

# Open Field

50p

April 2017



*Crocus planted by Laxton WI for the NFWI Centenary in 2015  
and added to in 2016 in bloom on the green March 2017*

The monthly publication  
of the parish of Laxton & Moorhouse  
[www.openfield.org.uk](http://www.openfield.org.uk)

**Priest in Charge**  
**Churchwardens** LAXTON  
MOORHOUSE  
KNEESALL  
WELLOW  
WELLOW  
**P.C.C:** **Chairman**

Rev. Zoe Burton 01623 862818  
Mrs Brenda Noble 01777 870541  
Mr Simon Hill 01636 822777  
Mr Ian Thorn  
Mr Ben Wells 01623 861309  
Mrs Jean Crofts

**Deanery contact number** 01636 650063

**Parish Council:** **Clerk** Catherine Millward 01636 813387  
**Parish Councillors:** **Chairman** Mr Michael Manning  
**Vice Chair** Mr David Brown  
**Members** Mr Roy Hennell Mr Simon Hill  
Mr Mark Hennell Mr Jem Hill

Mr John Godson  
Mrs Jean Hennell 01777 870276

**Magazine Editor**

**Flowers and Brasses Rota**  
Mr & Mrs S Clarke  
Mrs B Noble & Mrs M Beckitt  
Mrs M Rose & Mrs S Rose  
Mrs P Freer & Miss L Gadsby

26th March & 2nd April  
9th & 16th April  
23rd & 30th April  
7th & 14th May

**Magazine Advertising** Mrs Joy Allison 01777 871506  
Email: [advertising@openfield.org.uk](mailto:advertising@openfield.org.uk)

**Photography** Michael Manning, CHinK, Joy Allison

# Open Field

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

Photographs of children appear in Open Field and on the web site with the consent of their parents / carers. Open Field appears on the Web in its entirety plus additional photos. If in doubt, photos are not used.

[www.openfield.org.uk](http://www.openfield.org.uk)

Cover photo: Laxton WI crocchi in bloom  
Photo by: Joy Allison



**ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO BE WITH THE EDITOR BY  
16th APRIL PLEASE. EARLIER PREFERRED.**

## Letter From Rev Anna

We're now coming towards the end of Lent and the Easter Holiday (holy day) is getting ever closer, but I wonder if you have ever stopped to think about what Christians do during lent and why?

The word 'Lent' comes from the same root as the word 'lengthen' and is related to the word Spring. It means the days are getting longer, we may also hope they are getting warmer! It is the time of year when Christians live more simply to prepare to celebrate Easter. The traditional way to do that is by giving up something we normally enjoy, and that is not a bad thing to do, as hopefully it gives us a space or a chance to think more deeply about our faith in Jesus Christ and our Christian lives.

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves.' (Matthew 16.24), he meant put the needs of God and the needs of others first. But we also need to notice that this is said to those who are Jesus' disciples – those who have chosen to follow him.

Nothing could be more important. It is not a matter of becoming 'religious', or even 'spiritual'; it is a matter of putting God first and trusting that Jesus Christ has done everything needed for you have that relationship with God.

That is what we remember in Holy Week: that Jesus died for those who put their trust in him, so that we can be in the right with God through faith. Lent without faith in Jesus Christ is pointless. Lent without Easter would be very grim indeed. Lent with Easter faith is not just a duty, but has the potential to become a joy as we look with hope towards the day that we celebrate Jesus resurrection from the dead.

My prayer is that you will find some space to reflect on Jesus love for you during the season of Lent, and find the hope that comes from being a disciple, someone who chooses to follow Jesus, as we celebrate Easter with joy.

*Rev Anna*

## Sympathy - Joan Fretwell

We were sorry to hear that Joan Fretwell of Kneesall had died. Joan and her husband, Les, spent many years living in Laxton at Dijon House before retiring and moving to Kneesall.

Joan taught Sunday School at church and edited the 'Open Field' magazine for us. She was a member of the WI and was also our County Secretary at the WI office in Newark.

Her funeral took place on Friday 10th March at Kneesall Church. Our sympathies go to Les, Jane and Stephen, the grandchildren and great grandchildren.



## Sympathy - Gordon Plant

We are sorry to hear of the death of Gordon Plant in Nottingham City Hospital on 23rd February. He had been transferred from Kings Mill Hospital and died peacefully some days later.

The funeral will take place on 24th March at Christ Church, Newark.

Our sympathies go to his family and friends in Laxton and beyond.

## Welcome Home Pat

We are pleased to hear that Pat Freer has come home. It is good to have you home and we hope you continue to keep well.

## Good News of Margaret

We are also pleased to hear that Margaret Maddison is coming along nicely and may even be home by the time you read this. We hope both ladies continue to do well and enjoy being home here in Laxton being able to see their friends and keep up with village life.



# Laxton Parish Defibrillator Contacts

Now the defibrillator is installed, villagers need to be aware of who to contact if it is needed. The following people have done the training and can be called upon if an emergency requiring the defibrillator arises.

- 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 and weekends
- Linda and Max McNaught, 01777 870127, as required
- Anne-Marie and Geoff Rose, 07961 933290 & 07957 991002, as required
- Alan and Stephanie Tunnard, 07974 146967 as required
- David and Linda, Dovecote Inn 01777 871586 as required

## **Palm Sunday**

### **Family Communion Service**

**Sunday 9th April, 10.30am**

### **Laxton Church**

**The service will be taken by  
the Rev Margaret Groves**

**Everyone welcome.**

**Palm crosses will be distributed.**

**Please come along and bring the children.**

**The service will be followed by refreshments**



# Spring Concert in Church

with Kneesall School Choir

in

Laxton Church

on

Friday 19th May

at 7pm

Further notice next month and tickets for sale

Tickets £5 including refreshments

from Jean Hennell - phone 01777 870276 or

From Kneesall school



## Village Hall News

The 3rd March QUIZ was another great evening of fun and laughter with 10 teams. and nearly 80 people in all. Roberta fielded a strong team (Retfordians) and were the eventual winners but only by a narrow margin over The Wombats and Six minus One who were joint second.

We always give big big thanks to ALL who attended and continue to support the Hall, to all the Committee who worked particularly hard (Pat and Rachel/Neil in the kitchen especially) Also thanks to the Committee for donating 17 raffle prizes again and the wonderful sweets.

The mushy peas were produced "in house" thanks to Michael and Keith and we haven't heard of any upset stomachs since so we must have done them properly!!!

A special big thanks to Cath again for the great mix of questions, never an easy job. Even though ALL the answers are checked with Google, matters of opinion/discussions still prevail occasionally. The Google help line number is available on request!!!!!!!.

A quick reminder that **the November Quiz will be on the first FRIDAY in December 1/12/17 where there will be more fun and frustrations at Cath's crafty questions!! Bring drinks and glasses (reading and drinks!)**

## Mystery Soldier

Mary Lund, has contacted us from Toronto, Canada, having found the magazine via an entry on [ancestry.ca](http://ancestry.ca) while researching her family tree. She is related to Laxton's Peatfield and Peck families. [mary.lund@teksavvy.com](mailto:mary.lund@teksavvy.com)

Mary had other ancestors living in Maplebeck (Moores) and Sibthorpe (Lee). She would appreciate hearing from anyone who might be able to identify this man or his regiment. People who have seen the photo seem convinced it is Royal Engineers.

The Curator of the QRLNY Museum at Thoresby, Mick Holtby says 'We believe it is a member of a field Engineering Company of the Royal Engineers.

The horseshoe on his uniform confirms that he was a farrier. The Engineers, did have carts and horses so would have had their own farriers. He also has a grenade badge above his stripes which would suggest he was a trench mortar gunner.'

Another veteran RE contact says ' He is a Farrier Sergeant Royal Engineers. Note the bandolier and riding breeches. I disagree with the suggestion that he might be a Sherwood Forester based on the inverted horseshoe on the sleeve. If I couldn't identify the RE cap badge I'd deserve to be drummed out of the RE Association - my own regiment in the 1970s. Certainly the Sherwoods were infantry, so no need of a farrier!'

All Mary can say with certainty is that the photo was in an album with ancestors from this area, but without any further information.

If anyone can say more please contact us through the magazine's web site and we will pass on your thoughts.

Mary's research has revealed some interesting items from The Nottinghamshire Guardian relating to her local Laxton ancestors which she has shared with us.

On Friday 9th December 1870 the inquest into the death of Sarah Peck (42) of Laxton, wife of farmer, George Peck. The inquest, held at The Dovecote Inn, heard that Dr Whittington of Tuxford had attended and concluded that she died of heart disease having passed away suddenly in her sleep.



# Things to Do this Month

- Mar 25<sup>th</sup>** Kirton Coffee Morning, 10.30am, **Kirton Hall Farm**
- Apr 12<sup>th</sup>** WI Dogs for the Disabled 7.30pm **VH**
- Apr 13<sup>th</sup>** Coffee Morning - see below
- Apr 21<sup>st</sup>** History Group AGM / Tasting Supper 7.00pm **VH**
- Apr 20<sup>th</sup>** Kneesall School Michael Wood Award Presentation 1.00pm
- Apr 22<sup>nd</sup>** Kirton Church Quiz Night @ **Egmanton VH**
- Apr 24<sup>th</sup>** Mothers' Union
- May 1<sup>st</sup>** May Day dawn, Laxton Castle, 5.15am
- VH = Village Hall VC = Visitor Centre**

## Coffee Morning

*13th April 10.30 - 11.30*

The second of the new coffee mornings will take place at Chapel House at the top of Chapel Lane on the right from 10.30am - 11.30am.



This is thanks to one of our new hostesses. Why not come and join us? Everyone is welcome to this informal group. You don't have to commit to monthly attendance and are welcome to pop in to enjoy some friendly, cheerful company. Plenty of tea, cakes, and chatter.



The edition dated 25th December 1851 reports an inquest at Laxton which concluded that Ann Peatfield (57), wife of William, died 'by visitation of God'. She was found dead in a ditch shortly after being seen by farmer Thomas Beckett with a strange man. She had greeted labourer James Lacy on the road. Soon afterwards he heard an alarm and found her 'quite dead'.

Arthur Peatfield, son of Laxton farmer W Peatfield married Augusta Gray, youngest daughter of John Gray, Laxton farmer. This appeared on 15th October 1869 and was reported in detail on 22nd October 1869. The bride played the harmonium at Egmonton Church and the groom sang at Laxton, where she assisted at the organ. Revd. Martin arranged a choral marriage for harvest festival day in the beautifully decorated church. The vicar presented them with a 'handsome church service attached to a hymn book'. The bells pealed to welcome them to their home at Egmonton. Mrs Ward at the Sun Inn, Laxton, had stopped the carriages to present the ladies with sherry and the gentlemen with brandy and water.

## Clothing Bank - a Reminder

The Clothing Bank in the Dovecote car park is one of many run by the Police Aid Convoys. This is our recycling bin and the village benefits from the money paid for items deposited in the bin.

We are not getting paid as much from the rag collectors as before so it would be good if we could increase the amount we put in.

The bin shows what we can and cannot donate. If it is a bit small for you the GOOD things are:

Clothing, towels, sheets, blankets, curtains, paired shoes.

The BAD things you cannot put in the bin are soiled rags, carpets and rugs, glass or metal, paper, rubbish and duvets. Paired shoes are particularly good as they are heavier than clothing!!

Before you throw something out which could go in the bin please think to take it up and pop it in. Thank you.

*Michael Manning*



# The Dovecote Inn at Laxton

## Your Local Village Pub



**Mondays 3rd April & 1st May**      **Steak Night 6.00pm - 9.00pm**  
Whole joints of beef from Doncasters' family butchers of Newark. Cut  
in the restaurant and cooked to your liking.  
Price depends on size of steak

**Sunday 16th April**      **Easter Sunday 12.30pm to 7.30pm**  
A delightful traditional Easter Sunday lunch.  
2 courses £17.95, 3 courses £19.95

### **MONDAY 17th APRIL**

### **EASTER MONDAY FUN DAY**

**Free children's Easter egg hunt from 2.00pm and free bouncy castle, weather permitting. Restaurant opening times as normal. Bar open all day. Mini Dovecote Picnic hampers to be enjoyed in our gardens available 2.00 - 4.00pm**

**Tuesday 25th April**      **Pie Tuesday 5.30pm - 9.00pm**  
A choice of chef's lovely home made pies, all served with a fine glass  
of best cask beer or a glass of wine to suit.  
£13.00 per person including drink.

**Book now for all these events. For further information or to book a table, please call us on 01777 871586, visit the Website [www.dovecoteinn.co.uk](http://www.dovecoteinn.co.uk) or find us on Facebook. All events can be booked and paid for on line using PayPal**

**Look forward to seeing you all soon at your local pub,  
The Dovecote Inn at Laxton**

THE DOVECOTE INN, LAXTON

# Summer

# Ball



**FRIDAY 7TH JULY**  
**DOORS OPEN AT 7PM**

**Fizz reception, followed by an evening of music  
and dancing in the big Dovecote Marquee  
with our own hog roast, plus gin, cocktail and rosé wine bar**

**TICKET ONLY EVENT**

**£15 PER PERSON (Inclusive of reception fizz and hog roast)**  
**TICKETS ON SALE NOW ONLINE OR AT THE DOVECOTE**

**Cross Hill, Laxton, Newark, Nottinghamshire NG22 0SX**  
**[www.thedovecoteinn.com](http://www.thedovecoteinn.com) • Tel: 01777 871586**

Strictly over 18's

## Redroofs Holiday Barns & Bed Breakfast



Newly converted barn  
We can accommodate up to 12  
guests in two beautifully  
converted barns sleeping 4 or 8  
Ideal for group bookings

Old Great North Road  
Weston  
Newark NG23 6TS

01777 871477

07971 400950

[www.redroofsholidays.co.uk](http://www.redroofsholidays.co.uk)



## Stan The Sweep

### Local Professional Vacuum Chimney Sweep

*Solid Fuel, Oil and Gas, Aga,  
Stove Bricks, Glass & Rope  
supplied & fitted, Bird guards,  
Chimney liners, Pots, Specialist  
equipment for sweeping wood  
burners & liners. Certificate  
issued.*

*No Mess & fully insured  
Contact Stan Hutchinson on:*

07831 661304

01636 821466

**[Stan@StanTheSweep.co.uk](mailto:Stan@StanTheSweep.co.uk)**



Member of the  
guild of master  
sweeps



MB  
OIL

Mark Brisendon  
Heating Engineer

T: 01636 678036  
M: 07734 450695

Oil boiler service,  
repair and installations



OFTEC registered

## G.R. GRIMES & SONS

SOLID FUEL & GAS MERCHANTS



**Competitive Prices**

Ring for a Quote

Tel:

**01777 228273**

# A Memorable Anniversary

Max McNaught sent this reminder of a successful football season for Laxton 30 years ago. Unfortunately they didn't round it off in quite the way they hoped, but they fought hard.



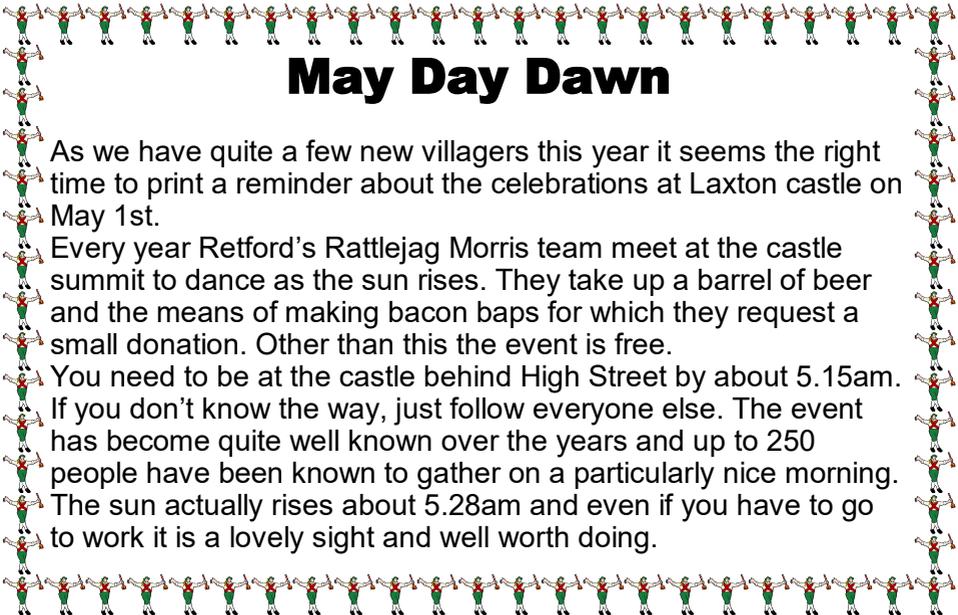
## **WILLIE HALL CUP FINAL, SUNDAY 12 APRIL 1987 CODDINGTON v LAXTON UTD**

The first game ended in a 1-1 draw. Then we had a replay on Sunday 19th April when we lost 2-1.

**TEAM:** G Randall, E Armstrong, P Hennell, R Miggels, P Wilson, J Smith (Cpt), C Shepherd, C Hennell, G Sears, N Evans, M Thackeray, M Claypole, C Holland, A Matthews, S Pashley, P Smith, I Wilson, T Warriner.

**MANAGER:** M McNaught, ASSISTANT: R Smith.

*M McNaught*



## **May Day Dawn**

As we have quite a few new villagers this year it seems the right time to print a reminder about the celebrations at Laxton castle on May 1st.

Every year Retford's Rattlejag Morris team meet at the castle summit to dance as the sun rises. They take up a barrel of beer and the means of making bacon baps for which they request a small donation. Other than this the event is free.

You need to be at the castle behind High Street by about 5.15am. If you don't know the way, just follow everyone else. The event has become quite well known over the years and up to 250 people have been known to gather on a particularly nice morning.

The sun actually rises about 5.28am and even if you have to go to work it is a lovely sight and well worth doing.



## Pat's Charity Plant Stall

The stall will open for business outside the house on High Street in mid April.

To begin with there will be herbaceous plants, roses and possibly strawberries. Just come along and choose your plants from the display and either pay at the door or pop the money through the door if we are not in.

As soon as the weather is warmer there will be tomatoes, courgettes, cucumber, beans (climbing and broad) and then a range of bedding plants, pots and baskets.

The Inner Wheel Club of Sherwood Forest are supporting Blood Bikes and other local charities this year and this is where the funds raised will be donated.

Blood Bikes is a less well known charity we feel is very worthy of support. Men and women who are experienced motorcycle riders and have time to spare, transport vital hospital records, blood and transplant organs etc to where they are required, often during the night.

We are fortunate enough to have such a group in Nottinghamshire.

*Pat Naylor*



# **Rogation Service**

## **Sunday 21st May, 10.30am**

**The service will be held on  
Laxton Common**

**Tis is the service when the crops are blessed  
Come and join us at one of our traditional rural  
services**

**Everyone welcome.**

**In church if wet**



## Sandwich Shop & Café



3 Eldon Street, Tuxford

☎ 01777 872032

© [www.thecrustycobtuxford.co.uk](http://www.thecrustycobtuxford.co.uk)

The Crusty Cob

Open from

7.45am – 3.30pm Monday – Friday

8.00am – 3.00pm Saturday

### A wide selection of:

- ◆ Sandwiches ◆
- ◆ Panini's Flatbreads ◆
- ◆ Jacket Potatoes ◆
- ◆ Maloney's Pies & Sausage Rolls ◆
- ◆ Wraps ◆
- ◆ Teacakes and Scones ◆
- ◆ Cakes & Pastries ◆

And many more..... with the option to eat in or takeaway.

Please check out our reviews on & to get a real feel of the food and service we offer.

◆ **Buffets & Outside Catering available - please telephone or enquire within.**

◆ **Weekday Delivery Service available – please enquire for further information.**

### Fancy something different? Why not try our “Pop up dining nights”

Themed food evenings once a month in our “dressed up” café  
BYO Beer & fixed menu - £20 / head  
See our FB page/ contact us for more info.

*Extensive parking available to the rear of the Sun Inn & in the Working Men's Club.*

## PRIME LOCAL LAMB

### Michael Mawer



Whole / 1/2 lamb  
Ready for the freezer



To order or for more information

**please ring Jem  
07917 694579**

# Stuart Rose

DESIGNER AND MAKER OF  
ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK

SECURITY GRILLES, RAILINGS, SCROLLWORK &  
GATES FOR HOME & BUSINESS  
GENERAL BLACKSMITHING  
IRONWORK REPAIRS & WELDING  
BOTTOM FARM, LAXTON

TEL: 01777 871702, [www.laxtonnotts.org.uk](http://www.laxtonnotts.org.uk)



## KSR ACCOUNTANTS

KSR Accountants  
The Old Buttermarket  
Market Place  
Tuxford  
NG22 0L

01777 872078 / 07710  
430593

# Laxton History Group



## HLF Project

Last month Jo Godson, our Treasurer announced that our Heritage Lottery Funded project had completed its spending and the final accounts were being prepared for the HLF's inspection. The total cost of the work, including publishing and distributing the booklets free of charge was just under £31,000, some £400 less than the total which had been allocated for our use, despite the publication of the additional three booklets and holding a second Launch event.

Jo has worked out the costs and she has calculated that, leaving aside the costs incurred through equipment, research activities and sundries, the direct costs of producing the booklets mean they cost an average of £3.86 each.

When the grant was announced, we were told that we would receive 50% at the outset, 40% when that had been spent and the final 10% after completion of the project. We decided at that point to save £3,000 to allow us to pay our bills before we were repaid the final 10% in the event that we needed it.

This has proved to be a prudent course of action as we have spent around £2,700 of this sum. Once the HLF are satisfied with our final report and accounts this will be repaid and we will be able to decide how to use it for our activities as a group.

We have received some very nice comments since the publication of both sets of booklets, for which we are grateful. These have been sent to the HLF as evidence that the work was worthwhile. We would like to thank everyone who has helped us along the way over the last three years. We have counted over 50 volunteers in total, which is in excess of our total membership and many more than we estimated before we began.

We are able to read statistics from our web site and there have been a pleasing number of 'hits' on the booklets and it is clear that a good number of copies have been downloaded, reflecting the interest we have been made aware of.

## Michael Wood Award

The children of Class 3 at Kneesall School have been hard at work researching their own chosen topics for our joint project with them which is funded by Michael Wood's kind donation. They will be giving a



**Laxton History Group**

**Invite you to attend their**

# **Historic Tasting Supper**

**With food celebrating 1900 - 1920,  
which we have just finished studying**

**Friday 21st April**

**7.00pm for 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

**followed by the 2017 AGM**

**Tickets £7 from Jean Hennell 870276**

**Please bring your own drink and glasses**

presentation to History Group members and their families on Thursday 20th April at **1.00pm** at the school.

It would be good if as many members as possible go along to talk to the children about the work they have done. If it is half as good as last year it will be a wonderful event. It will also be rewarding for the children to see that our members are interested in their work. This year four Laxton children and a further three from Egmonton are in the class so we will know a good number of them by sight at least and it will be lovely to have a chance to see what they have discovered and to get to know them better.

## **Great Nottinghamshire Local History Fair, Sunday 7th May 2017**

We will once again have a stand at this event in Mansfield Library, which brings together many of the local history societies across the county with a number of other local organisations with historical connections. It is free and well worth a visit. Last year there were even live birds of prey on show!

We anticipate taking displays about both the HLF project and the children's work from the Michael Wood Award, so we should be very well represented. Please make a note of the date and come along to support us and enjoy the displays from the other organisations.

# COUNTRY KIDS

Day  
Nursery

Where Children Make Memories



Day Nursery &  
Pre-school for children  
aged 3 months - 5 years

Opening  
Spring 2017

Old Village Hall,  
Main Street,  
Kneesall,  
Newark  
NG22 0AD

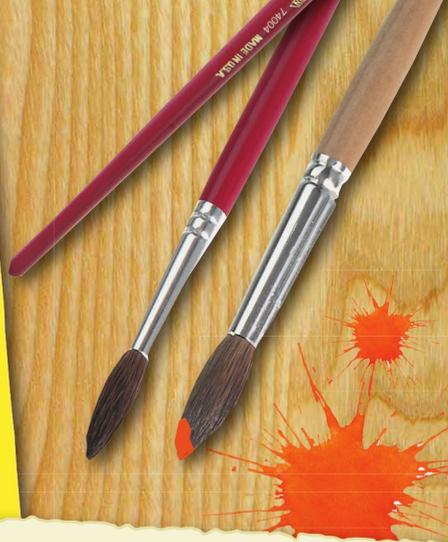
Our primary focus is to nurture children, allow them to make their own choices and lead their own learning. To take children back to nature and support them to learn through good old fashioned outdoor play. Giving them regular opportunities to achieve and develop self confidence and self esteem through hands on learning experiences gained out and about in the great Nottinghamshire countryside.

Lunch time school collection and drop off service from a number of local schools including, Tuxford, Walesby, Dunham on Trent, Norwell, Kneesall and Wellow  
This New childcare setting is brought to you by Laxton Kindergarden which is currently rated **OUTSTANDING** by Ofsted.

FREE Places available for eligible 2 Year Olds  
FREE 15 Hours for all 3 - 5 year olds.  
From Sept 2017 FREE 30 Hours for all eligible 3 - 5 year olds  
Bookings now being taken please call:  
07956 959135

# New before and after school Club

Offering a wide range of activities for children aged 5 -11 years and a free drop off and collection service to a number of local schools

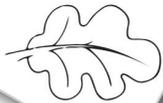


Before School 7 - 9am  
After-school 3 - 6pm

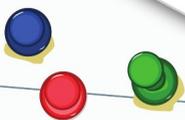
Includes wholesome nutritious breakfast and afternoon tea (all meals are freshly prepared and cooked daily)



Action Packed School Holiday Clubs for children aged 5 - 11 years  
Using the National Trust campaign - 50 things to do before you're 11 3/4 we aim to take children to explore the great outdoors, learning new skills and trying new things - Let us entertain the children for you

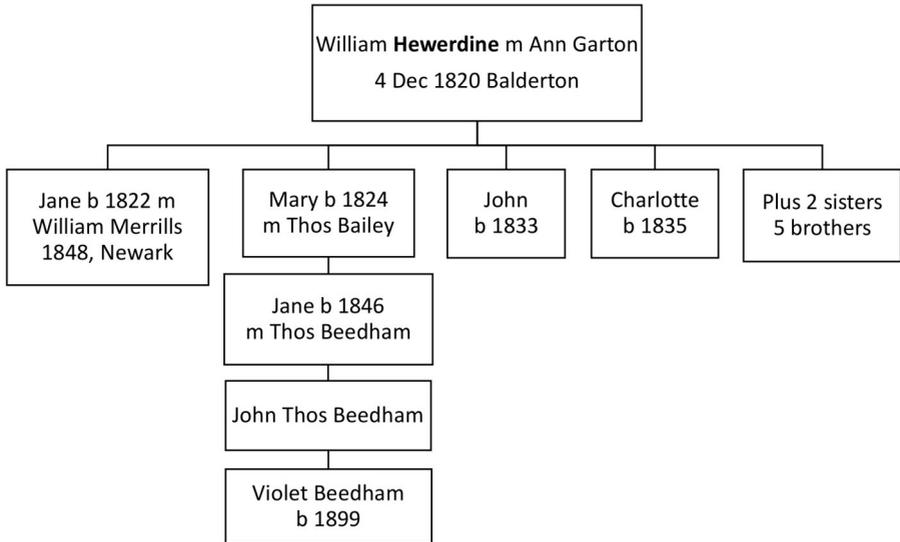


WHERE CHILDREN MAKE MEMORIES..



# The Hewardines of Laxton

*Jenni Dobson, who wrote series on the Weatheralls and their 'Brides' has been looking at the Hewardine family in Laxton, who are connected to the Merrills family by marriage. In this first episode we look at William Hewardine and his descendants.*



My link to the Hewardine and Merrills families in Laxton is through my paternal grandmother, Violet Beedham, (b. 1899, Long Bennington, Lincs), through whom I also connect to the Weatherall family.

My great- great-grandmother, Jane Bailey, married Thomas Beedham in 1866; they were Violet's grandparents. Jane Bailey was the first child, b. 1846, of Thomas Bailey and his wife, Mary Garton Hewardine, who were married on 17th Jun 1845 at Westborough, Lincs.

Mary Garton Hewardine (1824-1919) was the third child born to William Hewardine and Ann Garton, who had married at Balderton, near Newark, on 4th Dec 1820. I knew that after Ann's death, William lived with his son John and family. It was my search for Mary's other siblings that uncovered the Laxton link. From a family of five girls and six boys, it was two of Mary's sisters, Jane and Charlotte, who first came to Laxton, followed later by their brother, John.

Charlotte Hewardine, the youngest sister, actually led me to Laxton because in the 1861 census, she appeared in the household of

## Laxton Mothers' Union

Mothers' Union's speaker in March was Graham Laughton. He gave a very entertaining and enlightening talk on antiques which was followed by tea and cakes. The next meeting on 27th April will take the form of a short service in church followed by a light supper at Anne Dutton's house. Anyone is welcome to join us.

Laxton-born William Merrills on 'West St', next but one to 'school'. She was described in the census as 'wife's sister' and a quick check confirmed that her sister Jane Hewardine had married William Merrills. He was the son of Frances and was baptised at Laxton on 18th May 1815. The marriage took place on 10th Feb 1848 St. Mary Magdalene Church, Newark. Jane Hewardine was born in 1822 at Westborough, Lincs.

This couple had 5 children: William, b. 1848; Joseph, b. 1851; George, b.1852; Thomas, b. 1855 and Ann, b. 1857. In 1851, they lived on 'Bar Street', listed close to the Weatherall family.

However Charlotte didn't remain in Laxton. All her brothers, except for John, emigrated to Illinois, an area of wheat and corn farming in mid-West America, and eventually so did Charlotte. Either before or after leaving England, she married Fred Ackerman. An extensive website exists about the Hewardines in the USA.

By 1871, William and Jane Merrills lived on Main Street, listed between the Pick (or might this be Peck?) family at the School House and the Pinders. Only Joseph, their son aged 20, and Anne, their 14 year old daughter, still lived with them.

In 1881, they were possibly still in the same property, probably present-day Ivy House Farm. William was a farmer of 50 ac, employing 1 boy, with Joseph described as 'Farmer's son'.

Jane Merrills died on 29th March 1885 at Laxton. A gravestone in Laxton church yard records her death and her burial on 1st April 1885, aged 64. Her husband out-lived her by less than a year. He died on 21st January 1886 and was buried 25th January 1886, aged 70. William may also have had a younger brother or cousin as there is also a burial at Laxton for Joseph Merrills 'parish clerk', aged 68 (inferred birth year of 1820), on 2nd October 1888.

What happened to Jane and William's offspring? Find out more next time ...

# CHURCH SERVICES FOR OUR VILLAGE CHURCHES

APRIL 2017

HC = Holy Communion EP=Evening Prayer WfA = Worship for All

## **2<sup>nd</sup> April - Passiontide**

9am Kirton HC

## **9th April – Palm Sunday**

9am Walesby HC

10.30am Laxton HC

4pm Egmanton Evensong

4pm Wellow EP

## **Holy Week**

### **Monday 10th April**

7pm Holy Trinity Church, Kirton, Stations of the Cross

### **Thursday 13th April**

6.30pm Eakring, Vigil

### **Friday 14th April**

10am Wellow Church WfA with hot cross buns

## **16th April – Easter Sunday**

9am Egmanton HC

9am Kirton HC

9am Walesby HC

10.30am Wellow HC

10.30am Kneesall WfA

3pm Moorhouse Holy Communion WfA - HC

## **23<sup>rd</sup> April**

9am Laxton HC

10.30am Kirton HC

## **30<sup>th</sup> April**

10.30am Kneesall - Family of Churches WfA  
NEW LIFE AND HOPE'



# *DATES FOR YOUR DIARY*

2017

Mar 27 <sup>th</sup>	MU
March 28 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council
<b><i>April 12<sup>th</sup></i></b>	<b><i>WI</i></b>
<b><i>April 13<sup>th</sup></i></b>	<b><i>Coffee Morning</i></b>
April 20 <sup>th</sup>	Kneesall School Class 3 presentation
<b><i>April 21<sup>st</sup></i></b>	<b><i>History Group AGM &amp; Historical Supper</i></b>
<b><i>April 27<sup>th</sup></i></b>	<b><i>MU</i></b>



## **Forward Planning**

May 19 <sup>th</sup>	Concert in Church
May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Parish Council and APM
May 29 <sup>th</sup>	Wellow Maypole
Sept 30 <sup>th</sup>	Southwell Ploughing Match
<b><i>Dec 1<sup>st</sup></i></b>	<b><i>Quiz Night</i></b>

NB New entries appear in ***bold italics*** for the first month.

If you know the date of a meeting or an event, please pass it on so that others can take it into account when planning.

**Copy Date for May: 16th April.**

We cannot guarantee to include items received after this date.

# Wagstaff Construction

## Installation of Log Burning and Multi-Fuel Stoves

Twin Wall Chimney Systems  
Flexible Flue Liners  
Fireplace Design and Build  
Pre Installation Surveys  
Service and Maintenance



Tel: 01777 872707  
Mob: 07816520826



## Tuxford Lawnmower Centre<sup>Ltd</sup>

*Specialist in all types of Garden Machinery*  
**Sales, Service, Spares & Repairs**

# 01777 871983

Come & Visit our **Showroom Today!**  
Ashvale, Tuxford. NG22 0ND

[www.tuxfordlawnmowercentre.co.uk](http://www.tuxfordlawnmowercentre.co.uk)

[info@tuxfordlawnmowercentre.co.uk](mailto:info@tuxfordlawnmowercentre.co.uk)



## Do You Need a Mole Catcher?

### Call Chris on 07780 714800

No mole



No fee

Email: [thelaxtonmolecatcher@gmail.com](mailto:thelaxtonmolecatcher@gmail.com)

# Laxton WI



Our March meeting began with Brenda presenting Sandra with an orchid to celebrate one of those big birthdays with an '0'. Most of the remaining business related to another birthday - this one with two '0's - the Notts Federation of WIs' 100th birthday.

We have received an invitation for members to attend a celebration lunch at the Olde Bell, Barnby Moor in July, and we have until June to put our names down.

Also in July there is to be a Fun Day at North Muskham. All institutes in the county have been invited to run a game at the event. The Committee have discussed our ideas and decided to do something similar to our game at the Queen's Birthday tea and have a 'treasure hunt' based on the 1635 map of Laxton. Stephen Booth has offered a signed hard back first edition of his latest book as the prize.

We are going to produce another photobook, similar to the one we made for the National WI's 100th year, to commemorate this year of celebrations. The County Federation are running the year from April 2017 - 2018. Members were asked to collect souvenirs and photographs from any WI events they attend during the year.

Plans for events and meetings this year are taking shape. Sandra has the party in hand and circulated options for our August outing. We will be inviting friends from other institutes to join us for a Taster Evening in June when we will be presenting food items from the book of recipes compiled by Notts Federation in 1977 to celebrate its 60th anniversary.

A team of WI members attended the Village Hall Quiz, which had gone well enough in the first half but gone downhill after supper. They reported that the winners were a team from Retford brought by Roberta and John, returning to support Laxton.

The topic for the evening was Curling. For once we didn't sit back and listen, but got up to do some exercise. Wendy Richardson, Chair of the County Sports and Recreation Committee brought the county kit, which is like the curling we see on television every four years at the Winter Olympics, but which uses ball bearings to make the 'stones' run on the floor.

Wendy set up and divided the members into







eight teams of two. We had the option of kneeling to push the stones or using a pole, which Wendy commended as much easier. After a try at kneeling people fairly quickly adopted the poles. It took a while to get the feel of how hard to push, but by the end most of us had got the hang of it. Teams played two at a time with Wendy keeping score, adding

up the total scored by each team over the session during which each team played several times.

The first part of the session saw the target at the far end of the hall. many of the stones fell short as they did not run quickly on our surface. Despite that after a couple of goes the scores began to increase. For the final round the target was moved much closer and at first we were delivering the shots short because we tried so hard



not to go too far. Wendy said this is what happens with every group. Once again, as we got used to it the scores began to improve. By the end Wendy was able to give us the scores and the winners by a narrow margin were Team H, Sandra and Joy, followed by Anna and Heather in Team E.

We thanked Wendy for a very good evening which was a lot of fun and asked her to judge our competition for an item of sporting memorabilia. The winner was Rosemary Crothers with a photo of her on a Harley Davidson motorbike. Second was Lesley Booth with photos of a footballing success and third Sandra with her sports team photo.

Next month we welcome a speaker about Dogs for the Disabled and the competition is for a picture or ornament of a dog. The date is 12th April and everyone is welcome. if you are interested in the topic you are welcome to come as a guest.



# Laxton History Group



Our speaker in February was Rosemary Gibson, but the way the dates work out we have not been able to share what she told us until this edition. Rosemary, formerly from Kirton, is a popular speaker who has been to us before and again came in costume with her colleague Tony Jackson. They speak to raise funds for the Grantham Canal Society, which they both support.



Rosemary's topic this time was 'Cooking in Pre-History'. Once again she dressed for the part and mentioned her background role playing an Iron Age woman for Leicestershire Museum. She likes a hands on approach to her subjects where possible and to try things out to see if they would have worked as we imagine they happened. She has researched the beginnings of cooking.

The only evidence we have for the earliest cooking is in excavated bones, plant remains and tools. People would have collected plant foods from the earliest times. They would have had access to roots, shoots, seeds, leaves, fruits and berries, fungi and seaweeds depending on where they lived. They would have had access to molluscs, both marine and fresh water. Honey would have been prized and eggs were taken and eaten.

It is possible that early man scavenged meat kills. When they began to kill for their own purposes they had the problem of catching the animals, some of which were huge. There is evidence that traps were set and that drives were conducted to force the creatures over cliffs. It is also possible they scavenged marine mammals which washed ashore.

The earliest evidence of fires dates to 1.4million years ago, although it is not possible to determine if these were deliberate or accidental. Cooking took place in pits, on spits and using stones heated in a fire to heat water. It has been proven that, as long as the food is moist, most can be cooked directly over a fire in animal hides or intestines.



By the time of the Mesolithic people there is evidence that they hunted and also had pottery beakers. They also began to farm, domesticating grasses, starting to use grind stones etc. Spelt, emmer and barley have been found. The animals they might have domesticated include cattle, sheep, goats and pigs. The Lincolnshire coast was very important for salt. Geese have been found by the Iron Age, represented in statues.

There is evidence of farming with machinery before the Romans came, but with the availability of slaves it seems to have died out.

In March we joined Norwell Parish Heritage Group for their special meeting with guest speaker Carezza Lewis, formerly a presenter on Time Team. We will report on this next month.

Our next meeting takes place on FRIDAY April 21st. It is our AGM and Tasting Supper and we have chosen to prepare food from the period our recent HLF project covered - 1900 to 1920. To make sure a later night will not inconvenience too many people we are holding the event on a Friday as we have previously. Please see the separate advert for this event and book your place asap. You will need to bring your own drink and glasses.

---

## Mystery Visitor

---

*We have heard from Marian Cooper, who thinks she has been able to identify our mystery visitor to the Old Vicarage. By strange coincidence this mystery also has a Canadian connection. Marian shares these recollections with us:*

I am sure I know the lady visiting the vicarage with her daughter. She is Joy Keaton, daughter and only child of the Rev. and Mrs Keaton.

Joy was in the WAAF and her name is on the memorial in church under serving personnel in the last war.

I remember Joy home on leave - a very lively girl who turned the heads of the young male population. She would teach us in Sunday School when home on leave.

Mrs Keaton, a Canadian lady met her husband, an English clergyman, and travelled the prairies preaching in remote areas. I loved his sermons when some would be based on his experiences on the travels on horseback.

Mrs Keaton also started a girls choir, of which I was a member. She also took us for Sunday School along with Miss How. They were always jolly and interesting lessons.

I last heard of Joy in the early sixties when she brought her mother to visit my aunt, Florence Barnes, who kept the shop in Laxton. Joy was then living in the Nottingham area.

---

## New Village Signs

---

There has been a slight delay in completing the signs; we are now expecting them to be completed ready for installation late April 2017.

*Michael Manning*

# CHink Academy, Kenya , Spring 2017

This visit to Kenya was very busy as the schools in Kenya broke up at the end of October due to the New Government Exams Ruling. What should have been organised in November had to be scheduled for this trip. The first item on the agenda was the children's party, which had to coincide with Ingrid, the Belgian lady who also funds the party, and was held on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February.



The food, disco and entertainment was the best party that we have ever had and was held in the dining area and the new playground. The previous parties were held on the roof of the first school building, which was a big problem as the children kept running up and down the stairs, and there was no shade from the blazing sun.

Standard 1-6, Std 5 & 6 had the pleasure of visiting Mr Berry, the bubble gum and lolly-pop factory. The children loved the experience, and they all ended up with pockets full of pink gum and lollies, lovely.

Std 1 & 2 had the thrill of a trip in the glass bottomed boat onto the coral reef. They all had a great time searching for different kinds of sea creatures and splashing about in the water.



Std 3 & 4 travelled into Mombasa to the old railway station where the children went back in time to the 1960's when Kenya gained its

independence from the British. On the return to school the bus stopped at Buxton Junction on the main Mombasa – Malindi Highway to see how the traffic lights work, which is not very often. This was very interesting as there are only 2 sets of traffic



## “FEET FIRST”

### MOBILE CHIROPODY SERVICES

**Sharon Foster**  
**M.Inst.Ch.P.**

**HPC Registered No:**  
**CH18101**

**Telephone**  
**Mobile: 07946 587190**  
**for a home visit**



**TOWN & COUNTRY**  
grounds maintenance contractors

**Proud to  
support  
Open Field**

Grounds Maintenance  
providers to Local Authorities  
and commercial organisations  
around the East Midlands.

■ **08450 170899**

**[www.tacg.co.uk](http://www.tacg.co.uk)**

**[email info@tacg.co.uk](mailto:email info@tacg.co.uk)**

Woodclose Farm, Baulk Lane, Kneesall,  
Newark, Notts, NG22 0AL

## NGT PROPERTY SERVICES



### BUILDING, ROOFING & PLASTERING

- ◆ Extensions
- ◆ Renovations
- ◆ Rendering
- ◆ Damp Treatment
- ◆ Tiling
- ◆ Landscaping
- ◆ Flat Roofs
- ◆ Window Fitting
- ◆ Loft Conversions

Call for a free quote with no obligation

### NGT PROPERTY SERVICES CAUNTON, NEWARK, NOTTS

**Tel: 01636 636284**  
**Mobile: 07814 151600**  
**[ngt007@gmail.com](mailto:ngt007@gmail.com)**

## R H Goatley Electrical

Domestic, Commercial & Agricultural

**Tel: 01623 860101**  
**Mob: 07472 511694**



Rose Cottage,  
Church Road,  
Boughton, NG22 9JY

### Advertising in ‘Open Field’

A standard 1/6 page box £30 a  
year in colour for 12 issues,  
£15 a year in B&W .

Larger sizes pro rata e.g. 1/2  
page £45

Please contact

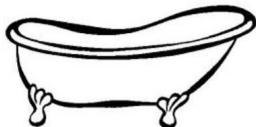
**[advertising@openfield.org.uk](mailto:advertising@openfield.org.uk)**

or call **01777 871506** for details  
and info on web pages / links.

# Beeby Plumbing

All plumbing and heating enquiries  
& 'call-outs', please call

Guy Beeby



**07792 484876**  
**01636 822103**

C&G, NVQ Level 2, BPEC qualified,  
fully insured.

- Domestic Plumbing •
- Emergency Call-Out •
- Bathroom Installations & Repairs •
- Outside Plumbing •
- Central Heating Installations & Repairs •
- Under Floor Heating • Leaks & Bursts •
- Oil Boiler/Tank Installations & Service •

*.....from 'leaky' taps to full installations!*

# KP Chauffeuring

**LUXURY PRIVATE HIRE & PERSONAL  
CHAUFFEURING SERVICES**

**PRIVATE & BUSINESS CUSTOMERS**

**LOCAL & LONG DISTANCE TRAVEL,  
AIRPORT & CRUISE TRANSFERS**

13 years experience

Contact Kevin Pevler on:  
**07802 581297 / 01777  
872785**

Email: [kevin.pevler@mypostoffice.co.uk](mailto:kevin.pevler@mypostoffice.co.uk)



# LEE DOYLE

## Building Contractor

New Houses, Extensions,  
Groundworks, Roofing,  
Damp-proofing & Dry Lining,  
Paving & Patios, Minor Repairs.

10 Elm Tree Rise  
Kneesall  
Newark  
Notts



# Sherwood Forest Rotary

**Supporting the Local  
Community**

**07711 802683**

**Meeting most Wednesdays  
at South Forest Leisure  
Robin Hood Crossroads,  
Edwinstowe**

**Visitors always welcome  
[www.rotary.org/1220](http://www.rotary.org/1220)**

MUSIC  
THEORY  
AND  
PIANO  
ROYAL  
SCHOOLS



**GRAHAM  
LAUGHTON  
B.A.**

PICTURE  
FRAMING  
SERVICE &  
RESTORATION



Quality Paintings  
Or Drawings  
In any Media  
01777 870588 or  
Email:

[grahamlaughton@btinternet.com](mailto:grahamlaughton@btinternet.com)

lights in Mombasa. Taking the children on these educational trips gives them a good insight to how the country is progressing and how things work.



The school building is complete. The electric fence is up and working. Solar panels are being installed on the roof and at a later date there will be wind turbines to generate the electricity at night for the electric fence. The Kenya power supplies are not reliable, as the electricity can be off all day causing problems with the borehole water pump supplying water to the toilets.

There was a new intake of pupils to the school and all the children were vetted on their circumstances to qualify for a place at **CHinK Academy**. The charity caters for the very poor, orphaned, unwanted children in the academy. House checks are made to see what conditions the children live in - who they live with (parent, grandparent or guardian), the conditions within the house and the health and hygiene of the child. These house checks can take several hours to complete as the children live in the surrounding areas which are inaccessible to vehicles, so it's a long trek through the bush on foot in 30 degree heat.

Getting these children sponsored is more and more difficult. If anyone, club, school or organisation is interested in supporting a child through CHinK Academy, please contact Georgina on **01777 871320** or mobile **07762245523**. Sponsorship includes the education, 2 meals per day whilst at school, school uniform, all stationary needed, medical care and annual outings. During holiday periods there is a feeding programme so all children who attend **CHinK Academy** can have a decent meal once a week.

As with all the visits to Kenya, there has to be a staff meeting to update each other on the progress of the school and any problems that have occurred or are foreseen. Normally all is satisfactory.



The purchase of a minibus for the school to help with cutting the cost of hiring vehicles for school trips and deliveries of food and stationary was on the agenda together with a scanner/printer for the office.

Bed & Breakfast  
**Brecks Cottage**  
Green Lane, Moorhouse, Newark  
Nottinghamshire NG23 6LZ  
Telephone: 01636 822445  
[www.brecksottage.co.uk](http://www.brecksottage.co.uk)



**WILKINS**  
- ESTABLISHED 1895 -  
**CHIMNEY SWEEP**

## PROFESSIONAL CLEAN SERVICE

- Power Sweeping Technology
- Traditional Brush & Vacuum
- Cages, Caps and Cows Fitted
- Nests Removed
- CCTV Surveys
- Fully Insured
- Sweeping Certificates Issued
- Police Checked



**01636 616425**



[wilkinschimneysweep.co.uk/newark](http://wilkinschimneysweep.co.uk/newark)



E. GILL & SONS<sup>LTD</sup>  
*Funeral Directors*



*'Our family caring for your family'*

The Gill family are proud to have provided care and advice to families in the Newark and District Area for 100 years

For peace of mind we offer the  
E. Gill & Sons Funeral Pre-payment Plan  
55 Albert Street, Newark, NG24 4BQ  
01636 677461



Fees agreed in advance  
 The complete architectural service  
 Informal discussions to site inspections  
 Examples of work at Laxton,  
 Egmanton, Kirton, Wellow  
[www.bernardthearchitect.com](http://www.bernardthearchitect.com)

**01636 680290**

# EGMANTON PLANT HIRE LTD

For a full list of hire equipment  
 please see:  
[www.egmantonplanthire.co.uk](http://www.egmantonplanthire.co.uk)

## ANDREW BANKS

Phone/Fax: **01777 872316**

Mobile: **07971 627588**

VAT registered

See website for current price list

## Tracy Wint Soft Furnishings

Having spent hundreds or even thousands on your decor, why settle for ready made or only a near match when it comes to dressing your beautiful new home.

*The only limits  
 are your imagination*

A complete, fast, friendly and personal service with quality second to none... and at a price that will undoubtedly surprise.

For your made to measure curtains, blinds or other soft furnishings simply call an expert.

**Tracy Wint Soft Furnishings**  
 Egmanton

**01777 870235**

[tracywint@btinternet.com](mailto:tracywint@btinternet.com)



## Hall Farm Wild Bird Supplies [www.seedtofeed.co.uk](http://www.seedtofeed.co.uk)

Mon - Fri 7:30 - 17:00 Sat 8:00 - 13:00

Stocking a wide range of  
**Wild Bird Products & Accessories**



Hall Farm seed mixes  
 Chicken Feed  
 Suet  
 Nigerseed  
 Peanuts  
 Feeders  
 & Much more...

\*\*all major credit cards accepted\*\*



Hall Farm  
 Wild Bird Supplies

The Grain Store  
 Wadnall Lane, Weston

**01636 821232**

Find us at NG23 6SY - behind The Great Wall Chinese



## Britnell Tree Services



**All Aspects of Tree Works**

includes felling, crown reductions  
 crown thinning, crown lifting, pollarding

**Gardening & Landscaping**

Reliable & Trustworthy Fully Insured &  
 Qualified

All works carried out to BS3998

**Call Will today for your free quote on  
 07821 342942 or 01636 702807 or  
 email**

[BritnellTreeServices@gmail.com](mailto:BritnellTreeServices@gmail.com)

# Check if you're eligible for sick pay

**Citizens Advice Sherwood & Newark** is urging people to check if they're eligible for sick pay after national research finds that some employers are tricking people out of pay when they are off work because of illness or injury.

Nationally, Citizens Advice helped with 19,800 problems with sick pay and sick leave in 2016.

**Citizens Advice Sherwood & Newark** helped people with problems including those where employers exploited confusion around the rules to try and get away with not paying people who need time off sick.

Tactics used by employers include:

- Cancelling people's shifts after they call in sick, so that it looks like they aren't meant to be working
- Reducing people's wages and downplaying their working hours so they don't meet the £112 earnings threshold
- Saying that they need a GP note as evidence they're ill for even a few days off, even though people can self-certify for up to 7 days
- Refusing to fill in a HMRC sick pay form, which would make employers explain their reasons for not paying
- Sacking people rather than paying them

Despite employers' attempts to dodge sick pay, people who have their hours changed will often still be eligible - but don't realise that they are.

With cold and flu season underway, people who are too ill to work are urged to check if they are eligible for sick pay, and to seek advice if they believe they are but their employer won't pay. If you think you're owed sick pay but your employer won't pay, contact **Citizens Advice** for help.

## How does sick pay work?

Statutory sick pay (SSP) is payable for up to 28 weeks of sick leave and is currently £88.45 per week. Some workers receive what's called contractual sick pay on top of SSP, so they'll be paid full pay for a certain number of weeks for example. SSP is paid by your employer in the same way that you normally get paid.

## Who is entitled to sick pay?

You don't have to be a full time employee to get statutory sick pay (SSP). You can also get it if you're on a fixed term contract, work part-time, work through an

agency or on a zero-hours contract.

You qualify if:

- You normally earn more than £112 a week.
- You're sick for more than 4 days in a row, including non-working days. You'll get sick pay from the 4th working day of your illness, unless you've been off sick in the last 8 weeks - then you'll get paid from the first working day.
- You follow your employer's rules about reporting sickness absence. Most employers ask you to provide a sick note if you're off sick for more than 7 days. If there aren't any rules, make sure you call in sick as soon as you need to take time off work, and ask if there's anything else you need to do to record your sickness.

**Top tips**

**Entitled to extra sick pay?** - Some employers pay more than SSP, e.g. paying your wages in full for a period. This is called contractual sick pay. The details should be in your contract, staff handbook or on the intranet.

**Work a zero hours contract?** If you're on a zero hours contract and work regularly for the same employer you're still entitled to sick pay as long as you normally earn more than £112 a week before tax.

**Employer says you're not entitled?** Ask them to fill in the government sick pay form explaining their reasons. Once you've got it, contact HMRC. They will ask you about your circumstances and make a decision about whether you are owed sick pay or not.

**Employer still won't pay?** If HMRC have said that you are owed sick pay, then your employer has to pay it to you. If they refuse, contact ACAS who will negotiate with your employer. The final step is taking your employer to a tribunal - though beware that you will need to pay a fee.

Anyone requiring advice or support can get help online at [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk) or from Citizens Advice Sherwood & Newark Open Door Advice Sessions held at:

**New Ollerton:** 5 Forest Court, NG22 9PL - Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 9:30am – 2:30pm

**Newark:** Keepers Cottage, Riverside Park, Great North Road NG24 1BL - Tuesday & Thursday: 9:30am – 2:30pm

# Heavy Duty Tanalised Fencing & Gates

Free estimate or advice

- Agricultural
- Post & rail
- Tanalised post & panel
- Equestrian
- Picket
- Tanalised made to measure gates

**Tel Kenny 01777 870337,**  
**Mob 07723 036543**  
**Vicarage Cottage, Laxton**



## Events at Maplebeck Village Hall

**Film: The Social Network Cert. 12 Tuesday 11th April 2017, 7.30pm**

The stunning tale of a revolution that changed the face of human interaction for a generation, and perhaps forever. The film superbly chronicles the formation of Facebook and the battles over ownership that followed the website's unfathomable success. BBC 5 Stars.

Tickets £5 on the door Call 01636 636421 e mail [derek@sayer.f9.co.uk](mailto:derek@sayer.f9.co.uk)

**Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance Thursday 20th April 7.30pm**

A talk about this vital service throughout the two counties and information about their brand new aircraft (the Augusta Westland 169, which is bigger, faster and has higher endurance).

There will also be lots more interesting information about the crew, charity shops and fundraising! Air Ambulance merchandise will also be on sale after the talk. Tickets on the door £3 including light refreshments.

**Quiz Night and Supper Saturday 22nd April 7.00pm for 7.30pm**

- Teams of 4-6
- Prizes for winners (1st, 2nd and 3rd)
- Lots of fun rounds of some hard, some easy general knowledge questions
- Free raffle
- Lovely grub



The Great Nottinghamshire  
**LOCAL HISTORY FAIR**

**Mansfield Central Library**  
**Sunday 7 May 2017 11am - 3pm**

*A fabulous **FREE** day out for all the family*



- Local history displays
- Old films and photos of Nottinghamshire
- Craft demonstrations
- Free activities for children
- Pop-up Museums
- Bookstalls
- Mining heritage.

**Plus**

*Meet the animals  
from White Post  
Farm*

**Plus**

*Traditional Morris  
dancing with  
Rattlejag Morris*

Tel. 01623 651337

[www.inspireculture.org.uk/heritage](http://www.inspireculture.org.uk/heritage)



Nottinghamshire  
County Council

delivered by



**Inspire**  
Culture | Learning | Libraries

## Advertising in 'Open Field'

A standard 1/6 page:

£30 a year in colour for  
12 issues

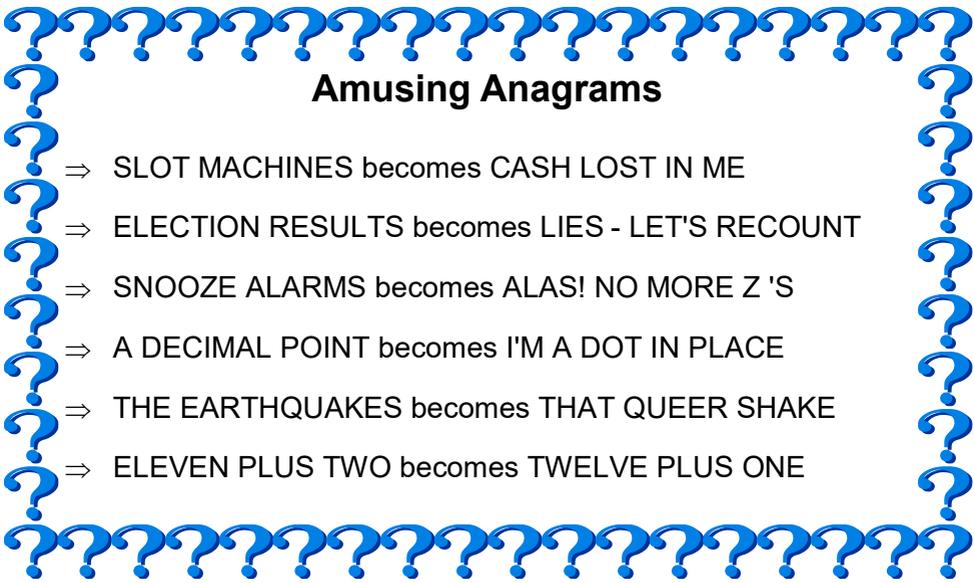
£15 a year in B&W for  
12 issues

Larger sizes pro rata  
e.g. 1/2 page £90 / £45

Please contact  
**[advertising@openfield.org.uk](mailto:advertising@openfield.org.uk)**

or call **01777 871506**

for details and info on  
web pages / links.



## Amusing Anagrams

- ⇒ SLOT MACHINES becomes CASH LOST IN ME
- ⇒ ELECTION RESULTS becomes LIES - LET'S RECOUNT
- ⇒ SNOOZE ALARMS becomes ALAS! NO MORE Z 'S
- ⇒ A DECIMAL POINT becomes I'M A DOT IN PLACE
- ⇒ THE EARTHQUAKES becomes THAT QUEER SHAKE
- ⇒ ELEVEN PLUS TWO becomes TWELVE PLUS ONE



# G.D. HALL LTD

(Independent Funeral Directors)

Newark Road  
TUXFORD, Newark  
Nottinghamshire  
NG22 0NA

Tel. 01777 872929

13 Bridgegate  
Retford  
Nottinghamshire  
DN22 6AE

Tel: 01777 701222

Email: [info@gdhallfunerals.co.uk](mailto:info@gdhallfunerals.co.uk) Web: [www.gdhallfunerals.co.uk](http://www.gdhallfunerals.co.uk)

Private chapel of rest

24 hour service

Golden Charter Pre-payment plans available

SAIF Approved

Personal Visits to your home

**Mobile 0797 257 6020**

# Top-Dec

Painting &  
Decorating

COMMERCIAL • DOMESTIC • INTERIOR • EXTERIOR



2, Rose Cottage, Newark Road  
Caunton, Notts, NG23 6AE

Tel: 01636 636304

Mobile: 07977 159867

Email: [top.dec@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:top.dec@hotmail.co.uk)

# Dukeries Singers

The Choir was recently invited to join with members of other choirs at a full day of singing under the direction of the composer John Rutter.

John Rutter has written a vast amount of music for choirs and his work is particularly heard at Christmas time for which he has written some beautiful songs and carols.



Six ladies took up the challenge and toddled off to Southwell with packed lunches and throat lozenges to join with 310 other voices in what was an exhilarating and joyous experience. To sing with so many others was a pleasure but to have so many men singing was amazing. Their lovely harmonies gave such a depth and richness of sound to which the ladies could confidently add their voices.

Now of course, is my usual ask, for more Gentlemen to join our Choir. We are a very friendly group of people and you would be made most welcome. There are no auditions and no necessity to read music, just come along to rehearsal and give it a try. Ladies are also always welcome of course.

We meet every Wednesday evening from 7-30pm until 9-15pm in the Concert Hall at the Dukeries Academy in Ollerton. This is best accessed by the Leisure Centre entrance and car park. More information regarding the Choir can be found on our website [www.thedukerliessingers.com](http://www.thedukerliessingers.com) and we can be heard on YouTube.

We do love to perform and we have some concerts booked;

Sat	29 April	St. Nicholas Church, Tuxford	7-00pm
Sat	10 June	Farndon Church, Farndon	
Sat	24 June	Village Hall, Edwinstowe	

We have plenty of dates available if you would like to book us for your celebration or fund raising event. Our Concert Secretary Phil. would be delighted to hear from you on **01623 822070**

Spring is definitely here ...I've seen a frog!! Spring, or sing, for joy!!!

We all wish you a super Spring.

*Jan*

# Kirton Quiz Night

**Saturday, April 22nd, at 7pm  
(for prompt 7.30pm start)**

**at Egmonton Village Hall  
Tickets £5.00**

**from Georgina (861232) or Jonathan (860249)**

**Inc. refreshments - but please bring your own drinks!**

**Teams of 6 - strictly no mobile phones !**

**Raffle, Prizes for the winners.**

**Quizmaster - Brian Bland**

**This is always a fun night, so please come and join us !**

**Everybody welcome!**

**Proceeds to Kirton Church**

## Maplebeck Village Hall Events

[www.maplebeck.org.uk](http://www.maplebeck.org.uk) / 01636 636692 / 636185

**Events specifically for children in bold.**

### Regular Activities

Yoga*	Fridays	9.30am
Light Aerobics & Pilates	Mondays	1.00pm
Walkers	Wednesdays	10.00am
Ladies Running	Wednesdays	7.00pm
Kurling (without the ice!)	TBA	Early 2017
Book Club	Tuesdays	7.30pm
	2 <sup>nd</sup> May, 6 <sup>th</sup> June, 11 <sup>th</sup> July, 5 <sup>th</sup> Sept.	

\* More sessions being added Tuesday morning and Weds evening

### Upcoming special events 2017

Tues 11 <sup>th</sup> Apr	7.30pm	Film	The Social Network
Thurs 20 <sup>th</sup> Apr	7.30pm	Talk	The Air Ambulance
Sat 22 <sup>nd</sup> Apr	7.30pm	Quiz	Quiz Night + Supper

# Egmanton Village Hall

[www.egmantonvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.egmantonvillagehall.org.uk) / 01777 871171

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

- ◆ Tuxford Young Farmers - No bookings in April
- ◆ Yoga with Greg – Tuesdays at 7:30pm
- ◆ WI - Quiz Night Sat 1st, Meeting Thurs 20th, WI Event Sat 22nd
- ◆ Kirton Church Quiz night - Saturday 22nd
- ◆ Children's Dance Classes - Saturday mornings (Jill, 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.

## Useful Contact Details

### Police

PC Gary Sipson

07525 226575  
or 101 x 800 7673

Email : [gary.sipson@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:gary.sipson@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk)

PCSO 4741 Keith Crowhurst

07889 702823  
or 101 x 8007671

Email : [keith.crowhurst4741@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:keith.crowhurst4741@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk)

Web, showing other contacts: [www.nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](http://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

Parish Council website: [www.laxtonandmoorhouseparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.laxtonandmoorhouseparishcouncil.co.uk)



Neil Randall riding on the new mower purchased for the Sports Field and below the smart effect the mower created.



## Sports Field - New Mower

After over 12 years of gallant service, our 30-year-old gang mowers have finally given up the ghost. They are beyond economic repair so we have had to locate a replacement.

Trent Tractors and Mowers of Elston came up with the goods; we now have a self-propelled machine able to cut longer grass and can be mowed by anyone with minimum training. We are hopeful it can be used for the Cricket Pitch and other grass areas in the village as well.

The old mowers are currently with Howard Marshall who are trying to find anyone interested in them for spares but as yet they have had no offers. They are suggesting we collect them back and try and sell them on E-Bay. However if anyone has any suggestions or knows of anyone who might want them for a small price, please let us know.

The photos show Neil Randall on the new mower and our Wembley stripes!!!!