

Glanton Parish Newsletter

Issue: 71

September/October 2011

Hello everyone and welcome to this latest edition of the Glanton Parish Newsletter. As you may have seen in the last edition, the newsletter needed a new editor – I have lived in the village all my life and decided that this role would be a great chance to get more involved within the community. There is also the added benefit of being one of the first to find out what is going on in the village! I would like to thank Lynne Livsey for all of her hard work on previous editions and for making the hand over as easy as possible. As this is my first edition, I would welcome any feedback or suggestions of what people would like to see in future publications. My contact details are at the bottom of the page along with the deadlines for the rest of this year – any contributions are most welcome. It has been a fairly busy summer with the Glanton Show and barn dance being a great highlight. If anyone missed this, read all about in the show committee's report in this newsletter. September and October are also set to be jam packed – so keep your newsletter to hand to make sure you don't miss out!

Nicola Frater



Late summer mist lifting over Hedgehope and The Cheviot with the sun shining on Dunmoor – taken from Glanton Pyke.

Deadlines:

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this month's parish newsletter. The deadlines for the rest of this year are as follows:

- 1st October
- 3rd December

Please Contact:

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Update from the Parish Council

The Parish Council met on 25th July and discussed the following matters:

- A meeting with the County Council had concluded that the Parish will take over responsibility for the replacement and maintenance of the village's bus shelter, seats and litter bins. The County Council will continue to provide a grass cutting service, although they may make a charge for the small area of grass which is classed as the village green. Due to the fact that the Parish Council were already intending to pay for the maintenance of the seats and bins, it is not thought that the additional responsibilities will have a significant effect on our budget.
- The results of the speeding survey which are reported separately in this issue.
- The parish council congratulated the RTB group for their work redecorating the red telephone box.
- It was agreed that the Chairman should write to the leader of Northumberland County Council regarding the threatened enforcement notice against the show committee with respect to the signs on the A697. That letter can be seen in full on the village website and was reproduced in the Northumberland Gazette of 4th August.
- We noted with regret that Linda Lazenby has decided to resign from the position of Parish Clerk after an amazing 23 years in the job. The council thanked her for a long loyal service

Jon Radgick

Cheviot Valley Flower Club

28th September – Mrs Kathleen Marlor
"Enthralled by Nature"

Whittingham Memorial Hall at 7:30pm

Visitors welcome - £3 to pay on the door



News from the Theatre Royal, Newcastle

Hello – my name is Pauline Wallis, I work for the Theatre Royal, Newcastle. I am based at my home in Haydon Bridge and I am here to bring you news from the theatre and to make booking to see your favourite shows as easy as possible for you and your friends. There are great discounts and benefits available for groups of 10 or more.

The Theatre Royal has been 'dark' since March to enable a huge restoration to take place. It is being restored to its former 1901 glory which is when it was redesigned by the great theatre architect, Frank Matcham, following a devastating fire. It'll be 1901 in style with 2011 comfort! We also have a fabulous new restaurant called Pasqualinos where a pre-theatre meal deal is just £12.50 for 2 courses (£10 for Friends of the Theatre).

To open the newly restored theatre on September 12th is "*The Madness of George III*". For the first two nights (12th and 13th), groups of 10 or more can receive **£5 off** seats in the Stalls or the Grand Circle!

Other highlights for 2011 include...

The Sound of Music 20th September-8th October.

End of the Rainbow starring Tracie Bennett as Judy Garland, 10th-15th October

Star Quality is Noel Coward's *deliciously funny, final play* starring Amanda Donohoe, 24th-29th October

The Nutcracker - Northern Ballet brings to life everyone's favourite Christmas story, 15th-19th November.

Sleeping Beauty - the *Pantomime of your Dreams*- it's Panto time from 29th November – 21st January.

That's just a taste of what's on in 2011, and 2012 is even more jam packed. If you haven't got a new brochure then please contact me and I'll send you one. To make sure you get future editions, why don't you join our mailing list, I can organise that for you too.

Tel: 01434 684061

Email: pauline.wallis@theatreroyal.co.uk

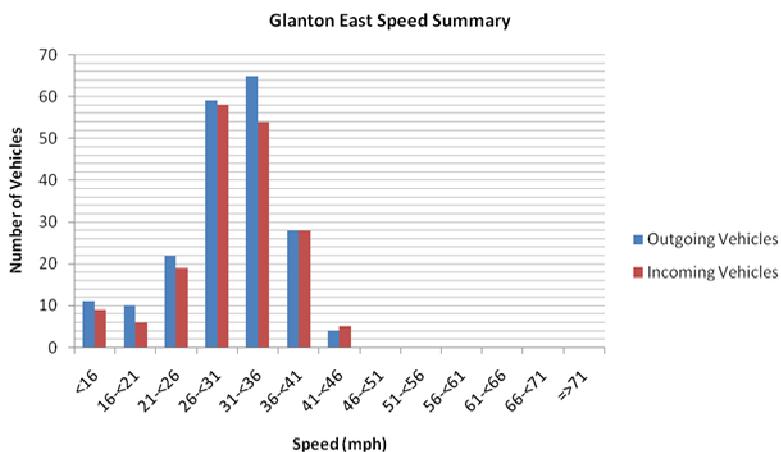
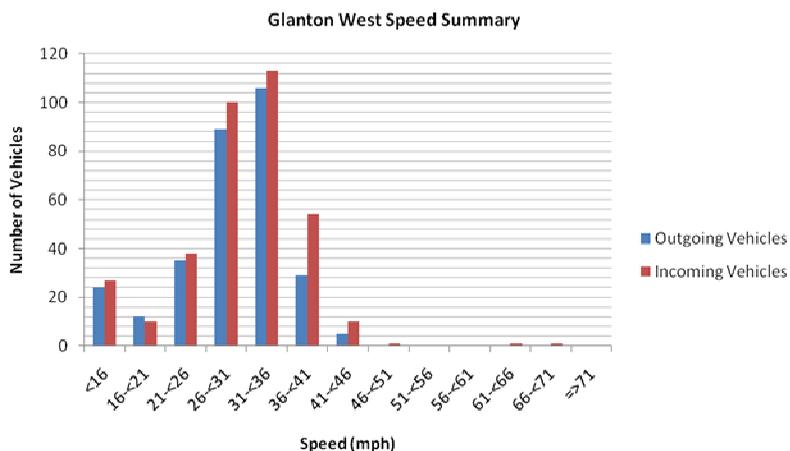
Select your own seat and book online: www.theatreroyal.co.uk

Pauline Wallis

Speeding Survey in Glanton

As a result of concerns expressed to us about speeding, the Parish Council asked the County Council to undertake a speed survey to indicate the true extent of the problem of speeding in the village. You may have noticed the double wires across the road in March near The Juries and on the hill leading out of the village towards Powburn.

The results are condensed into two sets of data for each end of the village showing the range of speeds at various times of the day over the course of the survey, one showing vehicles entering the village, the other leaving the village. These are shown in the graphs below and the raw data can be seen on the village website. If anyone without internet access would like a copy, let me know and I will supply you with a printed version.



In a nutshell the results show that 85% of traffic is doing less than 37mph overall. The speeding problem is lesser at the eastern end of the village with 57 vehicle movements over 40mph during a five day period. Of those, 9 were over 45mph and none were over 50mph.

As might be expected, the western end of the village is more prone to speeding. 28 vehicles left the village towards Powburn at speeds of over 40mph. In the other direction, 56 vehicles arrived into Glanton at speeds of over 40mph including 10 which were travelling at over 45mph and shockingly, 2 vehicles which were travelling at over 60mph.

I would gladly be involved in any scheme designed to reduce the speeding and have spoken to the NCC staff who deal with roads. In their opinion, our survey results are not bad compared to many villages where the situation is much worse and they have no money anyway, so we have no realistic likelihood of them taking any action.

I have also spoken to the Northumberland Speed Partnership who control speed cameras and mobile enforcement. They reached a similar conclusion and will not take action based on the results of this survey.

Suggestions for slowing down speeding vehicles as they come down the hill from Powburn have included rumble strips or making a mini roundabout to remove priority there (neither of which would be favoured by the people who live on the junction). The county advised that changing the priority could actually create accidents as people may not recognise the new signs and just assume they still have right of way.

The purpose of this note is to ask village residents what they really feel about speeding. If we are to get anything done, it would take a lot of effort persuading bureaucrats which I am very willing to do provided it is really the wish of most of the villagers as we would probably have to fund any changes ourselves. So please, if you feel strongly about this let me know, whatever your views are. If I don't hear from you I will assume you are not too bothered about it. Any other suggestions regarding methods to reduce speeding would be most welcome.

Tel: 01665 578 222

Email: jradgick@oldmotorhouse.co.uk

Jon Radgick

Looking Through A Lens

The important thing when you take a photograph is how much light hits the film or, more commonly nowadays, the digital sensor. Too little light, and the image will be too dark (under-exposed), too much light and the image will be washed out (over-exposed).

Usually when you take a picture, there will be sufficient light so that when you take a picture, you are able to pretty much freeze the action, and capture the scene as you saw it. What is quite interesting though is when the light levels are relatively low, and you need to keep the shutter open for longer than normal – where there is movement in the scene, this is reflected in the image, as the moving elements within the view expose across the frame while the shot is taken.

Previously in this column, I've talked about taking photographs at night, capturing the movement of stars through the sky during extremely long exposures of 20 minutes, or even more. A less extreme example of this sort of effect can be achieved in daylight, and a classic example of this is to capture movement in water. Here, I'm talking about exposures of a couple of seconds or so.

This works well for waterfalls, where the flow of the water can appear as smooth, milky trails over the course of a second or two. Another very effective use of long exposure on water is at the beach; photographs of waves washing over rocks on the shore.

Sometimes the ambient light levels will be low enough that the camera can be set to a relatively long exposure, perhaps stepping the aperture down to something quite small (say, f/16) to limit the amount of light hitting the film/sensor, thus allowing you to leave the shutter open for a couple of seconds without over-exposing the image.

For times where the ambient light levels are too high for this, long exposures are still possible, but you need to employ an extra bit of kit, namely a neutral density filter. A neutral density (or ND) filter is basically a piece of tinted glass that fits in front of your lens and limits the amount of light which can pass through the lens – you could think of it as a set of sunglasses for your camera.

ND filters come in a range of strengths, measured in stops. Basically, a one stop ND filter will only allow half as much light into the camera, allowing you to double the exposure time (e.g. a $\frac{1}{4}$ second exposure can be lengthened to $\frac{1}{2}$ second). A two stop ND filter allows half as much light again, so you can multiply your exposure time by four (e.g. a $\frac{1}{4}$ second exposure becomes a full second). Typical strengths of ND filter are one, two or three stops.

Recently I've been experimenting with some unusually strong neutral density filters, providing up to nine stops of filtering (in terms of the mathematics, that means that I can extend my exposure time by a factor of 512). To give you an idea of how effective that is, it means that if I'm taking a photograph on a relatively bright day, where I would normally need a shutter speed of 1/125 second, this can be lengthened to 4 seconds – quite long enough to capture movement in a scene. Perfect for tracing the milky movement in water, say through weirs or waterfalls.

Taking this further, I've taken to using this in twilight conditions, where the light levels are quite low to begin with, so I am lengthening an already relatively long exposure. At a recent visit to the beach at around 7 in the evening, I was taking photographs using an exposure of as much as 20 or 30 seconds. The effect on the water at this sort of shutter speed is quite ethereal – moving beyond the sort of milky effect that you get with an exposure of 2 or 3 seconds, and to a much smoother, more smoky feel.



River Coquet at Thrum Mill

© Dave Dixon LRPS

Top Tip

When you put a neutral density filter in front of the lens, the whole scene goes dark, making it difficult to work. My preferred approach is to compose the scene, focus and meter the exposure without the filter. I then fit the filter, switch the camera to manual mode, and adjust the exposure time according to the strength of the filter. With a bit of practice, this almost becomes second nature.

Oh....and don't forget a tripod – this is essential for holding the camera still for such a long exposure.

Dave Dixon



The Queen's Head Leek Club

Annual Leek Show

17th and 18th of September 2011

Set up between 12 midday and 1pm on the 17th

Judging Saturday afternoon

The show is open to the public on Saturday and Sunday during the pub's normal opening hours. Presentations on Sunday the 18th from 8pm will be followed by a grand auction in the Queen's Head Pub, Glanton

Glanton Bowls Club

Thursday 8th September

7pm URC church hall



This is the first meeting of the new season. It will be a practice night and anyone is welcome. Why not come along for a try-out, no previous experience necessary and you will be sure of a warm welcome. You might even discover a hidden talent!

For more information, contact Jean Foggon on 01665 578 241

New Pilates Course

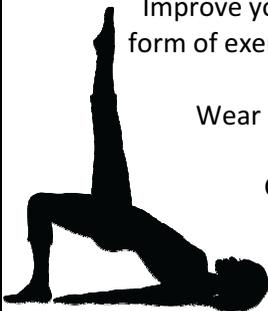
Starts Wednesday 7th September in Glanton Village Hall from 6pm-7pm

Improve your core strength and muscle tone with this gentle form of exercise which is suitable for all ages and fitness levels.

£40 per course or £4.50 per session

Wear loose and comfortable clothing and flat shoes

Contact Tracey Mortimer: 07841197938



Also – Fitness classes are running in
Whittingham village hall Mondays at 11am

Glanton Show 2011

2011 may come to be known as the year of the ominous signs after the saga of the County Council enforcement notice, but all that was behind us by the show day, and despite some brooding cloudy skies in the morning following a very wet week the weather stayed dry for the show day with the car park drying out and providing more grip as the day went on.

An excellent crowd enjoyed the revised layout with the main arena right in front of the exhibition marquee, and a separate smaller tea tent overlooking the dog show arena and the children's sports.

As well as a good selection of craft stalls there was a children's funfair, a bird of prey display, a steel band, a classic car show, ice creams, alpacas, beekeeping and smallholders' displays, all providing much to entertain the visitors when they were not watching the West Percy Hunt Hounds or the presentation of horse logging techniques, not to mention the ever chaotic terrier racing.

The exhibits in the tent were of very high quality, ranging from flowers and garden produce, baking and jams, handiwork, artwork, poetry and photography, giving the judges a difficult task choosing class winners. We'd love to have more entries next year, so don't be shy, plant some flowers or veg, dust off the knitting needles and remember to save a pot of homemade jam or marmalade!

Prizes awarded, cups presented and the raffle drawn we all went home happy after a very pleasant, sociable afternoon to prepare for the post-show dance in the village hall. Especially happy was Peter Lake, a popular winner of the 100 club draw. The Show Committee would like to thank everyone who helped with the planning, organising, and the myriad tasks which go on behind the scenes to make the show happen – you all know who you are, well done and please can you help us again next year! We are especially grateful to the Guiry family and to Artie Hunter for allowing us to use their respective fields, and wish Pat & Marion all the very best for speedy recoveries.

Jack Daw's Nature Notes

Autumn has crept upon us yet again. This year, with the wet and cooler summer, autumn seems earlier than ever. There are a number of trees that appear to be starting to change colour and robins are noisily setting up their winter territories.

The hedges of the parish are full of interest. The main species of shrubs are hawthorn but other species include blackthorn, elder, wych elm, dog rose, hazel, oak and ash. There are rarities such as gooseberry, redcurrant and blackcurrant as well as crab apple, wild plum and yew. The sweet fruits of the wild plum are one of the real joys of foraging for food in our hedgerows. This hedgerow diversity provides birds, insects and mammals with a rich source of food.

The bats of the village are avidly feeding on insects to increase their body fat for winter hibernation. Maternity roosts are being abandoned for winter hibernation sites. The females are usually the first to leave, abandoning this year's young to fend for themselves. The commonest bat found in the parish is the pipistrelle. There are three species of pipistrelles but it is likely that two species occur. Other species that may be found around the parish include brown long-eared, Natterer's and possibly noctules. The latter species is seen regularly feeding over the ponds at Branton.

Amphibians are also on the move. Large toads and frogs have been found in the gardens recently even managing to get themselves into an uncovered water butt! Frogs and toads are a gardener's best friend. They love eating slugs and other invertebrates. As the autumn progresses, these amphibians will search out a log pile, crevice in a wall or the bottom of a hedge to find a suitable site to hibernate. Please try to leave somewhere suitable for these gardener's friends to hibernate.



Here's hoping that we get an 'Indian summer' and a spectacularly colourful autumn.

Jack Daw

Why's the "dong" gone?

Sometimes it "dings", sometimes it "dongs", sometimes it's completely quiet. What it should do is "ding dong" on the quarters and "dong" on the hours. You will have guessed by now that I'm talking about the village clock, the one on top of St Andrews' United Reformed Church.

For some time now the bells have been affected by a family of white doves that, in an early evening commando raid some time ago, managed to sneak under the netting and found the bell tower was a good dry place to spend the night. Perhaps Jack Daw may know why doves don't seem to be bothered about either the noise or the vibration of a ringing bell but neither deterred them from setting up home. Anyway the noise is now much less for them as dove poo is obviously a good sound insulator.

According to bell experts, if the clappers don't pull back from the bells after striking them then the bells can crack. As Michael Caine said, "Not many people know this". However, now we do know we will investigate and see what action we need to take.

So, if you were wondering why you could not hear the bells as clearly as you used to, you now know the reason is nothing to do with any loss of hearing. And, if you are new to the village and have never heard them then I hope you have something to look forward to. We'll keep you informed.

Quasimodo

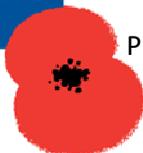
Quiz Night

At the Queen's Head, Glanton

In aid of the Royal British Legion

Wednesday 7th September – start at 8pm

Please come along to support this worthy cause



St Andrew's United Reformed Church, Glanton

This morning, as I woke early, I took the opportunity to sit out in the garden with a cup of tea. It was wonderful to listen to the birds and simply soak up the beauty that surrounded me. I can't help but be amazed by the way that our gardens and the whole of nature once more comes to life in the spring and then fills our world with wonderful colours, sights and smells right through the seasons until all dies back and then waits patiently for the first hints of spring, before once more being coaxed back into life.

I'm reminded of the words of a sketch which I've used at different services, and that we used earlier this year. In the sketch Jesus asks his disciples what the beauty of creation is for, and His disciples reply that it's for us to enjoy. Jesus then asks "what about before we were here, who was it for then", to which His disciples reply; "God".

It's not only us who can offer God our praise and worship. I believe that creation offers its praise to the one who created it all. Each bird that sings, each flower that blooms, each wave that crashes on to the shore offers its own praise. Therefore I also believe that we're called by God to safeguard creation, because if for some reason a bird no longer sings, or a flower no longer blooms God is going to want to know why. If you'd left someone in charge and when you came back things weren't as they were or better wouldn't you want to know why too?

Services are held every Sunday at 6 p.m. except for the 4th September when the service will be a joint service with the St Peter's congregation at 9:15 a.m.

All are welcome to come and join us.

Harvest Festival and Supper

St Andrews Harvest Festival will be held on Sunday 9th October at 6 p.m. We look forward to welcoming Sir Alan Beith as our visiting preacher. The service will be followed by the legendary Soup and Pudding Supper in the Village Hall.

Adults: £2.50 Children: £1.

Please come and join us for this wonderful family celebration.

God bless,

Edward

Can You Help?

The Glanton Heritage Group have recently received an enquiry concerning a doctor/surgeon who lived in Glanton in the early 1800's.

He was the son of a miller who worked in Wooler and his widow, Mary Henderson, who died in 1830. The son, Alexander Henderson, died young in 1834.

Does anyone have any information about the Henderson family? Where did the doctor live? Where was his surgery?

Please send any information you may have to mikemason007@aol.com



Queen's Head Leek Club Way-Side Stall

27th August from 11 am

Queen's Head car park

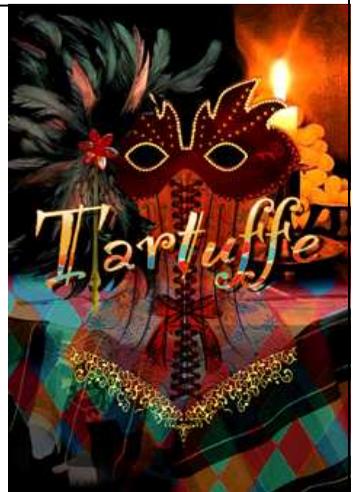
Those who entered the 'potato in a bucket' competition should bring their potato to be weighed between 11am and 12pm.

Tartuffe

Northumberland Touring Company are returning to the Glanton Memorial Hall on 17th September at 7:30pm with their production of the "*hilarious and outrageous classic*" that is Moliere's comedy, Tartuffe

Tickets cost £6 per adult and £3 per child

Available from Mike Paice (Tel: 01665 578 229) or the village shop



Glanton, Powburn & Whittingham First Responders

After suffering a heart attack 11 years ago, it was suggested to me by the health professionals that we should consider setting up a Community First Responder Scheme in Glanton. Due to the response time for an ambulance to arrive, especially in a life threatening situation, these volunteers are an invaluable resource to any community – especially one as rural as ours.

Community First Responders (CFR), at that time had to purchase all their own equipment. My wife Joan and I took to the task of raising funds. The funding for the equipment required came from various trusts and organisations. To our delight, enough funds were raised to set up schemes in the three villages of Glanton, Powburn and Whittingham.

CFR schemes are now provided with all of the equipment from North East Ambulance Service NHS Trust (NEAS) to enable them to carry out their role.

Some time ago, we made the difficult decision to retire from our CFR scheme. This left us with the dilemma of what to do with the remaining funds raised. After much consultation with the scheme members, the decision was made to use the remaining monies to fund Public Access De-fibrillation (PAD) sites in the following locations:

- The Queens Head – Glanton
- The Plough – Powburn
- The Memorial Hall – Whittingham

The defibrillators will be stored inside purpose made re-enforced steel boxes which will be placed on the outside of the buildings. The defibrillators are accessible via a key code and will be maintained by NEAS. This means that in each village, there will be a defibrillator available, should the need arise, at **all** times. I hasten to add that these PAD sites do not replace the CFRs. There will still be CFRs in the area.

There will be a familiarisation session taking place later in the year – details of which are available on the facing page. We would encourage as many of you as possible to take the opportunity to attend this informal but informative session.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all CFRs – past, present and future for their continued support to the schemes. We would also like to extend our appreciation to the NEAS, paramedics and support personnel.

Joan & Mike Mason

Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) are going to be placed in locked boxes in the villages Glanton, Whittingham and Powburn.

The AED can be used by members of the public when someone suffers a cardiac arrest by calling 999 to gain the code for access to the box.

We are running familiarisation sessions at Glanton Memorial Hall on Monday 17th October from 7:30pm – 9:00pm.

The sessions will be run by the Community Resuscitation Team from North East Ambulance Service and Community First Responders.

Sessions are free and we want to urge people to come and see what it is all about and learn how to use them should they need to.

WI Recipe of the Month

Chicken and Apricot Tagine:

2 chicken breasts

1 clove garlic

½ pt orange juice

¼ tsp each of turmeric, ground coriander, ground cumin, cayenne pepper and ground ginger

1 medium onion (sliced)

3oz apricots

Boil all of the ingredients together except for the apricots for 25 minutes.

Add the apricots and simmer for a further 5 minutes.

Serve and enjoy!



1st Whittingham BP Scout Group

Working is fun!

Our cubs and scouts will tell you that camp is no holiday, but that doesn't mean it's not fun! They tidy their tents, dig toilet pits, collect wood, fire-light, cook and wash up. The scouts chop wood and empty toilets. So where's the fun in that?

The fun is in doing jobs they're not allowed to do at home. The excitement of learning how to strike a match safely. The achievement of creating a meal, or completing a hike. The joy in praise for a job well done.

Beavers had a sleepover in Ingram, chopped vegetables for dinner, put their tents up and made their beds. The following morning, they climbed Brough Law, went river dipping and mini-beast hunting with the National Park Rangers, and ate ice-cream!

Cubs camped at Alnwick Abbey as medieval knights, making cardboard horses for a jousting race, competing in Area Sports, and cooling off in Alnwick Garden's fountains! All after creating an amazing yoghurt and biscuit cake covered in summer fruits.

Scouts headed off on their own, after much training, on a canoe expedition across Kielder Water. They planned their menus, bought their food, packed their bags and paddled off into the sunset (the midge haze). They navigated to their campsite, pitched their tents, cooked their dinner, played a wide game, then paddled back home. What an achievement; but without having learnt the skills, and learnt that a little hard work is worthwhile, it would be impossible.

If anyone is interested in joining Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Seniors or Rovers (boys and girls from 5 years old), then give us a call or check out our website.

Group Scout Master: Ninette Gray

Tel: 01665 574733

www.1stwhittingham.org.uk