

# Glanton Parish Newsletter

Issue: 80

March/April 2013

Hello everyone and welcome to the March/April 2013 edition of the Glanton Parish Newsletter. The days are starting to get longer and there are signs all over the parish that spring is on its way.

In addition to all the regular events that take place in and around the village, here are some dates to put in your diary:-

- 6<sup>th</sup> March – Tea and talk at Doxford Hall
- 6<sup>th</sup> March – Public meeting to discuss the number 710 bus service
- 15<sup>th</sup> March – Spring fashion show
- 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> March – Northumberland Residents' festival
- 11<sup>th</sup> April – Defibrillator training
- 27<sup>th</sup> April – Northumbrian night
- 11<sup>th</sup> May – Glanton show coffee morning



*Above: Rainbow above Longhoughton Beach*

Wishing everyone a happy Easter!

*Nicola Frater*

## **Deadlines:**

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this month's parish newsletter. The next deadlines are as follows:

-19<sup>th</sup> April (Jun/Jul edition)

-17<sup>th</sup> July (Aug/Sep edition)

## **Please Contact:**

Email: [glanton\\_newsletter@hotmail.com](mailto:glanton_newsletter@hotmail.com)

## Report of the meeting of Glanton Parish Council held on 28<sup>th</sup>

### January 2013

- The meeting heard an update from the Snow Squad which had been active dealing with shopping, etc. for those unable to get about in the recent snow, and noted that snow clearing on pavements generally was not to be undertaken for fear of making the pavements more slippery rather than better, but private paths would still be cleared on request.
- The Council considered the budget for the next year, and reluctantly decided that the precept would need to increase from £1500 (which has been unchanged for the last three years) to £1600 for next year.
- Expenditure on the new lights for the Christmas tree was approved to come from the Millennium Fund.
- The various risk assessments were reviewed.
- It was agreed to write to Northumberland County Council, in their capacity as drainage authority, to request action regarding the overflowing spring which is running down West Turnpike, as the highways engineer had declined to repair the drain.
- A listed building application for a handrail to be put on the steps into the village shop was in hand, and Ninette Edwards from Whittingham had kindly agreed to assist with the application at no cost, and thanks were duly noted.

*Jon Radgick*

### Yoga

Tracey Mortimer is starting a new hour long yoga class in Glanton Village Hall on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March from 7:15pm. For more information, call Tracey on 07841196938

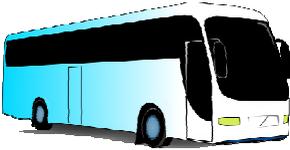


### British Summer Time

The clocks go forward by one hour at 1am on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013, marking the beginning of British Summer Time.

## Invitation to Public Meeting

A public meeting to discuss the number 710 bus service which runs between Kelso and Newcastle/Metro Centre (via Glanton) on Saturdays will be held at



**Glendale Middle School**  
**6:30pm - 8:00pm**  
**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2013**

The meeting will give you a chance to have your say about this local service which narrowly escaped being withdrawn following strong objection.

Free transport will be provided from and to the 710 bus route stops, but you must book in advance by calling 01670 624 092.

If you cannot attend the meeting and would like to express your views, please contact:

**Ian Coe, Transport Support Manager, Northumberland County Council,**  
**County Hall, Morpeth, NE61 2EF**

[ian.coe@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:ian.coe@northumberland.gov.uk)

## Pothole Reporting

Potholes are estimated to cause as many as 1 in 5 mechanical failures on British roads and cost British motorists an estimated £320 million per year. In addition, they can be extremely dangerous for cyclists and motorcyclists.

Following the floods, snow and freezing temperatures, several roads in the Parish and the wider community are becoming increasingly damaged.

To report particularly bad potholes, road users can fill in a form in the Road Maintenance section of the Northumberland County Council website or can contact the council on **0845 6006400**.

The references for the roads serving Glanton are as follows: Whittingham Rd (C90), West Turnpike (C169), Playwell Rd (C84), road to Powburn (C85) and road to the A697 (U3121).



## Date set for Northumberland Residents' Festival

The date has been set for the Northumberland Residents' Festival which will take place on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

Over the festival weekend, local residents will be able to enjoy free or discounted entry to many of the top attractions across the county including castles, gardens, stately homes and museums.

Event organiser Northumberland County Council is hoping that residents will take the opportunity to explore the wonderful attractions the county has to offer by putting the date in their diaries now.

The festival coincides with English Tourism Week which also begins Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March and aims to give something back to people living in the county.



Residents will need special vouchers to receive free or discounted entry to the attractions and these will be available to download from the council website. The vouchers are also in the Residents Festival brochures which will be available from local libraries, council offices, tourist information centres and sports centres from mid-February onwards.

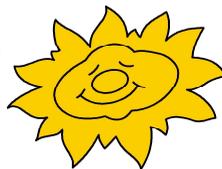
For further information and to find out which attractions are taking part in the festival log on to <http://residentsfestival.northumberland.gov.uk> or ring 0845 600 6400.

## Northumbrian Night

Following last year's success, Ernie Coe & Friends will be back at Glanton Memorial Hall on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April to put on another Northumbrian Night. Put the date in your diary and look out for further details appearing on notice boards and the village website.



# GLANTON SHOW



## COFFEE MORNING

### Saturday, 11th May 2013



## 10:30 am



## PLANTS CHOCOLATE TOMBOLA CAKES AND RAFFLE

Celebrating the

# 90th SHOW

## ALL WELCOME



## Looking Through A Lens

As I sit down to write this, the last of the January snow has more-or-less melted away, with just a few last vestiges to remind us of the week or so of wintry weather.

I, like a lot of you I'm sure, am hoping (probably a little too optimistically) that we've seen the last snow for the winter. At the same time, I do have a bit of regret that I didn't get the opportunity to get any photographs while the village and surrounding area was covered in a blanket of snow.

It's transient things like seasonal weather that mean sometimes we need to think ahead.

There are a lot of things that are worth taking the time to photograph, but which won't wait around for a photographer. The winter snow is just one seasonal example. Spring blossoms can come and go so fast, and the golden leaves only stay on the trees for a short time in autumn. Wildlife comes and goes, and changes so much during the year.

I enjoy landscape photography, and one of my favourite things is catching sunrise or sunset views. Whilst we think of the sun rising in the east and setting in the west, the truth is that over the course of a year, the sun's position in the sky actually varies quite a lot. On mornings around the turn of the year, sunrise is south-easterly, and the sun sets in the south-western sky. This moves slowly northwards during the year, until it's rising in the north-east and setting in the north-west, before slowly moving southwards over the second half of the year.

Sunrise and sunset photographs usually require a bit of planning. A look at the weather forecast is useful – not just for the time when you're planning to photograph, but also slightly ahead. There's a lot of truth in the "red sky at night"/"red sky in the morning" maxim...some of my best sunrise photographs have been planned for a day where the weather forecast predicted some not-so-favourable weather later in the day.

The position of the sun can also be crucial in making the most of a sunrise or sunset. If you can catch the sun creeping over the horizon in just the right way to accentuate a feature in the landscape, it can really give your photograph a certain extra something.

One of my resolutions for the coming year is to try and plan ahead a bit more, and to try and avoid too many missed opportunities. There were times last year when I was kicking myself for leaving it too late to photograph a particular subject and then, when I did put my mind to it, the opportunity had passed.

Hmmm....now I can hear something wintry against the window. I've taken a glance outside and it looks like some more snow has arrived – maybe it's not too late to grab some snow photographs...



Sunrise Over Inner Farne  
© Dave Dixon LRPS

### Top Tip

Keep an eye on the calendar – and on Jack Daw's column elsewhere in this newsletter – to help you plan your photography throughout the year. If you miss something, you might have to wait a long time for the opportunity to come around again.

*Dave Dixon*

### Cheviot Valleys Flower Club

27<sup>th</sup> March 2013  
Mrs Irene Parker  
*"All shapes & sizes"*



24<sup>th</sup> April 2013  
Mrs Jean Gibbon  
*"Celebrations"*

**Call Pat Hall on 01665 574 017 for more information. All are welcome!**

## Adam Douglas & Son 'Make a Will' Week

Local law firm Adam Douglas & Son has come up with a great idea for raising money for our local hospice, HospiceCare North Northumberland, as well as giving people the peace of mind of knowing that they have made a Will.

The firm which has offices in Alnwick, Berwick upon Tweed and Amble is organising a 'Make A Will' week in June when its team of solicitors plan to waive their fee for writing a basic Will in return for a donation to support the work HospiceCare do in delivering palliative care to adults with life-limiting illnesses in this part of Northumberland.

All people need to do is to contact the firm through its Alnwick (01665 602363) or Berwick (01289 306479) offices to make an appointment during the week beginning Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2013.

Then they will be able to give one of the firm's solicitors instructions about what should happen to their home, money and possessions as well as details of the people they would wish to inherit them so that a basic will can be drawn up for them to sign.

In return clients will be asked to consider making a donation to our hospice with a suggestion of £90 for a single will or £135 for a pair of basic, matching or mirror wills.

One of the firm's partners Sarah Sinclair said: "It is surprising the number of people who put off making a will. Through our 'Make A Will' week offer we hope to encourage more people to do just that and at the same time help a truly local charity provide what is an invaluable and greatly appreciated service throughout the north of the county".

"We hope that through our will-making offer we can support the HospiceCare Team and the scores of volunteers who do such a wonderful job every day of the year to help local people when they need it most."



## OilCAN Community Oil Buying Scheme

This scheme has now been running since July 2012, and savings per 1,000 litre load are generally in the £40 to £50 range. OilCAN has just received some additional funding so is waiving the joining fee which means **individuals can join for FREE** – this offer lasts for a short period and is for a limited number of people – 200 in the whole of Northumberland – so don't delay, get your application in NOW! See the website <http://www.ca-north.org.uk/oil> or ring OilCAN on 01670 500812, or me on 01665 578222.

*Sandra Natrass*

## HospiceCare North Northumberland Fundraising Events

### **Afternoon Tea and Talk**

Doxford Hall

6<sup>th</sup> March 2pm – 4pm



Gill Bushnell from House of Colour is giving a demonstration and presentation on how to open up to a world of colour and style. Do you have a wardrobe of clothes and still feel like you have nothing to wear? If yes, this talk is for you!

Afterwards, there will be a chance to ask questions. Tickets are £15.00 and include Doxford Hall afternoon tea.



### **Spring Fashion Show**

Alnwick Garden Pavillion

15<sup>th</sup> March 7:00pm – 9:30pm

Support patients and their families as they are transformed into models showcasing the latest fashion trends from local retailers Dorothy Perkins and CC Fashion. The evening will also feature the chance to shop for products from Sue Scott (handmade corsets), Kiddies Kabin, The Chocolate Spa, The Emporium, A1 Glass Studio, Studley Soaps and Christina Murton Jewellery.

Tickets are £10.00 and include refreshments.

**Feast of Music** at Hazel Marsdon House, Berwick has been rescheduled from 31<sup>st</sup> January to 21<sup>st</sup> March, 7:00pm – 8:30pm.



Please contact HospiceCare North Northumberland on 01665 606 515 or email [fundraising@hospicecare-nn.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@hospicecare-nn.org.uk) for more information and booking.

## Mad March with hopefully a bit of a spring

The days are lengthening and hopefully the temperature is increasing. March and April are the true months of spring. Snowdrops and aconites continue to flower and are joined by daffodils, dandelions and colt's foot. These and other common wayside plants are often important sources of nectar for early flying insects. Another plant is the goat or 'pussy' willow. Glanton parish has few of these relatively low bushes. The odd one can be found down the Playwell Lane and beyond into Crawley Dene. The catkins are a rich source of nectar for especially for emerging 'queen' bumblebees.

In the fields, lambs are starting to appear and crops are emerging from a cold wet winter. In the past, arable fields would have attracted good numbers of lapwing especially where soil has been turned. Many of these birds would have stayed to display, find a mate, create a scrape and lay four camouflage eggs. Today, few lapwing nest in the parish. Changes in crop type, predators and fluctuating weather patterns have all had a role to play.

Areas of long grass and hedgerow bottoms are alive with the sound of voles and mice. The short-tailed field vole is one of the most common mammals in the parish and yet, relatively few are seen. They are an important source of food for species such as stoats, weasels, foxes, barn owls and kestrels to name but a few. Their food consists of mainly vegetation especially new shoots of grasses but they will eat other plants as well as invertebrates and seeds. Searching areas of long grass can often be rewarding as their 'runs' are relatively easy to find amongst the grass.

Also every year, I comment on the numbers of frogs and toads that can be found around the village. Some garden ponds are virtually jam-packed with calling adults. In most cases, it is the common frog that is found. This amphibian spends a large proportion of time out of water and can be encountered just about anywhere in the parish. There are fewer toads within the parish but they can be found. Both species of amphibian are a gardener's friend as their diet consists of slugs, worms, woodlice and other tasty invertebrates. I would be interested if anyone has found newts within the parish.

Let's hope that the early spring brings seasonally warm weather that allows us to get out and about and enjoy our parish.

*Jack Daw*

## Whittingham Book Sale

In support of Parish Churches

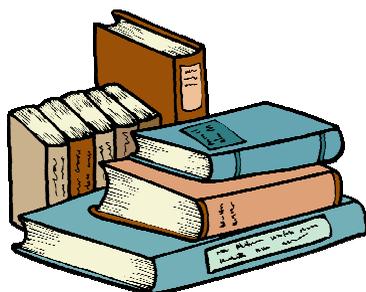
The January sale got this year's series off to a good start. The hall had the wonderful buzz of lively chatter, happy customers and cash going into the "tills"; all of which was music to the team's ears.

The copy of "Whittingham Vale" by D.Dixon was won by a visitor from Wooler – our fame is spreading!

New donations of books will provide a wonderful variety for browsing at the NEXT SALE on SATURDAY 9<sup>th</sup> MARCH from 10:30am until 12 noon. The raffle will include a first edition of "NORTHUMBERLAND" by Nikolaus Pevsner. The venue is Whittingham Memorial Hall. Entry is FREE and refreshments are 50p.

Need to make space on your shelves?  
Donations of books can be left in Whittingham Hall. Any enquiries, ring Beryl on 01665 574 385.

The hall is warm and the company is friendly. We look forward to welcoming you on March 9<sup>th</sup>.



## The Wooler Charity Shop 2013

In support of "Him at Home" via Prostate Cancer UK and "Her Abroad" at Hamlin Fistula Hospital in Ethiopia we will be selling anything legal and in good saleable condition during the last week of May and the first week of June.

WE NEED A LOT OF WHAT YOU NO LONGER NEED OR WANT! Drop-ins for donations will be after Easter, dates to be announced. We can take small furniture which fits into a car or trailer; also electrical items if in good working orders but NO TV SETS, thank you.

If you cannot store your items until the drop-in dates, or for any other enquiries about the charities or the event, please ring John and Beryl Parr on 01665 574 385. For more information about the work of Prostate Cancer UK, look out for the "Sledgehammer" publicity which will be appearing throughout 2013.

## **Community Public Access Defibrillator**

(the yellow box on the wall of the Queen's Head)

It's almost 18 months since the Public Access Defibrillator was funded and installed in Glanton. Some of you will have come to the training and awareness session that was run at the time.

The Ambulance Service Community First Responder team is coming to Glanton again on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April to do another session.

So if you want to know more about the defibrillator – what it does, how to get it if it's needed, how to use it – and also how to give CPR (remember the Vinnie Jones advert and "Staying Alive"?) then pencil the time and date in your diary.



**Glanton Memorial Hall**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April**

**7:00pm to 8:00pm**

**(Tea & biscuits from 6:45pm)**

Open to all – Whittingham, Powburn, surrounding areas, not just Glanton. All ages welcome. Even if you attended the last session you are welcome to come to this one for a refresher. So record "EastEnders" and join us – it might help you save a life.

If you want any more information then please contact me – Peter Lake – on 01665 578 146.

### **Bell View**

Coffee breaks take place on the second Wednesday of every month (10am – 12 noon) and lunch breaks take place on the fourth Wednesday of every month (12 noon – 2pm) at Glanton Memorial Hall. Contact Jane Field for more details:  
01668 219 220.

### **Lambing**

The lambing season will soon be in full swing. Please continue to enjoy the countryside but make sure you close all gates, keep dogs on leads and try to avoid walking through fields containing livestock at this important time of year.

## A Brief Story of a Guinea Pig

The news today (January 15<sup>th</sup>) that members of the public who have a family history of breast cancer are to be offered Tamoxifen, even though they are well, is of special interest to me.

My sister died of breast cancer in her thirties. Shortly after her death, I heard on Radio 4 a request for volunteers to take part in an international trial to see if, by taking Tamoxifen for 5 years, a woman with a family history of breast cancer could reduce the likelihood of her getting it in later life. At once I thought this was something I could do in memory of my sister.

I contacted the project and was interviewed at the RVI to see if I qualified. Besides my sister, my mother and grandmother had had breast cancer so I was deemed to be at risk. My mother had had it during the War in her forties but had unusually survived to die in her late sixties of a heart attack.

We were told that half of us would be given Tamoxifen and the other half would have a placebo but we wouldn't know which. We would be checked by specialists every six months during the five years. We were also warned of the possible side effects. We were asked to tell our GPs. Mine appeared to be surprised that I should have volunteered and thanked me profusely whereas I saw it as the least I could do to help others not to lose members of their families.

I duly took my large white pill every night. I found it increasingly difficult to get it down and had to resort to chopping it into quarters and putting it on my toast and marmalade at breakfast! In time the five years were over. I had my final check up but was still not told whether I had been on Tamoxifen or the placebo.

That was all in the 1980s and I am glad to say I am still fit and well! So perhaps taking Tamoxifen then has saved my life; I will never know.

What I have learnt from this is that medical research takes a very long time indeed before sufficient tests have taken place to result in a conclusion that can offer hope for others. So, please, if you have a family history of breast cancer, consider discussing this new treatment with your GP.

*Sue Rogers*

## S<sup>t</sup> Andrews United Reformed Church, Glanton

Now that Christmas is done and all of the decorations have come down and gone away my thoughts normally turn to plans for lent and Easter. However this year I'm going to be taking a break from the normal routine as I spend three months on a 10 yearly sabbatical from work. I'm not going to be lazy though and spend all day in bed, well not every day! I have various plans and pieces of "work" that I'm going to be involved in over the next three months, the main one being a Passion play in Alnwick that I've been helping to plan and will take place on the evening of Good Friday.

If you've ever had the chance to go and share in the 10 yearly community event that is the Oberammergau Passion play then ours in Alnwick is going to be slightly different (putting it mildly). But after saying this, the aim is to make it an event that is put on by the community for the community. It is being called Passion for Northumberland and we have already had good coverage in the Northumberland Gazette late last year and over the Christmas week too. And you've perhaps spotted the banner on the end of the Northumberland Hall which asks the question "Are you ready for Passion in 2013".

The Easter story is one of the most iconic tales ever to have been told, and to have the opportunity to retell that story for today, using contemporary images and such a wonderful setting as Alnwick market place, I hope and pray will make it come to life once more for this present time.

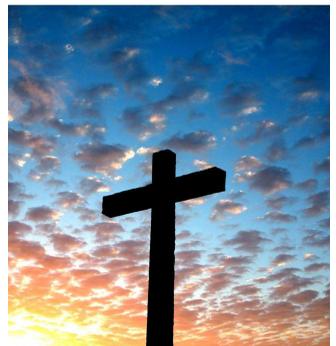
It would be wonderful to see the market place full on Good Friday evening, so keep an eye out for more details about this amazing event, and I look forward to seeing some of you in the crowd that night. But how will you feel as you hear those around you shouting "Crucify" and as you sense the 'black shirts' breathing down your necks? The only way to find out is to come along.

God Bless.

*Edward*

**Please see notice board for times of services**

All are welcome to come and join us.



## Women's Institute

The WI meetings in March and April 2013 are as follows:

- 5<sup>th</sup> March – “Laughter Yoga” by Keith Adam
- 2<sup>nd</sup> April – “Quilting and Patchwork” by Annette Fraser

Both meetings start at 7:00pm in the Glanton Memorial Hall. Visitors are always welcome.



### Recipe for Easter – Hot Cross Buns

#### **Ingredients:**

625g strong white flour

1 tsp salt

2 tsp mixed spice

45g unsalted butter, cubed

85g sugar

Zest of 1 lemon

1 tbsp golden syrup, gently heated, for glazing

1½ tsp fast-action yeast

1 egg

275ml tepid milk

125g mixed dried fruit

2 tbsp plain flour

vegetable oil, for greasing

#### **Method:**

- Sieve the strong flour, salt and mixed spice into a large mixing bowl, then rub in the butter using your fingertips. Make a well in the centre of the mixture, then add the sugar, lemon zest and yeast.
- Beat the egg and add to the flour mixture with the tepid milk. Mix together to form a soft, pliable dough.
- Turn out the dough onto a lightly floured work surface. Carefully work the mixed dried fruit into the dough until well combined. Knead lightly for 5 minutes, or until smooth and elastic.
- Cover the dough with a tea towel and leave to prove in a warm place for an hour.
- Turn the dough out onto a floured board and knock back before proving again for 30 minutes.
- Divide the dough into 12 equal sections and shape into buns. Grease a baking tray with butter and transfer the buns to it. Place the tray and the buns in an airtight bag and leave for a further 40 minutes to rise in a warm place.
- In the meantime, mix the plain flour with 2 tsp of cold water to form a paste.
- When the buns have risen, remove from the airtight bag and pipe a cross on each bun with the flour paste.
- Bake the buns for 8-10 minutes in a 240°C (gas mark 8).
- As soon as the buns are removed from the oven, glaze with warm golden syrup.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Whittingham BP Scout Group



*“Try to leave this world a little better than you found it and, when your turn comes to die, you can die happy in feeling that at any rate you have not wasted your time but have done your best.”*

**Lord Baden-Powell**  
**Founder of Scouting**

In this new year of scouting, we are exploring the environment, weather and farming. The Beavers have done lots of fun experiments with ice, wind and water. The cubs have been map-reading in the fields in the dark, and are making a film about saving the world through recycling, saving water and using less fuel.

The scouts planned and ran a restaurant. They also interviewed farmers about the difficulties of farming in wet and snowy conditions for a fun documentary. This has also been a leadership challenge, with patrols forming film crews with director, script writer, photographers and interviewers. The films will be shown at our AGM on 25<sup>th</sup> April. The Seniors are learning wood-turning as their Duke of Edinburgh Award skill.

We hope that these activities will help them develop into responsible young adults who understand and respect their environment, and can leave the world a better place.

The adults aren't missing out on the adventures of scouting. Rover Scouts have had an exciting weekend up in the Cairngorms, climbing into the corries with ice axes and crampons, and summiting Cairngorm in high winds and blizzards.

To join our adventures, contact:

Group Scout Master: Ninette Gray

01665 574733

[www.1stwhittingham.org.uk](http://www.1stwhittingham.org.uk)

