

Swarland Village Action Group Committee:

Chairman: Neil Mansfield, Secretary / Editor: Bryan Stanley.

Treasurer: Susan Richardson.

Committee Members: Robert & Sue Brotherton, Carmen Hubbard, John Richardson and Suzanne Stanley.

Write it Down Now

Please supply information to the Editor for inclusion in the August issue by **Thursday 27th July 2023.**

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

The cost of production of this issue of
The Column has been met by
**Newton on the Moor
& Swarland Parish Council**
and
Swarland Village Action

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

**This service is currently open
from 8.00 to 10am every day**

Newspapers and magazines may be ordered and reserved.

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

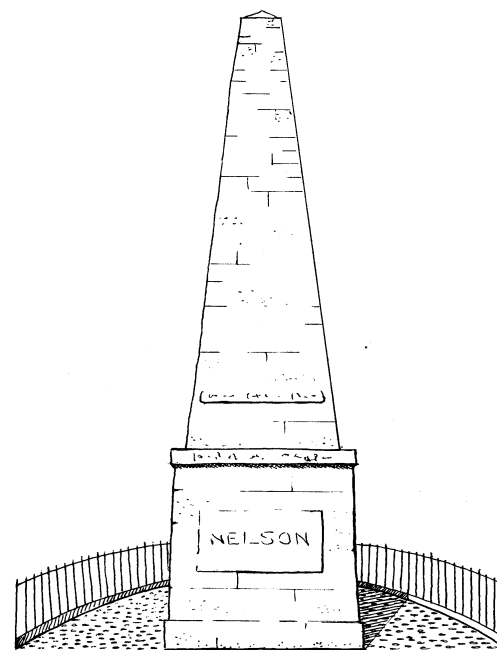
The Post Office is now providing its
Monday and Thursday service from 8 – 10.00am.

SWARLAND VILLAGE WORKING MEN'S CLUB

Tel. 01670 787 825

Swarland Club is pleased to support *The Column*.

The Column



June 2023

Produced by

Swarland Village Action

Newsletter 125

SNAC hopes for the new bus service(s) to Swarland and NotM. See article below.

Welcome to this issue of The Column, and if you're new to the area, a special welcome to you. **To include something, however small, in the August issue, please supply it by Thursday 27th July 2023. Send it to: The Editor, Bryan Stanley, on 01670 787 916 or by email at maxitoby1@gmail.com .**

Swarland Village Hall

The Hall, which is run as a community facility, is available for hire. **Please support this local amenity.** If you wish to check on whether you can book the Hall for a future event, please contact Bryan Stanley (contact details elsewhere in this issue) or Steve Woolfrey (stevewoolfrey.pc@outlook.com or 01670 787 883). **Please note that activities are now back to normal after the Hall's refurbishment.**

Archery Practice: Mondays (indoors) at 7pm. For information on extra outdoor sessions held throughout the summer contact **Steve** on Family.Woolfrey@outlook.com or **01670 787 883**. The Club can supply all equipment.

Bootcamp: meets on Tuesdays 5.30 – 6.30pm will probably return when the weather deteriorates. Hopefully outside for some time now. Contact Jo on **07803 272785** for further details.

Crafty Friends: meet on 4th Saturday morning of each month. For more information contact Linda on 07789 887424.

Karate Classes: Tuesdays 5.30 - 8.30pm. Temporarily on hold. Contact Ashleigh Davidson on 07947 694 014 or 07930 838 872.

Qi Gong (Chinese Energy Exercise) Class: Wednesdays, 10 – 11 and 11.15 – 12.15. Waiting lists are currently full – for details contact Anne Raine on **07934 425 844**.

Swarland Craft Group: Wednesdays, 1.30 – 3.30pm. No meetings in July or August. New members are welcome. All enquiries to: **Margaret on 01670 787 705**.

Swarland Carpet Bowls: Thursdays, 7pm. August to end of March. New members are always welcome. If you would like to give it a try, contact **Malcolm or Joan Nesbit on 01670 783 140**.

The Craft Group will not be meeting in Swarland Village Hall over the summer during **July and August**. It will recommence its weekly meetings on **Wednesday 6th September**. If you would like to know more, please contact Margaret on 01670 787705.

Neighbourhood Watch Update – May 2023

Swarland / Newton on the Moor:

Today (18/05/23) I have not as yet received any news from the police concerning criminal activity in either Swarland or Newton on the Moor. Once more, this is good news.

However, I am given to understand that there has been a break-in at Nelsons and that the cash till was taken, together with some soft drinks. Although this was not a domestic burglary, it does remind us not to become complacent about our own security.

Of General Interest

If residents have information on any crime, please report this via the following numbers: Emergency issues 999, non-emergency issues Tel. 101. To contact Rothbury Police, phone 101 ext 61353, e-mail alnwick.npt.northumbria.pnn.police.uk , or call in at the office in the Coquetdale Centre, Church Street, Rothbury. If the office is unattended, please use the yellow phone on the wall and an officer will be able to assist with your enquiry.

NW Co-ordinator, Harold Hinchliffe, 2 Nile Drive, Swarland. Tel. 07713 097 250

Support for Newton on the Moor & Swarland Residents

This is just a reminder that support is always there from the 45 residents in the Parish who first volunteered to help out their neighbours during the Coronavirus Emergency.

The sort of support the volunteers can provide is as follows;

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

If you need help, email (if possible) janandersonpc@gmail.com or telephone 07775 060430 preferably during office hours.

Best wishes, Jan Anderson (Parish Clerk)



**Deadline for items for the August issue of
The Column: Thursday 27th July 2023.**

Jubilee Hall Newton on the Moor

Our Easter coffee morning on **8th April** was a great success and everyone appeared to enjoy the Easter baking theme and of course the Easter egg raffle. Thanks as ever to all those who came along and supported our Village Hall.

Our next coffee morning will be on **17th June**, we have had to change from the second Saturday of the month due to unforeseen circumstances. We hope you shall still be able to come along and enjoy the cheery atmosphere – who knows the sun may even come out and we can sit outside!

In the evening of the **17th June** there will be a fun music event, **Midsummer Madness**, given by the **Hall Fiddlers** along with **Swarland Choir**. The event is in aid of Hall funds and there is a £5 fee, bring your own snacks and we shall be running a bar. Doors open at 7.00 pm.

To keep up to date with our events or book the Hall, you can access our website. You can also use it to research other village halls across the county and see what they have going on. Use the address below and then click on the icon for the Jubilee Hall. <https://northumberlandvillagehalls.org.uk/> .

Diane Williams

Swarland Moor Local Heritage Group

In April, the group received an excellent talk from **Neil Storey**, a social historian. Neil talked about **Northumberland in the Great War** and the profound impact the conflict had on our county, communities and its people, 1914-1918. Neil was very entertaining and his knowledge and enthusiasm was apparent; the evening was very successful.

In May, **Chris Hunwick** delivered an excellent talk on the **Archives of the Duke of Northumberland**. Chris has been the Archivist to the Duke of Northumberland for many years. He provided an excellent talk which was enjoyed by all who attended.

The final talk of this season will take place on **June 13th** when **Tim Maxwell** will tell us about his experience in restoring the **Victorian greenhouse at Felton Park** which is one of only 2 or 3 in the country. It is a greenhouse that I am sure many of you will be familiar with.

We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 in Swarland Village Club. If you enjoy local history and heritage topics, please come and join us. Further information can be found on our Facebook page or by emailing: swarlandmlhg@gmail.com .

Lesley Selfe

NotM & Swarland Parish Council - May 2023

Annual meetings

Two parish meetings with very similar names took place consecutively on 24th May. The Annual Parish Meeting was a meeting for all electors, at which the PC Chairman, David Francis presented a report of the past year. He welcomed the significant progress and growth in voluntary work undertaken by the wider community through, for example, Vyner Park, the two village halls, SNAC (the climate change group), the emerging Neighbourhood Plan, and the litter-pick. The Parish Council had made effective use of the newly-adopted Northumberland Local Plan in making the case for or against planning proposals. As anticipated, the accounts yielded a surplus / underspend, of £2.3k, which justified the reduction in our Council Tax precept for this new year. The meeting also welcomed Ken Walters' kind offer to re-paint the names on the sponsored bricks which make up the planter in Swarland Square.

This meeting was followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, at which the various annual appointments were made, and the accounts were signed-off as part of the annual audit process.

Website

The Parish Council (PC) is updating and improving its website, and the new site will be going live in early June. As well as providing details of PC meetings and policies etc., the site will have a number of new features. These will include a Directory of community venues and clubs, and an Events calendar. If you would like to have details of your club or society included, or events that you would like to add to the calendar please email Jan, the Parish Clerk.

The new PC website site can be found at newtonswarlandpc@org.uk .

Local Transport Plan 2024

We have received from the County Council its annual invitation to submit three priorities for possible inclusion in next year's local transport plan. We are minded to re-submit those that we made last year, which includes the improvement of NCC's own unadopted roads in Swarland, and the provision of safer walking routes to new bus stops on the A1.

PC Clerk, Jan Anderson - janandersonpc@gmail.com or 07775 060 430. PC website: newtonswarlandpc@org.uk.

Recycling, Wants & For Sale Corner

Why not recycle your unwanted items through The Column? Recipients of free items can make a donation towards this newsletter's running costs. Items for sale? – If successful, the seller can make a similar donation.

Neighbourhood Plan for our Parish

Newton on the Moor and Swarland Parish Council has agreed that a Neighbourhood Plan should be prepared for our Parish.

A Neighbourhood Plan will:

- * Relate to a wide range of planning and regeneration issues: social, economic, and environmental.
- * Detail the vision our communities have for the future of the villages within the Parish.
- * Enable our communities to take the lead in producing this document.
- * Form, once made, part of the statutory development plan and have to be referred to when Northumberland County Council (NCC) makes planning decisions.

If you want to know more about Neighbourhood Plans, please go to: neighbourhoodplanning.org/wp-content/uploads/NP_Roadmap_online_full.pdf .

Do you have the time to help us to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan?

A group of six local residents from within the parish and four Parish Councillors have already agreed to help to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. They will need more help from time-to-time and may also need help from those with special skills or knowledge such as IT, community engagement, planning, event organisation, advertising etc.

The group will:

- * Review existing evidence on key matters for the parish with documents such as the Parish Plan, the last Census and the documented history for the Parish.
- * Ensure that as many people and businesses within the parish as possible are approached for their views.
- * Prepare a questionnaire for residents of and businesses within the parish to complete so that a range of views have been canvassed.
- * Help identify overall aims for future development and growth within the parish. In due course, as part of the process, you will have the opportunity to vote on the draft Neighbourhood Plan. Your support for the work that they will be doing and the Neighbourhood Plan that they will prepare will be of paramount importance to the future of our local area.

If you would like to be involved in this important project, either as part of the Steering Group or as a volunteer generally, or would just like to know more, please contact Liz Simpson (Secretary to the Steering Group) either by email: SNSG23@outlook.com , marked 'For the attention of Liz' or by phone: 07817 135932. If you feel that you could represent your community then please do get in touch.



News from Swarland and Newton Action on Climate (SNAC)

We're pleased to be able to bring you some further news about the new bus service for Swarland and Newton. NCC has told us that it is about to go out to tender and hopes to award the contract in the next 4-5 weeks. We're then hoping that the service will be able to start around the beginning of the school summer holidays.



With the increase in the cost of energy many people are starting to consider 'green' energy options such as solar panels or heat pumps. It can be difficult to know where to start, especially if you have an older property. That's why we're running an event on **Saturday June 24th at 10.30 am** called **'Everything you ever wanted to know about...Renewable Energy'**. Our main speaker is **Brian Watson**

(Domestic Carbon Reduction Officer from Community Action Northumberland) and you'll also be able to hear from three local householders who have already installed different renewable energy technologies. They will also be taking part in our Panel Q&A session. The event is open to everyone and free tea and coffee will be available from 10.00 am. Look out for the posters or visit us at www.snac.online for more details.

You can also find **Swarland and Newton Action on Climate** on **Facebook** too, so please do 'follow us' for the latest information and news about talks, walks and other events.

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday June 20th at 7pm at Swarland Club** – everyone is welcome to come along. You can find out more about SNAC at www.snac.online or by emailing Liz Clark (on behalf of SNAC) at talktosnac@gmail.com .

Liz Clark (on behalf of SNAC)

**Deadline for items for the August issue of
The Column: Thursday 27th July 2023.**

SWARLAND & NotM SHOW

Saturday 2nd September 2023

11am - 4pm at Vyner Park

Admission £5 per person (under 4s free)

Children's main attractions included in admission fee.

Dog Show / Lazer Quest / Bouncy Vibe /
Classic Vehicles / Bar & BBQ.

Market & Industrial Tents / Archery plus much more!

Show Classes

Light-hearted competitions for the whole family.

To request a copy of the schedule and entry form contact us.

Copies also available in Nelson's Cafe at Vyner Park.

Show Day Volunteers Required

1 – 2-hour shifts. Full training given. Over-18s only please.

Please Donate Tombola Prizes

Small toys, fidget spinners, colouring books etc.

Bottles of booze.

Please drop off at Nelson's Cafe.

We Need Your Bakes!

All makes of cake, scones and cupcakes
will be gratefully accepted.

For further details about any of the above,
please contact: swarlandvillageshow@gmail.com .

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO
OUR SMALL BUT MIGHTY VILLAGE SHOW!**



**Deadline for items for the August issue of
The Column: Thursday 27th July 2023**

Mobile Library Dates

The NCC mobile library comes to our parish on some Wednesdays. It stops in **Swarland opposite The Square from 10.00 - 11.00am** and **Newton on the Moor from 11.10 - 11.30am**. If you miss either of these it's also in **Guyzance from 11.40am – 12.00** and **Old Felton from 12.15 – 12.35pm**. The next visits in our area will be on **7th June, 5th July and 2nd August**.

You can check NCC's website for further library information at northumberland.spydus.co.uk/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/msgtrn/wpac/home .

News from Felton Surgery Patient Participation Group

It is anticipated that a planning application for the new Felton Surgery could be submitted soon, giving you a further opportunity to comment directly to the Northumberland County Council Planning Department on what will be proposed.

Plans for Felton do not affect the services at the Widdrington Surgery which continues to operate as usual. Future plans for renovations and improvements at the Widdrington Surgery premises will be announced in due course.

Due to an unexpected staff shortage, there can only be a restricted provision of reception staff at Felton. Please continue to phone 01670 787 353 to contact reception / book appointments, from 8.30am.

Staff and Clinics at Felton are as follows:

	Medicine Dispensary	GP face-to-face clinic	Health care Assistant	Practice Nurse
Monday	9.00 – 13.00	All day	Morning	-
Tuesday	10.30 – 13.00	-	-	-
Wednesday	9.00 – 13.00	Until 13.00	-	-
Thursday	9.00 – 13.00	-	-	18.30 – 20.00 once a month
Friday	9.00 – 13.00	Until 13.00	-	-

The Practice Nurse is now running further specialised clinics.

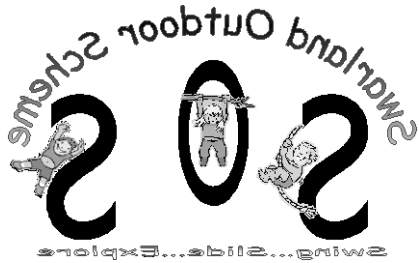
A full range of services is available at the Widdrington surgery Monday to Friday.

To keep up-to-date follow us on northumberland.health@nhs.net and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083005406969

On behalf of the Felton Surgery Patient Participation Group.

From The Column 20 years ago

Thank you



Thank you

Swarland Outdoor Scheme has come a long way since its humble beginnings in May 2002, and thanks to the support of the local community and the hard work of the committee our goal is in sight. Since our last entry in The Column back in June 2003 we have held a 'bat detecting' evening, celebrated Harry Potter's birthday and sold our filled jam jars at the Swarland Show. This has raised another £334 which all means we will be able to start building Swarland Playground by Spring 2004. Again, our thanks go out to all who have supported our many and varied fundraising activities, long may they continue!

Swarland Outdoor Scheme

Forthcoming Event

Saturday Xmas Party 6th December

Back by popular demand, one for the grown-ups!!
Disco, games, pooled supper, licensed bar, raffle, lots of fun.
Pencil it into your diaries, and lookout for more details at a
Post Office near you!!

SEE YOU THERE

If you would like to know more about SOS, make a donation, or support us in any other way, please contact:

SOS Chairperson,
3 Victory Drive,
Swarland

Newton-on-the-Moor Village Hall

has sadly lost its cleaner.

We are now looking for a cleaner to come and clean twice a month for about an hour. Days flexible to suit. Please contact Judy Williams on 01665 581531 to discuss.

Mobile Library Dates

The NCC mobile library comes to our parish on some Wednesdays. It stops in **Swarland opposite The Square from 10.00 - 11.00am** and **Newton on the Moor from 11.10 - 11.30am**. If you miss either of these it's also in **Guyzance from 11.40am - 12.00** and **Old Felton from 12.15 - 12.35pm**. The next visits in our area are on **7th June, 5th July and 2nd August**. You can check NCC's website for further library information at: northumberland.spydus.co.uk/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/msgtrn/wpac/home.

Lower Coquetdale Red Squirrels

We have sad news to report about Swarland Wood Red Squirrels - recently there has been one dead and one ill Red Squirrel. The dead one was sent away for a post mortem, which showed the possibility of squirrel pox; a full report is pending. Taken together with the presence of the ill Red this is indeed bad news for the small population in Swarland Wood. Squirrel pox is carried by Grey Squirrels, which are unaffected by it, and passed on to Red Squirrels, where it is always fatal. All feeders etc have been removed from the Wood because of the risk of cross-contamination between species. We will allow 6-8 weeks to pass before re-starting our monitoring which always includes spraying and cleaning our feeders with a veterinary disinfectant. Once again, we are grateful to the dog walker who reported the dead squirrel in the first place and to the horse riders who reported the ill one. We will be attending the meeting with Forestry England, to be held shortly in the Swarland Village Hall, in order to find out and clarify its plans for Red Squirrels and their habitat during the clear-felling and thinning of the wood which is due to take place later this year.

Wendy Fergie, for LCRS



**Deadline for items for the August issue of
The Column: Thursday 27th July 2023.**

