



Glanton Parish Newsletter

Augst/September 2010

Issue 65

Editorial

My thanks first to Norman Dunn for kindly stepping in as guest-editor for the June newsletter and to everyone who contributed items for the current edition. Please keep your ideas and articles flowing for the remainder of the year. The next deadline is 2nd October.

Of course, the BIG date for your diary in August is the Glanton Show on Saturday 14th . Show programmes are available from the village shop and details are on the village website : www.glantononline.net. Keeping fingers crossed for fine weather and a great turnout . A vote of thanks must go to the show committee, the team of helpers and to everyone who contributes and exhibits on the day. This must include those who organised, helped and participated in the Clay Pigeon Shoot in July - a major help with fundraising for the show. Please mark the show date in your diary and invite family and friends to come along to this traditional and enjoyable event in the village calendar.

Lynne Livsey

What's On ? Here are some highlights –see inside for more

August

- 14th Glanton Show
- 28th Queen's Head Leek Club way-side stall,

September

- 3rd Glanton village party to open time-capsule
- 7th Glanton WI meeting
- 18th Glanton Memorial Hall, Coffee Morning
- 18th Queen's Head Leek Show (continues on 19th)
- 27th Glanton Parish Council meeting

Newsletter Deadlines for 2010

2nd October

4th December

*Please make a note in your diary
new ideas and articles always
welcome*

Please contact:

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The Parish Council met at the end of July and discussed a very full agenda including:

Village Event to open the time-capsule

- Digging up the time capsule which was interred near the village flagpole in 2000 full of letters that residents had written to themselves to be opened ten years later. The anniversary is Friday 3rd September and we will to have an opening ceremony and a village party to celebrate. See the separate note that will come with this newsletter for further details.

Phone-Box adoption

- The red phone box – after the presentation of a petition signed by about 130 residents the council agreed to amend their previous decision and to adopt the phone box (although it will not be functioning as such) and also to take up the offer made by a group of residents to deal with the day to day maintenance of it.

Article Four Directive

- Discussion about an Article 4 directive (which would strengthen planning controls on alterations to properties in the village) – this had been requested by the Annual Village Meeting and we agreed to contact the County Council to see whether a member of the Planning Department would agree to come to a special meeting to discuss the subject.

Editor's note—further Information about the Article 4 Directive is available on the village website: www.glantonline.net



Village improvements

We looked at a long list of recommendations made in a report on the subject of street furniture etc, including refurbishing the cast iron street name signs, seeking funding for replacing missing cast iron finger posts at junctions, and signage, litter bins and seats generally. Our aim is to improve the look of the village, smarten things up and make improvements. Do please let me have your comments or suggestions.

Date of Next Meeting

Monday 27th September at 7pm in Glanton Memorial Hall. Residents are welcome to attend.

Jon Radgick, Chair, Glanton Parish Council

Contact : 4 The Causeway. 01665 578222. jradgick@oldmotorhouse.co.uk

New Kissing Gates

A big thank you to the Parish Council and Northumberland County Council for organising and installing the new kissing gates on the public footpath from Glanton to Whittingham. It is a lovely walk with or without a dog and so much easier to navigate after these improvements.

The newly painted post-box and village seats also look very smart .

Editor

Autumn's bumper crop

Harvest is upon us once again. People are busily preparing for the Glanton Show. However, all is not well down in the garden. It has been a particularly bad year for 'berry bugs'. *Trombiculidae* are relatives of the tick and 0.4mm (1/60th of an inch) in size. Their favoured habitat is long grass, fruit bushes and/or damp areas. It is the larvae of these 'critters' that cause the itching, creating red pimple-like bumps often in the warmer regions of the human body. The larvae crawl onto their hosts from vegetation and inject an enzyme into the skin causing the irritation. They don't suck blood but instead chew at the cells on the inner skin thus causing the irritation. It is not just humans that are the target of their attention, but also dogs, birds and even some insects.

2010 is another bumper year for fruit and nuts. A wide range of trees and bushes are laden with fruit, especially apples and rowan. This abundance of fruit has brought a few surprises such as the discovery of redcurrants in the hedge on the School Lane and the abundance of gooseberries on the Playwell Lane. The plentiful supply of berries will provide a rich source of sugar for a range of wildlife especially migratory species such as warblers (e.g. white-throats and blackcaps) and butterflies (e.g. red admirals and peacocks).

As the swifts, swallows and martins start to leave, amphibians are also on the move. The Glanton parish has very few ponds and wet places, and yet, large toads and frogs can be found on the move on humid, damp evenings. You may be lucky enough to find a smooth or palmate newt. These amphibians are in search of food and suitable sites to hibernate over winter.

Hopefully, there will be an 'Indian summer' and we can enjoy the autumn in its full glory.



Jack Daw



**WHITTINGHAM MEMORIAL INSTITUTE
SUNFLOWER
COMPETITIONS**

**YOUR CHANCE TO SEE IF YOU CAN GROW THE
LARGEST OR TALLEST SUNFLOWER**

**There will be prizes for the winning
adult and child in each category:**

- **Tallest Sunflower**
- **Largest Sunflower Head**
- **Best Picture/Painting of a Sunflower**
- **Best Photograph of a Sunflower**

Judging will take place on Friday 3rd September

Results and prizes will be given out at the coffee morn-
ing on Saturday 4th September at
Whittingham Memorial Institute

Entry Forms can be picked up from
Glanton Post Office

St. Andrew's United Reformed Church

The appeal for goods to sell at the Charity shop in Wooler produced a huge amount of treasures and filled the Church Hall. The shop is a great success. We must thank Beryl Parr for motivating us and doing all the organising.

We are having a Cake and Produce stall at the Show - we hope friends and visitors will come and support us.

Marion Guiry

Aln and Breamish Local History Society

Date of Next Meeting

8th September

*Whittingham Memorial
Institute*

7.30 pm

Guest Speaker

Dr Angus Armstrong

*8 Generations of Doctors in
Longframlington and
Rothbury*

Website link:

www.alnandbreamishlhs.org.uk

Cheviot Valleys Flower Club Meetings

Whittingham Memorial Hall 7.30pm
22nd September

Mrs Marion Hinchley

Guest speaker

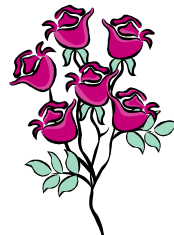
Demonstration title:

"Big, bold and beautiful"

Visitors welcome

£3 to pay on the door

Contact: Pat Hall 01665 574 017





The Queen's Head Leek Club

50th Annual Leek Show

18th and 19th September 2010

Set up between 12 midday and 1pm on 18th

Judging Saturday afternoon

**Show open to public after 6pm Sat 18th and from
lunchtime onwards on Sun 19th.**

**Presentations on Sunday 19th from 8pm followed by a
grand auction in the Queen's Head pub, Glanton**



Whittingham Parish Churches

Grand Book Sale

**in the Whittingham Memorial Hall on
18th September, 10.30 a.m. to Noon**

Entrance Free. Fair Trade Tea or Coffee, 50p .
Books to suit all ages and most tastes.

Everybody is welcome to browse, buy or donate books.

Enquiries to Beryl Parr on 574385



Church Services

St Andrew's United Reformed Church, Glanton

Contact: Rev. Edward Butlin: Telephone: 01670 783 452

St Bartholomew's Church of England, Whittingham

Contact: ian.leppingwell@progresspersonnel.com (PCC Secretary)

St Mary's Roman Catholic Church

Contact: Fr. David Tanner: Telephone: 01665 574 240

Northumberland County Council Mobile Library Service Visits Glanton every 3rd Monday



**Glanton Pyke 1.50pm—2pm
The Queen's Head Pub 2.05-2.25pm
Playwell Count 2.30pm—2.45pm**

For Details Contact: 01661 823 594
Website - www.northumberland.gov.uk

Glanton Memorial Hall Coffee Morning Saturday 18th September 10.30am in the Hall

**Tea, coffee, biscuits, raffle and tombola
Also a chance to exchange surplus garden produce**

All welcome - please support the village hall



Queen's Head Leek Club Way-Side Stall

**28th August from 10.30am
Queen's Head Car-Park**

*Those who entered the 'Potato in a bucket'
competition should bring their potato to be
weighed between
11am and 1pm.*



**Advance notice of an event
To mark the 80th birthday
of Glanton Memorial Hall
A Village Dance and Buffet Supper
Will be held on Saturday 22nd October
Further details to follow, but please
put this date in your diary**



**News Update**

August is our holiday month but we are continuing with our Triathlon challenge. We have completed our 50 miles walk and some members are swimming the 5 miles. The cyclists have yet to take to the road.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 7th September.

Anne Levlin, a Herbalist will be our speaker. Visitors are welcome to come along to the Memorial Hall at 7. p.m.

WI Recipe of the Month - Courgette Soup

Despite the severe winter and non-existent spring - the gardens are producing bumper crops of fruit and vegetables. Here is a tasty suggestion for what to do with a glut of courgettes - put them in the freezer and make soup in the winter.

Fry a chopped onion in butter and add approximately the same amount of skinned and chopped courgette. When soft add 1 - 1 1/2 pints of stock and 4 - 6 sprigs of mint - or a large spoon of mint jelly. Cook until tender, then liquidise - reheat with a tablespoon of cream and season to taste.





The Hall Committee would like to thank those of you that took the time to complete the survey that we sent out with the March issue of this Newsletter. Our apologies for the delay in giving the results of your replies.

We issued 130 survey forms and eleven households replied. Of these replies the majority were from senior citizens in the village. Most respondents felt that the hall was adequate for the needs of its users, though concerns were voiced about access to the kitchen and small meeting room and some felt that the kitchen facilities could be improved. Concern was also expressed about the level of heating in the winter months.

The main suggestions for additional uses for the hall covered a variety of subjects. By far the most popular was the showing of "feel good" films on a regular basis, various keep fit activities in the evening for those that work, coffee mornings on a monthly basis so that people could meet regularly to exchange books, CDs, plants and garden produce. Further suggestions covered occasional social events, themed supper evenings, art exhibitions, ballroom dancing etc.

In line with these suggestions the committee are organising two events. The first will be a fund raising coffee morning on the Saturday the 18th of September. At this time of year the village should be awash with great home-grown produce which can be exchanged or any surpluses passed on to others. The second event will be a dance with buffet to mark the eightieth birthday of the hall. This will be held on the anniversary of the opening, Friday the 22nd of October. We hope this will be a very successful event and that you will all take the time to support this special occasion. If anyone knows of a good local band who would make the event go with a swing can you let Mike Paice know on 578229. Further details will be included in the next newsletter. Please put these two events in your diaries .

We are investigating the feasibility of holding regular film shows in the hall. The cost of this will be quite high so, can all those who are interested let Mike Paice know so that we have some idea of support and costs to audience members. A few suggestions for suitable films would help.

The hall has a badminton court and table tennis table so if there is anyone in the village would like to pass their skills on to others please get in touch with any member of the committee. Details are on the Village web site. Also if anyone can help to organise an evening keep-fit class please get in touch.

As the year progresses use of the hall is diminishing and income has dropped to a very low level. The loss the hall has made so far has exceeded £1400. We need the village's support both in events and bookings for private parties. Please support the hall as it should be a central part of village life. As was said in the March newsletter, we are very close to the point of "use it or lose it"

To get in touch please contact: Mike Paice 01665 578 229

Looking Through A Lens

Dave Dixon

I'm a very happy photographer right now. I wouldn't consider myself to be an equipment junkie, but there is a particular lens that I've had my eye on for quite a long time, and this month I finally got my hands on one. Since I took delivery, it's spent a lot of time attached to my camera, and I've been having a lot of fun taking pictures with it.

A few days after my first proper outing with this lens I was sitting in the Queen's Head enjoying a drink with a group of friends when one of them showed me some pictures that he'd taken on a recent camping trip.

Whereas my recent photography trip had seen me lugging around several pounds (weight) of dedicated equipment worth lots of pounds (sterling), my friend had captured some great-looking images with just the camera built into his mobile phone.

That got me thinking on two different subjects.

First of all, I'm constantly amazed at how technology continues to get more powerful, yet smaller, cheaper and more readily accessible.

I have a mobile phone myself with a camera built into it. The camera isn't really touted by the manufacturer as being a particularly special feature - it's just another item bundled as standard into a gadget that fits comfortably into the palm of my hand... a fraction of the size of the far less feature-endowed mobile phone that I was carrying around a few years ago.

I remember the first digital camera that I bought, not all that many years ago. That was a dedicated photographic device, yet the specification of the camera built into my mobile phone comfortably matches, or even exceeds, what that camera had on offer. Even things which a few years ago would have sounded ridiculously far-fetched, like a camera phone lens with proper optical zoom, are increasingly common nowadays.

So, with such feature-rich cameras built into phones, why do we still need dedicated cameras? Well, camera phones are marvellous compared to what was available a few years ago, but there are still things which a 'proper' camera offers where a phone camera falls short. Camera phone image quality can be good, but the sensor on a dedicated digital camera is larger and capable of capturing a better quality image in finer detail than a camera phone can. Add to that the flexibility that comes from being able to change lenses on an SLR camera, and you have two key reasons why I won't be abandoning my camera equipment in favour of a phone camera any time soon.

But, that said, it is still possible to take some great pictures on some (relatively speaking) low-end equipment. And that brings me to the second thing that I've been thinking about.

It's not the equipment that makes the photograph; it's the photographer. Whilst the quality of equipment that you use to capture an image can affect the presentation of an image, the real magic behind a photograph is having a "seeing eye" - observing something and realising that it has the potential to be photographed and make an image which will have an effect on those who view it.



Pilgrims' Sunset
©2010 Dave Dixon LRPS

Top Tip

Unless you're a particularly obsessive photographer, then you won't carry a camera around with you everywhere. However, if you have a mobile phone, then chances are it has a camera built into it, and you carry it with you wherever you go. Keep your eyes open for scenes you feel could be worth photographing and capture it with whatever you have. If the scene has that certain 'X' factor, then it shouldn't take something very high-tech to do it justice.



St Andrews United Reformed Church, Glanton

What do you think about the pace of life? Does each day seem to be shorter than the last? Does each year seem to pass more quickly as you get older? Do your days seem so full but yet you never seem to get everything done? In the last few months I've had cause to stop and think about these questions, you might also say that I've had the opportunity to step off the treadmill for a while and try to work out what life should be all about. If I'm honest I think that I'm concerned about our society. Not only are we facing the upward struggle of a recession, but we're also all being put under pressure and stress to do even more than we ever have, and I'm not sure how we stop that. I'm not sure how we can step off the treadmill permanently without everything collapsing down upon us.

But then behind this there are also bigger questions too because our 'working' is not only about filling our days and providing for our families, it is also about seeking to have all that we desire. For many there is now an accepted standard that we all seek to live up to, a standard that is set not by the "everyday" people that surround us here, but is set by those who we look up to, the idols of our time, footballers, pop stars, film stars, self made millionaires, people who, on the face of it, seem to have all that we lack. These are the people who I think set the bar, a bar that you might well say is incredibly high, yet we've been told that if only we work hard enough, put in the hours, do the over-time, then we too

can live that dream. The dream in which we would be dressed right, drive the right car, have the right phone, even use the right hair gel!

Don't get me wrong, I'm not free from these desires either. I do have periods during which I feel content, blessed by God because of the life I enjoy. But then, in the next moment I'm right back there, trying to keep up with the Jones, and jealous because they have what I don't. How I wish I could live in those moments of contentment forever. How I wish I could always know the joy that I can find when I freely give thanks to God for all that I am, and all that I have without a sense of what I'm lacking, because then I believe that we can find a freedom, a release that is deeper and much more refreshing than holding an iphone 4 in my hand.

*God Bless
Edward*

**Services are held on Sunday at 6:00 p.m.
(unless otherwise advertised)
All are welcome to come and join us.**

A celebration of this year's Holiday Club "Rocky's Plaice" on
Sunday 15th August, 10:30 a.m. at Longframlington URC.
Followed by a picnic on the village green (or in the hall if wet)



Protect your shed this summer

Police in Alnwick are asking residents to think about shed security during the summer.

Officers are warning the public to check that their sheds and garages are secure to prevent theft of items such as lawn-mowers, bicycles, tools and equipment.

The warning comes after thieves stole over £1000 worth of gardening equipment from a shed in Alnwick. Between 7am and 4.30pm on Tuesday, July 20, thieves targeted insecure farm buildings in the Harwood area of Northumberland and stole a welding set and two Husqvarna chainsaws.

Police are appealing for anyone with any information into this theft to contact them and are urging local people to help them lock out thieves in Northumberland.

Police are also advising the owners of vehicles - especially quad-bikes, to always remove the keys when leaving the vehicles unattended. Owners can contact the local policing team who will photograph and record the details of quad-bikes so if stolen and recovered, they can be returned to owners.

Free shed alarms and driveway alarms are available for residents. Contact the Neighbourhood Policing Team for more information.

For more information on how to keep your shed safe from thieves contact your local Neighbourhood Policing Team on **03456 043 043**.