

Open Field

£1

April 2022



*Jem and Frankie walking their sheep to The Dovecote' paddock on
February 27th 2022*

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



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Churchwardens LAXTON
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KNEESALL
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Flowers and Brasses Rota - suspended until further notice

Mr & Mrs S Clarke

Mrs M Beckitt & Mrs B Noble

Mrs S Rose & Mrs R Creighton

Coffee Morning Hosting Rota - will be published when they are resumed

We always welcome contributions and can help if you are not sure how to write what you want to say. We believe all illustrations to be free to use. If anyone feels their image has been wrongly used, please get in touch

Contributions for the next edition TO BE WITH THE EDITOR BY NOON ON 16th APRIL 2022 PLEASE. EARLIER PREFERRED. You can send at any time.

A Message from our Churchwarden, Brenda



Once again it will soon be Easter but unfortunately we will all be short of services. This is because Easter is a busy time in the church calendar and we are still short of priests

In the run-up to Easter there will be no Stations of the Cross, no Maundy Thursday, no Good Friday or Hot Cross Bun Service.

Laxton will have a Communion service on Sunday 3rd April at 10:30 am and Moorhouse a service of Easter Praise at 3 pm on Easter Sunday.

We are having a meeting with the new Archdeacon Rev. Torie Ramsey on 23rd March between our group, Ollerton group and Bilsthorpe group. This is expected to discuss the way forward for us all. One thing we all agree on is that we definitely need to see more people coming through the doors on a Sunday or who knows what will happen. I'm sure we don't want to see our beautiful church close after all these years.

We will have to see what the Archdeacon says. I will report back in next month's Open Field.

'Brenda

Easter Sunday, April 17th at 3pm Service of Easter Praise Moorhouse Church

Preacher Heather Brown

This will be a service to reopen the church after the winter break.

Please come along and join us

Sympathy - Robert Wilson

We were all shocked to hear that Robert Wilson of Ossington had suddenly died on 23rd February at the age of 63. He leaves his partner, Janet, and sisters Rosemary and Margaret.

There will be a private funeral service at Ossington followed by a memorial service at Newark Parish Church on Tuesday 29th March at 1 pm.

Robert will always be remembered for his commitment to bell-ringing. He was well known for all he did for all the churches around, including ours. He would always check our bells for us and kindly hung our new ropes for us when we had them.

He would always get a team together whenever we asked for him to come and ring. He was known all over and taught many people to ring. He will be sorely missed by the bell ringing community and all who knew him.

I bet the bells will be ringing in Newark on the 29th – probably by a lot of his friends.



Congratulations - Big Birthdays

Congratulations and best wishes go to Johnny G who will be celebrating his 80th birthday on April 20th and to Derek S, a relative youngster, who will reach his 70th this month.

80 & 70

Get Well Soon

We are pleased to know that nobody appears to be unwell this month, but of course you may know otherwise. We send very best wishes for a speedy recovery to anyone who is not well at this time.

New Church Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll for the Parish of Laxton & Moorhouse is being renewed.

Application to Join

It is again time to renew our Church Electoral Roll for the Laxton and Moorhouse churches. This has to be done by the end of April.

If your name is on the Roll at present and you wish to remain on the Roll, please ring me on 01777 870541 so that your name can be transferred to the new Roll.

If there is anyone in the parish who wishes their name to be added, please let me know. Anyone who has moved into the parish since the last Roll was drawn up, please ring me for details. You are very welcome to join.

Brenda Noble, Churchwarden & Electoral Roll Officer.

Please reply by April 23rd 2022 as the Roll has to be prepared in time for our AGM in May. Thank you.






A Casualty of Storm Eunice in Laxton Churchyard, March 2022



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Coffee Mornings

*Coffee Mornings remain
suspended for the time
being.*

*We will let you know when
we plan to start again. The
rota on the inside cover will
restart to remind hostesses
of when their turn is
coming round.*

The Village Idiot Comes to Laxton & Moorhouse

Andy, AKA 'The Village Idiot' has an ambition to visit every civil parish in England, of which there are about 11,000. Having recently completed his coverage of all the parishes in Bassetlaw he has embarked on Newark and Sherwood working his way down from the north of the district.

As reported last month, he was recently in Egmanton, Kirton, Ompton and Wellow.

With immaculate timing, just as the printed magazines were received ready for distribution, he came to Laxton. This has turned out to be one of his longer videos because he spent quite some time in Laxton village before driving up onto Acre Edge to look at Mill Field and talk a little about Mill Field before going to Moorhouse to finish.

It is not clear what research he does before embarking on each visit, but in this case he has done better than some. He noticed the Thoresby logo on the farm name plates and was wondering aloud if some connection remained. He must have looked that up because he then spoke about the passing of the Estate from Thoresby to the nation, the Crown Estate and back to Thoresby. Unfortunately he then said that the field system was being maintained according to the Parliamentary undertaking given by the Crown Estate. This has, of course, been replaced by the undertaking given by Thoresby, which formed a significant part of their tender to purchase the Estate back.

It is not clear whether either the farmers or Thoresby would welcome the status of 'owners' he bestowed on them, but generally he got most things near enough right. The church, the Visitor Centre, the Village Hall and the Dovecote all got a mention.

It was nice to see him visit Moorhouse and speak a little about what he saw there, although he did not venture through the farm yard up to the church.

You can see the results of his efforts on YouTube - just search for 'The Village Idiot'. You can then search for Laxton, but unless you say Laxton and Moorhouse, you will need to say Laxton Nottinghamshire because there was already a video of Laxton, Humberside.

It is free to view, but he does ask you to 'buy him a coffee', i.e. make a small donation. That, of course, is entirely up to you.

Mike Manning sent round an email mentioning the video, which



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prompted one reply, and most likely some similar thoughts. In his travels, Andy had shown some of the village interpretation boards. They all look in various states of disrepair and some are dirty almost to the point of being unreadable. The comment Mike received pointed out that this does not reflect well on Laxton.

The existing boards were updated and placed in position in 2006. Since then not only has much of the wood holding them in place rotted and the ownership of the Estate changed, but so have some of the facts.

Mike knew that the Visitor Centre Trust was working with Thoresby on having the old boards replaced before this debate began and contacted them to see how far things had got. He has sent us the following update:

Laxton Visitor Centre Trust

We are pleased to say we are making good progress with Thoresby regarding both the replacement of the information/interpretation boards and the refurbishment of the toilets at the Visitor Centre.

The following information has been received from Thoresby during the last month

“Professor John Beckett and his colleagues at the University of Nottingham are currently helping to update and correct the information on the existing signboards. Once the information is up to date and free of errors, each board will have to be professionally redesigned. Once this has been done we can get our usual sign maker to produce the boards ready for installation

Regarding the toilets, Pinebrook Contractors have the works order and have the job programmed in. Unfortunately, with the repairs requiring the use of lime mortar/plaster we are not able to carry this out until mid-April at the earliest due to the risk of frost and low temperature. I would anticipate that, as long as the weather is with us, we should be completed with plenty of time in hand.

Kind regards,

Scott James

Pierrepont Estates Management Ltd.”

Prof John Beckett has since confirmed that the text has been checked and updated by himself and expert colleagues and once any changes to the farming practices mentioned have been included, the display content of the new boards will be ready for Thoresby to commission the design and manufacture. We will keep you updated.

Laxton Village Hall

The March Quiz on Friday 4th was a great success and despite the smaller number of teams and people attending we were able to have a really good atmosphere



As we said before the Quiz, the Committee decided we should restrict the numbers as people are still uncertain about Covid. There have been a number of new people moved into the village and so when we limited the numbers we felt we should prioritise Laxton residents and bring in the new people.

Unfortunately by restricting numbers we had to disappoint our "regulars" but it was only a "one off" and normal services will resume in the future!!

Many thanks as always to the Committee for all the hard work in the kitchen and providing great puds and raffle prizes and congratulations to the WI for winning.

A magnificent £566 was made for Village Hall funds

Best wishes
Michael Manning



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Thursday 8th September - route still to be announced

The Cottage, Moorhouse

Thanks to MWS for sending in this comprehensive account of the occupancy of this property over almost 270 years. NB There may be errors in transcribed documents of this age.

It was not always occupied by the owner, and was frequently used as a weekend get away home.

Many thanks to Vi for providing the typing and email assistance to produce this item.



21 1 1753 lic William Booth of MH and Martha Kirke of Carlton at Fledborough

Ancient tenement formerly occupied by William Booth who died Sept 1838.

1846 Sold by James Bartle and Joseph Moggs to William Johnson, farmer, Laxton. [occupant John Johnson]

1879 He died intestate. Then to Sydney and George Johnson, sons.

1879 170 pounds: Bought by James Rollit - 2 tenements, outbuildings and land.

1.10.1914 James Rollit died, 67yrs, widower, no children. Inherited by sister, Jane Parker.

24.12.1914 115 pounds: Sold to Sarah Emily Martin, spinster, Tuxford - 2 tenements and outbuildings.

7.3.1919 130 pounds: Sold to James Richard Jubb, painter, of Moorhouse, formerly 2 tenements. - xd 1868 Sheffield Foreman painter [house] c1911 in Sheffield

7.10.1919 Abstract of deeds:- of cottage at Moorhouse being 242 on 1902 edition of OS map formerly in the occupation of James Hollis but then by the vendor James Richard Jubb.

7.10.1919 180 pounds: Sale by James Richard Jubb, painter, of Sheffield to Edward James Whightman of Sheffield.

4.2.1929 E.J. Whightman died.

3. 8.1929 Admin to widow Eliz. Ann Whightman



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12.6.1929 280 pounds: Eliz. Ann Whightman , Elkesley, sold to Miss Rose Anita Dennell of Sheffield.

9.10.1931 200 pounds . Sold to Mrs Rose Ann Dennell wife of John Dennell, dentist, cottage and outbuildings, originally two cottages.

2.10.1940 300 pounds. Mrs Rose Ann Dennell of Sheffield sold to Percy Schofield of Sheffield, director of Ltd Co..

8.8.1952 2300 pounds. Sale by Mr Percy Schofield to Mr Thomas Price and Mrs Marjorie Price of Farndon, retired engineer.

2.11.1958 2000 pounds Sale by Mr and Mrs Price of Moorhouse to John Farnsworth, ,transport driver, of Southwell . {Went to Australia}

8. 2. 1963 2050 pounds Sale by John Farnsworth, transport driver, of land etc to Lily Amelia Goodwin of Retford.

2.7.1965 2300 pounds. Sale by Lily Amelia Goodwin of Retford to Thomas William Jordan of Sheffield, moulder, detached cottage and land known as the Cottage, Moorhouse.

13.2.1967 2390 pounds Sale by Thomas William Jordan of Moorhouse to Robert Milton Tompkins, dwellinghouse and land in Moorhouse c 1 acre and 30 perches. [242 on OSM 1900 ed.]

9.12 1977 20,000 pounds. Sale by Robert Milton Tompkins, Moorhouse, [occupier] to Keith Jackson and Heather Patricia Jackson, a dwellinghouse, land and all buildings now erected thereon.

22.1.1982 850 pounds Sale by Robert Milton Tompkins South Leverton to Keith Jackson of Moorhouse and Heather Patricia Jackson his wife, a small of parcel of land.

7 9.1987 8000 pounds Sale by Edith Noreen Connoles of Weston to Keith Jackson and Heather Patricia Jackson of Moorhouse, parcel of land.

Jan 2016 sale by Angela Jackson to the current owners who came from Matlock.

Stamps are Changing

Just a reminder that non-barcoded stamps will be phased out but will remain usable until 31 January 2023. The Post Office at Tuxford tell us that they have the new stamps now.

If anyone feels they cannot use up their stocks, **Royal Mail's 'Swap Out' scheme will open on 31 March 2022.** You will need to send off your old style stamps, which will be replaced with the new ones.

Grand Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

By the time you are reading this magazine the first meeting of the working group will have taken place on Monday 21st March and we should hear what suggestions and plans were discussed. If anyone would like to help who is not a member of any of the villages organisations we would be very pleased if you joined the group, the more ideas and enthusiasm the better!

Best wishes

Michael 870844

Telephone Box

As mentioned last month, the telephone box is now owned by the village and we would like some ideas as to what we could use it for.

Again, any ideas please to any Parish Councillor.

Thank you

Michael

Wellow Maypole Celebrations

As reported last month, Wellow Maypole Celebrations 2022 are to be held on Saturday 4th June.

Hopefully they will be blessed with a lovely day. The event is held on the village green between 12 noon and about 5pm. It all starts with a



procession to the green, led by the retiring May Queen. There are stalls and entertainments throughout the afternoon. The main event begins with the May Queen elect processing from church to green to be crowned accompanied by her retinue and the young dancers. More information next month.

Laxton History Group



Laxton History Group held its first meeting since Covid began on Wednesday 16th March 2022.

There was a lot to discuss after our long break. We have not been able to hold an AGM since 2019, although Jo has been keeping the books up to date. She reported the funds are in good order. We will hear the details next month when we hold an AGM to accept the accounts up to date and elect a new Steering Group.

John Chambers, our Chairman, opened the meeting and gave a brief resumé of the activities we have managed to hold in the past couple of years before he moved on to the business of the night.

We need a new Librarian to look after our book collection, which is now housed in the Village Hall and is available for loan to members on meeting nights. We are also looking for someone to take over as Treasurer to relieve Jo and people to share the job of taking notes at the meetings to ensure the important facts get recorded.

Over the years we have accumulated a lot artefacts, display equipment and records. These need to be found a new home and there was a suggestion that they might be shared among members. It was also suggested that Thoresby may have somewhere dry we could use and we will contact them.

We hope to be able to stage a display at the Great Notts Local History Fair in Mansfield in May and started taking offers to help with that.

We have been asked to support a proposal to open up footpaths around Wellow to make them more accessible for walkers. Members agreed we should send a letter of support.

We also discussed moving our meetings to the afternoons from November and the potential of holding occasional joint meetings with Norwell Parish History Group.

Janet had brought two of her folders of photos taken in Laxton over the years, which members enjoyed looking at during the refreshments at the end.

Our next meeting, on 20th April, will be the AGM. We warmly welcome anyone to come along on the night. We have decided to have cake this year to celebrate our return to meetings. There is no membership fee, just £3 per person on the door. Please come along a few minutes before 7.30pm. We look forward to seeing members old and new. A warm welcome awaits.

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APRIL CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to everyone celebrating a birthday, anniversary or other special event this month.

The birthday roll of honour for this month is: Margaret S, Johnny G (80), Brenda C, Roy H, Cath M, Jean M, Joyce S, Christine R, Andrew H, Roger B, Joan C and Derek S (70).

We wish a happy anniversary to Richard and Diane and anyone else celebrating this month.

If you are celebrating a special date, we send best wishes.

We would love to give a mention to everyone for their special day, so please let Jean or Brenda have details with dates in good time.



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Five Famous Quotes from Desmond Tutu

The recent death of Archbishop Desmond Tutu was mourned around the world. Here are five of his more famous quotes, which show why he was so especially honoured for his justice and reconciliation work in South Africa.

- ☆ "Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world."
- ☆ "If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor. If an elephant has its foot on the tail of a mouse, and you say that you are neutral, the mouse will not appreciate your neutrality."
- ☆ "Don't raise your voice, improve your argument. Good sense does not always lie with the loudest shouters, nor can we say that a large, unruly crowd is always the best arbiter of what is right."
- ☆ "Forgiving is not forgetting; it's actually remembering - remembering and not using your right to hit back. It's a second chance for a new beginning. And the remembering part is particularly important. Especially if you don't want to repeat what happened."
- ☆ "Differences are not intended to separate, to alienate. We are different precisely in order to realise our need of one another."

With thanks to The Plough, the magazine for Averham, Kelham and Staythorpe.

Best Dad Jokes of All Time - Part 1

- ☆ What do you call it when a snowman throws a tantrum?
A meltdown.
- ☆ Why did the baby strawberry cry? *His parents were in a jam.*
- ☆ How do you follow Will Smith in the snow?
You follow the fresh prints.
- ☆ What does a sprinter eat before race day? *Nothing, they fast!*
- ☆ Where do you learn to make a banana split? *Sundae school.*
- ☆ Why don't pirates take a bath before they walk the plank?
Because they'll just wash up on shore later.

MARCH SERVICES FOR OUR VILLAGE CHURCHES

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

27th Mar Mothers' Day

10.30am	Kneesall	HC	Rev John C
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3rd Apr

10.30am	Laxton	HC	Rev Margaret G
4.00pm	Wellow	EP	Heather B

10th Apr Palm Sunday

4.00pm	Wellow	EP	Rev. John C
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17th Apr Easter Day

9.00am	Walesby	HC	Rev John C
10.30am	Kneesall	HC	Rev John C
10.30am	Wellow	Morning Praise	Heather B
3.00pm	Moorhouse	Easter Praise	Heather B

24th Apr

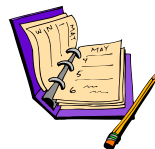
9.00am	Egmanton	HC	Rev Alistair L
10.00am	Kirton	HC	Rev Alistair L



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2022

April



Weds 13th

WI

Weds 20th

History Group AGM

Forward Planning

Sat 24th May

Notts County Show

Sat 4th June

Wellow Maypole Celebrations

Thurs 8th Sept

Tour of Britain Cycle Race in Notts

Sat 24th Sept

Southwell Ploughing Match

Regular Events:

Parish Council

*4th Tuesday of January, March, May, July,
September and November*

Quiz Nights

1st Friday of December & March tbc

**Copy Date for May edition:
12 noon, 16th April 2022**

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. Late arrivals are unlikely to make it into print.

Stuart Rose

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Laxton WI



Members were welcomed to our meeting by our president on 9th March.

The list of invitations to events in the County were read out.

Jennie will attend the Spring Council Meeting, which was to be held at Nottingham Playhouse, but has now had to be moved to Oxton Village Hall because refurbishment works at the Playhouse will not be finished on time. Jennie will go as a delegate and also receive a certificate for our WI's 60th anniversary.

Three members had put their names forward to go to a workshop for 'Crochet for Beginners', also the County Quiz, and congratulations were given to the WI team for coming first in the Village Hall quiz.

There will be a Willow Workshop for members to have a go at making a sphere.

County are at present trying to organise a clay pigeon shoot, a night at the dogs in Nottingham and a visit to see Notts play in a T-20 cricket match and the Notts Open Tennis. Hopefully these will be able to take place and we can get back to normal.

Our speaker for the evening was Wendy Wigan who spoke to us and gave us a presentation about the Team4Us project, which we support and which most WIs in the county do also.

We knit hats, scarves, gloves, mitts, and hand puppets. They are then forwarded to County Office about October before being collected by the charity. They are then sorted into different children's ages 3–5, 6–



11, and 12+. Then they go into shoe boxes which are filled up with pencils, crayons, books, balls, and toiletries – anything a child could need. The boxes are labelled and packed into larger containers before going onto the lorries. This work is all done voluntarily by up to 58 volunteers who work at the Nottingham depot.

The lorries must be packed correctly to the proper weight and the logistics and paperwork must all be correct. They then set off on their journey to the poor countries, such as

Romania, making probably two or three drops. The people there in the areas where they deliver live in very poor conditions with probably three generations living in one shack. The children love receiving these boxes. It is as if Santa has come. It is lovely to see the smiles on their faces.

Wendy has been over to the countries which receive the boxes and found it very difficult to see how they were living.

Wendy judged the competition for a knitted article for us. She gave first prize to a beautiful doll knitted by Anna. Jackie was second with a lovely heather coloured jumper. Sandra's entry, which was a poncho, she had made 50 years ago.



Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 13th April which will be our AGM. This will be followed by supper.



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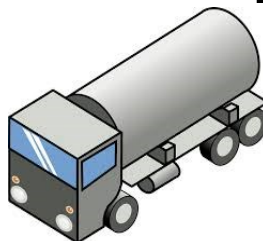
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Group Oil Order

Just prior to the last order the price had plateaued. We secured a price of 58.75p/litre (61.68p inc VAT @5%) on 20th February. The last minute addition of two orders following initial discussions with the suppliers resulted in a reduction for everyone of almost 0.5p/litre, which adds up when you are buying in bulk. It was a good demonstration of the value of having all the orders to hand before getting the quotes.



Soon afterwards the price went up rapidly, reaching 68.5p on 8th February. By 11th March, in the wake of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the price peaked at £1.65/litre, which was over £1 a litre more than we had paid, before falling slightly to £1.44 on 14th March and £1.24 at the time of writing on 17th March.

For this reason, no additional late spring order has been proposed. It seems the price is coming down, though how far and for how long who knows? It seems advisable to hang on and make stocks last with the warmer weather approaching and see what happens in a month or two.

If you don't want to miss the chance to get a discount by ordering with a substantial number of others, please notify your current contact details and delivery instructions such as lock, need advance notice of delivery etc. I pass your land line, mobile(s) and email address to the chosen supplier.

Anyone whose order can be placed by email is very welcome to join. Please contact me on oil@openfield.org.uk The group currently covers an area of roughly 5 miles radius from Laxton.

Joy

Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council

A reminder about the pot hole reporting contact details are:

**[www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/potholes/
report-a-pothole](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/potholes/report-a-pothole)**

Or ring Customer Services on 0300 500 8080

Dukeries Singers



As the Platinum Jubilee comes ever closer, we are proud to announce that we will be hosting a celebratory concert in collaboration with The Forest Singers of Mansfield, The Edwinstowe Handbell Ringers and some other fabulously talented artists.

The dates are **11th June at St Lawrence's Church Mansfield or 25th June at The Jubilee Hall Ollerton**. See our website and Facebook page for more details in the next few weeks.

In the meantime, if you would like to join the choir or book us for your special event then please contact our bookings secretary Margaret on **01623 642464** or **07896491314** or email us at **thedukeriessingers@gmail.com**. You can also see us on

Milton Mausoleum

Each year from May to September we open the Mausoleum on Sunday afternoons between 2pm and 4pm, when our volunteers will give you a tour of the building and share the story of the 4th Duke & Duchess of Newcastle. Tours can be organised for parties and groups by arrangement.

Our latest fundraising project, 'Unrestored Windows' is already off to a great start and gathering pace!

In brief, here are the events planned for 2022:

- Sunday 1st May First opening, 2 - 4pm
- Sunday 29th May AGM, 2pm at the Mausoleum
- Saturday 16th July - Summer Music Concert and canapes 7pm
- Sunday 25th September Georgiana Memorial Service at 2pm followed by refreshments. (Georgiana died 26th September 1822) and Sunday opening season closes
- Sunday 12th November - Christmas & Craft Fayre, 10am - 4pm
- Saturday 3rd December - Carols by Candlelight, 4pm - 5pm

Contact Gillian on 01777 248310 or email:

milton.mausoleum@outlook.com

Recent Bonus Ball Winners

Date	No	Name
19/2/22	26	ROLLOVER
26/2/22	20	ROLLOVER
5/3/22	48	Sam and Sophie
12/3/22	16	Janet Cooke

We have various numbers available. Here is the up to date list of the 14 spare numbers: 1,2,7,13,20,26,27,29,37,38,40,44,51,52,57, 59. Please contact me on 870844. Thank you. *Michael Manning*

An Evening of Music at Egmonton VH

On 20th May 2022, please join us for an evening with singer songwriter Blair Dunlop at our Village Hall in Egmonton.

There will be a bar and snacks available and of course a raffle to help raise funds for the hall!

We will be following all Government guidelines regarding COVID and in the event of us having to cancel we will refund tickets. More information on Blair Dunlop and how to purchase tickets is available from our web site:

www.egmantonvillagehall.org.uk



Save Your Stamps for Charity

Sandra Clarke collects stamps for Bransby Horses throughout the year. You can pass on yours at any time

All you need to do is to trim the stamp off the envelope, leaving at least a centimetre all around to ensure that the stamp is not damaged.

You can leave yours with Jean Hennell, Brenda Noble or any WI member in Laxton or with Joy Allison in Egmonton and they will be passed to Sandra.

Thank you

Nottinghamshire County Show



Newark and Nottinghamshire Agricultural Society (NNAS) dates back to 1799. It is a registered charity dedicated to promote, celebrate and champion agriculture across the Midlands region.

It has recently announced that its 2022 County Show will be staged as a one day event this year. It will take place on Saturday May 14th at the Showground.

The plan is to hold all the popular regular events, including the Young Farmers' activities, the livestock and equine classes and fun for all the family. Platinum Jubilee Celebrations are also advertised. No doubt there will also be a selection of trade stands.

We will watch with interest what highlights are promised as the date draws nearer.

Kidspeak

- ☆ Three boys are in the school playground bragging about their fathers. The first boy says, "My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, they give him £50. The second boy says, "That's nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a song, they give him £100." The third boy says, "I got you both beat. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people to collect all the money!"
- ☆ A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to honour thy father and thy mother," she asked "Is there a Commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?" Without missing a beat one little boy answered, "Thou shall not kill."
- ☆ At Sunday School they were teaching how God created everything, including human beings. Little Johnny seemed especially intent when they told him how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs. Later in the week his mother noticed him lying down as though he were ill, and she said, "Johnny, what is the matter?" Little Johnny responded, "I have pain in my side. I think I'm going to have a wife."

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Things to Look Forward to ...

More things are starting to happen and people are daring to plan ahead. Finally we can begin to put some dates in our diaries. Here are just a few local events which you might want to think about.

Wellow Maypole Celebrations

Saturday 4th June, from 12 noon round the maypole at Wellow. Procession, crowning of the new May Queen, dancing, refreshments, attractions. Lots and do and free admission.

The Nottinghamshire County Show.

The event will take place at the Showground in Newark. It will be a one day event on **Saturday 14th May**. See the web site for details of tickets, attractions etc.

The Great Nottinghamshire Local History Fair.

Last year this event went on-line, but plans are in hand to hold the 2022 version in Mansfield Library on **Sunday 15th May**. They expect to have a programme of speakers as well as displays from the usual wide selection of historical groups from around the county. Admission free.

HM the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations.

The major Platinum Jubilee celebrations will begin on Thursday, June 2nd 2022, and will continue over the weekend until June 5th. To create the four day weekend, the late May Bank Holiday has moved to June 2nd and an additional one-off bank holiday has been announced for June 3rd.

2022 at Doddington Hall

7th & 8th June Shakespeare's Globe Theatre will be giving three outdoor performances of Shakespeare's Julius Caesar.

Sunday 16th July - Sunday 11th September the Estate will host over 400 works of art at the popular '**Sculpture at Doddington**' summer exhibition. This event is open daily.

Southwell Ploughing Match and Show 24th September

The largest agricultural one day show in Nottinghamshire, is held at a different venue every year. This year at Farnsfield. All aspects of agriculture plus horse classes, dog show and the farmers market. Offers to steward or become a helper very welcome. Contact the show office via the web site.

The Dukeries Woodturning Society

The Society has resumed its monthly meetings in the Jubilee Hall in Ollerton on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm.

Demonstrators are booked to show their skills and a video system ensures everyone can see. No practical on the night for members, but supplies stands at meetings. Everyone is very welcome.

The following speakers are booked for the first half of the year:

MARCH 23rd	Ray Jones
APRIL 27th	Peter Hallam
MAY 25th	Mick Dews (tbc)
JUNE 22rd	Joey Richardson

Thanks to Steve Digby, Editor of 'Idle Talk' for permission to use this quiz, set by his sister in law, Meghan

Straightforward, cryptic, hidden or phonetic: what's the link

Quiz Questions (answers overleaf)

1. Which structure in the north of England was the longest of its kind when completed in 1981?
2. What is the state capital of Texas?
3. What is a road crossing through a river called?
4. Who was a major figure in the Arts and Crafts movement whose wallpaper and fabric designs are still popular today?
5. Played by Brian Capron, who was the arch villain in Coronation Street who drove his car, complete with Platt family, into the canal?
6. What is the sacred flower of Hinduism, symbolising beauty, fertility, prosperity, eternity?
7. Which football team plays its home games at Ewood Park?
8. Which Nobel Prize winning mathematician was played by Russell Crowe in "A Beautiful Mind"?
9. Which area of south London is famous for its bridge, its park and its gardens? Also one end of the Oval cricket ground is named this?
10. How would a cowboy greet his car?
11. What's the common link?

The Stellas - No. 4

For those unfamiliar with these awards, they are named after 81 year old Stella Liebeck who spilled hot coffee on herself and successfully sued the McDonald's where she purchased the coffee. She took the lid off of the coffee and put it between her knees while she was driving...

These awards are for the most outlandish lawsuits and verdicts in the U.S. - the kinds of cases that make you shake your head.

Here is one recent one, awarded 4th place. Just wait for No 1!

Jerry Williams, of Little Rock , Arkansas, gained 4th place in the Stellas when he was awarded \$14,500 plus medical expenses after being bitten on the rear by his next door neighbour's beagle - even though the beagle was on a chain in its owner's fenced yard.

Williams did not get as much as he asked for because the jury believed the beagle might have been provoked at the time of the rear bite because Williams had climbed over the fence into the yard and repeatedly shot the dog with a pellet gun...

Kneesall Knightingales

The Kneesall Knightingales are an ALL AGE, ALL ABILITY community choir. We meet in the Bill Hemsley Community Centre (St Bartholomew's church) in Kneesall at 7pm on Thursday evenings during term time.



We're a friendly bunch and music is learnt step-by-step with plenty of help and support. If you feel like having a go at choral singing (even if you think you can't sing!) then this is the place to be.

Contact Sue - 07899 670766 or learnpiano@btinternet.com
for more information.

We look forward to meeting you soon.

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Quiz Answers:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 1 The Humber Bridge | 2 Austin |
| 3 Ford | 4 William Morris |
| 5 Richard Hillman | 6 Lotus flower |
| 7 Blackburn Rovers | 9 John Nash |
| 8 Vauxhall | 10 (H) Audi |

11 They are all motor manufacturers, past and present.

Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council

Draft Minutes of the Meeting 25/1/22

Present: Councillors:

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

In attendance at parish council meeting

C. Wilson (Clerk), S, Michael (District councillor)

B Perry (Thoresby Estate representative)

1. **Apologies for absence:** There were no absences. Apologies from Mr Pringle were noted.
2. **Declarations of interest:** The chair declared an interest as a member of the sports field committee in item 10 (Property matters – including sports field and Glebe Field maintenance and approval of licence).
3. There were no other declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda.
4. **Dispensations:** None required.
5. **10 Minutes public speaking:** No public present.
6. **Thoresby Estate report (if any):** Councillors welcomed Mr Perry to the meeting. He reported that planning permission had been granted for School Farm.
7. **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 23 November 2021:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 23 November 2021 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair
8. **Matters arising:** No other matters arising which were not otherwise on the agenda.
9. **Reports from district and county councillors:** Mrs Michael reported on the following:
 - a. The Covid vaccination uptake in all age groups in the district
 - b. The Newark test site had closed
 - c. The conservation officer is leading on Bar Farmhouse. A draft schedule of works has been sent to the owner with a March 2022 deadline for commencement. If the works are not commenced, NSDC will then take enforcement action. All agreed that the property was in a very poor condition and had been deteriorating for years.
9. **Reports from councillors:** The chair reported on the success of the Christmas lights event on 5 December 2021. There had been very positive feedback from village organisations and individuals. Councillors were pleased that they now had Christmas lights which could be used in future years, although disappointment was

expressed at the limitations on the parish council's ability to expend the precept on the event. Councillors agreed that the 2022 event should be an agenda item for the September 2022 meeting to allow plenty of time for planning.

Formal thanks were expressed to Mr Rose for all his efforts and to the Thoresby Estate for the donation of the trees and funding. These contributions had been central to the success of the event. Mr S Hill reported that the SNG meeting on 13 January 2022 had identified two priorities:

- a. The importance of reporting all rural crime incidents using 101 or 999 as appropriate to their severity and of residents taking responsibility for their own security
- b. Speeding traffic in villages. A new police camera car is in use.

Mr J Hill referred to hare coursing in Laxton which he had reported. Councillors noted that there had also been incidents at Maplebeck.

There was also discussion of the theft of telescopic antlers for use in a subsequent cashpoint theft. They also noted the use of drones at night. It was recognised that activity had increased since Covid had eased. Councillors emphasised the importance of reporting any activity of potential significance.

10. Property matters including sports field and Glebe Field and sub tenancy and associated legal services:

Councillors noted that there appeared to have been a misunderstanding in relation to the acceptance of the Critchley's quote and payment of the deposit. The clerk had mistakenly been waiting to hear from Mr Rose. The position having been clarified, she would arrange for payment.

Councillors noted that a query had been raised by the licensee in relation to insurance and the clerk was waiting to hear back from Larken & Co.

11. Planning matters:

- a. **Applications:** None
- b. **To note planning decisions by NSDC:** None
- c. **Compliance:** No matters raised.

- 12. Defibrillator inspection report:** Mr Jem Hill reported that he had completed the inspection. There were no issue. Councillors noted that the defibrillator had been used two weeks previously. Mr Hill confirmed that there were spare in date pads. The clerk had ordered new ones.

13. Village environment and appearance, including:

- a. **Second defibrillator:** The chair had included an article in the forthcoming Open Field seeking residents' views and reminded everyone where the defibrillator is located. He will share any responses received with councillors in advance of the next meeting on 22 March 2022.

- b. **Use of telephone kiosk:** Councillors agreed that the kiosk would benefit from some maintenance. It was noted that the conservation officer had indicated that the kiosk was a listed structure. The clerk will seek confirmation and establish what that means in terms of use and maintenance.
- c. **Dog bin installation – Update:** Mr J Hill had installed the bins. The clerk had advised NSDC waste collection to update their collection schedule to include the new bins.
- d. **Relocation – 30 mph speed signs to village entries and NCC Highways (Via) formal notice:** Councillors considered Via's advert letter dated 17 January 2022 and unanimously **decided** that they supported the re-siting of the three signs as proposed, but formally requested that the sign on Acre Edge Road is also re-sited as they had originally been seeking.
- e. **Bar Farmhouse:** See LMPC/08/22 (Reports from District and County Councillors) above
- f. **Jubilee event and decorations:** Councillors discussed the possibility of holding a village celebration during the four day jubilee period. They noted that the following suggestions had already been made:
 - a. A Songs of Praise on the Sunday 5 June 2022
 - b. A street party, possibly around the Village Hall with the WI potentially providing food with a resident's support and residents more generally bringing their own drinks
 - c. Planting a tree in Glebe Field.

Councillors went on to discuss how an event might be organised and unanimously **decided** that the parish council should set up a Jubilee Committee made up of three parish councilors and representatives from various village organisations. The event would be held under the parish council's auspices and direct oversight. As a parish council organised event, albeit with the involvement of wider groups, it should be covered under its insurance arrangements. After discussion, Mr S Hill, Mr J Hill and Mr M Hennel were formally **appointed** as the parish council's representatives on the Parish Council Jubilee Committee. It was also **decided** that, in the first instance, the following should be invited to join the committee:

 - Women's Institute
 - Village Hall Committee
 - Church
 - Visitor Centre
 - Young Farmers
 - History Group
 - Gaits & Commons

with proposals to be brought to the parish council's next meeting on 22 March 2022. The chair will assist in completing any funding applications and place an article in the Open Field.
- g. **Laxton Conservation Area Character Appraisal – Update:** Councillors noted that the consultation had begun and would run

until 18 February 2022. The chair reported that his feeling from the event was that most residents were broadly supportive of the proposal. He encouraged residents to complete The NSDC on line consultation form.

14. Finance

- a. **Financial position as at 31 December 2021:** Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position at 31 December 2021 (incorporating the 2021-22 budget figures). The chair verified the stated balances against bank statements.
- b. **Accounts for payment:** The council unanimously **approved** thirteen payments totalling £3113.55.
- c. **To consider the financial information provided by the Clerk and NSDC's letter regarding 2022/23 precept estimates and to agree the precept for the year ending 31 March 2023:** Councillors considered the financial information provided by the clerk. They noted the level of reserves, recognising that these were at a level which provided scope for investment on the parish environment. Councillors unanimously **decided** to retain the precept at £4000
- d. **2022-23 insurance arrangements:** Councillors reviewed the renewal documentation. Councillors **decided** to enter into the 2022-23 insurance contract with Zurich.

15. **Service faults:** The clerk will report:

1. Potholes on Kneesall Road at the bottom of Lansyke Lane
2. Potholes by Brockilow Bridge
3. Mud on road between Ide Farm and the water treatment plant
4. Damaged pavement surface on Moorhouse Lane between junction with Main Street to Green Lane.

16. **Correspondence:** Item of correspondence noted together with the NCC minerals consultation.

17. **Agenda items for next meeting:** As above

18. **Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 22 March 2022

Second Defibrillator?

The village defibrillator is situated in the Visitor Centre and is easily accessed via the cabinet, following authorisation from a 999 call.

The Parish Council are wondering if a second unit available elsewhere would be beneficial. Villagers are invited to comment on the idea of a second unit and where to store it. Please let a member of the Parish Council know your thoughts.

Michael Manning

Egmanton Village Hall

www.egmantonvillagehall.org.uk / 01777 871171

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

- ♦ **Yoga with Gregg** – Tuesdays at 7.30pm. Pay Gregg - £36 block of 6 sessions, £7 drop in. Info from Gregg: **07761 344250**.
- ♦ **Egmanton WI** - Thursday 21st April in the Hall

Village Notices

Mike Manning maintains a list of email addresses for villagers and other local people who want to receive up to date information.

If you are not already on the list and would like to be kept informed, please contact Mike at kneecott@googlemail.com

Laxton Defibrillator

The defibrillator in the Visitor Centre, is always accessible as neither the Visitor Centre door nor the cabinet housing it is locked.

Please do remember that the defibrillator must only be used once authorised by a call to 999.

Michael Manning



BRANSBY HORSES
— Rescue and Welfare —

Sandra Clarke is still collecting stamps for Bransby Horses throughout the year.

If you receive any during the year, please collect them trimming the stamp off the envelope, leaving at least a centimetre all around to ensure that the stamp is not damaged.

You can leave yours with Jean Hennell in Laxton or with Joy Allison in Egmanton and they will be passed to Sandra.

Thank you.

Useful Contact Details

Defibrillator Contacts:

Neil Randall 01777 871229 & 07710 398745, evenings and weekends
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

Sgt 2949 Christial Hurley, Sherwood Neighbourhood Policing Team,
Ollerton Police Station
PC Gary Sipson 07525 226575 or 101 x 800 7673
Email : gary.sipson@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk

PC2548 Deborah Bakin supported by
PCSO 8524 Richard Dunn at Southwell 07595 074292

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
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MP Mr Robert Jenrick: robert.jenrick.mp@parliament.uk	01636 612 837
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County Councillor: cllr.mike.pringle@nottsc.gov.uk	0115 977 5661
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Parish Council website: www.laxtonandmoorhouseparishcouncil.co.uk

Glebe Field Boundary Hedge



As reported in recent meeting minutes, the Parish Council has arranged to have the main Glebe Field boundary hedge down the Twitchill footpath improved.

Last month's **Open Field** showed Russell at work on it and the latest photos show what a huge difference it has made to the security of the field and the appearance and safety of the footpath.

Russell has made a brill job of it as can be seen in the photos.

Michael

