

Open Field

£1

February 2021



*What a Difference Six Hours Can Make.
Bizarre Weather in Laxton, January 2021*

The monthly publication of the
parish of Laxton & Moorhouse

www.openfield.org.uk



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Flowers and Brasses Rota - suspended until further notice

Mr & Mrs S Clarke
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Mrs S Rose & Mrs R Creighton
Mrs L Booth & Ms H Keay
Mrs J Cooke & Mrs P Freer

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.

Contributions for the next edition TO BE WITH THE EDITOR BY NOON ON 16th FEBRUARY 2021 PLEASE. EARLIER PREFERRED. You can send at any time.

Church News

The last service we had in church was on Christmas Eve when we celebrated a Christmas Communion, which was led by the Rev. Margaret Groves.

Due to the present circumstances, once again the clergy team made the decision to close all the churches. They will remain closed until at least the end of February, when the decision will be reviewed depending on the situation and the Covid restrictions then.

This meant that unfortunately we had to cancel our Plough Sunday service - another of our traditional rural services. We all thought this was the right decision to make because of concerns about everyone's safety.

On behalf of the PCC, I would just like to wish everyone a belated Happy New Year and we hope things get better in 2021.

Brenda

LAXTON & MOORHOUSE CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERIES, 2020



On behalf of the PCC I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who gave so generously to the Christmas Card Collection. A total of £256 was raised for church funds, which I think is the most we have had donated over the last few years.

Most of all we must thank Jeff and Pat for letting us use their house as a collection point and thank them both for giving up their time to deliver the cards all around the village.

This donation is very much appreciated as we have not been able to hold any money raising events during last year.

Once again thank you to everybody.

Brenda

Registers - Marriage



Congratulations!
After such an awful year we are happy to report a joyful event.
On Friday 11th December we had a wedding in Laxton Church.
The marriage took place between Caitlin Anne Dutton and Jason Anthony Rose. Their two children, Cairo and Winter, acted as

page boy and bridesmaid. Caitlin is the daughter of Pam Dutton of Eakring and granddaughter of Anne Dutton of Laxton.

The marriage was held under strict Covid-19 Virus Rules. With our church being closed, we were unable to read marriage Banns so a special common licence had to be applied for from the Registrar at Southwell.

The ceremony was conducted by the Rev Margaret Graves of Bilsthorpe.

Thank you to Janet Cook for the photos.



Sympathy

We have been told that a number of local people have suffered the loss of a close family member during the period since the last magazine. We offer our sympathies and prayers to you all in your bereavement.

Congratulations

Congratulations go to Katie Gent from Moorhouse on passing her final exams and qualifying as a fully registered Veterinary Nurse at Minster Veterinary Centre In Newark-on-Trent.

Well done, we are all very proud of you.

Lots of love from

Nana Jan xx



Get Well Wishes

There is a long list of names to wish well this month, both residents and friends of Laxton. We hope the number reflects the longer interval since the last edition and not poorer health generally.

As always we send very best wishes for a full and speedy recovery to everyone whose name is shown below and to anyone else who may have also been, or continues to be unwell.

Those we know of who have had medical issues they would have preferred to avoided are:

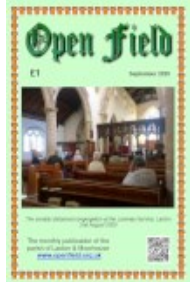
Anne, Barry, Colin, George, June, Pat F, Pat N, Roy H, Brenda C, Heather.

Thumbs Up

We hear that a number of our older residents have now received their first Covid-19 vaccinations. The process seems to be working well. It gives hope to us all that we are at last making progress towards escaping this nightmare situation.

Open Field Subscriptions

If you are reading this, you have received your first magazine for 2021, with the previous issue being the double month version for December 2020 and January 2021 - not 2011 as it said on the cover! We might wish we could go back a decade, but would you want to think you had to go through all this again? Probably not!



All subscriptions were due on or before 1st January. This year we asked you to put your £4 in an envelope on which you have written your name and address and to have it ready for your distributor when they call.

We have still not received all payments and we do not want to have to ask the distribution team to go out again when we are being told the importance of staying home. Please arrange to get your payment to us.

Distributors will be advised to carry a bag and ask you to drop your envelope in so that they don't have to handle them at every house. We ask that you make a particular effort to find the right money and have it ready to help with keeping everyone safe. We will not expect distributors to handle money.

If you miss your distributor you can always drop your envelope through their door or Jean's at Corner Farm at the bottom of the village on the right.

Please do remember to put your name and address on your envelope to ensure you get credited with the payment.

Thank you

Recycling Ollerton & Boughton (ROB) Collections

In line with the National Lockdown and to keep our staff safe, we have ceased our glass collection rounds to all areas.

We will be leaving large glass containers outside our units on Road E, Boughton Industrial Estate which will be emptied regularly. Please use them sensibly and please stay safe.

We will see you all again in a couple of months.

Tuxford Young Farmers



Well what a strange start to the year. As we still can't meet up in person we have been doing Zoom meetings to keep in touch. We have done fun quizzes, a round of bingo and even baking. We have also had an online wreath making class for Christmas with thanks to Lesley at Hall Farm.

Also on the Christmas theme Notts Young Farmers held a Santa Tractor Run in the dark as tractors were wrapped up in lights and all sorts of Christmas cheer. There were over 60 tractors on the road and they were very well received by the public. Some of the comments with the donations are shown below and you can see some colour shots of the rally on the back page.

That was all for the Notts Young Farmers charity to keep us funded. At the time of writing the Just Giving page showed £5077, which included over £1,000 from the Club's efforts in the National Welly Relay.

As well as these events we have been to a drive-in cinema at Newark. The film was 'Nativity'.

Last week's theme was origami where we made a swan, pig and chick and we also had a challenge of finding out our own design online and having a go.

Emily



Tractor Run Quotes

- ☆ Last night was fantastic - thanks all!!
- ☆ What a brilliant thing to do. It was so uplifting, especially with what we are all going through. Thank you very much to every one of you.
- ☆ Great effort from all those involved and was so much fun to watch. Keep up the good work Young Farmers.
- ☆ Santa's Tractor Run was absolutely brilliant! You are wonderful. Please consider making it an annual tradition.

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| .Mushrooms | .Soft Fruits | | |
| .Courgettes | .Apples | | |
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Court Day 2020

Tradition dictates that the meeting of Laxton Court Leet, the last legally constituted manorial court in the country, takes place in The Dovecote Inn.

Obviously that was not possible in 2020. It is normally quite a squeeze getting in the Steward and officers, Jury members, representatives of the Lord of the Manor, etc.

This year, for the first time that we are aware of, the Court convened in an open sided shed in the village, with good ventilation and space enough for social distancing.

The findings of the Jury from the previous week were discussed and fines and warnings agreed. The new Jury for the field inspection of November 2021 was sworn in.



Thank You

A huge Thankyou to Ivan Rayner and another tractor driver, possibly Roger Beckitt, that got me out of trouble when the snow suddenly struck on 14th January.

It took me 2 hours to get home from work in Sutton on Trent. On the way I encountered a car sliding into me. Thankfully I am all OK, though I am not sure of damage yet, but doesn't look too bad.

The conditions between Tuxford and Egmonton were horrendous. See back page.

Thank you both

Lynda Moore

We hear that Ivan and Roger were helping motorists whose cars simply couldn't cope with the conditions. A big thank you to them generally for being so helpful. Roger also cleared the remains of a car off the road after it caught fire and burned out near the top of Egmonton Hill.

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Classes now held at Laxton Village Hall Mon 18.30 & Thu 09.15 and at Hall Farm, Weston, NG23 6SY. Please call if you are interested.

Coffee Mornings

The Coffee Mornings remain suspended for the time being. We will let you know when we can start again. The rota on the inside cover will remind hostesses so that we can start as soon it is right to do so.



FEBRUARY CONGRATULATIONS

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

We would love to give a mention to anyone who is celebrating, so please send in details with dates in good time for the right month.

The birthday roll of honour for this month is: Eunice and Mavis, who share a birthday and Dí.

We wish a happy anniversary to anyone celebrating this month, but we have no names to give.

If you are celebrating please accept best wishes and let us know so that we can congratulate you in the next edition.

If you know someone we have missed, please tell us.



The Hoes and Barrows of Outrageous Gardening

PLANNING



It's a new year and time for all gardeners to look towards the growing season. Those long evenings plotting over the seed catalogues will soon be over. Whether you have spacious ground, pots, window

boxes or a few big buckets, it's time for action.



The catalogues have worked their magic, your ground, pots etc. (henceforth referred to as 'the garden') mentally lie before you – a cornucopia burgeoning with luscious veg, flowers and fruit, every nook and cranny stuffed to the gunnels. Tomatoes as big as grapefruit, monster dahlias like dinner plates, peas as fat as melons, beans bursting out everywhere, jungle-

like growth on the courgettes and exotic fruit hanging like jewels, all basking in the balmy subtropical Laxton air - and not a weed or pest to be seen.

"In this garden, Mr Titchmarsh? Away with you!". But then again, all gardeners are complete fruitcakes and shouldn't be allowed out on their own.



Right! All this means seeds to sow and nurture, seed trays, compost and racking of some sort to support them in luxury while they are tended. Decisions, decisions. Where will they thrive? The garage is not on. The bathroom? Forget it. Along with the kitchen, sitting room and entrance hall. Ditch the paw-paws, mango and pineapple seeds. Let sense prevail.

What follows is a blueprint to be adapted to your specifications. Follow this and all will be well. Maybe.

1. Collect together all the struts and shelving to make the racking. In this case, remnants cannibalised from the ancient defunct stand-up temporary greenhouse from Wilko or such.

2. Make a space to work, Set out struts etc.
3. Mentally envisage where the racking is to go – not the garage etc.
4. Place box marked Swear Box and your chosen charity close to hand – then at least someone will benefit.
5. Begin.... STOP!
6. Go and find jointing pieces for said struts that you had forgotten to find. Make first contribution to swear box (henceforth C to SB).
7. Begin again.
8. Now all will go swimmingly until you realise the creation in front of you looks more like an entry for the Turner Prize and nothing remotely like racking. Dismantle (C to SB x 2).
9. Begin again and concentrate!
10. Sort struts into correct sizes again – then knock them off the work surface (C to SB).
11. Re-align struts. Phone rings (C to SB). Answer it. On return, you will have forgotten where you were up to (C to SB).
12. Realise purse is empty. Find pen and paper for IOUs (IOUs to SB).
13. Now all goes smoothly – racks rise before you.
14. Realise racks will not go through entrance/door to work place (IOU to SB) or through door to where they are going.
15. Re-adjust and transport to final placing.



That was easy, wasn't it?

A word of warning. Do not attempt to help the process along by fortifying yourself with alcoholic refreshment. This will guarantee that by Step 8 you will be wild-eyed, uncoordinated, with hair standing on end, giggling insanely.

It would be at this point you become aware of a small group of delivery men (Hermes, Amazon, UPS and probably the postman) helpless with hysterical laughter by the open door. This is NOT dignified!

So now it's time for the seed trays, compost and sowing. Or would you like a little lie down first?

Your gardening correspondent

Prunella Dockweed

The Story of the Beckitts



Thomas Beckitt 1829 - 1867

Mary Bagshaw 1835 - 1865

The family came to Laxton from Kneesall c1851. Tom's father John, moved on, leaving Thomas as the tenant of Ivy House Farm. He married Mary Bagshaw in 1857 in Leicester.. Mary died aged 29, leaving 3 children.

Thomas remarried but was killed shortly after when he fell from a stack.

Mrs Ellen Beckitt 1830 - 1880

After their father's death, Ellen brought up her three stepchildren, Richard, Sarah Ann and Mathilda. Ellen came from Newark and was unused to the farming world and yet she continued to farm until Richard was old enough to take over. She

looks a very fine lady



Richard Beckitt. 1858 -1916.

Richard became a farmer when he was 21 years old. In this photo he looks more like 'a Man about Town'.

In 1884 Richard came into Laxton Hill Farm but only stayed there for 2 or 3 years. His stepmother had left property in Newark and though Richard spent time at 'a big house near the pub', in 1901 he was living in Newark with Mary and a son, Richard. He is described as a



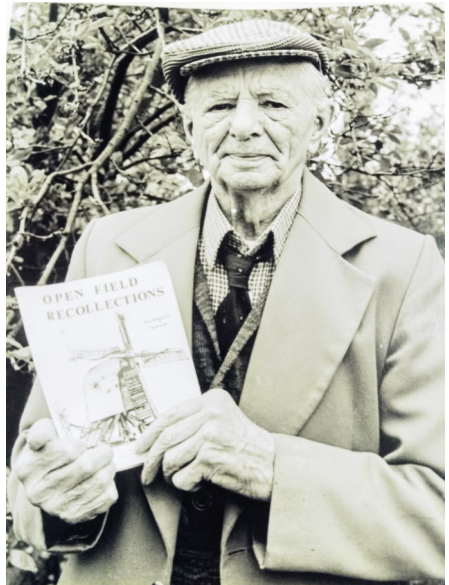
retired farmer at only 42 years old.

Then in 1911 he bought Bell Farm, Weston, where he died. leaving a farm for each of his three sons.

William Beckitt [Bill] 1894 - 1987

.A character! Full of tales. He told me that he was mainly brought up by his grandparents at the Old Vicarage. but also lived with his parents in a house along the Twitchill, which at sometime was near where the Post office was located for a while. In 1911 he was working for his father at Bell Farm, Weston.

Bill came back to Laxton Hill Farm in 1921.amd lived there until his death in 1987, aged 93 years. He sometimes wrote pieces for the magazine and produced a collection of his memories of his life in Laxton.



Edith Beckitt 1904 - 1970

Edith Turner lived at Brecks Farm, Moorhouse. She and Bill used to

meet between East Park and Egmonton Woods. Look at a map and their two farms are not very far apart. They were married in 1924. Here she is with her six children, Joy, Audrey, Rhona, Sheila, Roy and Terry.



Mary Hannah Beckitt 1866 - 1941

Mary, born in Egmonton, was the



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daughter of John and Eliza Bartle of The Old Vicarage. She had five sons, four of whom were born in Laxton, William and John Keyworth. Two died in infancy.



It is thought that Mary carried on at Bell Farm, Weston, until her second son, Richard came of age to claim his own farm and William left for Laxton. They owned the farm until 1999.

Roy Beckitt 1930 - 2014

Roy was born at Egmonton Hill Farm. He was another character, of a different ilk. We

used to like his visits to Church Farm for coffee. There was always a laugh.

His marriage to Mavis was going to be at Laxton but the plans had to be changed and they were married at Sutton on Trent.



Mavis Beckitt 1939

Mavis Smith was born at Willoughby House, Laxton. The family moved to Sutton when Mavis's father found employment on the railways. They lived in a railway cottage.

She met Roy when visiting a friend at Manor Farm, Laxton. Mavis belongs to WI and Mothers' Union. In this photo she is serving teas to the guests at the MU 120th anniversary service a couple of years ago.

MWS

NB the family name is spelled Beckitt now. In past times spelling was more variable and when searching older documents you may find the people mentioned have been spelled the more familiar way as Beckett.



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It's So Wet!

I'm feeling quite dispirited, it really is so wet,
I can't work in the garden, go a walk today, and yet
The Blue Tits are out 'viewing' where to build their newest nest,
The box on the old workshop is their favourite, and the best.
I'm looking out for snowdrops, since I bought a lot last year,
I ordered them from Ashwood's, they are good, but fairly dear.

The tree has gone to compost, the mince pies are all gone,
We're on the last of Christmas when our cake is almost done.
The decs are packed away this year, new boxes in the loft,
So we are organised and straight if we then sell this croft.
We'd like to move on from here, to a hamlet small and green,
But the kind of cottage we would like is nowhere to be seen.

Moving house is fun for us, we've done it in the past,
But if we move again this year, it has to be our last.
So are you all excited at the thought of vaccine one,
At least the Army's now involved and so it should get done.
And Brexit is all over, though with problems I do fear,
But maybe it and Covid will be dealt with through this year.

So here I am today with my latest little saga,
Nice and snug composing as I sit beside the Aga,
On Fridays I'm domestic as I polish and I dust,
I sometimes clean the copper pans to keep them free from rust.
A cheerful jug of daffodils is reposing on the table
They'll be flowering in the garden soon, I'll pick them when I'm able.

So, I'm becalmed, not radical, as I have been in the past,
I know this rotten weather and the lockdown will not last.
And I'll be in the border or with boots on, on the land,
And I'll fondly dream of Springtime, thinking "isn't life just grand".
So on this grey and wintry day, I send you all good cheer,
And hope that 2021 will be a glorious year.

Brenda Wilson January 2021.

Police Aid Clothing Bin

Have you ever thought of a New Year excess clothing clear-out rather than a New Year diet weight clear-out??

The clothing bin is still providing a small income from your donations, which is held by the Parish Council to fund any future village plans.

It is still being emptied regularly if not as frequently; it was emptied just after the start of the New Year.

Below is a quick reminder of what can be donated.

- ⇒ Clothing and Towels
- ⇒ Sheets and Blankets
- ⇒ Curtains
- ⇒ Paired Shoes
- ⇒ Handbags

Many thanks

Village Hall

Just a further update about the Village Hall; it remains closed and with the current lockdown it is likely to remain so for the foreseeable future.

As mentioned in December, weekly checks are continuing to be made to ensure all is well and to comply with the Hall insurers. As the heating is on a low temperature all the time, the Hall is wonderfully dry and odour free.

Please keep safe and well.

Best wishes.

Laxton Village Hall Committee

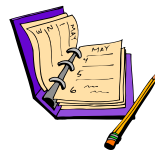
Parish Council - 30 limit signs

No further news about when the changes mentioned last month will be done.

Michael Manning



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



2021

Jan 26th **Parish Council via Zoom**

Forward Planning

Suspended during the pandemic

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 March: 12 noon, 16th February

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.

Thank you to everyone who took the trouble to send in contributions this month. We have appreciated people coming up with ideas to make something for everyone to read at a time when none of our usual events have been happening.

We hope readers have enjoyed the variety and maybe even been inspired to contribute something of their own. If you are not sure how to write it, we are happy to help out. Thank you all.

COVID-19 Vaccinations

The vaccine is being given in hospital hubs - Queen's Medical Centre, City Hospital and King's Mill Hospital. Local Vaccination Services are also now open in a number of locations including Newark Showground.

The public have an important part to play to help the swift roll out of the vaccine. Health bosses have asked the public to wait for their letter before contacting the NHS, their GP or local hospital hub – the letter will have full details of how to make an appointment. **The only way to get an appointment and the jab is to follow the instructions in the letter.**

There are a number of different ways you could be contacted :

1. As a hospital inpatient or at an outpatient appointment.
 2. GP practices are working together to contact and offer the vaccine to as many people as possible.
 3. GP teams are arranging to vaccinate care home residents in their homes.
 4. A letter from the NHS Covid-19 Vaccination Booking Service
- **Please don't contact the NHS to seek a vaccine – we will contact you**
 - **When we contact you, please act immediately and make sure you attend your appointments.**
 - **Please continue to follow all the safety guidelines**

About the Vaccines

Two vaccines are now available which have been shown to be safe, offer high levels of protection and have been approved by the MHRA, the official UK regulator. 40 million doses of the BioNTech/Pfizer vaccine and 100m doses of the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine have been ordered.

There is continued monitoring once a vaccine is being used in the wider population. The NHS will only provide approved vaccines which have been tested for safety and effectiveness. People should be assured that whatever vaccine they get, it is worth their while.

Across the country, care home staff, those aged 80 and over, as well as NHS staff considered to be a risk will be offered vaccination first in line with JCVI recommendations. If supplies allow, vaccines should be offered to the most vulnerable 13 million people by the middle of February.

Coronavirus can affect anyone. This is the biggest vaccination programme in UK history and it will take time to vaccinate all the eligible people. COVID-19 vaccines will become available as they are approved for use and as each batch is manufactured. Every dose is needed to protect those at highest risk. You will be called in as soon as there is enough vaccine available.

Some people who can't get to a local vaccination centre may have to wait for the supply of the right type of vaccine because only some vaccines can be transported between people's homes.

The COVID-19 vaccination will reduce the chance of your suffering from COVID-19 disease. Like all medicines, no vaccine is completely effective, so you should continue to take recommended precautions to avoid infection and continue to follow social distancing rules.

Some people may still get COVID-19 despite having a vaccination, but this should be less severe. The COVID-19 vaccine should help reduce the rates of serious illness and save lives and will therefore reduce pressure on the NHS and social care services.

The vaccines do not contain living organisms and are safe for people with immune system disorders. A very small number of people who are at risk of COVID-19 cannot have the vaccine including people who have severe allergies. Women of childbearing age, those who are pregnant, planning a pregnancy or breastfeeding should read the detailed information. People suffering from a fever-type illness should also postpone having the vaccine until they have recovered.

The MHRA have said these vaccines are highly effective, but to get full protection **it is really important for people to come back for the second dose**. To ensure as many people are vaccinated as quickly as possible, it is now advised that the second dose of both the OxfordAstraZeneca and the Pfizer/BioNtech vaccine should be scheduled up to 12 weeks apart. Full protection kicks in around a week or two after that second dose, which is why it's important that you act on your invitation and get booked in asap.

The vaccine works by making a protein from the virus that is important for creating protection. The protein works by stimulating the immune system to make antibodies and cells to fight the infection.

The vaccine cannot give you COVID-19 infection. Two doses will reduce your chance of becoming seriously ill. We do not yet know whether it will stop you from catching and passing on the virus, so, it is important to follow the up to date guidance to protect those around you. No vaccine is completely effective and it will take a few weeks for your body to build up protection.

The MHRA have looked at whether people who have had Covid-19 should get vaccinated. They have decided that getting vaccinated is just as important for people in a priority group identified by JCVI who have already had Covid-19 as it is for those who haven't.

It is not essential to leave time between the flu and Covid vaccine but it is recommended that there should be a gap of a week.

The above has been condensed from the NHS web site.

Recent Bonus Ball Winners

Date	No	Name
28/11/20	32	Kevin and Sally
5/12/20	18	Richard and Diane
12/12/20	59	ROLLOVER
19/12/20	23	ROLLOVER
26/12/20	06	Janet Cooke
2/1/21	37	Pat Frear
9/1/21	53	Ian and Rebecca

We have various numbers available. Here is the up to date list of the 14 spare numbers: **1,2,7,11,20,23,26,28,34,51,52,56,57, 59 (14)?**

Please contact Mike Manning 870844. Thank you.

Michael Manning

Laxton WI



Regrettably we still cannot meet together and there is still no indication of when this might be possible.

We hope all members are keeping well and, while we cannot see each other, we want everyone to know they are missed and being thought about.

Nancy Reid

Nancy was born in 1919 and brought up in Egmonton. She went into the Land Army where she met her future husband. Together they set up a small holding in Cornwall.

They retired to live in Norwell where Nancy died at the end of November, aged 101. She did her own garden until near the end. It was always beautiful. She always seemed bright spirited when I was able to visit and we were able to reminisce.

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The Dukeries Singers

I read today that primroses are the "official flower of February." so when I venture out into the desolation that is our garden I shall have a search for them.



I have already been hugely cheered by the bright yellow winter aconites which are shining like little jewels. I'm still waiting for the snowdrops to appear. I can see the little green spears but impatient to welcome the white nodding bells.

We as a Choir are non functioning yet but we are as anxious to "get going" as we are to

see the snowdrops.

I do hope you are all coping with the enforced isolation caused by the Covid 19 pandemic. Perhaps like our Choir members you have found alternative hobbies and activities to keep minds and bodies in good nick.

Singing and even dancing along to the radio in the privacy of your own home is ideal for a decent workout and if you have discovered creative and artistic skills that you didn't know you had, how satisfying.

I am looking forward to seeing a sea of friendly audience faces and dusting off my file of "Choir Poems" ready for our Concerts. To that end contact details are.

Margaret, our concert secretary, 01623 642464 or 07896491314
website

www.thedukeriessingers.com

email

thedukeriessingers@gmail.com

We are also on Twitter, Facebook and You Tube

Take care, stay safe, and keep an eye open for those "fair maids of February."

Jan

Citizens Advice Sherwood & Newark is here to support people who are in debt

**Sherwood
& Newark**

**citizens
advice**

Does this sound like you and the way you are feeling?

'I've fallen behind on my bills and the debts are building up. I don't know where to start?'

Jackie Insley, Chief Officer of Citizens Advice Sherwood & Newark, said:

A great first step is to realise you have a problem and then to ask for help. It's important to know you don't need to face this alone. You can contact us for help.

In the meantime here are four steps you can take to get started:

1. Work out how much you owe - Make a list of whom you owe money to and add up how much you need to pay each month. If you don't have your most recent statements, contact your creditor to find out what you owe. Some creditors will have special arrangements for people with Covid-related arrears.
2. Prioritise your debts - Your rent or mortgage, energy and council tax are called priority debts as there can be serious consequences if you don't pay them. Separate these and work out how much you owe. Again, you can ask the companies or council what support might be available during the pandemic.
3. Work out how much you can pay - Create a budget by adding up your essential living costs, such as food and housing, and taking these away from your income. The Citizens Advice budgeting tool can help.

Any money you have spare can be put towards your debts, starting with the priority debts first.

If you have any money left after paying priority debts, but not enough to make your usual payments on other debts, consider getting advice on the best way for you to start getting on top of them. Or contact your creditors and offer them what you can afford to pay.

4. If you can't pay your debts - If you've got little or no money spare to pay your priority debts seek advice from Citizens

Advice straight away. If you're struggling to pay for basics like food, seek help immediately to see what support might be available to you. If you can't pay off other debts, such as credit cards and loans, it would also be worth contacting your nearest Citizens Advice.

We know it can feel very daunting to deal with debt, but having a plan really helps and our team will be here to help you each step of the way.

You can contact Citizens Advice Sherwood & Newark for information and advice:

- **General advice** will be given via our Advice line on 0800 144 88 48 or Textphone: 18001 0800 144 8 444 Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm. Alternatively, you can ring our local office number on 01623 861769 where you may be offered a call back
- People can **chat online** to an advisor by visiting our website www.citizensadvice.org.uk/contact-us.
- To contact us via email use **advice@sn-ca.org.uk**



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

Christmas lived up to expectations, with many people will receiving more stamps than usual on their Christmas cards.

It seems likely that anyone having a birthday at the start of the year will also get most cards by post. It seems impossible that by March everyone will have had a pandemic birthday, no matter what month.

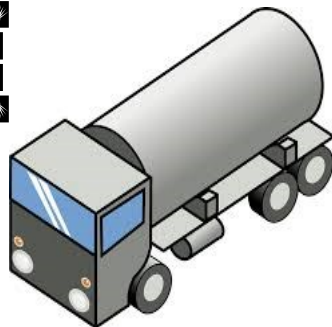
Please trim the stamp off the envelope, leaving at least a centimetre all around to ensure that the stamp is not damaged.

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

Thank you.

Group Oil Order

The first order of the year is due to be placed about the time you will be reading this. The prices have been going up, so hopefully in a week or so the very cold weather and associated ordering will have passed, Joe Biden will be in the White House and things will have settled down.



If you would like to join in this order please email me immediately. If you have my personal email please use that which reaches me more quickly or use the general address of oil@openfield.org.uk

New members are welcome to the group at any time. You need to supply an email address, or that of someone willing to act for you, full name, address, land and mobile phone numbers and any special access instructions for your delivery e.g. locks to be removed, dogs... Our group extends from Tuxford to Carlton on Trent and Kneesall.

Please note that the activities of the group order extend only to selecting a supplier and arranging the best price with a volume discount. Everyone pays the same price within the group ordering on any occasion and every household is responsible for providing payment details direct to the supplier selected and making their own payment.

The suppliers we use have a good reputation and will accept a group order via a spreadsheet. We have also negotiated with each of them that our established members may pay within 7 days after delivery rather than before. New members may have to pay in advance the first time unless they are already known to the company.

We work with a small number of households where the family make the arrangements on behalf of an older person. If you are in this situation, please make it known that the supplier should deal with you and with not the person at the address for the delivery.

The order following this second winter one is expected to be towards the end of summer unless the weather makes it necessary to order again. Please make yourself a reminder to check your tank in July to see if you will need to stock up then ready for the colder days to come.

Keep safe and warm,

Joy

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Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council - Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on 24th November 2020

Present: Councillors:

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

In attendance at parish council meeting

C. Millward (Clerk)

1. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Mr S Hill.
2. **Declarations of interest:** The chair declared an interest as a member of the sports field committee in item 11 (Property matters – including sports field and Glebe Field and sub-tenancy).

There were no other declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda.

3. **Dispensations:** None required
4. **10 Minutes public speaking:** No public present. Reports of a noticeable increase in traffic speeding on entry to the village from Ollerton were noted. Councillors also noted that the volume of HGVs travelling through the village had increased although there was no obvious reason. The clerk will explore the possibility that the height restriction at Cocking Hill Bridge has been removed allowing more vehicles to pass through. The possibility that more vehicles were visiting the brickworks was also discussed.

Mr J Hill will email the clerk with the bridge location. She will then make enquiries of NCC regarding any change in the restrictions applicable to the bridge. She will also:

- a. Make enquiries of Mike Pringle in relation to the implications and imposition of a weight limit for the village

- b. Establish with NSDC the nature of any special planning restrictions which apply in Laxton.
5. **Minutes of the parish council meeting held on 22 September 2020:** The minutes of the meeting held on 22 September 2020 were agreed as a true record to be signed by the chair at a later date when face to face contact is possible.
6. **Matters arising:** None.
7. **Reports from district and county councillors:** None present. Mr Pringle had provided a written report.
8. **Reports from councillors:** No reports save as addressed at LMPC/26/20 above (10 minutes public speaking).
9. **2021 meeting dates:** Councillors **approved** the 2021 meeting schedule which the clerk will upload to the website.
10. **Financial Matters:**
 - a. **Financial position as at 31 October 2020:** Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position at 31 October 2020 (incorporating the 2020-21 budget figures). Councillors viewed the balances as stated in the bank statements on line.
 - b. **Accounts for payment:** The council unanimously **approved** eight payments totalling £530.75.
 - c. **Appointment of internal auditor:** Councillors **agreed** that Halam parish clerk should be asked whether she would be prepared to undertake the role for a further year. They also approved the purchase of £50 gift vouchers as thanks for undertaking the role voluntarily.
 - d. **Review system of internal control:** Councillors discussed the operation of the system of internal control and **agreed** that it was adequate for the size and needs of the council and continued to operate effectively, subject to the appointment of an internal auditor which was in hand.
 - e. **Consider need for interim internal audit:** The clerk advised councillors as to the on-going nature of the internal

Stuart Rose

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audit process. Councillors considered their financial affairs for the financial year to date. They **decided** that, given the thorough nature of the internal audit carried out by Halam parish clerk, an interim internal audit would be disproportionate and was not justified.

11. **Property matters including sports field and Glebe Field and sub tenancy:** Councillors noted that there were limited documents in relation to the lease of Glebe Field to the former tenant. They **agreed** that the council should take legal advice on the position relating to the continuation or otherwise of the tenancy. The clerk will instruct Fisher German to advise.
12. **Planning matters:**
 - a. **Applications:** None.
 - b. **To note planning decisions by NSDC:** None
 - c. **Compliance:** No issues raised.
13. **Defibrillator inspection report:** Mr M Hennell had completed the inspection. There were no issues.
14. **Village environment and appearance, including:**
 - a. **Relocation – 30 mph speed signs to village entries:**

The chair reported that he and Mr Pringle had met in the village to look at the location of the signs relative to the physical curtilage of the village. The 30 mph signs at the Kneesall Road, Moorhouse Road and The Bar entries to the village will be relocated beyond the last properties. However, NCC Highways had declined to agree to the re-siting of the Acre Edge sign. Mr Pringle is seeking a change in this stance. If unsuccessful he will request additional signage. Mr Rose will contact Mr Pringle regarding the dangers posed by cattle and tractors at the site.
 - b. **Fibre broadband for Moorhouse:** Nothing to report
 - c. **Speeding traffic:** See LMPC/26/20 (10 minutes public speaking) and above at a.
15. **Service faults:** It was reported that:

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- a. BT has arranged to re-paint the Laxton phone kiosk between April and September 2021. The clerk will enquire regarding the possibility of adopting the kiosk.
- b. The winter salt had been delivered.
The clerk will request a replacement grit bin at Cocking Hill.
- 16. **Correspondence:** All items of correspondence noted. The clerk will recirculate the Housing Needs Survey to all councillors.
- 17. **Agenda items for next meeting:**
Bar Farm House
Village planning restrictions.
- 18. **Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 26 January 2021 via Zoom

Lockdown Diaries

At the start of the first lockdown, we invited anyone who was interested in writing a diary of their experience to contact Judith Mills, Chair of the Friends of Nottinghamshire Archives as she was planning to compile a larger volume featuring the different experiences recorded by the writers.

The project developed and gained structure as the logistics were worked out. The latest news is that the individual diaries have all been successfully deposited with Nottinghamshire Archives.

All conditions requested by the authors, such as anonymity and not allowing access for a specified number of years, have all been met. They now form part of the Lockdown Life collection the Archives has created. Depositing the diaries was unfortunately, delayed due to a combination of factors including devising a new process for depositing documents which allowed minimal physical contact and a period of quarantine. This has been a learning experience for the people directly involved.

The compilation diary gained an overall theme and working title - "100 Days that Changed the World". At this time nobody thought we would be in yet another lockdown this far on. The book is progressing and has received a small grant towards the cost of publication from Cllr Sue Saddington (Notts County Council). The ambition is to publish on or around the anniversary of the first full lockdown (23 March).

Egmanton Village Hall

www.egmantonvillagehall.org.uk / 01777 871171

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

- ♦ **Yoga with Greg** – Suspended. Watch for details of restart.
- ♦ **Egmanton WI** - Suspended at present
- ♦ **Zumba Class** - Cancelled for now **Call 07817 311627**
- ♦ **Computer Problems?** - Call **01777 871171** for phone advice
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.

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 on **870844**.

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

Maplebeck Village Hall

The Hall and its activities are not operating at the present time.

Useful Contact Details

Defibrillator Contacts:

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

Police

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

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

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Otherwise police switchboard	101
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Sutton-on-Trent Surgery	01636 821023
Ollerton Surgery - Middleton Lodge Practice	01623 703266
Newark Hospital	01636 681681
Bassetlaw Hospital	01909 500990
King's Mill Hospital	01623 622515

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

Parish Council website: www.laxtonandmoorhouseparishcouncil.co.uk



Congratulations to Caitlin and Jason What a lovely image of the four generations of the family with Anne and Pam joining the happy couple, and their children, Cairo and Winter.



Snowy chaos between Tuxford & Egmonton

and

The Notts Young Farmers' Santa Tractor Run