

AUGUST SEPTEMBER 2018



The Church and Community Newsletter
for the area around
Meldon Hartburn Harnham
Whalton Ogle Middleton
Netherwitton Nunnykirk Longwitton
Bolam Belsay Angerton

**Parishes of St Andrew's Bolam, St Giles Netherwitton, St Andrew's Hartburn
St John's Meldon, St Mary Magdalene Whalton.**

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This newsletter may be viewed in Colour on the Whalton Website;
<http://www.whaltonvillage.org.uk/about/church-of-st-mary-magdalene>

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Contributions and feedback are very welcome!

Deadline for Oct/November edition is September 15th. 6pm.

The magazine goes out every TWO months.

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Services August 2018

	Bolam	Hartburn	Meldon	Netherwitton	Whalton
5 th August G Trinity 10					10.30am HC Rev Fiona Sample & Pam Walker Readers: Lucy Bird, Di Robertson Sides: Pat Grix Flowers: Wendy Sheldon
RCL p 642	Exodus 16.2-4, 9-15; Ephesians 4.1-16; John 6.24-35				
12 th August G Trinity 11	10.30am HC Rev Fiona Sample & Pam Walker			<i>Flowers Marijke Robertson Reader Nicola Freeman-Wallace</i>	
RCL p 648	1 Kings 19.4-8; Ephesians 4.25-5.2; John 6.35, 41-51				
19 th August G Trinity 12				10.30am HC Rev Frances Dower & Pam Walker Flowers Marijke Reader John Trevelyan	
RCL p 653	Proverbs 9.1-6; Ephesians 5.15-20; John 6.51-58				
26 th August G Trinity 13			6pm Evensong (BCP)		10.30am Benefice Family Communion Rev Fiona Sample & Pam Walker Readers: Lady Bradbeer Marlene Young Sides: Di Robertson, Gary Holmes Flowers: Pat Grix
RCL p 660	Joshua 24.1-2a, 14-18; Ephesians 6.10-20; John 6.56-69				

Services September 2018

	Bolam	Hartburn	Meldon	Netherwiton	Whalton
2 nd September G Trinity 14	10am Morning Worship Pam Walker Reader: Hazel Niewkoop	11am HC Rev Jonathan Mason			9.30am HC Rev Jonathan Mason Readers: Lucy Bird, Di Robertson Sides: Gary Holmes Flowers :Lucy Bird
RCL p 664	Deuteronomy 4.1-2, 6-9; James 1.17-end; Mark 7.1-8, 14, 15, 21-23				
9 th September G Trinity 15	11am Matins Rev Jonathan Mason	10am Morning Worship Pam Walker		9.30am HC Rev Fiona Sample Flowers Jane Trevelyan Read Rachel Coundon	
RCL p 668	Isaiah 35.4-7a; James 2.1-17; Mark 7.24-end				
16 th September G Trinity 16					11am Harvest Festival HC Rev Fiona Sample Flowers/ Decoration: All Readers: Gary Holmes, Lady Bradbeer Sides: Pat Grix
23 rd September G Trinity 17	11am HC Rev Jonathan Mason			9.30am HC Rev Jonathan Mason Flowers Val Windle Read David Ronn	10am Family Service Pam Walker Readers: Marlene Young and children Flowers: Wendy Sheldon
RCL p 682	Wisdom 1.16-2.1, 12-22 <i>or</i> Jeremiah 11.18-20; James 3.13-4.3, 7-8a; Mark 9.30-37				
30 th September W Michael & All Angels	*	*	6pm Evensong BCP	*	*
		*: Sunday 30 th September at 10.30am : Joint Benefices Holy Communion at Kirkharle			

Dear Friends,

It has been an extraordinary year. It seemed winter would never end and now we are experiencing heat waves and are in need of rain. There have been weddings and Christenings and celebrations and sorrow. It is easy to find God in love and laughter but we wonder where he is when we face the challenges of life including sudden unexpected loss. The Sunday after David Walker's untimely death was Father's day. This is an abbreviated version of how I tried to rationalise events:

It cannot have escaped your notice that today is Father's day – with all that means in our culture – for retailers, parents and children. With the plethora of cards and advertisements encouraging you to buy anything from Gin to a tool kit for 'Dad' (I hope not the two together for the consequences could be dire) It will be a difficult day for all those who lost fathers recently and fathers who cannot be with their children.

It has been a challenging week for our tightly knit community. We have all been shocked and shaken by how suddenly life can change how someone, apparently fit and well, can be with us one moment, living and laughing and then be taken from us.

Most have experienced such sadness's before from accidents to illness. But we do not expect the young – and 62 is now considered young – to die in peace time Britain. Medical science is now so advanced – and advancing daily – we consider it should save all, and cure all, and that we have a right to live fit and healthy life into very old age.

Unexpected death tests our faith, our hope and our certainties. It poses uncomfortable questions and makes us all disturbingly aware of our own mortality. It is understandable to be angry, to talk of 'unfairness', to feel a raw sorrow for a family close to our hearts is understandable. For David's life was interwoven in this community as is Pam's.

Can we find hope in the celebration of Father's day?
I question many things – from my faith to aspects of society today – but one thing I am always sure of is that good can be found even in the darkest of times in the worst of situations.

As many of you will be aware the first Father's Day was celebrated in Washington State on June 19, 1910. A woman by the name of Sonora Smart Dodd came up with the idea of honouring and celebrating her father while listening to a Mother's Day sermon at church in 1909. He had brought up his family after his wife's early death and his daughter Sonora (then a child) felt this ought to be recognised – and it was and as a consequence we now all celebrate Father's day, one small seed of an idea growing into an international day when father's contributions are recognised.

Recent days have helped me appreciate what a wonderfully supportive community we live in, how very blessed we are, knowing this care surrounds us all. Everyone has been wonderful. It has also taught me that petty concerns - the trivia of life - and especially life within the Church - should be jettisoned - and friendship should be the focus.
And where is God in this sadness - the mess of life?

Any parent knows the complete unconditional love they bear their children, how we would rather suffer than see them suffering. But how ultimately we cannot protect them, try as we might.

We call God our father, as a father he loves us unconditionally but like any parent he cannot keep us safe. However, his love can and will sustain us - whether we recognise it or not. It is reflected in the many acts of kindness that have taken place recently and in the knowledge that life will go on and we will all get through whatever is thrown at us - some with greater ease than others - some by hiding their innermost fears - others by weeping openly and talking - but get through we will, and we will flourish.

Fiona



Can any one help? **A calligrapher is needed** to write beautifully in various books of Remembrance in our parishes. Eddie McDonnell did a lovely hand for Bolam for years, but gave up a while ago. Not much work to do, and your records will survive for many years! Please get in touch with any of the Clergy if you can help.

The Bolam Autumn tidy up and bonfire social will take place on Saturday afternoon October 13th All welcome to help from 2pm, relax and chat from 4pm. Bring tools, and some food/drink if you're able! Children welcome too of course!



Message from Revd Dr Frances Dower:

Here are my address and contact details for future newsletters, as I am taking services around the benefices and people can get in touch with me.

Honorary Assistant Priest Revd Dr Frances Dower
01670 774 297 frances.dower@dower.org.uk

1st July

A service was held at St Bartholomew Church, Kirkcubrighton to Celebrate the 25th anniversary of The Revered Jonathan Mason's Ordination as a Priest.

The Bishop of Argyll and the Isles preached. He had been instrumental in Jonathon's ordination and had conducted Jonathan and Sheila's wedding. The service was followed by a shared lunch and the presentation of a print by Eric Ravilious from his grateful parishes. We look forward to celebrating 50 years.

Memorable images from his address include the concept of an underground river, bursting out above ground to bring life and growth. That doubts are like temptations- they are tailored to you! How a modern word for Holiness is Integrity.

"Life is for love, and time is so that we may find God"





Eleanor, Matthew and I would like to thank everyone for their practical help, food, flowers and cards and letters in the days and weeks after David's death, but most importantly of all we want to thank you all for the love and good wishes that have surrounded us all. We would also like to thank everyone who made the time to attend his memorial service at Hartburn Church. Thank you too to the Wannieliners for their beautiful singing, Kathy Anderson for playing the organ and Fiona and Jonathan for conducting both services, at the crematorium and Church, so sensitively.

Your support means a great deal to all of us.

Thank You

Pam Walker

The Dance

My love you are gone,
our voyage together is over,
you are safe,
I know that to be true.
But we who are left are shipwrecked,
on shores of loneliness and grief,
we must chart our own way now.
Without our compass, the lodestone of our lives;
forgive us when we lose our way,
are blinded by our tears,
and deafened by our grief,
in time we will learn again,
to dance together,
as we journey towards you.
How could we do otherwise?
For you brought so much music to our lives.

Pam Walker

Weddings

26th May 2018

The marriage of Steven Matthews and Sarah Jane Trickey took place on a sunny Saturday at St Mary Magdalene Church Whalton.

Lord, sow in their lives the joy that comes from sharing and grows with giving.

30th June 2018

The Marriage of David Keggin Thomas and Hannah Frances Thick Le Couteur took place on a glorious summer's day at St Andrew's Church Bolam.

Remember, however turbulent the seas you sail on, many waters cannot quench love. Travel the journey of marriage with joy and have many adventures!

7th July 2018

The **Baptism** of Alexander James Michael Steward took place at St Mary Magdalene Church, Whalton. His Aunt Arran and Uncle Ian had been married in the church last year.

Jesus said 'let the children come to me, and do not stop them, because the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I assure you that whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it'

27th June

David Walker's cremation at Whitley Bay was followed by a Memorial Service at St Andrew's Hartburn. The Church was packed, standing room only, and so many friends brought kind memories of the David we all loved.

*Do not hurry as you walk with grief,
it does not help the journey. Walk slowly, pausing often
Do not hurry as you walk with grief.
Be not disturbed by memories that come unbidden.
Swiftly forgive;
And let Christ speak for you unspoken words.
Unfinished conversation will be resolved in Him.
Be not disturbed.
Be gentle with the one who walks with grief.
If it is you, be gentle with yourself.
Swiftly forgive, walk slowly, pausing often.
Take time, be gentle as you walk with grief.
Amen.*

Reflections.

One of my pet peeves is when an individual is described as of “high net worth”. Aside from being an ugly phrase, it is so reductive, it tells us nothing about the true worth of the person. Nothing about their talents, skills, the personal and spiritual gifts they possess or the positive contribution they make to society. The social capital they bring into their communities.

Is how much wealth a person can access really a measure of their worth? This is certainly not the Christian view “For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” and yet in today’s world we have an increasing tendency to equate wealth with worth. This doesn’t just happen with individuals, the failures of companies such as Carillion and BHS were in part a result of believing the balance sheets and looking no further. If the (supposed) wealth of these companies had not been the only indicator of their true worth, but how well they served their customers, staff, suppliers and so on I suspect their failures would have been identified far earlier.

Over the last thirty years this has also been happening in the charity sector, where large national and international charities have become more businesslike in their approach to income generation. Nothing wrong with that of course, but when it becomes the primary driver charities get into trouble.

Regarding work in the charitable sector as an increasingly highly paid career option for ambitious business managers rather than a vocation has not necessarily led to an improvement in the services provided by charities to their intended recipients. In fact quite the opposite. Several national disability charities have fallen into the trap of believing turnover is more important than service provision. One old established charity, set up to provide services and practical support for disabled adults and children, made the recent decision to stop providing services directly but instead would provide advice and be a signpost to other services. This made sound financial sense as it was much cheaper and easier to operate this way, but not everyone agreed. The families of disabled people have stopped fundraising for the charity, or leaving gifts in their wills, volunteers have left the charity in droves. In chasing the bottom line the charity has totally ignored and therefore squandered its social capital, which ironically is having financial implications.

And it is social capital, and of course spiritual capital that is vital to the church, for that is where our true wealth lies. After all we are told not to get too worked up about material values, instead “let us consider the lilies of the field”. As someone who has worked both in the public and charitable sector I know that good economic governance is important, but only so that we can further our work in building God’s kingdom on earth. The more we can utilise our social and spiritual capital the less reliant we become on money alone, but more importantly, we are utilising and giving life to that which is more important to God. One of the purposes of the new way of delivering ministry as a Rural Case Study, in which we are all engaged, is to harness the spiritual and social capital we have in our communities. Recent events have demonstrated to me how truly rich we are in the ways that matter.

Pam Walker

GOOD NEWS!



St. Giles Netherwitton has a newly surfaced car park and church path.

It is now safe to park when it is wet, without the need for a tow out and there is a smooth path from the church gates to the church door.

Looking forward to seeing you there
- whatever the weather!

A future for the “Village Shop”

Scots Gap Village shop has had a face lift to make an inviting shop. Dave has worked hard to give his shop a future, so come along for a newspaper, Rothbury bakery bread, a bottle of wine! Give the Village shop a future! We can do it!



Budding florists?

We would be very grateful for some offers of additional names willing to be added to the rota for supplying and arranging the flowers for the services in Whalton church. We take it in turns on a rota and whilst we would welcome a five star, award winning florist if, like the rest of us, you enjoy the simple pleasure of putting together a mixed bunch or two that would be tremendous. You'd only be on the rota once or twice a year.

Please contact Lucy Bird, lucy.bird18@gmail.com

The next meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council will be held on Monday 24th September commencing 730pm in Middleton Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend and ask questions on any agenda item.

Claire Miller, Clerk Wallington Demesne Parish Council

THANK YOU!

The Friends of the Marie Curie Hospice in Newcastle would like to thank everyone for their kind and generous support of the Yellow Ribbon Walk at Kirkharle on 13th May.

It raised just over £7000 towards the new Family Unit there. Construction starts in July and we expect an update on its progress in the late Summer. Meanwhile we continue to work towards our target figure and have planned a day of seasonal food and floral demonstrations on 15th November.

Whalton Gardening Club

New members are always welcome to join. We meet on the first Tuesday of each month (except January and August) - usually at 7.30pm in Whalton Village Hall. This occasionally varies when trips or special events are planned. Thanks go to Guy Young and Anna Sill for their commitment to the organisation of activities. Experience varies dramatically so do come along enjoy the camaraderie of gardening.

Each year Guy provides members with a seed potato, growing medium and a pot. Competition for the greatest weight of potatoes grown from that seed is fierce! Members plant their potato and nurture and guard it closely at home for the next few weeks. We then come together for the weigh in. Our thanks to Mr



Hugh Lough and Jamie Thompson at Whalton Gardening Club's annual Potato Weigh-in.

Norton for his hospitality in Whalton Manor's garden for this auspicious event.

No one shares their personal secrets of success but there are tales of woe. We now know that watering with screen wash and abandonment in favour of grand parental duties are not fruitful!

Karen Fenwick was crowned champion this year with a group beating total of 2lbs 3oz. Second was Sue Richardson with 1lb 13oz, and then Emma O'Neil with 1lb 9oz, just pipping Guy, Anna and Jane Armstrong with 1lb 8oz, 1lb 4oz and 1lb 2oz yields respectively. The rest of us fall into the "could do better" category in descending order: Di Robertson 12oz, Margaret Sewell and Debbie Stewart 11oz, Jamie Thompson and Wendy Sheldon with 10oz, Hugh Lough 8oz, Pat Grix 6oz and yours truly with a paltry 3.5oz! The first three and the booby prize all collected plants grown by Guy and fun was had by all. It should be noted that despite Karen's crowd beating success this year the record is retained by Shelley Clough with 4lbs 12oz in 2017! The prize for the heaviest individual potato went to Sue Richardson.



Whalton Gardening Club members' Great Potato weigh in.

WHALTON VILLAGE HALL

The new Chair of the Trustees is Mrs Shelley Clough,
Secretary is Mr Jamie Thompson

The new Caretaker is Ms Wendy Ridyard

For all enquiries please phone. 01670
775411 or email

Whaltonvillagehall@gmail.com

Website whaltonvillage.org.uk

The Wannie Liners Choir relax at the
summer BBQ, thanks to Gay and David.
They sing well, they eat well!



Academic Families are Scotland's premier guardian agency looking after international pupils who attend boarding schools throughout the UK, including the north of England. We're looking for caring people with a spare room to host a child for occasional weekends and short holidays.

We have amazing hosts from all walks of life, with spare rooms, who like to experience different cultures and languages. It's a really rewarding experience for both our hosts and our international children. You're fully supported by the Academic Families team.

All expenses are covered. If you would like an informal chat please get in touch and find out if hosting is for you.

07768 957963, laura@academicfamilies.com

Kirkwhelpington with Kirkharle & Kirkheaton, and Cambo

Services in August & September 2018

Sunday 5 th August	0930 Cambo	Holy Communion (CW)
TRINITY X	1100 Kirkwhelpington	Holy Communion (CW)
Sunday 12 th August	0930 Cambo	Holy Communion (CW)
TRINITY XI	1100 Kirkwhelpington	Holy Communion (CW)
Sunday 19 th August	0800 Kirkheaton	Holy Communion (CW)
TRINITY XII	1000 Kirkwhelpington	Morning Prayer (CW)
	1115 Kirkwhelpington	Holy Communion (CW)
Sunday 26 th August	0830 Kirkwhelpington	Holy Communion (BCP)
TRINITY XII	1030 Cambo	Morning Prayer (CW) with
Methodists		
Sunday 2 nd September	0930 Cambo	Holy Communion (CW)
TRINITY XIV	1100 Kirkwhelpington	Morning Worship in the
Show Tent		
Sunday 9 th September	0930 Cambo	Holy Communion (CW)
TRINITY XV	1100 Kirkwhelpington	Holy Communion (CW)
Sunday 16 th September	0800 Kirkheaton	Holy Communion (CW)
TRINITY XVI	1000 Kirkwhelpington	Morning Prayer (CW)
	1115 Cambo	Holy Communion (CW)
Sunday 23 rd September	0830 Kirkwhelpington	Holy Communion (BCP)
TRINITY XVII	1030 Scots Gap	Morning Worship with
Methodists		
Sunday 30 th September	1030 Kirkharle	Benefices' Holy Communion
(CW)		
MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS		

Bolam Readers			
August 12	HC	Bobbi Goldwater	Kit Pumphrey
Sept 2nd	family	Hazel Niewkoop	
9	Mattins	Tony Thick	Ann Le Couteur
23	HC	Lalage Carrick TBC	Dick Thompson TBC

Bolam	Flowers	Cleaning
ALL AUGUST	Jan Pumphrey	Jan Pumphrey
2nd September		Jan Pumphrey
9th	Sally + Sarah	Sally+ Sarah +Ann
16th		Ann
23rd	Bobbi + Ann	Ann
30th		Ann
7th October	Symons Family	Maureen
14th		Maureen

The Halford-Macleod concert at Hartburn raised just under £800 thanks to the very generous donations of the audience. It was a splendid exhibition of youthful musical talent- keep an eye out for this family in future!

LUNCH CLUB

The next Lunch Club will be on Tuesday 12th September 2018 at Hartburn Church.

12.00 for 12.30. £5 per head.

The October Lunch Club will be held on Tuesday 9th.

If you would like to attend please contact Pooh Stafford on 01670 772313.

All ages welcome.



FILM NIGHTS The next FILM NIGHT will be held on Friday 28th September 2018 Middleton Village Hall, 7.30 p.m. suggested donation £3
FILM THREE BILLBOARDS

The October FILM NIGHT will be held on Friday 26th, 7.30
FILM. THE GREATEST SHOWMAN



World War One Centenary Exhibition – St Mary Magdalene Church, Whalton
From 15th September 2018

In commemoration of the centenary of the end of the First World War, an exhibition of memories, artefacts and memorabilia of the War and those who took part from our parishes in any way, will be on display in the church from Saturday, 15th September 2018. If you have any items or records that you would be willing to loan or share - or to have photographed, scanned or recorded for the exhibition – we would love to hear from you. Please contact Sheila Lough, Sheila.lough1@gmail.com or Lucy Bird, lucy.bird18@gmail.com

15th September is the day of the annual Whalton Village Show, raising funds for Whalton Church, School and Village Hall. See additional entries in the magazine for more opportunities to be involved or just come along and enjoy everything the Show has to offer on the day.

Harvest Festival at Whalton is the following day, 16th September at 10.30am

Calling all who knit or crochet

If you are nimble with needles or want to try your hand at knitting or crochet, we would be most grateful for any donations of knitted poppies which we will use to enhance the exhibition. One pattern is below but there are lots of others available.

A pair of 4mm needles

Any Red and Black DK wool

Cast on 60 stitches using 4mm needles and using DK red wool

Rows 1-8 (K2,P2) to end

Change to Black wool

Row 9 (K2tog) to end (30sts)

Row 10 (S2kpo) to end (10sts)

Break off yarn leaving a long tail. Thread tail through remaining 10 sets and pull tight, then fasten off yarn. Join edges of the poppy together

Whether you make one or a few let Lucy or Sheila know and we can arrange to pick them up or for you to bring them to us if that's easier.

Bridget and Gary Holmes and Wendy Sheldon (L to R) - part of the cleaning 'posse' of St Mary Magdalene in Whalton. Anyone willing to become part of the posse is welcome. Future dates are August 2nd, October 6th and December 1st at 10.30am at the church.



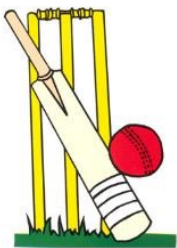
Hartburn, v Middleton/Angerton

Cricket Match

Sunday 12th August 2018

Kick off-2.0pm

At Angerton South Moor.



Having comprehensibly trounced Middleton once again last year the other side is attempting to fix the match by holding it on alien territory.

Charlie Bennet seems to think he can do the trick at his home. He says that he has a secret

weapon.

Good luck Charlie but keep your head down.

Those intelligent enough to want to play for Hartburn ring me on 01670 772313-otherwise ring Charlie on 01670 772230.

Refreshments as ever. Tim Stafford.

WHALTON VILLAGE SHOW 2018

Saturday
Sept 15th
11.00am to
5.00pm

As seen on Blue Peter:

Mark Wylie and 'The Drakes of Hazard'



- McGuinness School of Irish Dance • Sheep Racing •
- Classic Cars • Flower, Vegetable and Craft Show • Dog Show •
- Trade Stands • Homemade Refreshments •



For more information e-mail show@whaltonvillage.org.uk
or phone 07792 138383

15 SEPTEMBER 2018

- Adult £6.00 • Children £3.00 • Concessions £4.00 •
- Family ticket (2 adults and 2 children) £15.00 •

The Margaret Moore Trust - Handwriting Competition - 2018

The Margaret Moore Trust was created in 1720 from a bequest in the will of Margaret Moore who lived in Whalton. (There is a plaque in Whalton Church commemorating the gift of a field in Elsdon). She stipulated that the Trust should give individual grants to promote the education, including social and physical training, of boys and girls in the Parish. The Trustees have again decided to use the small income from the Trust to sponsor a handwriting competition for the Whalton Village Show in September.

There will be four categories with two prizes for each. **Reception and below** should draw a picture or make a collage of a bee visiting flowers or the seaside. **Years 1 & 2** should write out the poem 'At the Seaside' by Robert Louis Stevenson and decorate. **Years 3 & 4 (Lower Key Stage 2)** should write out the poem 'The Bee' by Emily Dickinson and decorate. **Years 5 & 6 (Upper Key Stage 2)** should write out the poem 'Jabberwocky' by Lewis Carroll and decorate.

All entries should be handed in to Whalton C. of E. or Belsay Primary schools with the child's name, school and date of birth on the back, by Friday 7th September 2018. Entries will be displayed in Whalton Church during the Show on 15th September.

<p><u>At the Seaside by Robert Louis Stevenson</u></p> <p>When I was down beside the sea A wooden spade they gave to me To dig the sandy shore. My holes were empty like a cup, In every hole the sea came up, Till it could come no more.</p>	<p><u>Jabberwocky by Lewis Carroll</u></p> <p>'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves Did gyre and gimble in the wabe: All mimsy were the borogoves, And the mome raths outgrabe.</p> <p>'Beware the Jabberwock, my son! The jaws that bite, the claws that catch! Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun The frumious Bandersnatch!'</p>
<p>THE BEE by Emily Dickinson</p> <p>Like trains of cars on tracks of plush I hear the level bee: A jar across the flowers goes, Their velvet masonry</p> <p>Withstands until the sweet assault Their chivalry consumes, While he, victorious, tilts away To vanquish other blooms.</p> <p>His feet are shod with gauze, His helmet is of gold; His breast, a single onyx With chrysoprase, inlaid.</p> <p>His labour is a chant, His idleness a tune; Oh, for a bee's experience Of clovers and of noon!</p>	<p>He took his vorpal sword in hand: Long time the manxome foe he sought— So rested he by the Tumtum tree, And stood awhile in thought.</p> <p>And, as in uffish thought he stood, The Jabberwock, with eyes of flame, Came whiffling through the tulgey wood, And burbled as it came!</p> <p>One, two! One, two! And through and through The vorpal blade went snicker-snack! He left it dead, and with its head He went galumphing back.</p> <p>'And hast thou slain the Jabberwock? Come to my arms, my beamish boy! O frabjous day! Callooh! Callay!' He chortled in his joy.</p> <p>'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves Did gyre and gimble in the wabe: All mimsy were the borogoves, And the mome raths outgrabe.</p>

The Great North Air Ambulance

I am aware that not everyone wants to climb on a horse to follow the hunt but it is in that context that I have witnessed, at first hand, this service.

The Air Ambulance is a fantastic service and we all know of occasions when it has been, perhaps, life-saving. I like to watch the programme on the telly about the Yorkshire service. It's about the only programme that doesn't send me to sleep. I thought it would be fascinating to visit our local lot and see their work first hand so to speak. This meant a visit to Durham Tees airport. I went in a little noddy plane which was great fun. I couldn't believe that the plane I learnt to fly on was still at Newcastle- a bit threadbare but it works- the plane that is not Newcastle.

The Air Ambulance service was started in the early 1990's. At that time it was funded by the NHS and supported by charitable donations funnelled through a formal foundation. The Charity decided, in 2002, to become the sole funder of the service and, given the costs of the service, one wonders whether the NHS could ever have afforded it. So it was fortuitous that the charity did take over the funding while the NHS has pulled out altogether.

Their offices at Durham, Tees is a Portacabin beside an enormous hangar. There is an operations room, a tea room and various other cubbyholes for equipment and so on. The "ops" room is cramped with three or four desks surrounded by electronic wizardry, telephones and wall mounted maps. In one corner sat the duty doctor while the pilot and paramedic made themselves sandwiches in the tea room.

It was in the tea room that I met Jim Entwistle their senior fund manager. During our meeting the duty pilot, Jay. Steward was there, between call outs. He neatly described their work as "Taking the hospital to the patient".

Our local service covers North Yorkshire, Cumbria and The North East. An area of 8000 square miles. Each year it costs £5.1 million to run. Their main bases are at Durham Tees and Penrith. They have three helicopters; two permanently operational. These machines are wholly owned by the charity; whereas most helicopters are leased. This

means that all maintenance and repairs or updating of the machine is paid for by the charity. There are very strict Civil Aviation rules governing helicopter maintenance. It is obviously for the safety of the machines but sometimes irksome and horrendously expensive.

The GNAA employ 50 full time staff. Their doctors are part time on a roster system. Many of them are full time military medics or local A&E doctors who see this work as their contribution to this important charity. The paramedics are wholly funded and full time.

The pilots are also full time. All three are ex-Army Air Corps and in this instance, coincidentally, in the same army unit. I was taught by an ex-army air corps pilot. He was fearsome and fearless! By definition army helicopter pilots can't be too fussy about where they land so the disparate locations of the emergencies attended by the Air Ambulance are very much in their experience.

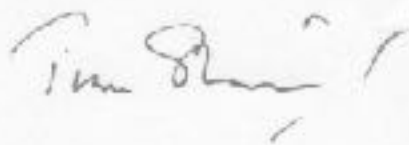
The majority of their call-outs are to major trauma, equestrian and serious or sudden illness. Even the hoax calls have to be taken seriously. They are only restricted in their work by weather conditions and circumstances of the landing site.

The helicopter itself is an AS365N2 Aerospec for those of you who like to know that sort of thing. In reality it is a highly sophisticated and specialised machine built by the French company, Eurocopter. It is, in effect, a flying hospital cum operating theatre. Usually the crew are a pilot, a doctor and a paramedic. It contains a baffling array of equipment both medical and aeronautical. The patient compartment is small but full of highly sophisticated bits of medical equipment. The machine can travel at roughly 180mph. Its average cost is £40 per minute. They claim that they never take longer than half an hour to reach a patient.

Recently a four year old boy was rescued after a 40 foot fall at the Hartburn Woodland Trust site. The child survived remarkably undamaged. In the last few years three people have been picked up off the hunting field. In two cases it could be argued that their lives were saved.

From this you can see that frivolous or hoax call outs are not acceptable.

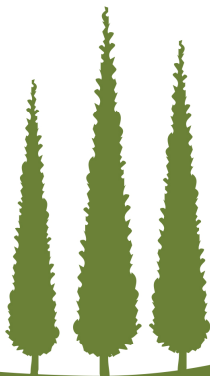
As it is entirely funded by charitable gifts, both private and corporate I think it behoves us to support it financially as much as we can. It can be a lifeline to those unfortunate enough to need urgent medical help.





Italy comes to Hartburn

Come and join us at “**Osteria Hartburn**”
and enjoy a taster of Italian food,
painting and language.



Hartburn Church
Friday, 31st August
7.30 pm

Tickets : £20 (inc prosecco on arrival)

Available from Anna McGowan

Tel: 01670 772440
annamcgowan@btinternet.com



Songs Of Praise At Wallington Hall

come and join the Upper
Wansbeck



Churches in the
walled garden
at 2pm Saturday
8th
September

Admission to Wallington is free of charge if you are coming to join us celebrate, simply arrive around 1.50pm and tell the gate staff you are here for Songs of Praise. If you wish to come earlier and enjoy the house and grounds then normal admission charges apply.



Do send in your relevant photos or cartoons! In the absence of any so far, here's one to be going on with!

To our black and white printed copy readers:

The newsletter in full colour may be viewed and downloaded for printing if you wish, on the Whalton Village website, under the Church section- have a look!

<http://www.whaltonvillage.org.uk/about/church-of-st-mary-magdalene>

To our email readers: The email copy of this newsletter is free, and we're pleased that our reach into the community has been so extended by the increase in take up. If readers of the email version felt able to donate a pound or two to the distributor (see below), then that would pay for a few extra print copies to be available to visitors to our churches! Thank you.

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