

Open Field

50p

January 2017



*The History Group Notice Board, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund
installed in Laxton 15th December*

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

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1st & 8th January
15th & 22nd January
29th January & 5th February

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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.

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

www.openfield.org.uk

Cover photo: Laxton History group's new noticeboard

Photo by: Joy Allison



Letter From Rev Anna

Hi Everyone,

After weeks of waiting it's great to finally be here in Bilsthorpe, and able to begin work as the Growing Disciples Priest.

You might be asking yourselves what a Growing Disciples Priest does, and to a certain extent we all are because this is a new role. However I'm really excited about joining the team and together we hope to be involved with all aspects of community life across the group of villages, getting to know the church members and those who do not attend church. I hope that by working together and more broadly in the community we can grow deeper in our faith and that our churches will grow in number. I'll also be looking for ways of sharing my faith in new or different ways, particularly in schools and with families.

Let me introduce myself and my family: I was born and raised in Skegby, where I attended St Andrew's Church for most of my childhood, I went to All Saints Secondary School in Mansfield and then did a series of jobs in retail industry, the most recent being in Woolworths in Sutton in Ashfield.

At the age of 30, with two children and a husband in tow I went to St John's Theological College in Bramcote Nottingham, where I studied

for a degree in theology for ministry. After I was ordained in 2012 I spent time in Bestwood serving my curacy before moving to the parishes of Eastwood and Brinsley with Underwood.

Alongside Curacy I have been enjoyed a placement in City Hospital with the chaplaincy team, spending time in a church in Palestine and doing a secondment with Citizens UK learning about Community Organising.

I am married to John who works in the cinema industry, and have





two step sons, Ryan (24) and Tom (21). As well as our daughters, Mia (14) and Katie (11), we have a gorgeous labradoodle called Martha.

We can't wait to settle into the community and get to know people, so if you spot me out and about walking the dog do stop and introduce yourselves.

Anna

Coffee Mornings

Thank you to Jean for hosting the Christmas Coffee Morning. As it stated in last month's *Open Field*, unfortunately this was the last one. We have lost most of our hostesses over the last year or so, so unless we can find some new hostesses we cannot continue.



Jean has organised the rota for the Coffee Mornings for years now and kept them running each month.

On behalf of the PCC I would like to thank her for her continued support and also those who have supported them every month.

The money raised over the years has been spent on items for the church. Recently we have been able to purchase the new curtains at the main door, a new vacuum cleaner and we have had some old photos of the church copied and framed.

One more person said they might be able to help but it would be great if a few more households could offer. With a bit more help we might be able to organise one or two Coffee Mornings over the next year when possible. All you need is a bit of room and a kettle to make coffee for the guests.

If you are able to help a couple of times a year, please get in touch with Jean on 870276.

Once again thank you to Jean and everyone for their support.

Brenda

Licensing of Revd. Anna Alls

On Wednesday December 7th Laxton Church hosted the Licensing Service for the Rev Anna Alls by the Rt. Revd. Paul Williams, Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham.

Everyone was welcomed by the Rev Zoe Burton, including the Archdeacon of Newark, our Area Dean and the Bishop's Chaplain.

The church was full to capacity with extra chairs having to be brought in. A coach came carrying Anna's family, friends and members of her congregation from previous parishes. Others came in their cars, as did her clergy friends. Laxton High Street was full.



The Bishop delivered the sermon and Bible readings were read by members of our Group along with representatives from Ollerton Methodist Church, Kneesall School, County Councillor Mike Pringle from Ollerton and Beth Shalom.

The music group played and sang to two of the hymns. The formal part of the service was the signing of the license, which was read out by the Bishop and Archdeacon.

I would like to thank Amelia Hennell and Amelie Beckett for presenting Anna with a jug of water which represented the baptism of young children.

After the service refreshments provided by our group of churches were served.

Thank you to everyone who helped, took part in the service, provided food and cleared away afterwards. It was good to see so many people there.

Brenda

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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 Kindergarten which is currently rated **OUTSTANDING** by Ofsted.

FREE Places available for eligible 2 Year Olds
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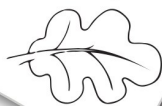
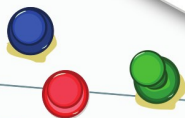
Offering a wide range of activities for children aged 5 -11 years and a free drop off and collection service to a number of local schools

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..



Things to Do this Month

- Jan 9th** Learn more about Laxton's new defibrillator,
7.30pm VC
- Jan 11th** WI, 7.30pm LVH
- Jan 18th** History Group, 7.30pm, LVH
- Jan 20th** History Group Booklet Launch 2-5pm LVH
- Jan 25th** Dovecote Inn Burns Supper

Book your tickets for the Church Dance and
Village Hall Quiz Night.

VH = Village Hall VC = Visitor Centre

Coffee Morning

The Coffee Morning on **8th December**
at Corner Farm was the last.

Unfortunately due to regular hosts
leaving the village and having other commitments
we now have only one person able to host.

Nobody has come forward with an offer to host a
meeting occasionally and with regret this friendly
monthly gathering which has raised
money for the church will no longer
take place regularly.



Thank you to everyone who has
supported the coffee mornings over
the years.





**Laxton History Group
Booklet Launch**



**Friday 20th January
2 - 5pm, Laxton Village Hall**

Come and hear about our three new booklets

Laxton Stories: Village Folk

Laxton Stories: Laxton Buildings

Laxton Storied: The Variety of Village Life

Free tea and cakes served by Laxton WI

**Everyone welcome. For catering purposes please let
Brenda (870541) or Jean (870276) know if you plan to
come. We hope to see you there**

Plough Sunday

Laxton Church

Sunday 8th January

10.30am

**Blessing of the Plough and the
Churn**

Followed by refreshments

Everyone welcome

The Dovecote Inn at Laxton

Your Local Village Pub



Wednesday 25th January

Burns Supper 7.00pm for 7.30pm

Come and join us for our first gourmet evening of the new year as we enjoy a lovely traditional Burns Supper
3 delightful courses of traditional Scottish fayre with a wee dram of whisky or two thrown in for good measure.
£28 per person including champagne reception and whisky.

Monday 30th January

Steak Night between 6.00pm and 9.00pm

Whole joints of finest local beef or Aberdeen Angus from Yorkshire.
Cut to size at the butcher's block in the restaurant then cooked to your liking in our kitchen. Price dependent on size of steak.

Friday 3rd February

Speciality Sausage Friday

A choice of 5 of the best locally made hand linked sausages all served with creamy mashed potatoes, peas and homemade gravy and a pint of our finest cask ale or a glass of house wine.
£13.00 per person.

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 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**

Laxton History Group - Booklet Launch, 20th January



Over the last few months you will have read about the three new booklets prepared by members of Laxton History Group. They are almost ready to print as this is written and there will be a launch event to celebrate them and all the achievements of the Heritage Lottery Funded project.

This is free and open to anyone who is interested. Copies of the new booklets will be delivered to every household in Laxton and Moorhouse as before and will be available for collection on the day by people living further afield.

We hope you will come and join us at this event on 20th January, 2 -5pm in the Village Hall, when Laxton WI will be serving tea and cakes to our guests for us.

Advent

Our Advent Group service was held in Laxton Church on Sunday 27th November and was taken by Rev Phil Howson and Janice Hannington. Wreaths were presented by Kirton, Egmonton, Kneesall, Wellow, Moorhouse and Laxton Churches.



The readings, which explain the meaning of the Advent wreaths, were read by Jean Hennell, Jill Hoyland, Amelie Beckitt and Emily Hennell. After this the candles were lit by the smaller children.



The Rev Phil Howson played his guitar to accompany two of the songs we sang, which went down well with the children.

A representative from each church read a Bible reading and the prayers were taken by Rev Phil and Brenda Noble. It was great to have members from each of our churches in our group joining together for another traditional service.

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Jury Day and Laxton Court Leet

The historically important annual gatherings for the inspection of the wheat field by Laxton's Jury, sometimes referred to as the Homage, and of the Court Leet, have taken place recently.

Both date back to the medieval system of baronial courts and management of open field systems which was once widespread across the East Midlands. The records for the Laxton Jury and Court go back many years and show how the same practices have been carried out. Records of the Court assisted Laxton History Group recently in identifying when certain individuals were in the village.



The task of the Jury is to inspect the field which has been recently planted in wheat. They check that the farmers have ploughed all of and only what they are allocated, that they have cleared the adjacent sykes (grassed margins) of anything dropped on them, and that the roadways and watercourses are in good order.

They hammer in wooden stakes prepared by the Bailiff, Robert Haigh, to mark where the strips join the sykes. This year a surprising number had survived since the last inspection three years ago. Robert introduced a new aid to the work this year by finding a set of large buckets which held a good number of stakes, making it easier for the jurors to carry them to where they were needed. Professor John Beckett, a noted authority on Laxton, and regular observer on Jury day, was pressed into service carrying one.



Sadly the field Foreman, Robert's father Bill Haigh, was not well enough to attend this year, so Robert stood in for him, noting down the infringements of the rules which were noted.

CARRY ON UP THE DOVEY

and join us for a great **FREE** New Year's Eve party in the heated marquee.

No ticket required, simply turn up and join in the fun!

Fancy dress optional, but prizes as always for the best and most originally dressed.



Doors open at 7pm

The Dovecote Inn, Cross Hill, Laxton, Nottinghamshire NG22 0SX

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A week later the Court Leet assembles at the Dovecote Inn, where the Jury have retired the previous week for a lunch and a chance to compare notes on the infringements and discuss the relevant fines to be proposed.



The Court Leet is run by the Steward of the Court, Alistair Millar, a solicitor from Tallents in Southwell, and a personal appointee to the role. His job is to manage the legal proceedings.

This may be viewed - wrongly - as a quaint local tradition, yet it is actually a court, specifically identified in English law in 1977 when the Administration of Justice Act was streamlined. The Laxton Court Leet was specifically given powers to determine legal proceedings and levy fines.

So it is that Alistair ensures the law is followed. Robert opens the proceedings with a form of words specifically prepared for the purpose.

The first task of the day is to swear in the Jury for the following year. The Foreman

for the field which will be in wheat the following November takes an oath and kisses the traditional

Bible on behalf of the Jury. The ancient Bible falls victim to modern times in being covered in fresh brown paper each year to keep it fresh to kiss. The jurors' oath follows, being read to them in groups of four and they kiss the Bible in turn. At 90, Bill Haigh must surely be one of the oldest men ever to be sworn in.



The names of those on the Manor Suit Roll are read out and those not present are required to pay an 'essoign' of 2p. These days Robert pays for them from a bag of coins taken for the purpose and the sum collected is officially recorded.

The infringements noted the previous week are brought to the Court on a 'Presentment paper', which sets out the nature of the infringement and the suggested fine is also read. Once this has been recorded and any appeals have been dealt with the court moves on to other business.



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Village Hall Quiz

The 2nd December Quiz was a great evening of fun and laughter and the winners from the March Quiz were narrowly beaten. They were in a much-depleted team so the honour of sitting on the expensive purple chairs at the next Quiz Night moves to a new team, the winners of the December Team from last year. Revenge is highly likely in the next Quiz on 3/3/17!!!

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 Janet in the kitchen especially) and Roberta again for the mushy peas, collecting the team money and doing most of the raffle. Also thanks to the Committee for donating 21 raffle prizes again and the wonderful sweets.

As Roberta and John will shortly be moving to the Retford area, she was presented with a Gift Voucher as a thanks for making all those mushy peas for as long as we can remember!! The good news is that she and John intend to still come to the Quizzes and meet up with us all at least twice a year!!

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 March Quiz will be on 3rd March 2017

Train Tickets

Virgin Trains who operate the East Coast Line have a very silly sale just before Christmas where they offer very, very cheap train tickets for a limited period and you have to be very, very quick to get them!!



In my enthusiasm to not miss out, I bought four rather than two return tickets to London Kings Cross for **MONDAY 6/2/17!!**

So I have a pair of return tickets to London at £10 each return, yes £10 each!! Depart Newark 10:54, return 20:05.

If you are interested please let me know.

Michael Manning

Laxton History Group



Our last meeting in the Hall in 2016 took place on 17th November, just after our smart new noticeboard had been installed next to the telephone box. The heritage Lottery Fund was pleased to allow us to buy this board as it allows us to advertise our recently published booklets and educational materials to the passing public as well as to inform villagers or forthcoming meetings and events. Please make a point of looking there as everyone is welcome to our meetings.

Howard Heeley was the last speaker of the year. We have enjoyed his previous visits and he came this time to tell us about Stained Glass Windows which commemorate Aviation and the RAF in particular.

His interest in this subject had been sparked by a couple working on a stained glass window who were using the Newark Aircraft Museum Archives to research it. He discovered there is more to these windows than he had realised. They tell a story through symbolic pictorial elements.

The window the couple were designing was for a panel in the church at RAF Halton. The present church replaces an older one which burned down. The modern design allowed for stained glass panels to be inserted over time. They commemorate RAF Halton's apprentices, 'The Halton Brats' beginning with the first in 1997 for the '63rd Entry'.

The one Howard followed was for the 106th Entry. He photographed it from the design stage through to making and was only prevented from capturing the installation by the loss of daylight. He described the process in detail and how the designers had arrived at the final design from a story.

There were two versions of this and both fit the facts. There is an image of the Gemini spacecraft



which flew in their year, their boots, money and the Bucks county border as they did a 24 hour charity march around Buckinghamshire as well as the RAF. Howard's preferred version of the explanation for the boots and money is that as a prank they took the boots from another Entry and put them on the parade ground lined up as if they were on parade. Unfortunately for them it snowed and the boots were ruined, resulting in them getting into big trouble and having to pay for replacement boots. There is a snowy background to the image, which lends support to the argument for this being the true basis of the design.

Howard then described a number of memorials in churches around Lincolnshire, including in the cathedral, which clearly demonstrates the strong association between the RAF and the county.

Howard is a trustee and secretary to the Newark Air Museum and they have a piece of stained glass of their own made by the couple who made the window Howard studied. They also have a free standing panel which was made for a window in a house in Scotland which was used as a B&B, and was removed when the owners sold up. This represents a Shackleton aircraft in flight.

Howard was thanked for a fascinating talk.



We had not quite finished in the hall as on the following Saturday we held our annual Christmas Craft Fayre. Once again Jean Hennell had managed to find a good selection of craftspeople with interesting offerings

to sell to our visitors. This year we had two ladies from the village with their crafts, Pat Naylor with a stall from the Inner Wheel Club of Sherwood Forest raising money for Blood Bikes.

A new stall holder this year was Emily Hennell, who had been busy with her Mum, Amanda, and Grandma, Jean, making a wide range of sewn goods to sell. Her stall looked beautiful and she



deserves much credit for all her hard work, her excellent needlework and her initiative in deciding to take the stall. She was rewarded with sales well beyond what she hoped and went home very happy. Well done Emily.



We must thank the other local community publications we sent our notice to for including us in their pages. We were very pleased to welcome people from a wide area who came to support our event, including a couple who returned from Sheffield, having enjoyed visiting us last year. They went home rewarded with a prize from the excellent raffle. Many thanks to the people

who gave so generously to the raffle.

There was a lovely atmosphere throughout the event and all our members worked hard - none more so than the ladies in the kitchen. A special mention here for Brenda Gross, sister in law of Brenda Chambers, who *asked if she could come to wash up!* We were only too grateful and she spent the whole day very happily at the sink. A big thank you to Brenda, and before she asks, she will be very welcome again next year!



The winners of our competitions were:

- Children's sweetie jar (169) - Mark Hennell with the nearest guess 167
- Adult sweetie jar - Joanne crofts from Wellow with a correct guess of 56
- 50/50 envelope draw - Andrew Robertson (£19)
- Name the teddy bears - Amelia Hennell (Santa & Rudolph).

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way and to everyone who came to support the Craft Fayre. We made just under £500 for the Groups funds.

Laxton Mothers' Union



Our meeting this month was held at the home of Anne and Keith Dutton. Our speaker was one of our own members, Linda Mills, who had just returned from a holiday in India. Her talk, illustrated with photographs, really brought the 'real India' to life for us.

On the one hand they visited the Taj Mahal in all its glory - and on the other a very basic train journey up into the Himalayas where they visited a family who were totally self-sufficient, living in very basic surroundings.


The people all seemed so happy but by our standards they had little. Supper was served afterwards.

As we do not have a meeting in December / January, we recommence for the New Year on 27th February. Everybody is welcome - we are always looking for new members.

Laxton Village Defibrillator

The Defibrillator being donated to Laxton from Newark and Sherwood Recreation Centre and organised by Anne-Marie Harriman (nee Shepherd!) will be handed over to the village during the Sports Meeting on 9/1/17 in the Visitor Centre at 7:30. We are looking for volunteers who would like to be involved in this important piece of life saving equipment and you will be very welcome to come along to the meeting. There is no formal training as such and the equipment is very easy to use but Anne-Marie will be available to talk us through it.

As mentioned previously this is excellent news for Laxton as the village is so isolated and the Visitor Centre has agreed to house the unit in there as it will be protected, out of sight and available 24/7.



CHURCH SERVICES FOR OUR GROUP JANUARY 2017

1st January

- 9am Kirton Holy Communion
- 10.30am Kneesall Holy Communion
- 10.30am Ollerton Holy Communion (St Giles)

8th January

- 9am Walesby Holy Communion
- 9am Eakring Holy Communion
- 10.30am **Laxton Plough Sunday**
- 10.30am Bilsthorpe Holy Communion
- 10.30am New Ollerton Holy Communion
- 4pm Wellow Holy Communion
- 4pm Egmanton Evensong

15th January

- 8am Walesby Holy Communion
- 9am Egmanton Holy Communion
- 10.30am Boughton Holy Communion (St Matthews)
- 10.30am Laxton Holy Communion - ***an extra service for us***

22nd January

- 9am Wellow Morning Prayer
- 9am Eakring Holy Communion
- 10.30am New Ollerton Holy Communion (St Paulinus)
- 10.30am Bilsthorpe Holy Communion
- 10.30am Kirton Morning Prayer

29th January

- 10.30am Family of Churches Holy Communion – Eakring



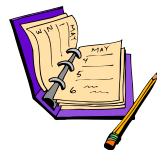
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2017

Jan 19 ^h	Defibrillator Presentation and Information meeting
Jan 8 th	Plough Sunday
Jan 11 th	WI
Jan 18 th	History Group
Jan 20 th	History Group Booklet Launch

Forward Planning

March 3rd	Quiz Night
March 17th	Church Dance
April 19 th	History Group AGM & Historical Supper
Sept 30 th	Southwell Ploughing Match



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 February: 16th January.

We cannot guarantee to include items received after this date.

Open Field Subscriptions Due Now

We are now at the start of the new year and with it comes the annual call to pay your subscription for your monthly copy of 'Open Field'.

Subs remain £4 for the year. Please either put your £4 in an envelope with your name on it and drop it in to the person who delivers your magazine or have it ready to hand to them pay when they call with your next issue.

It would be a big help if you could drop it through their door asap.

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Laxton WI



Members had a seasonal chance to get together with friends from other local WIs at the Rover Group Christmas carol Service at Weston.



During December our hard-working committee shared a meal at The Dovecote Inn. Everyone enjoyed the chance to get together socially for a chat with no agenda to follow.

That should have been the last event before the AGM, but we learned with sadness of the death of Jean Marchbank of Egmonton, a good friend who often supported our events

and parties. Although most of us knew Jean as a member of Egmonton WI, in fact she was once a member of Laxton WI, as was her mother before her. All who knew her will remember her fondly.

We were honoured to cater for her funeral, which took place in Egmonton on 12th December.

The December meeting of Laxton WI takes place on 14th and missed the magazine this month.

Our January meeting takes place on 11th at 7.30pm in the village Hall when we welcome everyone to join us for the start of our new year.

Our subs run from January to December, so it is a good month to join. If you have been thinking about it, why not come along and see what it is all about? A warm welcome awaits you.

Church Cleaning

We decided we would have a spring clean in church before the Licensing service and a visit from the Bishop. The Mothers' Union Chapel, the lady Chapel and the Vestry were attacked. Thanks to Janet, Mavis, Sandra and Lesley for their help and also to Simon and Jeff for their help with the furniture.

Brenda

See the back page for proof!

Open Field

On behalf of the PCC and everyone else I would like to thank the **Open Field** team for all their hard work over the past year in producing such a good magazine every month, and especially now it looks really good with the coloured pages.

I know Joy & Dik put a lot of time in collating the magazine with all the news, articles, proof reading and preparing it for the printers. Thank you.

Thanks also to Jean for editing it and distributing it and collecting the subscriptions. Several copies are now posted out to different people who are interested in our village life. We also have a loyal following as far afield as Tasmania on our web site www.openfield.org.uk

To those who advertise each year - and many of you have been doing so for many years, helping to pay our printing costs each month - a big thank you. We appreciate your support.

Thanks also to those volunteers who deliver the magazine around the villages every month. We look forward to your visits.

Finally, thanks to all the people in and out of the village who send in photographs, reports, information about interesting events and helpful advice. Special thanks to Janet for photographing village events for us.

It is a real team effort and we do have a very special magazine.

Thanks again to everyone.

Brenda

Church Dance

November 18th saw our church dance, which was again a sell out, attended by approx. 70 people. The dance floor was always full, with Bruce and Marion playing music for everyone to have a go. They played some music for new dances as well this time.

Thanks to everyone for their support and to those who helped, including Janet, Mavis and Lesley, Jean for being on the door and for Rachel for selling raffle tickets.

Thanks also to all those who kindly gave food and raffle prizes.

Approximately £570 was made for church funds.



Laxton History Group - Thanks



We have had a very positive reaction from Laxton and beyond about the quality of the booklets which everyone received in the summer. People have remarked on how professional they look and feel and expressed their surprise that they are 'like small books' rather than the flimsier publications they expected.

We would like to express our gratitude to Andy Columbine of Timothy Road for his enormous contribution in doing the graphic design of the booklets for us. He designed our new logo (above) and has designed the style and layout of the booklets once we handed over the manuscripts and illustrations.

We are grateful for his advice in so many matters new to us and for his willingness to help us meet tight deadlines - particularly in recent months when the work grew as the time counted down.

We are very glad that we chose to involve a relatively recent newcomer to Laxton who has turned out to be an invaluable member of our team. We send Andy our very grateful thanks for everything.



Thanks to those who 'Do'

It is nice to see your efforts appreciated and the magazine often carries thanks to the many people in the community who have given up their time or contributed their skills to help in some way. As we start a new year this is a good time to thank the people who write the thanks.

Top of the list has to be Brenda Noble who is never far away when a job needs doing. If she ever has time (!) we will ask her to write about the role of the church warden - you really would not believe all she does behind the scenes.

Brenda is also President of Laxton WI and their catering mastermind. They are well known for the quality of their catering for all sorts of occasions, happy as well as sad, and over the last few years Brenda has quietly got more involved in the catering exploits of Laxton History Group. A huge thank you to her.

Thanks also to the members of the committees which keep this community thriving and which fill our pages with good things to do. We appreciate you all and all you do.

Recent Bonus Ball Winners

Date	No	Name
19/11/16	40	Sam and Kenny
26/11/16	17	Ivan and Chris
3/12/16	31	Mike Manning
10/12/16	20	Jock Jolly

Thank you all for your continuing support for our Sports Field. The total number of balls is 59, the same as the National Lottery. There are numbers available. **If you would like to join, you can choose from the numbers 34, 52, 53, 56, 57 and 59. Anyone with a current ball is also invited to take another.**

To take a new ball please contact either Ken Shep on **870605** or myself on **870844**. Thank you.

Michael Manning

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

Dukeries Singers

By now all turkey carcasses will have been consigned to the bin and diets embarked upon and we can begin to look forward to 2017.

The Choir have had a few weeks respite but are looking forward to welcoming back to rehearsal long standing friends and possibly some new members. This is an ideal opportunity to start a new hobby, and singing with a lovely group of like minded people is so rewarding and entirely pleasurable. We practise every Wednesday evening beginning Wednesday 18 January 2017 in the Concert Hall at the Dukeries Academy from 7-30pm until 9-30pm.



Do visit our website for more details regarding the Choir. www.thedukeriessingers.com

We have several bookings for 2017 but we have plenty of dates available if you would like to book us for your charity event, celebration or money raising "bit of a do" .

We are very versatile and sing for a variety of occasions and in many different venues. Our Concert Secretary Phil would be delighted to hear from you on **01623 822070**.

We wish all of you a very Happy, Healthy and Harmonious 2017.

Jan

Children's Dance Classes at Egmonton

We have been contacted by a qualified dance teacher who is planning to start classes for children in Egmonton Village Hall on Saturday mornings.

Have your children got the 'Strictly' bug? If you have youngsters then there will be an opportunity for them to join classes from 4th February. Latin, salsa, ballroom and a variety of other fun dance styles will be on the menu if there is sufficient take up.

If you would like classes close to home, then please contact Jil on: 07790601877. She would also like to hear from adults interested in learning to dance as she will run classes if the demand is there.

Think About it ...

Everything I need to know about life, I learned from Noah's Ark.

- 1) Don't miss the boat
- 2) Remember that we are all in the same boat
- 3) Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark
- 4) Stay fit. When you are 600 years old, someone might ask you to do something really big.
- 5) Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done
- 6) Build your future on high ground
- 7) For safety's sake, travel in pairs
- 8) Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
- 9) When you are stressed, float a while.
- 10) Remember the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.

Children's interpretations



Name the four seasons.

A: Salt, pepper, mustard and vinegar.

Q: How is dew formed?

A: The sun shines down on the leaves and makes them perspire.



Nostalgia isn't what it used to be. Nor is there any future in it.



I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not so sure.



Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.



Finally: I'm supposed to respect my elders, but it's getting harder and harder for me to find one now.

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Group Oil Order



The winter group order was delivered in November and we achieved a price of 35.5p/ litre, taking advantage of a brief dip in the price.

The next order will be placed in February depending on the weather and the prices.

As always we will achieve the best price with the largest order, so if you need some please make it known in good time. One member missed the order because the reminder email had gone into 'Spam', so to avoid this happening to you, get your order in in good time.

It is nice to welcome new members of the Group at any time. You order only if you want to when your stocks are getting low. The Group also has members in Egmonton, Kneesall, Tuxford and Carlton-on-Trent.

If you need oil from the next order please remember to send any new email addresses or contact numbers as otherwise you will not be contacted. You are welcome to send updated information at any time.

New members of the group in Please email oil@openfield.org.uk or call **871506**.

New for 2017

Dancing Classes to start at Egmonton Village Hall every Saturday from the 4th February 2017.

NATD and ISTD qualified Ballroom, Latin and Salsa classes.

- * Under 7's- 9.30-10.30am

- * Over 7's- 10.30-12.30pm

Adult classes and private lessons also available.

For more information contact Jil on: 07790601877

Films at Maplebeck Village Hall

AMOUR (12)

Tuesday 17th January, 7.30pm, £5

01636 636421 / 636185

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Milton Mausoleum

For more information or to enquire about a group visit at other than our usual opening times please contact **mausoleum1833@gmail.com**.

Beryl Venables



Christmas Lights Switch on at Tuxford

Tuxford was buzzing with people on a bitterly cold afternoon and evening with their annual Christmas Light Switch On. The main road was closed for the day and lined with colourful stalls loaded with seasonal goods and games. There were rides for the children, the shops opened and Kneesall School Choir sang. An addition to the musical elements of the event was SteelGen, a steel band with a wide range of ages playing. The audience gathered in the courtyard behind Sally Mitchell's Gallery, where mulled wine was being served, and many were tapping their toes along with the musicians to keep warm in the chill air. A good number of Laxton folk were there enjoying the festivities - and don't the lights look lovely?

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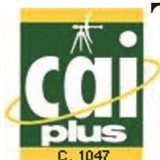
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Saturday 28th Jan 2:30pm
Saturday 28th Jan 7:30pm

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Family (2 adults, 2 kids) £20

Dunham on Trent

Village Hall

Saturday 4th Feb 2:30pm
Saturday 4th Feb 7:30pm

Adults £6.50 – Kids/OAPs £4.50
Family (2 adults, 2 kids) £20

Tickets on sale from 2 December 2016
Available from The Queens Hotel, East
Markham Village Hall (Post Office
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Call (01777) 871227 or 871355

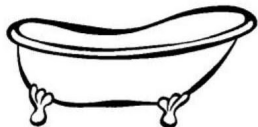
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Supper Dance

Friday 17th March

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from Jean, Brenda or Margaret M

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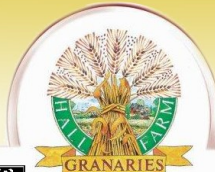
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Funds Raised in 2016

At this time of year we highlight the total raised by Laxton people for local organisations or while helping other causes close to their own hearts. The generosity of this small community is extraordinary.

Doubtless there are many other contributions made over the year, but the total below represents just the sums published in *Open Field* between January and December last year.

This year we are delighted to report that the total was an amazing

£10,114

This sum reflects the effect the awful weather had on the Gymkhana - which did not report its takings - and the Dog Show

The Bonus Ball draw, which raises funds for the Sports & Recreation field, made a further £1,456 this year through the regular contributions of the people who buy the numbers, which brings the village total to

£11,570

In addition Laxton History Group has received the second payment from the Heritage Lottery Fund, which was a further **£12,560** and the Parish Council / Visitor Centre have negotiated for the Crown Estate to pay **£6,500** for the refurbishment of the interpretation boards around the village and the new village signs. This has been another good year, so thank you to everyone who helped!

THANK YOU



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Visit to Newstead Abbey

As our December meeting date would fall too close to Christmas, we don't have a formal meeting in the village, but try to find somewhere with a festive theme for a visit. This year we decided on Newstead Abbey and were rewarded with a very pleasant, if somewhat chilly, day.



A large group met up in the café for coffee before going into the building. We were in good time and Sandra was actually the first person in when they opened. That meant we were able to have a



good look round before too many other visitors arrived. Some of the group, who had not been for a considerable time, were surprised by how much more there was to see than they remembered. Others enjoyed the opportunity to get close to the exhibits, which can be difficult

when there are other displays or crowds.

A solo singer was singing Christmas songs and he frightened one member when he moved as she had thought it was a model and that the music was recorded!

There was time for a quick stroll in the grounds before lunch. People found the Japanese garden, a viewing space behind the waterfall from the lake and a route through the woods to the canon fort. This gave us plenty to talk about over lunch.

Many thanks to Jean for organising the trip. Our January meeting will be back in the Village Hall on 18th January at 7.30pm when we shall welcome Peter and Elizabeth Jones from Norwell. Everyone is very welcome to join us and collect their programme for the new year.

Maplebeck Village Hall Events

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
	15 th Nov, 13 th Dec	
	10 th Jan., 21 st Feb., 28 th Mar, 2 nd May,	
	6 th June, 11 th July, 5 th Sept.	

Upcoming special events 2017

Tues 17 th Jan.	7.30pm	Film	Amour
Thurs 9 th Feb	7.30pm	Talk & Demo	Silversmithing & Jewellery
Tues 14 th Feb	7.30pm	Film	Moonrise Kingdom
Sat 18th Feb	6.00pm	Children's Show	Old Mother Hubbard
Sat 11 th Mar	7.30pm	Music	howdenjones Blues
Tues 21 st Mar	7.30pm	Film	Waltz with Bashir
Tues 11 th Apr	7.30pm	Film	The Social Network
Thurs 20 th Apr	7.30pm	Talk	The Air Ambulance
Sat 22 nd Apr	7.30pm	Quiz	Quiz Night + Supper
Tues 9 th May	7.30pm	Film	Jindabyne
Thurs 8 th Jun	7.30pm	Talk	Fun of Farriery
Tues 20 th Jun	7.30pm	Film	The Big Short
Tues 18 th Jul	7.30pm	Film	The Bridge of Spies

Egmanton Village Hall

www.egmantonvillagehall.org.uk / 01777 871171

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

- ◆ Tuxford Young Farmers - no bookings in January
- ◆ Yoga with Greg – Tuesdays at 7:30pm
- ◆ WI - Thursday 19th
- ◆ **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.

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