

# Glanton Parish Newsletter

Issue: 78

November/December 2012

Hello everyone and welcome to the final newsletter of 2012. Thanks to everyone who has contributed throughout the year and to this edition. Thank you also to the volunteer distributors and to everybody who works so hard to organise the village events that I have had the pleasure of advertising over the past year. Please note that the deadline for the Jan/Feb edition of the newsletter is slightly earlier than usual to make sure that there is plenty time to get the newsletter edited, printed and distributed in-between all the events that will be taking place over Christmas and the New Year. Also, I have now set up a new email address dedicated solely to the newsletter, so please make a note of **glanton\_newsletter@hotmail.co.uk**. Wishing every household in Glanton a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

*Nicola Frater*



*Above: A snowy sunset taken from one of "the sledging fields"*

## **Deadlines:**

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

-12<sup>th</sup> December (Jan/Feb edition)

-18<sup>th</sup> February (Mar/Apr edition)

## **Please Contact:**

Nicola Frater

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

## Dates for your diary!

November, December and January are shaping up to be very busy months in the Parish!

To make sure you don't miss out on any village or wider community events, put these dates in your diary/on your calendar as soon as possible:-

- 7<sup>th</sup> November 2012 - Bell View shopping trip to Morpeth
- 10<sup>th</sup> November 2012 - Children in Need coffee morning
- 12<sup>th</sup> November 2012 - Glanton Memorial Hall AGM
- 15<sup>th</sup> November 2012 - Police & Crime Commissioners elections
- 17<sup>th</sup> November 2012 - St Mary's sale of work
- 21<sup>st</sup> November 2012 - Bell View shopping trip (unknown destination)
- 28<sup>th</sup> November 2012 - Cheviot Valley Flower Club meeting
- 5<sup>th</sup> December 2012 - Bell View Christmas shopping trip to Newcastle
- 8<sup>th</sup> December 2012 - URC Christmas Coffee Morning
- 18<sup>th</sup> December 2012 - URC Carols @ The Queen's Head
- 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2012 - URC village carol service
- 24<sup>th</sup> December 2012 - St Ninian's, Wooler, First Mass of Christmas
- 24<sup>th</sup> December 2012 - St Mary's, Whittingham, First Mass of Christmas
- 25<sup>th</sup> December 2012 - St Mary's, Whittingham, Christmas Day Mass
- 28<sup>th</sup> December 2012 - Bottle Bingo
- 12<sup>th</sup> January 2013 - NTC performance of Grimm Tales
- 12<sup>th</sup> January 2013 - Whittingham book sale

Find out more in this issue and keep an eye on the village website and notice-boards for updates.

## **Report of the Parish Council**

The Parish Council met on 24<sup>th</sup> September and discussed the following matters:

It was reported that a change of policy by NCC now meant that there would be some mobile speed signs which remind drivers how fast they are travelling and that Glanton was one of the villages chosen to trial them. We do not yet know when they will be here, but they are likely to be put up at each end of the village and will be in place for about two months before moving on to another village.

After some discussion on the quality of grass cutting in the village, it was agreed that at this time it would be a step too far to seek to take that operation over from the County but that we should seek to work with the NCC to improve the quality of their work.

The PC noted with approval the progress towards the second phase of the project to bring superfast broadband to Coquetvale parishes and agreed to put a note round to each house asking those with internet connections to log on and register an interest in faster speeds so as to help the grant application.

The search for a new editor for the website continues, Tony Meikle has now said that he would continue to do the technical work if another person or small team took over the responsibility for updating and providing new content. This is most helpful as it means no specialist technical knowledge is needed. Chris Livsey has agreed to contact neighbouring parishes to see whether they would be interested in joining with Glanton to have an area website rather than just restricting it to one village, and this may also widen the scope for recruiting volunteers.

It was agreed that George Dodds would liaise with the volunteers who maintain the planters and beds in the village to co-ordinate plantings and that the PC would discuss at their next meeting whether or not to take part in Britain in Bloom next year. The planter on the corner of West Turnpike and Front Street will be rebuilt during the winter.

It was agreed that the Snow Squad would be reactivated again this winter as it was so successful in preventing any snow at all falling last season.

*Jon Radgick*

## Mobile Library Route Reminder

Residents in Northumberland have been enjoying an enhanced mobile library service following a major review of the service earlier in the year.

New routes and timetables were introduced across many parts of Northumberland at the beginning of April creating what was hoped to be a better and more consistent service for all of the mobile library users.

Changes that were implemented included:

- Regular fortnightly stops across the county
- A new Saturday service in some areas
- Longer stops in central locations
- Regular stock changes

For detailed timetables see: [www.northumberland.gov.uk/mobilelibraries](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/mobilelibraries). Alternatively you can speak to a librarian in your local library or call the council's customer contact centre on 0845 600 6400.

The mobile library will stop outside the Queen's Head Pub, Glanton between 9:30am and 9:50am once a fortnight on Tuesdays starting with Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November

## Snow Squad

We got so well organised last year and then there was no snow! Let's see if we can repeat that success.

We want volunteers who are prepared to help their neighbours in the event that we suffer a prolonged period of significant snow by offering lifts if you have a 4wd, doing a spot of shopping, picking up a prescription, walking a dog, basically whatever someone less mobile cannot manage. If you are prepared to be part of this please contact one of the three village co-ordinators

John Lang 578658 [john.lang@rydal-images.com](mailto:john.lang@rydal-images.com)  
Lynne Livsey 578459 [lynne.livsey@btinternet.com](mailto:lynne.livsey@btinternet.com)  
Jon Radgick 578222 [jon@oldmotorhouse.co.uk](mailto:jon@oldmotorhouse.co.uk)



## Children in Need Coffee Morning



Over the next month I am going to be raising money for Children in Need as part of my Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award.

I will be holding a **Coffee Morning** in Glanton Memorial Hall, with a toy stall, cake stall and tombola, on:

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November**  
**10am-12pm**

Donations for the tombola and stalls would be welcomed and can be left at Robert's shop from 29<sup>th</sup> October. Please come along and support this worthy cause.

By the time you read this I will hopefully have completed a **Sponsored Bike Ride** around Kielder Water on 27<sup>th</sup> October. If you would like to sponsor me you can still do so until 16<sup>th</sup> November. My fundraising page can be found at:

[www.mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/totaldizzle](http://www.mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/totaldizzle)

Children in Need supports a wide variety of projects throughout the country, and with your help I hope to help make a difference to the lives of disadvantaged children and young people.

**Show Your Spots – Let's Raise Lots!**

*Thomas Dodds*

## St Mary's Sale of Work

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November  
2:00pm at Glanton Memorial Hall



Cakes, produce, tombola, raffle, white elephant stall, refreshments, books and much more!

Everyone is very welcome and your support is much appreciated.

## Looking Through A Lens

Until not-that-many years ago, the final stage of my photographic process was always the anxious wait for my film to be developed and printed by the local photo lab (despite being a keen photographer, I have never had my own darkroom). Nowadays, however, the majority of my photography is with a digital camera, and I can see the results much more quickly and easily, simply by downloading the images to my computer and viewing them on a screen.

However, for all the speed and convenience of viewing a digital image, I still think that there is nothing like the experience of a well-printed image – regardless of whether it has come from a film or a digital source. Getting the best out of the printing process doesn't have to be complicated or expensive, but there are a few things to bear in mind if you want to really do justice to your images.

Technology gets ever cheaper, and it's possible to get a printer that's eminently capable of producing photographic prints, for a price that would have seemed laughably cheap only a few years ago.

One of the reasons that printer prices are coming down is that printer manufacturers quite often sell them at less than cost price, using them as loss-leaders for where the real money is: ink. Branded ink (i.e. ink cartridges made by the same manufacturer as your printer) can seem eye-wateringly expensive for the amount that you actually get. That being the case, it can be tempting to seek out lower cost alternatives, such as brand-compatible cartridges or refill kits.

Aside from highly specialist/professional bulk ink dispensing systems (for which the initial outlay can be more than printer manufacturer-branded inks) such compatible cartridges and refills represent a false economy. The quality of print that you get using compatible or refilled cartridges invariably falls short of what you would get with genuine ink cartridges from your printer's manufacture. If you've invested money in camera equipment, and invested time in capturing some great images, then it's worthwhile paying for good ink cartridges to print those photographs with.

The other key element is, of course, paper. For printing photographs you will obviously need "photo paper", but that term covers a bewildering array of paper types and finishes.

Paper for printing photographs is typically a much heavier grade than the sort of paper that you use for general document printing. Probably the most common type has a gloss finish, similar to that which you get on prints from a photo lab. However, there are many other types of finish, from very high gloss through to matt, via semi-gloss, satin, pearl and all sorts of textured papers.

Given such a range of paper types, it's natural to ask "what's the best type to use?" The answer is "it depends". It depends partly on personal taste, but it can also depend on the photograph that you're printing. Personally I tend to favour a pearl or satin finish paper for colour photographs – to my eye this just looks better than glossy finish. For black and white images though I'll usually go for a glossy finish, particularly if the image has a lot of contrast. Ultimately though, it's really a matter of personal preference.

Finally, having selected the paper of your choice, it's essential that you set your printer to use the paper correctly. This varies from computer to computer, and from printer to printer, but the basic process is generally the same. When you come to print an image, select the printer properties and specify high quality printing and also the type of paper that you are using. This will ensure that ink is dispensed from the printer in a way that's matched to the surface type of the paper, the way it absorbs the ink, and how the ink dries. If you're really serious about printing, some paper manufacturers will supply you with a custom printer profile, specifically tailored to your printer and their paper, to really get optimum results.



Glanton © Dave Dixon LRPS

### **Top Tip**

A number of paper manufacturers sell sample packs – for a modest outlay you can get a selection of maybe a dozen or so different types of paper to experiment with – much more cost effective than having to buy full-sized packs of paper to experiment with. Tracking down just the right paper can be a bit of a challenge, but the trial and error is worth it in the end. Good luck!

*Dave Dixon*

## **Feed the Birds**

2012 has been a very odd year in terms of weather. A dry, late winter and early spring was followed by one of the worst periods of wet weather in living memory. Late frosts and a lack of sunshine have meant that the fruit and seed crop is relatively poor, although some fruits, such as hawthorn and rowan, are still in reasonable supply in places. It is therefore more important this autumn and winter that we provide supplementary food for our birds. Below is a summary of the types of food that can be put out and what they will attract:

### **Bird seed mixtures**

These are often the most popular sources of food that are used to attract birds to our gardens. This source of food can be put in bird feeders, on the bird table or scattered on the ground. It can also be mixed with fat to create tasty fat balls that can be hung around the garden. Fat balls are especially usefully if there is a perceived problem with rodents. Small seeds such as linseed and millet attract birds such as dunnocks, robins, and finches whilst blackbirds especially seek out flaked maize. Many of the tits and greenfinches favour peanuts and sunflower seeds. Pinhead oatmeal can be especially popular with many of our garden visitors. Try to avoid mixtures with wheat, barley, peas, dried rice or lentils as this only attracts the large species such as wood pigeons, collared doves and pheasants and the small birds are more reluctant to approach the feeder. Furthermore, try to avoid mixtures with broken dog biscuits, as these are unsuitable for many species.

### **Black sunflower and or nyjer seeds**

This source of seed is particularly popular with species such as tits, goldfinches and siskins. These seeds have a rich source of oils.

### **Peanuts**

These are rich in protein and are a popular source of food for many garden birds such as tits, greenfinches, nuthatches, great spotted woodpeckers and house sparrows. Chopped or crushed peanuts will attract robins, wrens, long tailed tits and even treecreepers. Salted or dry roasted peanuts should not be used. Take care in sourcing your peanuts as they can contain a naturally occurring toxin – aflatoxin.





## **Live food**

Mealworms are especially favoured by robins, blackbirds and blue tits and may attract birds such as pied wagtails.

Foods that should not be put out for birds include fat from roasting tins, polyunsaturated fats or vegetable oils, desiccated coconut, milk, cooked rice (any type), porridge and mouldy foods (some moulds can cause respiratory problems).

A good range of food types will attract a range of different species of birds. Future articles will look at the types of feeders to use, bird table design and bird boxes. Feeding the birds can be a welcome distraction to the gloomy winter weather.



*Jack Daw*

## **Website Editor**

We are looking for a person or a small team to coordinate new content for the website. This would involve diary dates for forthcoming events, local information services such as police, local transport, snow squad etc, encourage more local organisations to get involved, solicit features, photos, recipes etc.

You would simply email content to the current editor Tony Meikle who will continue to deal with actually putting the information onto the website itself. Shared between two or three people these tasks would not be onerous and should be quite satisfying as the website evolves and is shaped by you. Contact either Tony Meikle (578546) or Jon Radgick (578222) to discuss your involvement.

## **Hall AGM**

Glanton Memorial Hall's AGM will take place on the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2012, starting at 7pm in the hall.

All are welcome

## Wednesday is Bell View Day

Bell View already support the Coffee Break on the second Wednesday of each month and the Lunch Club on the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Glanton Memorial Hall. They are now bringing the Parishes of Glanton, Hedgeley and Whittingham a new great service. From November, the first and third Wednesdays of the month will be shopping trips days. These will be facilitated by Bell View's new purpose built mini bus which has been specially fitted to make it accessible to all.

The first trip will be to Morpeth on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November, the cost will be £7.50 per person. You will be collected from your own home between 10:00am and 10:30am, transported to Morpeth for shopping and lunch which will last about three hours and then you will then be dropped home between 3:00pm and 4:00pm and your shopping carried into your home. The trips are accompanied by two qualified workers to assist throughout the outing to make it a pleasant day out and cover any problems that may arise.

It is then planned to hold a second trip on the 21<sup>st</sup> of November, discussions will be held on the first trip to decide the destination of this trip. We are planning a mega trip to Newcastle on the 5<sup>th</sup> December - this will follow the same format and the cost will be £12. It will be a great opportunity for all that Christmas shopping!

Places for all these trips are restricted. To book your place, ring Jane Field at Bell View on 01668 219220. Jane will take the booking and discuss any extra support you may need during the outing. We look forward to welcoming you on one of the shopping trips as well as at the monthly Coffee Breaks and Lunch Clubs. **Remember Wednesday is Bell View Day.**



### Cheviot Valley Flower Club

28<sup>th</sup> November 2012  
Mr Derek Armstrong  
*"At Home for Christmas"*



Tickets available on the door or by calling Pat Hall on 01665 574 017.

All are welcome!

northumberland theatre company presents...

# GRIMM

## Tales

A collection of forgotten fairy tales for a winters night

ADAPTED BY  
**Carol Ann Duffy**

DRAMATISED BY  
**Tim Supple**

DIRECTED BY  
**Gillian Hambleton**

DESIGNED BY  
**Michelle Huitson**

**Glanton Memorial Hall**  
**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2013 at 6:30pm**  
**Adults: £7.00 Under 14s: £4.00**

Grimm Tales is described as *“ideal seasonal entertainment for family audiences with lots of music, scary moments and plenty of fun”* and is suitable for children aged 6 and above.

For more information, visit the NTC website:  
[www.northumberlandtheatre.co.uk](http://www.northumberlandtheatre.co.uk)

## St Andrews United Reformed Church, Glanton

It seems strange writing about Christmas in the middle of October, but yet when you look through the windows of the shops all the Christmas 'things' have been out since August in some cases. There was a time when Christmas was kept for Christmas, and whilst people probably still prepared early and some perhaps even put up decorations far too soon, I really don't remember the Christmas 'things' being on sale in August! (And I'm not even that old.)

Life is about change though, isn't it? Nothing stays the same, everything changes, the seasons, the weather, the length of our days, life is really all about change, that is probably why life is so often referred to as a journey. So as we acknowledge this fact then, as a church, and also as community, we're going to say goodbye to two people who have been a part of life here for many, many years. Pat and Marion Guiry are going to continue life's journey as they take up residence in Wooler, and I'm sure that they won't be strangers for long, with their family still being in the area. I suspect that we'll still see them around.

We wish them every blessing in their new home and hope that they settle quickly into their new life together. And for the rest of us, as we await the arrival of Christmas, may we recognise the huge change that the coming of Christ brought to our world. For example we count the years from his birth and many of our closely held morals and beliefs are taken from his life and teachings. But the biggest change comes when we receive him, not as the babe of Christmas, but as God's Son, who lived and died and rose again that we might see God in and through him, and know the depth of God's love for us all.

Happy Christmas,

*Edward*



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**For service times please see notice board**

From Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November URC services will be held at 2:30 p.m.

All are welcome to come and join us.

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*If you'd like us to pray for you then please email me or give me a ring*

☎: 01670 783452

✉: [ed.butlin@btinternet.com](mailto:ed.butlin@btinternet.com)

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## Christmas Events and Services

8 <sup>th</sup> Dec – 10:30 am	Christmas Coffee Morning	(URC)
18 <sup>th</sup> Dec – 7:30 pm	Carols @ the Queens Head	(URC)
23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec – 2:30 pm	Village Carol Service followed by mulled wine and shortbread	(URC)
24 <sup>th</sup> Dec - 8:00 pm	First Mass of Christmas	(St Ninian's, Wooler)
24 <sup>th</sup> Dec - Midnight	First Mass of Christmas	(St Mary's, Whittingham)
25 <sup>th</sup> Dec - 10:00am	Christmas Day Mass	(St Mary's, Whittingham)

## The Police and Crime Commissioner elections

Elections will be held in November to choose police and crime commissioners who will replace police authorities currently in charge of 41 forces in England and Wales.

PCCs, as they will be known, will not run the police, but will be responsible for setting priorities for their police force, overseeing its budget and hiring the chief constable.

The elections will take place on Thursday 15 November 2012 with polling booths open from 7am until 10pm on that day. The polling station in the village is the Glanton Memorial Hall. Registered voters in Northumberland are being asked to turn out and use their vote for the PCC candidate they want to represent their police force area.

The political parties will be putting candidates forward and will be canvassing support at the appropriate time.

For further information about the role PCCs will play in Northumbria Police force and the powers that they will have, visit the Home Office website <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/pcc>

**Don't forget to vote!**



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

*An emotional, but awe-inspiring adventure.*

Arriving in Lesotho we were welcomed by hundreds of smiling children at a community football festival, where we played getting-to-know-you games, a football tournament and chatted. We were then brought down to earth with a bump, when the director of the Malealea Development Trust (MDT) said quietly to us, *'did you know, all these children are orphans'*.

Such a friendly place, but you can see the pain behind the faces of those we met. Hundreds of children orphaned through AIDS, smoke related diseases and accidents. The average life expectancy is just 43, so there are few grandparents to look after these children, and no orphanages. We met many 12 or 13 year olds who are head of the family, supported by their community and, in a limited way, by the MDT.

Blown around in the sandstorms, as the wind blew away the soil, and rain eroded the land, the scouts worked hard to plant trees to reduce soil erosion, and to provide fruit and firewood. They demonstrated some of the 50 clean-burn stoves we took out, that burn so hot that the smoke combusts, thus saving lives.

Back home, as we enjoy the fruits of nature's harvests here in Northumberland, despite the terrible weather, we are a world away from the suffering in Lesotho's barren landscape. If you are able to help us with donations of flat shoes or money for the orphans, please get in touch.

To join our scouting adventures, contact Group Scout Master:

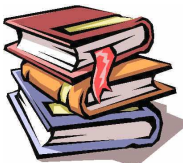
Ninette Gray

01665 574733

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

## Whittingham Book Sales

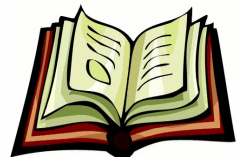
For those who like to be organised, the first few sales of 2013 will be on:



Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> January

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May



Anybody who is specifically interested in "Whittingham Vale" should keep an eye out...

## Village Shop & Post Office Christmas Openings

Christmas Eve – Open as usual

Christmas Day – Closed

Boxing Day – Open 9:00am until 10:00am for newspapers. No Post Office services

New Year's Eve – Open as usual

New Year's Day – Open 9:00am until 10:00am for newspapers. No Post Office services

For any further changes or updates please keep an eye on the opening times sign on the shop door.

## WI Recipe

*These no-bake sweets are quick, easy to make and perfect to serve after Christmas Dinner or to give as homemade presents.*

### Ingredients:

400g icing sugar

1tsp glycerine

2 small egg whites

Flavouring e.g. peppermint essence

Food colouring



Top Tip – you can use any colour and flavour in this mixture! Kids will love experimenting!

### Method:

- Sift the icing sugar into a bowl and add the glycerine.
- Beat the egg whites and add a little at a time to the icing sugar to form a firm paste.
- Add the peppermint essence and any food colouring you like one drop at a time
- Knead the paste until smooth on a board sprinkled with icing sugar.
- Roll the mixture to about 1cm thickness.
- Cut out shapes using small shaped cutters and place each shape on baking sheets dusted with icing sugar until they harden.
- This recipe makes approximately 30 sweets.

## Superfast Broadband coming to Glanton – but only if you help!

Improved broadband speed is rapidly becoming a necessity for those wanting to run a business from this village, and would be a great benefit to everyone who uses the internet for non-business use as well, including schoolchildren and students.

Superfast broadband could soon be available for Glanton; there is an application in for a £1million grant to help pay the costs for the outer Coquetvale parishes which includes Glanton. This is a once only opportunity to take advantage of funding from DEFRA, if we don't get the grant we won't get the uprated broadband for many years if at all, there is no second chance.

The key to getting the grant is the percentage of internet users who register as being interested in upgrading. You can do this by inputting your details on:

[www.icoquetdale.co.uk](http://www.icoquetdale.co.uk)

If you have a computer and you have not already done so **please register today**. There is no obligation to subscribe or purchase anything, it is simply an expression of interest. The availability of superfast broadband will give Glanton an advantage above those villages which don't have it, and I am absolutely convinced that it will be an important consideration for house buyers in the future.

Don't miss out for want of a couple of minutes\*, the financial benefits to the village will be huge, and the grant is there for the asking, but we all have to join in the project. **Please do it now!**

*Jon Radgick*

\* Note from the editor – having followed the link whilst putting together the newsletter, I can vouch for Jon in that it really does take only a couple of minutes to do!

