

Open Field

£1

April 2020



Lambs at Corner Farm, Laxton, February 2020

The monthly publication of the
parish of Laxton & Moorhouse
www.openfield.org.uk



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Flowers and Brasses Rota

Mrs S Rose & Mrs R Creighton	29th March
Mrs L Booth & Ms H Keay	5th & 12th April
Mrs J Cooke & Mrs P Freer	19th & 26th April
Mr & Mrs S Clarke	3rd & 10th May

Coffee Morning Hosting Rota - for reference if they are resumed

May 14 th	Janet Cooke
June 11 th	Mampa Haste (NB 10.45am)
July 9 th	The Dovecote

**Your contributions are
always welcome. We can help if you are not sure how to
write what you want to say.**

**Contributions for the next edition TO BE WITH THE
EDITOR BY NOON ON 16th APRIL PLEASE. EARLIER
PREFERRED. You can send at any time.**

Editorial Message

It has been very difficult to finalise the magazine this month as advice and activity details have been changing daily. Printing has been delayed by a couple of days to try to bring you an accurate picture.

The magazine was finalised for printing on 16th March. As coronavirus advice and instructions continue to be issued, we cannot guarantee the accuracy of any information regarding events thought to be continuing or on which we have no information.

You should assume that group events are cancelled until further notice and check for yourself if you want confirmation.

At the time of writing:

- ♦ All church services are cancelled on the instruction of the Archbishop of Canterbury.
- ♦ The church remains open in Laxton for private prayer. Please maintain the advised distance from others.
- ♦ Coffee Mornings, Laxton History Group, Mothers' Union and WI are all suspended until further notice.
- ♦ The next Parish Council meeting is cancelled
- ♦ We have no information yet about church Garden Fêtes. hopefully a decision will be taken about holding Moorhouse Fête by next month.

Finally, Rev. Zoe wrote her letter in February before going on sabbatical leave and this appears overleaf. Things looked normal then, so she makes no mention of the troubles coronavirus has brought us all. It is hard to believe what has happened in one short month.

Stay safe and see inside details of a help link service co-ordinated by Mike Jackson and 'Take Aways' from The Dovecote Inn, including the option to purchase food and household goods through them.

Letter From Revd. Zoe

Easter is on its way! I have had the privilege of attending school Easter services which spoke of Easter hope, new life, forgiveness and new beginnings. In our churches we are about to journey through Palm Sunday, Holy Week and then onto the joyous celebrations of Easter Day. Each year churches around the world remember Jesus' passion and all the events that unfold to enable God and humanity's relationship to be restored and reconciled for all and for all time.

Holy Week, in one sense, shows itself to be a fearful, bewildering and emotionally charged week – Jesus journeys to and weeps over Jerusalem, he sweats blood in a garden in prayer to the Father as the conflict escalates and what follows shows itself in denial, betrayal, disciples fleeing and abandonment as Jesus dies on a cross. For the disciples, this was not how it was meant to be: they do not understand although Jesus had told them this would all happen and they would not get it until after God the Father had raised Jesus from the dead and then Jesus' glorious ascension and the giving of the Holy Spirit and they were able to look back with hindsight and see the significance of all the events that were part of God's rescue plan.

Holy Week is an important week to journey through, to encounter afresh the depths of Jesus' love and suffering for humanity and the spiritual formation which happens as a result. The Christian journey is a daily pilgrimage of discovering more and more about the life Jesus offers - Kingdom life: eternal life, life to the full, life with potential. Our journey is a daily dying to old ways of living, ignorance and all that is contra to the way and life of the Kingdom and an opening up and enlarging our hearts, minds and souls as our awareness grows to what could be and become if we are truly willing to embrace Kingdom life as individuals and community.

Easter Day will mark a new beginning for all of us, a letting go of old ways of being together, a letting go of what might have been, of dreams unrealised and our failure to perceive God's promptings and leadings in the knowledge that God offers his forgiveness and a new start and holds out his hand in encouragement and love to journey onwards together out of our darkness and the world's darkness into God's marvellous light. I give thanks for all that has been so good, for how we have shaped and formed each other over the last 4 years here in the villages and for all we have become and will go on becoming. Thank you for teaching me so much about rural ministry and village life. It has been a privilege to walk alongside many in our

communities through significant life changing events. It has been an honour to serve as Wellow House School Chaplain, School Governor at Walesby C of E school and what limited time I have been able to share with Kneesall C of E school. It has been good to join you for coffee mornings, garden fayres, the Egmonton pilgrimages, produce shows, the Maypole event at Wellow and all the festival services. There is so much that I am grateful for and thankful to you all. Wishing you a hope-filled, peace-filled and joyous Easter. Go well as you move forward and I pray that as church and community your partnership work would be strengthened and grow so that the churches will be well resourced to go on being a blessing to their communities for many generations to come.

With love and blessings

Rev Zoe

From the Registers

The funeral of Rosemary Anne Crothers took place at St Michael the Archangel Church, Laxton on Thursday 20th February 2020 and was followed by burial in the churchyard alongside her grandparents, parents and brothers.

Rosemary was born at Laxton, baptised and married in Laxton church and it was her wish she came back to Laxton after spending all her married life in Egmonton.

Thank You - Rosemary Crothers

Tony and family would like to express their sincere thanks and gratitude for all the help and support during and after Rosemary's illness.

She will be greatly missed.

Tony Crothers & family

**Belated congratulations to Colin Cree
on his 90th birthday,
celebrated on Monday 16th March.**

Thank You - Ken Woolhouse

I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all the family, friends and villagers that were so supportive after the recent loss of my younger brother Ken.

It is a long time since he lived in Laxton so it was particularly heart-warming that so many people sent cards, called in and attended. Thank you very much

Margaret Noble

Vernon Bartle 26/01/1928 - 29/02/2020

Vernon was born in Laxton in the cottage now known as Dijon House. He was in the church choir from the age of 9.

After leaving Tuxford School in 1942 he went to work as an office boy at Warwick and Richardson's Brewery on Northgate in Newark. He then worked on the farm for Mr Horace Hennell in Laxton. His last place of work was Kirton Brick Works,

When he was a child, he talked like a child, reasoned like a child. When he became a man he put away childish things.

He met me when I joined the choir many years later. We both had interests in many subjects including football and cricket and followed by roses. From 1965 to 1984 we took a big interest in horticulture, being committee members of the Nottinghamshire Rose Society.

Many hours were spent dead heading, disbudding and selecting roses to take to the big shows. These were held as far away north as Teesside, across the Midlands and at Alexandra Palace in London. We achieved many top prizes, winning with 'Best New Seedling Rose'

twice and Best in Show a number of times. The top award was in 1976 - 'Midlands Rose Champion'.

Have Faith, Hope and Love, but the greatest of these is Love, working together and being married for over 63 years.

Jean Bartle



Thank You - Neil Randall

I have had my open heart surgery done on the 17th Feb at City Hospital Nottingham. I have had a new aortic valve fitted. Everything went ok and now time for a long recovery.

I would like to thank everyone for their well wishes and support and I would specially like to thank Debra and all family for all their help.

Neil Randall

Caring for Each Other - HELP

Laxton and Moorhouse have always been villages with a strong community spirit. There will be people in our community now who will need some help over the coming difficult months.

One idea is to put those needing some help in touch with others who are younger and fitter and are able to go out and about.

If you are in the older and vulnerable category (as I am myself), you might like to send to me your contact details (phone number and email) and I will seek to put you in touch with somebody who, for instance, would be prepared to do a bit of shopping for you.

If you are in the low risk category and are prepared to do a bit of shopping for someone who is in the vulnerable category, please send to me your contact details (phone number and email)

I will attempt to put the at risk people in touch with someone who can help.

Mike Jackson

01777 870042, Mobile 07860 676085, [email jackomgj@gmail.com](mailto:email_jackomgj@gmail.com)

PS All this reminds us that Margaret Madison and her shop were such an important part of our village.

Early May Bank Holiday - Friday 8th May

The Early May Bank Holiday date has been changed for 2020. Last June, the government announced that the early May bank holiday in originally set for Monday 4 May 2020, would be changed to Friday 8 May. The reason for this unusual change in calendar dates is to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day. The only other time a similar change was made was for the 50th anniversary of VE Day in 1995.

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Get Well Soon

We send very best wishes to Neil for a speedy and full recovery from his major operation after a long wait. We are pleased it is all over and has been a success. We look forward to seeing him around again soon.

We are glad to hear that Colin, who also had a visit to hospital last month, Dorothy and Margaret are home. We hope they are all feeling much better. We send very best wishes.

Good wishes are sent to anyone who is unwell or experiencing difficulties.



Laxton History Group the 2020 AGM at Laxton Village Hall

**has been cancelled and meetings of
the Group have been suspended until
further notice. There will be monthly
reviews from April and members will
be notified when resumption of
activities is possible.**

Mother's Union

In the light of the situation nationally and the age group who make up most of our members, we have reluctantly decided it will be best to cancel meetings until further notice.



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Coffee Mornings

After thinking about the coronavirus situation and hearing that most of us may soon be asked to stay at home, we have decided that there should be no more Coffee Mornings for the time being.

We will let you know when we can start again. The rota will remind hostesses so that we can start as soon as it seems right to do so.



Offers of Help From The Dovecote

Support your 'local' while they support you.

Sam at The Dovecote has made it known that he is willing to offer a take away service during this difficult time when meeting up in a cosy pub is not recommended.

Mindful of Health and Safety compliance, he has created a restricted list from his menu and this appears on Facebook at present. We will try to make this widely known.



You can order over the phone for collection from the pub or they are offering FREE delivery to Laxton, Moorhouse, Kneesall and Egmont. This applies between 12 - 2 and 6 - 8.30 every day except Sundays. Payment with order over the phone for this service

Ordering of Supplies

Obviously the pub has systems in place to buy all the things they need to run the business.

Sam says: 'In a way we are offering a little over-the-phone shop for people to order from us. We can get deliveries from, butchers, veg man, dry stores, alcohol and essentials from our cleaning suppliers.'



'Everything apart from alcohol is on 6 day a week delivery **at the moment**.'

Alcohol I can get on a Tuesday and a Friday but need to know no less than 24 hours before hand. Payment is on collection or delivery for these items as prices are subject to change with demand'.

Delivery slots for internet shopping are up to 2 weeks ahead.

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Laxton Village Hall Hire Rates

REVIEW OF EXISTING TARIFFS

Reviewed 2020

Existing rates by type New category New rate Difference

Committee meeting - £15	Existing services - half day rate	£15	-
WI / MU / Evening Class / Youth Club - £15	Existing services - half day rate	£15	-
Whist Drive - £15	Existing services - half day rate	£15	-
Children's party - afternoon - £15.50	New services - half day rate	£30	Increase of £14.50
WI / MU / Church functions / Social - £24	Existing service - full day rate	£30	Increase of £6
Adult Education (Day) - £29	New services - full day rate	£60	Increase of £31
Adult Education (Half Day) - £17	New services - half day rate	£30	Increase of £13
Luncheons / Film shows / Conferences / Funerals (Village residents) - £38	External organisation	£45	Increase of £7
Luncheons / Film shows / Conferences / Funerals (Non Village residents) - £40	Private hire & commercial org'n	£120	Increase of £80
Private dances / parties (Village residents) - £30	New services - half day rates	£30	-
Private dances / parties (Non Village residents) - £55	Private hire & commercial org'n	£120	Increase of £65
Daily hire - weddings etc - £65	New services - full day rates	£60	Decrease of £5
Elections (over 16 hours) - £200	N/A - election rate	£200	-



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WI Fashion Show

Laxton WI members were delighted to welcome around 75 people to their Fashion Show in March. The Hall was packed, and the numbers arriving, even without tickets, required some nifty reorganisation.

Special thanks to Margaret Palmer for recruiting models as well as booking the people who provide the clothes, rounding up helpers to set up and masterminding the event. She also modelled herself.

Guests were greeted with a lovely range of welcoming nibbles and glass of wine/soft drink and could graze on the nibbles later as well while they thought about their purchases.

Models had an exciting challenge finding outfits that fitted and suited them with very little time to choose and very little space to change in. There were clothes flying around all over the place as they rushed to change from one outfit to another. It was a bit stressful but gave them all a laugh and was strangely enjoyable.

There was a lovely range of clothes from a wide range of makers and designers in a good range of sizes to suit everyone. The Hall was laid out like a Paris fashion show with two rows of seats on each side.

Despite the pandemonium at the back, models all came out with big smiles and looked terrific on the 'catwalk' between the guests. Well done to the mother and daughter team of Amanda and Emily, to Justine, one of our newer members, and to all the others who are not people who normally seek the spotlight.

The compere was very knowledgeable. Until the model stepped on the floor she had no idea what she was going to be wearing but instantly knew the make and price of everything.

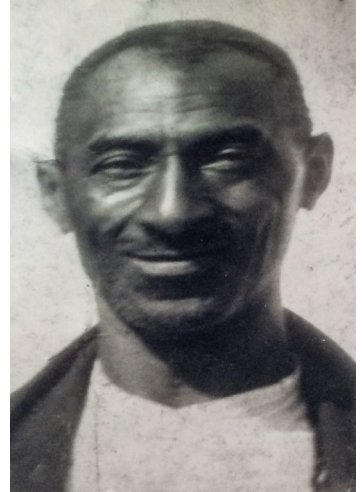
Rails and rails of clothes stood at the back of hall for guests to look at and choose from and lots of clothes were sold to eager buyers after the parade.

Thanks to Margaret and to everyone who modelled, helped set up, made food, gave raffle prizes or who helped in any way.



The Families Who Left 3 - The Hills

William Hills 1879- 1959 Alice 1903-1962:
Barbados, West Indies, 1879 - an
amazing 60 year journey - to Moorhouse
1938 and then ...



William was born into a world of change. His grandmother either was or had been a slave. The slave trade was abolished in 1807 but the freedom of those already slaves came much later. The chances of him making his way here, to Moorhouse were remote to say the least. But make that journey, he did.

His career included:

- ◆ Member of the Three Dusky Princes song and dance group in the USA in the days when Soft Shoe Shuffle, a kind of tap dance, was all the rage;
 - ◆ Stoker - possibly working his passage;
 - ◆ Soldier - 2nd Boer War and The Great War;
 - ◆ Entertainment provider, boxer, organiser of boxing booth fights,
 - ◆ Coal miner,
 - ◆ Small holder market greengrocer, and lastly
 - ◆ Night watchman on Ossington Aerodrome during World War Two.
- He served this country well.

Between the two World Wars, William had married and had a family. His son, Cyril, known as 'Darkie Ellis', started his professional career as a boxer at 14 years old and by 1940 is said to have fought in 91 professional fights.

World War 2 brought an end to his career when he enlisted in the RAF. His wife and children lived in Moorhouse for a while to escape the bombings in Manchester. His sister, Grace, sang in the chorus for a Paul Robeson production amongst others, and was well known in her day, in the field of lawn green bowls in Lancashire, winning many cups and trophies.

In 1938 William, having married again, to Alice Pegg from Caunton, brought his family to live in a tied cottage in Moorhouse. They soon settled in. He kept pigs and hens and certainly 'Dug for Victory', supplying others, as well as his own family, with vegetables. Every night he cycled to Ossington to carry out his duties as night watchman.

His elder daughter, Sylvia, won an entry to Newark Technical College and also had lessons in singing, dancing and piano playing. She then did various jobs whilst trying to make her life in the entertainment world. She later married and emigrated to New York with her family.

Leaphia, his younger daughter, passed the 11+ and went to Newark High School. She then trained as a nurse at St Mary's Hospital, London and went on to qualify as a midwife. She married a doctor and for some time they lived in Ghana, where she set-up and ran her own Nursery School for several years.

Leaphia says *"Dad had a great sense of humour. He especially liked his nickname, 'Snowball'. Dad's favourite song was 'Trees' sung by Paul Robeson and he loved listening to opera. I remember one in particular called 'Aida' set in ancient Egypt."*



Leaphia c. 1947

Leaphia now lives in London with her daughter, Janet, an accountant, who in her spare time creates beautiful and amazing icing decorations.

Janet has twin daughters, Alice and Leaphia. Alice is musical and reached Grade 8 on three different instruments, piano, trombone and flute. She won a special award for the flute, having gained the highest mark in the country. She studied art at The Slade School of Fine Arts.

Leaphia, studied acting at RADA and now works in the theatre world, having just finished a 13 months engagement playing roles in Shakespeare plays at the Globe Theatre, London.

After 80 years I am still in contact with Leaphia. She visits when she can and she often recalls the Chapel Sunday School trips to the seaside and the anniversary demonstrations, where the children had to perform their songs and recitations under the guidance of Violet Saxelby, who ran the Chapel and Sunday School for more than 40 years.

MWS

A note accompanying this account commented: Now thinking back, this was extraordinary. No one in this area had ever seen anyone whose skin colour was different from their own or heard of Barbados in the 1930s. Hardly anyone had a daily newspaper or wireless; no 'Pictures' or TV. Yet William and his family came to live in such a small hamlet as Moorhouse, thousands of miles away.



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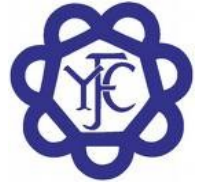


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Tuxford Young Farmers



The 19th of February found us on a bowling practice night in Newark, to get us ready for the competition on the 20th where we came in 3rd place. (Well done team).

The following week put our construction skills to the test when we did a curve module where we had to build a bridge from paper and lollipop sticks and see if it would support a pot of marbles. No disasters!!!

March started with a trip to Tooleys Shed and we had a look round his different types of machinery. The 15th was club leaders quiz night. There were 3 rounds, the first on Tuxford Young Farmers, the second general knowledge, and the last was identifying TV shows just by listening to the intro music. Winner to be announced on presentation night.

We are doing a charity walk up Scarfell Pike in aid of our charity, Asthma UK. If any readers would like to donate please visit our website www.justgiving.com/fundraising/tuxford-young-farmers-club. (Its not as hard as it looks.)

Thank You

Emily

Keeping Spirits Up - How You Can Help

Within the whole community of Laxton and Moorhouse, we recognise that we have a good number of people in the older age group who, as this is written, are being asked to self isolate as much as possible. This is hard at any time and maybe having their magazine drop through the door will be something to look forward to.

We want the magazine to be something uplifting and cheerful in difficult times, and there will be no reports of interesting meetings to read. This is an appeal for all readers to try to contribute something. We could include stories, photos - modern or historic -, recipes, poems, recollections of Laxton, childhood etc. ... The list is endless. It would be lovely if Open Field could help us all get through the difficult months ahead.

And while all publications like a 'scoop' we will share important news items via email etc asap. Please feel free to pass anything on for sharing. Please give to Jean or email to Joy (by 16th for the following month.)

Thank you.

Laxton's Historic Open Field Farming System and Sale of the Laxton Estate

The last information we had was that the change of ownership from the Crown Estate to Thoresby would take place on 25th March 2020. We have had no further news and assume this remains on course as *Open Field* is printed.

At Court Day in 2019 Gregor Pierrepont expressed a wish to first contact all tenants and also to hold a meeting for the wider community in Laxton and friends of the Village. It seems the latter plan may need to be delayed, but we will do our best to keep everyone informed.

Church Dance

We are sorry to have had to cancel the Church Dance on Friday 20th March, but I am sure everyone understands that it is in everyone's best interests as things are at the moment.

Brenda.

Road Works at Egmanton

Via EM, now part of NCC, have announced that they will be relaying the section of road between the 30mph sign on the Tuxford Road just beyond the church to the post box, which is just past the turning into Weston Road.

They hope to keep one lane open much of the time, but have said there will be times when the road will have to be closed. At these times there will be no through route between Laxton and Tuxford. It may also not be possible to turn into Weston Road. Laxton residents may find it more satisfactory to find an alternative route during the works.

There is no firm date for the works, but a general date of May has been provided.

In addition to this permanent road laying, Egmanton will be having maintenance work done to fill pot holes and the work done last year by the new machine will also be rectified in the foreseeable future.

We hope that more information will be available next month, so please check then. We will share information about works and closures as it becomes available.

Village Hall News - Quiz

We had another great Quiz on 8th March and for the first time for a number of years we had a tie for the winner!! We would have loved to have declared joint winners but we don't have enough of the purple chairs for two teams!!!!

So after a tie-break question, the winners were declared as the "Still no Tallent" team and in a brilliant second place "The Covid Nine"

Great questions again from CATH and this time there was only one question no one got right: 'What is the stopping distance at 60 mph in a car?'. Just hope you never get one of them behind you on the road!!

Very big thanks again to ALL who attended and continue to support the Hall, to all the Committee who worked particularly hard (Pat, Sam and Rachel/Neil in the kitchen especially) Also thanks to the Committee and supporters for donating raffle prizes (22 this time!), the wonderful sweets and to Ian and Jackie for helping with the raffle.

The mushy peas were again produced "in house" on the new hob and the 11 pies were kept warm in the new ovens-very swish!

Thanks to Anna from Maloney's for supplying the pies at last year's prices and for putting together a team with the Dart Team and some younger members of the village!

Just a quick reminder that the next Quiz is on FRIDAY 4th DECEMBER 2020. Please ring with details of your team. We are at some risk of being over subscribed so it will be first come first served, sorry.

We had the opportunity to test the new Audio equipment at the Quiz and it seemed to work very well.

The Video equipment is still being tested and commissioned but should be completed very soon, enabling us to provide the facility to project from numerous devices and show films/DVD/Blue rays.

Michael Manning

SERVICES IN OUR VILLAGE CHURCHES

HC = Holy Communion EP = Evening Prayer MP = Morning Prayer
Es = Evensong WfA = Worship for All

A list of services was supplied by Rev Zoe in mid February. The church powers that be were trying to find clergy to cover the normal rota of services, but they have been overtaken by events.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has said that all services should be suspended for the time being, but churches should remain open as places for private prayer in the meantime. Laxton church is open during daylight hours and will remain so as usual.

In the light of national guidance, we ask that anyone going into the church respects the social distancing guidance to stay well apart to minimise any possible transmission of the virus.

We have no news yet of what will happen in Moorhouse. The church there normally opens on Easter Sunday and this will not now be possible. We hope to bring news next month.

Rev Zoe was hoping to have a get together to mark her leaving and this will not now be possible.

In the absence of a vicar of our own, anyone wanting to discuss special services should contact the people named below.

Undertakers will advise about funerals as always.

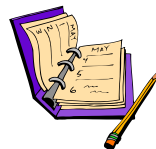
Christening enquiries, please ring Mrs Janice Hannington on **(01623) 836672** and for all wedding enquiries, contact Kate Banks, the Deanery Administrator on **(07562 222371)**
kate.banks@southwell.anglican.org



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2020

Mar 30 th	Mothers' Union - cancelled
Apr 8th	WI - cancelled
Apr 9th	Coffee Morning - cancelled
Apr 17 th	History Group - cancelled



Forward Planning

May 8th (Fri)	Bank Holiday for 75th anniversary of VE Day
May 9 th & 10 th	County Show (?)
26th May	Parish Council (?)
Sept 26 th .	Southwell Ploughing Match
Dec 4th	Quiz Night

Regular Events:

<i>Parish Council</i>	<i>4th Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November</i>
<i>Quiz Nights</i>	<i>1st Friday of December & March</i>

Copy Date for May: 16th April, mid day.

Please let us have your contributions in good time. We do what we can to include last minute items, but it is not always possible. We are unlikely to be able to publish anything received late.

Thank you.

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Laxton WI



Our March meeting began with our President, Brenda welcoming everyone and giving apologies. She wished happy birthday to members whose birthdays fall in March.

The Fashion Show was the first item on the agenda. Brenda thanked everyone who had helped in any way, especially Margaret P whose idea it was and who had put a lot of work into organising it.

We had a full house with members and friends. Lesley had organised the raffle with two baskets of goodies, one of food and one of toiletries to which members had contributed donations.. Marg P had compiled a basket of plants as a third prize.

Thanks were expressed to the models who had been rather busy getting changed in time. The whole evening seemed to be a huge success and we hope to have raised just over £400 after expenses have been taken off. Once again thank you to every one for the help and support.

Thanks were expressed to everyone who had helped with the catering after Rosemary's funeral. Tony had also sent his thanks.

The Spring Council Meeting in Nottingham in April has unfortunately had to be cancelled due to the coronavirus outbreak, and along with it the County Federation AGM.

We heard about other events which have been planned, including a celebration lunch for the 75th anniversary of VE Day, which members were hoping to attend, but it seems now highly likely that everything will be cancelled at least until the summer.

We were thanked for knitting scarves, gloves, mitts and hats, which were sent abroad just before Christmas. 1,675 items were sent from our county's WIs.

Members have been invited to Weston and East Markham WI parties and we have arranged our own for May 6th. The first two had been cancelled before this was written and our own party now looks very doubtful along with plans for our June outing which members had been asked to suggest ideas for.

We were lucky in the last Village Hall Quiz, coming joint first!

Preparations for our entries for



the Notts Show are going well. Lesley brought the Group entry for everyone to see how it was coming along.

Our speaker this month was Sally Richards, whose subject was Crochet. She brought with her an assortment of samples of her work. She first started at 11 years old and has continued with the hobby. She now teaches crochet.



Sally showed us a bed cover she had made, which took her 18 months to complete. It was made in 8 pieces of Aran yarn then put together with fringing in a basic treble stitch.



Sally had brought blankets, table runners, baskets, handbags, brooches and even bath mats, all made in crochet using different stitches and different yarns.

Every pattern has a different name. The last one we saw was called 'Eastern Tiles'. This was made up of 16 octagons with 268 double stitches. All the octagons were of different colours and designs and

put together it looked amazing.

We had some attractive entries for the competition, which was for a piece of crochet.

As members left the meeting on March 10th we were hoping all the events we had been hearing about would go ahead. By the time you read this, you will know that the situation is completely different.

The decision was taken after the March meeting, following the lead from the County Federation, that we should cancel the April meeting and suspend all further monthly meetings until further notice.



At the copy date for Open Field the Nottinghamshire County Show was shown on the internet as going ahead with extra precautions. Readers should check for themselves nearer the time as it is a 'mass gathering', albeit an outdoor one.

We will be staying in touch with the County Federation who, in turn, will be advised by the National Federation. We will all look forward to the time when we can all meet again and enjoy our friendship and speakers.

Be Prepared - Prescriptions

A villager heard someone who had left it until the last minute being told that it could take up to 72 hours to get a prescription authorised, delivered to the pharmacy and dispensed.

If you need regular medication and use repeat prescriptions make sure you don't leave it to the point you are running out before you submit it. You should also check with your surgery what their process is for collection. You may be asked to wait outside for it to be brought to you.

Working from Home

With many places advising employees to work from home (where possible and appropriate) the BBC have shared some tips on staying efficient and how to look after your mental well being whilst working from home:

- ✓Get dressed
- ✓Establish boundaries
- ✓Get out and about (if you're not self isolating)
- ✓Pick up the phone rather than always emailing
- ✓Take regular breaks

Bonus Ball Numbers

There are currently 16 vacant numbers for the Bonus Ball draw, which supports the Laxton Sports & Recreation Field. They are:

1, 2, 7, 11, 20, 23, 26, 28, 34, 46, 51, 52, 56, 57, 58, and 59.

Please contact Ken Shepherd on 870605 or Mike Manning 870844 if you would like one of them. Meanwhile existing holders have a greater chance of winning a ROLLOVER!

Thank you.

Michael Manning

Laxton History Group



In February we were pleased to welcome back John Whitfield, this time to talk about 'The 1970s - were they really so bad?' Members volunteered recollections of the decade in which several were marrying and having children. John has concluded that historical books almost universally portray the '70s badly. Personal experiences may be completely different and he asked if we felt that it was such a bad decade.

Inflation reached its highest for several centuries. Initially wages were low. An average income was in the region of £1000 a year. An average house cost about £3500, and a very nice one might only be £5000. A weekly shop might cost £7. John recalled buying a new Hillman Avenger for £872.

The 70s were a good time for television – all three channels of it. As colour became available people watched TV rather than going to the cinema. They were still single screen in the 70s and struggled to make ends meet. Many closed and became bingo halls.

'Til Death Us Do Part' was a popular TV series and those who remember it readily agreed that it would never get close to being aired today. Big names included Morecambe and Wise, the two Ronnies and Val Doonican. Some films were successful including Star Wars, Jaws, Clockwork Orange, and Get Carter.

The music of the decade began very much as the 60s had ended, with glam rock, longer hair and make up (for the men) gaining in popularity. By the end of the decade punk had come in and glamour had gone out.

Football hooliganism erupted but Nottingham Forest had their time in the spotlight with Brian Clough. In cricket Australia, the West Indies and England were the leading teams, but it was losing popularity, remaining firmly rooted in the 3-day county games and 5-day test games, with none of the popular shorter format games which had still to be introduced..

English tennis hit the headlines when Virginia Wade won the women's singles at Wimbledon in 1977, the year of the Queen's Silver Jubilee.

Edward Heath was Prime Minister until Harold Wilson took over between 1974 and 76 to be succeeded by James Callaghan. Rumours abounded about Wilson's sudden resignation which was later revealed to be due to developing Alzheimer's disease. Some very fanciful alternatives were voiced in the press at the time. Callaghan left Margaret Thatcher just seven months before the start of the 1980s, and that is a different talk!

The decade was marked by the struggle between the unions and the government. Pressure for higher wages collided with a government determined to oppose them. Borrowing from the International Monetary Fund came with conditions that excessive wage rises should be resisted, which proved impossible to implement. There were numerous strikes, the miners showed the effectiveness of flying pickets, and the government struggled to maintain control. This occurred against the backdrop of the troubles in Northern Ireland. The 'Winter of Discontent' 'saw clashes between unions and government at their worst. Members recalled experiencing the 3-day week, scheduled power cuts and price rises.

John turned to the better aspects of the '70s. Despite everything, we were healthier, better paid and better fed than ever. We enjoyed central heating, foreign holidays and a boom in consumerism which saw fridges, freezers, TVs and music centres appearing in homes. People were beginning to drink wine, albeit not great wine, and growth was in the region of 3% per annum.

Michael Wood Award 2020

On 24th February Joan and Roger Cottee visited Tuxford Primary School to start them off the Award, encouraging the children to research an historical topic of their own choosing. History Group members had been invited to the school to see and hear about their work., but this has undoubtedly fallen foul of the coronavirus closures and restrictions.

AGM & Supper - Friday 17th April, 1970s

We are disappointed to have had to cancel our popular Historic Supper, which takes place with our AGM. We will have to see how long activities are impossible and decide if it we can hold the supper this year. We will need to carry out the business of the AGM at a meeting soon after we restart activities and will publish information on this in due course.

Our March meeting was to have been a rather special one with our guest speaker, James Wright coming to tell us more about our castle. We had invited our friends from Norwell Parish History Group and were looking forward to a fascinating evening. As activities are suspended, James is being rebooked for next year as will be the case with other speakers we are forced to put off this year.

Great Nottinghamshire Local History Fair

This popular, and free, public event aimed at the family was scheduled for May 3rd. We had planned to take part again, but in the present circumstances are not expecting the event to take place now.

Recent Bonus Ball Winners

Date	No	Name
22/2/20	17	Ivan and Chris
29/2/20	09	Roy and Sue
7/3/20	42	Brian and Ruth
14/3/20	14	Anne Dutton

We have various numbers available. Here is the up to date list of the 14 spare numbers: **1, 2, 7, 11, 20, 23, 26, 28, 34, 46, 51, 52, 56, 57, 58, 59.** Please contact Ken Shep on 870605 / Mike Manning 870844. Thank you.

Michael Manning

Films at Maplebeck - Cancellation

The March screening was cancelled due to the age profile of most of those who go and they will be taking a view on further screenings. Please don't attend without checking first.

Thoresby Event

The Belton Horse Show has ceased to be and instead Thoresby will be hosting a three day 'Eventing Spring Carnival' run by Bede Events. It will be a 2, 3 and 4 star event running from Friday 27th to Sunday 29th March.

The event opens at 8.30am and children aged 14 and under are free.

They are promising a world class equestrian competition plus something for all the family. There will be a Victorian fairground and a classic car show.

Pony Club Mounted Games will take place, featuring all the usual fierce competition and fun in a series of closely fought challenges.

Dogs on leads are welcome and there is an agility course for them to have fun on. There will be plenty of shopping opportunities and numerous food options.

You can pre-book online. Check that it is not cancelled

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Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council.

Draft Minutes of the Meeting on 28/02/20

Present: Councillors:

M. Manning (chair), S. Hill, R.Hennell, M. Hennell, J.Hill, S,Rose, J. Godson

In attendance at parish council meeting

C.Millward (Clerk), M.Pringle (County councillor), Member of the public (x2)

1. **Apologies for absence:** All councillors were present. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Michael.
2. **Declarations of interest:** The chair declared an interest as a member of the sports field committee in item 11 (Property matters – including sports field and Glebe Field rent request).
There were no other declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda.
3. **Dispensations:** None required.
4. **10 Minutes public speaking:** The following were discussed:
 - a. Road conditions in the locality – Mr Pringle had arranged a village walk. He confirmed that all work identified had been completed.
 - b. Standard of road repairs – The clerk will write to the Chief Executive to express councillors' concern at the quality of the repairs completed by the new lorry
 - c. 30 mph signs – Mr Pringle will enquire as to the position
 - d. Bar Farmhouse- Receiving attention from Mrs Michael
 - e. Transit van being lived in – The chair will provide the clerk with a photo. She will then raise the matter with the PCSO.
5. **Minutes of the parish council meeting held on 26 November 2019:**
The minutes of the meetings held on 26 November 2019 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair.
6. **Matters arising:** *LMPC/110/20 – Reports from councillors* – The clerk will ask Mr Keeling of NCC to contact Mr Rose with regard to the water on Town End. If there is no progress following that meeting, Mr Pringle will contact the NCC flood warden. The clerk will notify the blocked drain just below the Pinfold.
All other action points having been completed, being in hand or appearing elsewhere on the agenda, there were no matters arising.
Mrs Michael arrived at 8.00 pm during this item.

7. **Reports from district and county councillors:** Mr Pringle reported on various NCC matters. Mrs Michael reported the enforcement officer had inspected Bar Farmhouse. She will chase up his report. She also reported on electric car charging points being installed in the district.
8. **Reports from councillors:** The chair confirmed that an issue with vermin at a property in the village had been reported to and was being attended to by NSDC.
Mr S Hill is attending then next SNG meeting.
Councillors noted that a planning notice is on display for the installation of wi-fi equipment on the telegraph pole at the village hall.
9. **2020 meeting dates:** The clerk will change the September 2020 meeting date.
10. **Financial Matters:**
 - a. Financial position as at 31 December 2019: Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position at 31 October 2019 (incorporating the 2019 20 budget figures).
 - b. Accounts for payment: The council unanimously approved nine payments totalling £774.15, including a donation to the Open Field in the sum of £60.
 - c. Removal of bank account signatory and appointment of new signatory: Councillors noted that, following the submission of the on line form as advised by HSBC both to the clerk and chair, the clerk had received from HSBC a local authority specific form to be completed on paper instead.
 - d. To consider the financial information provided by the Clerk and NSDC's letter regarding 2020/21 precept estimates and to agree the precept for the year ending 31 March 2021:
Councillors considered the financial information provided by the clerk. Councillors unanimously decided to retain the precept at £4600.
 - e. 2020-21 insurance arrangements: Councillors reviewed the renewal documentation. Councillors decided to enter into the 2020-21 insurance contract with Zurich.
11. **Property matters including sports field and Glebe Field rent request:** The clerk will submit the rent request for two years' rent. Rent review to be an agenda item for the March 2020 meeting.
12. **Planning matters:**
 - a. Applications: 19/02281/FUL | Householder application for minor alterations to single storey roof at the rear 1 Church

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Cottages, High Street, Laxton: Councillors considered the application and unanimously agreed that they had no objection to the proposal.

- b. To note planning decisions by NSDC: None
- c. Compliance: No issues raised.

13. **Village development including The Crown's long term strategy:**
No developments.
14. **Defibrillator inspection report:** Mr M Hennell had completed the inspection. There were no issues. The new pads had been delivered.
15. **Village environment and appearance,** including:
- a. Adoption of Moorhouse telephone kiosk: Councillors authorized the chair to sign the adoption agreement. The clerk will submit the signed agreement to BT.
 - b. Fibre broadband for Moorhouse: Nothing to report
 - c. Speeding traffic: Data from speed strips awaited. Service faults: The clerk will report that the bend sign at the bottom of Brockilow Hill has been knocked down. Mr S Hill will provide the clerk with the number of the lamp which is not working.
16. **Correspondence:** Item b – Royal British Legion – Lamp post poppies – The clerk will order twenty four.
All other items of correspondence noted.
17. **Agenda items for next meeting:** Village VE Day celebration
18. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 24 March 2020 at Laxton Visitor Centre



Moorhouse Garden Fête

Friday June 5th 6.30pm
Wilmington Farm, Moorhouse

**Check to see if it is happening.
More next month, we hope.**

The Dukeries Singers

Welcome to April, the month of sunshine and showers. Don't plants put on a spurt at this time of year? Twigs with two small leaves a short time ago now need pruning before they get beyond reach. We have some Spring bookings.



Sun 26 April We are singing for the St. George's Day celebrations in St. Giles' Church in Ollerton Village. We sing from 1.30pm until 2.00pm and also at 2.45 until 3.15pm.

We have sung here for some years and have always enjoyed performing for this fun family day out. We include some patriotic "singalong" songs so you **can exercise your vocal chords whilst having a cup of tea.**

Fri 8 May We have been invited to sing for the V.E. Day celebrations at Launeys Restaurant in Edwinstowe. We shall be singing for two sessions from approximately 5.00pm. Confirmation of time details next month.

Sat 20 June We are holding our very popular Annual Summer Concert at Edwinstowe Village Hall. A time to be arranged later.

We already have some bookings for Christmas but have lots of available dates still.

If you would like to book us for your fundraising, charity, or celebratory event, our Concert Secretary would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact Margaret on **01623 642464** or **07896491314**.

We are always pleased to welcome new singers to the Choir and have spaces for all voice parts. You are welcome to come and listen to us or try us out and see if choral singing is for you.

We meet every Wednesday evening 7.30pm to 900pm in the foyer of the Theatre at the Dukeries Academy in Ollerton. This is accessed via the Main Entrance and car park on Whinney Lane. Go through the Main Door and through Reception and out across the Courtyard to enter the Theatre area opposite.

You can find more about us on our website: thedukeriessingers.com on Facebook and YouTube and our email address is:

thedukeriessingers@gmail.com

Spring has definitely Sprung!! Enjoy!!

Jan

NB This was submitted before mass cancellations of events.

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Dukeries Woodturning Society

In February Mick Hanbury treated us to a superb demonstration of what can be done with stencils. Firstly he turned a bowl from a plain wood using the lathe.

This was then masked off freehand at asymmetrical angles and added a background colour using an airgun. That done he used stencils to apply natural history subjects including butterflies and branches. Negative stencils overlaid on the first layer enabled him to add ribs to the wings and antennae. The results were beautiful and something very different.

On March 25th we welcome Richard Findley to demonstrate to us. We will report on this next month. On April 15th there is another of our popular 'hands on' evenings when members can not only have a go on one of the lathes, but also get their tools sharpened and ask questions. Thanks to the members who provide extra lathes for these evenings.

All events cancelled until further notice, but looking ahead, we (may) have:

MAY 27 th	Tony Kitchen	
JUNE 24 th	Sue Harker	Steve Wright
JULY 22 nd	Joey Richardson	
AUGUST 26 th	Tiny Turner (Emma)	Steve Wright

SEPT 30th (5th **Weds**) Richard Kennedy (will also demo at Wolds Club)

OCTOBER 28th Robin Barlow

NOVEMBER 25th Rick Dobney

HANDS ON EVENINGS:

All Wednesdays 17/6/20, 16/9/20 and 18/11/20

We hope to see you at **the Jubilee Hall, Ollerton on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7.00pm**. For more information please visit

www.dukerieswoodturning.org.uk or call

Gordon Fisher on **01623 464986** / Michael Manning on **01777 870844**.



Nottinghamshire County Council Coronavirus Guidance

Don't forget to keep checking our guidance pages at:

www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/coronavirus

where we'll be sharing the latest updates and information.



From Sharon May
Nottinghamshire County
Council, Trading Standards

Coronavirus Scams: Exploiting Those Trying To Protect Themselves

During this period of uncertainty regarding Covid-19, it appears that there are some people who are taking advantage of the situation and are targeting the most vulnerable. Although we appreciate the concern that is being caused by the outbreak, please continue to be cautious when dealing with callers at the door, unwanted phone calls and emails.

If everyone can tell 2 people about the following recent developments in their next phone conversation with a friend or neighbour, the message will soon reach all corners of the community.

This is a worldwide pandemic and no legitimate organisation will contact you out of the blue and ask for payment for information or access to treatment which doesn't exist. We are hearing reports of emails and phone calls asking for donations to help those in need during this time, or offering miracle cures, and door to door campaigns offering testing. Also, please be aware that the Red Cross are NOT doing door to door testing as has been suggested in some areas.

Unfortunately, some fraudsters are offering to do shopping for residents, taking the money and then not returning with the goods. Others have offered to take a shopping list along with a bank card. This would be considered as theft and should be reported to the police.

We don't want to discourage anyone from helping their neighbours or family members, and we don't want to breed distrust in those genuine members of the community trying to support others. We simply ask that you remain vigilant and:

- ⇒ Try to only liaise with people you know.
- ⇒ Only buy the essentials in this manner, therefore the amount of money required is minimal, do not hand over a bank card - use cash only.
- ⇒ If the person says they are from a community organisation, ask for some ID or to verify their identity by calling the organisation directly, not the number on the card.

Scammers are also sending out coronavirus-themed phishing emails which attempt to trick people into opening malicious attachments or revealing sensitive information about themselves such as personal and financial details. In the same way that we have seen TV licensing and HMRC emails, we are now seeing phishing emails claiming to be from organisations affiliated with the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organisation (WHO). There have also been some variations on current scams with fake emails appearing to be from HMRC offering a tax rebate due to the Coronavirus.

Please be aware of any suspicious emails and do not click on the links or attachments, and do not respond to any unsolicited messages or calls asking for your personal or financial details.

If you have been a victim of fraud or cybercrime, report it to Action Fraud via their website <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>, or by calling them on 0300 123 2040.

You can also contact the Citizens Advice Consumer Service for consumer advice by calling 0808 223 11 33.

For anyone concerned about COVID-19 please refer to the NHS advice page

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Egmanton Village Hall

www.egmantonvillagehall.org.uk / 01777 871171

Please check the EVH web site or call for latest details.

- ◆ **Yoga with Greg** – Suspended. Watch for details of restart.
- ◆ **Egmanton WI** - Cancelled
- ◆ **Zumba Class** - Cancelled for now **Call 07817 311627**
- ◆ **Children's Dance Classes** - Call Jil, **07790 601877**
- ◆ **Computer Problems?** - Call **01777 871171**.

If your computer is misbehaving or you need help setting up a new one, please call. Donations to Egmanton Village Hall in lieu of fee.

Advertising in 'Open Field'

A standard 1/6 page box: £30 p.a.(colour)

£15 p.a.(B&W). Larger sizes pro rata, e.g. 1/2 page £45

Please contact advertising@openfield.org.uk or call **01777 871506** for details and info on web pages / links.

Maplebeck Village Hall Events

www.maplebeck.org.uk / 01636 636421

Regular Activities No updates on what is running were available

Yoga	Tues 9.45am and Fri 9.30am
Clubbercise	Thurs, 8.30pm
Walkers	Weds, from approx.10.00am
Kurling (without the ice!)	2nd Weds monthly 7.30pm
Book Club	Tues, 7.30pm, 28 Apr, 2 Jun, 7 Jul;

Upcoming events and Films (all 7.30pm)

Tuesday 21 st April	Stan & Ollie PG	Film (Check if it is on!)
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Useful Contact Details

Defibrillator Contacts:

Neil Randall 01777 871229 & 07710 398745, evenings and weekends
Pat Naylor 01777 870601, evenings
Jeff Naylor 01777 870601, as required
Mark Hennell 07812 908316, evenings
Stuart Rose 07939 228353, as required
Jeanette Geldard 07956 959135, daytime in Kneesall,
evenings / weekends
Anne-Marie & Geoff Rose 07961 933290 / 07957 991002, as required

Police

PC Gary Sipson 07525 226575 or 101 x 800 7673
Email : gary.sipson@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk

PCSO 4741 Keith Crowhurst 07889 702823 or 101 x 8007671
Email : keith.crowhurst4741@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk

Web, showing other contacts: www.nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk

Danger to life or crime in progress	999
Otherwise police switchboard	101
Crimestoppers (anonymous crime reports)	0800 555111

Medical

Tuxford Medical Centre	01777 870203
Sutton-on-Trent Surgery	01636 821023
Ollerton Surgery - Middleton Lodge Practice	01623 703266
Newark Hospital	01636 681681
Bassetlaw Hospital	01909 500990
King's Mill Hospital	01623 622515

Fire Safety Advice (Tuxford Fire Station)	01777 870381
MP Mr Robert Jenrick: robert.jenrick.mp@parliament.uk	01636 612 837
County Councillor: cllr.mike.pringle@nottsc.gov.uk	0115 977 5661

Parish Council website: www.laxtonandmoorhouseparishcouncil.co.uk



Thanks to Lynda Moore for these uplifting photos: 'Sunset from The Bar' and 'It's a retired Greyhound's Life'.

We would be pleased to use this space for your picture next month. Do you have a beautiful, heart warming or funny image to share?

Why not join us in trying to provide some cheer in these dark days?