 – 6.30pm in Swarland Village Hall. Local interest has been maintained and he is still offering these sessions in the Hall for anyone looking to improve their health with a different exercise. The Boxercise classes are open to all those over 18 of whatever fitness, weight or enthusiasm. Gloves supplied, why not come along on early Monday evenings and give it a try?

For further information contact Graham on 01670 629 330 or email GKeefe@activenorthumberland.org.uk.

