

# Open Field

50p

January 2018



*Jury Day, West Field, Laxton, 30th November 2017*

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

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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.**

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

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Cover photo: Jury day in West Field

Photo by: Dik Allison



# Letter From Revd. Zoe

Dear friends

Happy New Year!!

New Beginnings is the first thing that springs to mind when I think about January. Last January wasn't just a new month in a New Year for my husband Nigel and myself but also marked other new beginnings: a new adventure to a country we had never visited before, this being China. As we turned the New



Year, last year, I knew it wouldn't be too long before I saw my daughter Nikki. We were also fortunate enough to be in China for the Chinese New Year celebrations. The streets of Shanghai were adorned with these beautiful lanterns that you can see in the photo above.

It was during this visit that my eyes were opened to how challenging it had been for my daughter when she had first arrived in China some 4 months before – the challenge of so many new beginnings: a new country, new language, new culture, new way of life, new job, new home, new expectations and new friendships to form. My daughter is someone who readily embraces change, seeing the new opportunities, potential and possibilities of all that can be rather than change as a threat. Perhaps she has age on her side too that helps when we are navigating change in life.

How do you view change? Are new beginnings something that you look forward to or dread?! I suppose it might depend upon what the new beginning is and what it entails!

The last couple of years have been challenging times for our Family of 12 churches – building new working relationships; creating and building a team of ministers to work across the group – a new way of working to the traditional mode of one vicar with one/few churches. As a team we work across a diverse group of communities from ex-mining to rural with 9 schools from community schools to church schools, primary to secondary, academy to private school. Defining the reality of each community and each church community has taken time. There has also been some confusion about my role. As part of our review it was agreed that we will move forward from the informal arrangement we had been working with. On Tuesday 13th February 2018 at 7.30pm at St Andrew's Eakring, as well as being Priest in Charge of Ollerton with

Boughton, Bishop Paul will license me as Priest in Charge of Bilsthorpe, Eakring, Egmanon, Kirton, Kneesall, Laxton with Moorhouse, Walesby and Wellow with Rufford. This marks a new beginning and chapter in our life together as I move on from being granted pastoral oversight informally to being formally 'in Charge' with the authority and responsibility that comes with this role. It is hoped that this will give clarity and stability to our Family of churches and communities in the way we relate to each other, understand each other and move forward together. I look forward to serving our communities in this new capacity.

Many blessings

*Rev Zoe*

## Plough Sunday



Plough Sunday is one of the traditional services which were once common in rural communities. As with so many things they are less common now, but in Laxton we do our best to keep these traditions alive.

Plough Sunday is the Sunday after Epiphany, the Sunday between January 7th and 13th. A plough and

a milk churn are brought into church to be blessed and to pray for a successful farming season to follow.

Stuart Rose loans a traditional churn and his plough, painted in the original colours of the manufacturer. This year's Plough Sunday service takes place in Laxton Church on Sunday 14th January at 10.30am. And will be taken by Rev. Philip Howson.

Refreshments will be served afterwards and everyone is very welcome.

## Get Well Soon

We send good wishes to Alan Tunnard and Margaret Maddison, who we understand have both had spells in hospital.

We also wish Colin Cree a speedy recovery from surgery and hope he is soon up and about, feeling the benefit.



## Robert & Mary Haigh: Apology



Last month we published a photo which had arrived badly distorted, but which we believed had been unscrambled. However when it was made clear that this was not the case further investigation and even more computing managed to reveal the truth. The lovely photo of Robert and Mary on the left is what should have appeared rather than a close up of their hands cutting the cake. Apologies to Robert and Mary for a less than perfect tribute to their big day and to photographer Ivan Rayner who was understandably upset that his image had not been reproduced as he believed it had been received. We are delighted to print the picture you should have seen and to offer congratulations once again.

## Moorhouse Fundraising

We are rather late in having the fund raising efforts of Moorhouse Church to hand for 2017, but they are well worth mentioning.

Simon Hill has told us that attendance at the Garden Fête was down on numbers with respect to previous years but they still raised £500 and they raised a further £1,100 pounds at their Sunday Lunch Quiz.

Thanks to all who made this possible.

Congratulations to the small community in Moorhouse for such an impressive total. These sums have been included in the annual total for 2017 which appears on the back page of this edition.

## Lights of Laxton

Thanks to Charlotte Gregory for sending in this photo, taken with *Open Field* in mind. She says:

*'Thanks to Ivan Raynor and his great work welcoming us into Laxton.'*

*Always great to see Grandad's efforts.'*



Thanks also to Janet Cooke's granddaughters Evie, Eliza and Sophie for their help in decorating the Christmas tree in church and to everyone else who contributed to the decorations.

If you have a photo you would like to share with readers, please send it in by email in the best quality (largest image) you can or drop a copy in to Jean Hennell at Corner Farm with a few words about what it shows.

## *Open Field* Subscriptions - Reminder

If you have yet to catch your distributor and pay your 2018 subscription, please can you put your £4 in an envelope with your own name on it and drop it in to them. If you don't know where your distributor lives, you are welcome to drop the envelope in to Jean Hennell at Corner Farm, the last property on the right at the bottom of the village.

Thank you.



# Village Hall Update

The Village Hall Committee would like to thank the many villagers who turned out for the coffee morning on Saturday, November 25th. It was a very pleasant social occasion which gave villagers the opportunity to learn about the planned renovation of the hall and to voice their opinions about the plans; two key areas seem to be the kitchen and lighting and we were grateful for the ideas which villagers put forward. We were delighted with the positive support from the villagers and for all of their suggestions about how the plans might be improved.



We were especially pleased with the promises of volunteer help during the project. Anyone else who would like to volunteer for any aspect of the project please get in touch with one of us.

At present the working groups on the Committee are liaising with the architect about the plans; working on a risk assessment register and

on policies and procedures; putting together a plan for the future use of the hall; and learning about the necessary financial systems. It keeps us busy!

One of the ideas put forward is to have a new brick pathway leading to the main entrance of the hall. Villagers would have the opportunity to buy a brick and have it laid in the pathway with the names of their family members engraved on it. It would certainly give future historians a clue to who the villagers were at the time of the renovation.

Please approach any one of us with your ideas, comments, suggestions and offers of help. If anyone has any ideas about how the renovated hall might be used in the future, what sort of activities and events might take place there, please let us know. The Village Hall belongs to all of us and we want to go forward in partnership with all the villagers of Laxton.



*The Old School Bell*

A very Happy New Year from the Village Hall Committee.



# Things to Do this Month

- Jan 10<sup>th</sup> WI 7.30pm, **VH**
- Jan 11<sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning
- Jan 17<sup>th</sup> History Group -  
Tales from an Auctioneer, 7.30pm, **VH**
- Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> Go to the public time at the Parish Council, **VC**
- Jan 31<sup>st</sup> Meal and Speaker, Dukeries Musicians, **South Forest Leisure Centre** 7 for 7.15pm.

**VH = Village Hall VC = Visitor Centre**

*Coffee*

*Morning*

*11th January*

*10.30am - 11.30am*

The next coffee morning  
will take place on

Thursday 11th January at

Janet Cooke's house at the end of Timothy Road.

Why not come and join us? Everyone is welcome to this  
informal group. You don't have to come every month and are  
welcome to pop in to enjoy some friendly, cheerful company.

Plenty of tea, cakes, and chatter.





# Village Hall News

The 1st December QUIZ was another great evening of fun and laughter with again 10 teams and over 80 people in all. There was a very tight finish with the Ian, Jackie and the Rolphs team narrowly beating the WI team by 1 point who narrowly beat Roberta's team by 1 point!!

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, Charlotte, Janet and Rachel/Neil in the kitchen especially) Also thanks to the Committee for donating 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.

£598.00 was made for Village Hall funds.

We expect the March Quiz on 2/3/18 to go ahead as normal and very soon after that the Hall will be closed and the builders move in to start the work.

As soon as we know fixed dates we will let you all know.

*Michael Manning*

# Services at Moorhouse

The traditional Christmas Eve Carol Service at Moorhouse also signals the closure of the church for the worst of the winter. There will be no services at Moorhouse after this until Easter, when it traditionally reopens.

Services scheduled for Moorhouse during the summer transfer to Laxton during these months. This year that means that the first 9am service will take place at Laxton on January 28th. This will be taken by Rev. Philip Howson.

The February service will also be held at Laxton, so look out for the date in next month's edition.

# **The Dovecote Inn at Laxton**

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**Friday 2nd February      End of Game Season Gourmet Night**  
A special 3 course meal inclusive of wine with every course.  
£35 per person with wine, £25 per person without wine

**Event cards for 2018** listing all our special events and celebrations  
are now available from The Dovecote. If you prefer, let us know and we  
will deliver one to your door.

**Monday 1st January 2018      New Years Day Lunch 12.30pm - 5.30pm**  
Bookings now being taken for our lovely 3 course lunch.

**Book now for all these events. For further information or to book a  
table, please call us on 01777 871586, visit the Website  
[www.dovecoteinnlaxton.co.uk](http://www.dovecoteinnlaxton.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's Historic Farming System

As mentioned in last month's *Open Field*, Sir John Starkey Chair of the Visitor Centre Trust met with Mr Ken Jones the Rural Director for The Crown on 16/11/17. Sir John has reported back that several ideas/suggestions were discussed and did not meet with any objections. He wishes for the Visitor Centre Trust to discuss these options and to this end he called a meeting of the Trustees on 18/12/17.

The result of that meeting and the recommendations are not known as the magazine goes to press, but they will be reported in the next *Open Field* in February 2018.

Additionally the Crown met again with all the tenants on 7/12/17 and we await to hear any news/ feedback from that.

The Parish Council have also received reply letters from Ian Mills and our MP Robert Jenrick who have met, both expressing huge support for the preservation of the Open Field Farming system.



## Plough Sunday

**Laxton Church**

**Sunday 14th January**

**10.30am**

**Blessing of the Plough and the  
Churn**

**Followed by refreshments**

**Everyone welcome**

# Jury Day and Court Day at Laxton

Following on from the recent promise that we would describe the key elements of the historic farming practices of Laxton for the benefit of newer residents, two of the most important occurred recently.

Laxton is well known nationally and internationally for its open fields and strip farming system. This is captured on the beautiful new signs which welcome visitors to the village. What is not seen is the Court Leet, the manorial court which manages the system and which really sets Laxton apart from anywhere else.

## Jury Day

On the last Thursday of November the Jury members who were sworn into post the previous year set off to inspect the wheat field. This is the field which has been fallow through the summer and has to be sown with wheat for the coming season. This year the wheat field is West Field (also known as Top Field).



The Jury travel all together in a trailer pulled by a tractor and lined with straw bales for their comfort. They carry a supply of wooden stakes and a hammer. They walk around the field examining in detail where the strips join the grassy areas between them, known as sykes - pronounced 'six' here in Laxton. They knock in a stake where the double furrow between each pair of strips should meet the syke. If the farmer either side has ploughed too far this is noted by the field Foreman. The Foreman for West Field is Johnny Godson. If they have encroached onto the syke or failed to shovel back in any soil which has fallen on the syke this is also noted.

The correct positions of the junctions are learned through experience and maintained 'by custom and tradition'. Checks are also made to ensure that the water courses are unobstructed.

When the whole field has been inspected the Jury return to The Dovecote for the traditional lunch which follows. They certainly needed something to warm them up this year as it was one of the coldest Jury Days for years with a cold wind whipping around on the exposed field.

Suitably refreshed the men of the Jury discuss the infringements of the system which had been recorded and they are written on the 'Presentment Paper', which will report them at the Court Leet the



following week. Unlike the more familiar court system, the Jury recommend the penalties to be imposed on the people responsible.

## Laxton Court Leet

Laxton has the unique distinction of still having a Court Leet with full powers to determine legal proceedings and levy fines. The revision of the Administration of Justice Act (1977) removed these powers from all the other similar courts. Only one other, the Estray Court in Denbeigh, retains powers, but there they relate to rounding up stray sheep.



The Court receives legal advice and direction from the Steward, a solicitor appointed by the Lord of the Manor. At the present time the Steward is Alistair Millar of Tallents on Southwell. It is a personal appointment and he continues a long association between the Lords of Laxton and his firm.



He sits with the Bailiff, Robert Haigh, and the Clerk to the Gaits and Commons, Stuart Rose. The Bailiff issues a legal summons to the court in advance and he opens the court with a formal pronouncement. The first part of the proceedings involves calling the Manor Suit Roll - a list of people with property in Laxton. Those present answer to their name and for each person not present a 2p 'essoign' is payable. No longer does the Bailiff go out to collect this, but rather

brings a bag of 2p pieces and pays on their behalf. This year he left 18p the poorer.

Next the Jury, also called the Homage, is sworn in for the following year. First the Foreman of the year currently in fallow takes the oath on behalf of the Jury. This year this fell to Roy Hennell, Foreman of Mill Field. Each of the Jurors are then called up in groups to take their oath and to kiss the Bible. This is an historic volume, but with the modern eye to



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health and safety, it is recovered annually in fresh brown paper.

This year there were some new faces on the Jury elected.

Keith Morton, a retired farmer from Brockilow farm who farmed in Laxton at one time and now lives in the village was elected along

with the publican David Brown and Tony Farrelly, a new resident of Laxton with farming experience.

This year following the sad death of Bill Haigh, it was necessary to elect a new Foreman for South (Bottom) Field. Robert Haigh proposed Ivan Rayner and he was elected unopposed. His field will be the wheat field in 2019.

The Steward reads the minutes of the court held the previous year and then moves on to reading the Presentment paper and the proposed penalties.

These are invariably fines or warnings and anyone can raise an objection. It is not unheard of for someone to

object on behalf of another and have their fine reduced. Fines are due to be paid by the following Court Day.

When the penalties are agreed and any other matters raised are dealt with, the Bailiff closes the Court with another formal pronouncement.

A general discussion is then opened to deal with matters of interest to all those present. Following on from the correspondence reported in these pages in recent months, there are some weighty issues being looked at. Also present at the Court as observers were representatives of the Crown Estate and their agents, Carter Jonas and Professor John Beckett. They were all able to offer their knowledge and insight to the following discussion and the occasion provide a chance for all concerned to chat informally.





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## Laxton History Group



The first meeting of the New year will be held in Laxton Village Hall on 17th January at 7.30pm. The speaker will be Steven Watson, a Newark auctioneer, telling us some tales from the trade.

Happy New Year to everyone and we look forward to seeing members old and new there on the night.

## Laxton Helps Historians

Two Oxford University historians, Prof. Helena Hamerow and Prof. Amy Bogaard, recently contacted Kathryn Summerwill at Nottingham University about the exhibition on Laxton which she curated in 2008. Kathryn directed them to local contacts and as a result both were able to visit on Jury Day and go around the fields to see the Jury at work.

They are involved in a four year project looking at 'Feeding Saxon Britain'. They are interested in what the plant life of Laxton's open fields may be able to tell them about the species which may have been present all that time ago.

They found their visit fascinating and will be back again during their project to make some detailed studies. We will follow their research with interest.

## The Bennett Family of Laxton

The History Group took a look at the Bennett family with help from a number of descendants living in the area. This has helped to uncover further links not known at the time our booklets were written. Our regular contributor and family historian, Jenni Dobson is currently researching the Bennett family members who were associated with Laxton and to some of whom she is related.

She has written the article which follows as an introduction and would like very much to hear from anyone who has any further information about this family which they would be willing to share with a view to it being included in the coming series. Jenni is still researching and the series will begin later this year.

If you are willing for your contact details to be passed to her, please contact Open Field on [www.openfield.org.uk](http://www.openfield.org.uk) or by speaking to Joy or Jean. Thank you.

# A Tale of Two Georges

Recorded in the census for Laxton in 1841, residing in the home of John Keyworth, farmer, is George Bennett, a 10 year old 'Ag M S' – meaning an 'agricultural man servant'. This is the same John Keyworth referred to by MWS earlier in this edition. Also in the house, listed after him, is Frances Bennett, employed as housekeeper. One of several limitations of this census is that it did not ask for the relationships of the people in the household, but it may seem reasonable, from their names and ages, to guess that Frances and George may be mother and son. Certainly this interpretation has appeared in print elsewhere. George has also been described as 'nephew' of John Keyworth, a term to which I'll return later.

Twenty years later, the 1861 Laxton census records a George Bennett, born about 1825 at Marnham and who was a wheelwright, living with his wife Selina and their three children. Again, it may seem a reasonable inference that this was the same George, especially given two more shortcomings of the 1841 census: that it didn't ask for specific birth places, nor for exact ages, which would have allowed comparison with information recorded in 1861. Adults were asked to round their age down to the nearest 5 years and though the ages of children were supposed to be given exactly, heads of household didn't always follow the directions closely.

My own interest in the Bennett surname, via my 3x great-grandmother Ann Bennett led me initially into researching George and Frances. Ann was a daughter of Samuel and Sarah Bennett. She was born in 1809 at Marnham and married William Beedham at Tuxford in 1833.

Having noticed that when Frances Bennett married John Keyworth in 1842, she gave her father's name as Samuel, I wondered if she might be Ann's sibling.

Only the promise of adding to my own family story kept me investigating, both at Nottinghamshire Archives and on the internet, an extensive set of family connections that were rarely straightforward to understand.

To keep the research story short, though I found no baptism for a sibling named Frances, I did find a will held at Notts Archives for Samuel Bennett who died in 1826. It is a very professional document, which an archivist considers to be strong evidence for his family. In it, Samuel makes bequests to his daughters: Sarah, Frances, Ann and Mary. All his children except Frances had been baptised at Marnham. The record for the period when Frances was born is poorly kept and more sparse than in preceding or following years.

Moreover, Samuel also mentions his daughter Sarah's illegitimate son, George, saying that he has already made a Bond of Indemnity with the parish officers, so that the boy will not become a charge upon the parish. The will put money in trust to be invested for income on which Sarah and George could live until the boy was old enough to work. A search produced a baptism on 1st June 1823 at Marnham for George, son of Sarah Bennett, servant.

So where was this George in 1841? I believe he was living in Tuxford, as an apprentice wheelwright, aged 15, in the household of John Bowman, age 70 years. For me the clincher to this identification is that I believe John Bowman may be related by marriage to George.

- George's uncle John Bennett, eldest brother of Sarah, married Elizabeth Bowman, daughter of Thomas and Mary Bowman, in 1825.
- Sarah's sister Ann, (my ancestor) had married William Beedham.
- William Beedham's aunt, Mary neé Beedham had married Thomas Bowman and thus was Elizabeth's mother! Both Mary and Thomas are aged 65 in 1841, hence Thomas and John Bowman may be siblings or first cousins.

George married Selina Hopkinson on 5th October 1848 at Marnham – and so they are the couple living at Laxton in 1861. George's occupation as wheelwright fits with his apprenticeship noted in 1841 and though his stated age is a couple of years adrift, his birthplace is given as Marnham, matching the baptism I traced.

So I venture to suggest that in fact this George Bennett was indeed the nephew of John Keyworth, as indicated in some estate records, by the plain fact of John having married George's aunt Frances, the sister of George's mother Sarah Bennett.

I feel this interpretation is further supported by the fact that Sarah Bennett eventually also comes to Laxton, where I believe she was buried on 11th January 1876, aged 75 and described as being 'of Egmonton Hill' - almost certainly the present day Egmonton Hill Farm.

So, what of Frances' son George? He was baptised at Fledborough on 27th December 1829 and from 1861 onwards consistently gave this as his birthplace. On 10th August 1854 at Laxton, he married Sarah Whittington, the daughter of William and Elizabeth, baptised in 1830 at Kneesall.

George and Sarah seem to have settled at Norwell Woodhouse, so were not far from Frances, who had married John Keyworth and remained in Laxton.

And the bottom line of this 'Tale of Two Georges' is that they were first cousins.

# Down Memory Lane

*This month we have two contributions from readers, recalling memories of Laxton past. Thank you so much to both of them. If you have a recollection you would like us to include, please do let us have it.*

## The Top and Bottom of It

John and his brother, Thomas Keyworth, were Laxton farmers in the 19th century and it is safe to say they left a lasting mark on the village and its population!

In the family their respective farms were referred to as the top farm and the bottom farm, or locally, as 'Kewuth up top and Kewuth down bottom'. By 1881, Town End Farm (the top farm) had been taken over from John Keyworth by John Bagshaw.

In the 1911 census, only the outlying farms were named – apart from Top Farm, the address given for John Bagshaw (really Town End Farm). Thomas Keyworth had previously lived at the bottom farm, which is the present day Step Farm. There is, of course, nowadays and very possibly was then, another Bottom Farm.

Edie How, who was brought up in Laxton and lived at the present Bottom Farm before moving to Tuxford, said the farm was still often known as Rose's Farm in her early days. In my young days, farms were generally known by the name of their occupants and therefore could change as farms changed hands.

Certainly, the Rose family had lived in Bottom Farm for many years. John Rose moved out with his family, leaving his father Joseph behind - but not for long. Joseph died in 1889. and John had 'crossed the road '. By 1911 three generations had moved into School House Farm.

Dorothy Violetta Rose, John's daughter, who died in 1980, referred to these farms as 'our farm up top' and 'our farm down t'bottom'. (She also referred to another farm as 'our farm 'cross the road' but that is another story).

Clear? Still Confused? More confused?

Getting to the 'top and bottom of it' is not always straightforward.

It is interesting that another branch of the Roses - Stuart and his family - now live at Bottom Farm, his father, Reg, having moved there before him in 1953.

I wonder if their common ancestor, Christopher Rose, lived at Bottom Farm in 1656.

MWS

**Footnote:** *In the article on Jury Day earlier in this edition, you will have noted that West Field and South Field are known locally as Top Field and Bottom Field exactly as described here.*



## More of Miss Cox

*Janet Cooke tells us that her mother worked for a while assisting Miss Cox whose time as head teacher at Laxton was recalled by Marian Cooper last month. Janet's mother took the photo below on a school visit to East Park Wood around 80 years ago.*



### Key

**Back Row:** Peggy Walker, Dorothy Randall, Sheila Beckitt, Ron Frecknall, Colin Cree, Roy Beckitt, Son Frecknall, John Rushby, Reg Quinn, Les Noble, ? , Bernard Dickinson

**Middle Row:** Rita Rose, Rhona Beckitt, Joyce Robinson, John Pashby, Margaret Frecknall, Marian Rushby, Hilda Bartle, Cynthia Boddy, Miss Cox

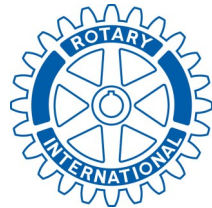
**Front:** Joyce Goodall, Vera Bartle

Many of these children live here still or lived much of their lives here. How many communities can say that?

Can anyone identify the unnamed boy?

## Final Wednesday Speaker Evenings with Meal

Sherwood Forest Rotary would like to thank all those readers who responded to our request for assistance at the Tesco Christmas Collection. I hope you didn't get too cold.



Our 'Last Wednesday Speaker' for January has an excellent knowledge of local history. He is Andy Gaunt of Mercian Archaeology and he will be telling us about Medieval Sherwood, focussing on its outlaws and villains. I dare say Robin Hood May get a mention.

If you would like to come along just contact me on 07711 802683 or phone South Forest Leisure Centre direct on 01623 823866.

Diary Details. Wednesday January 31st. 7pm for 7.15 start. The £11 includes meal and speaker. Transport could be arranged for up to four people.

*Jeff Naylor*

## Dukeries Woodturning Society

The Society's meetings are moving to a new venue in January. In the last year we have grown in numbers and the change will enable everyone to sit in comfort and have a better view of the demonstrations. Future meetings will be held at the Jubilee Hall, Ollerton on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7.00pm.

The new venue will enable the Society to welcome even more members and we hope that people who found our previous venue too cramped will come and give us another try.

We have our own lathe and each month a professional demonstrator comes to show how they produce their work. We have a video system which enables us to show close ups of the work in progress on a screen so everyone has a bird's eye view as good as the turner's.

Refreshments are available in the break and provide an opportunity to get to know other members who share this hobby.

The new membership year begins in January, so what better time to come along? Your first visit is free and after you have joined it costs just £5 a time. Please make a note in your new diary to come and join us at The Jubilee Hall, Wellow Road, Ollerton on Wednesday 24th January at 7.00pm. We look forward to welcoming new and returning members there.

Monthly meetings continue throughout the year each fourth Wednesday. For more information see the [www.dukerieswoodturning.org.uk](http://www.dukerieswoodturning.org.uk)

# Tuxford Young Farmers



So for the first week of November we all made Christmas shoe boxes for people who unfortunately don't get Christmas presents or are in less fortunate circumstances than ourselves. We all had a good go at wrapping Christmas boxes, putting all kinds of gifts in. Thank you to everyone for your lovely donations.

For bonfire night we went to Worksop Young Farmers. We had food and drinks and watched a brilliant display. Thank you Worksop for hosting!

The week after that we hosted a rally. Lots of other Young Farmers Clubs came to our Village Hall. We played lots of games and we all had a great time.

Christmas wreath making! Last week we made wreaths at Floral Media in Caunton. It was a bit of a challenge but it was great fun. Everyone went home with beautiful wreaths for their doors. Thank you Floral Media for teaching us a great skill!

From everyone at Tuxford YFC, we wish you all a Happy New Year!

*Ashleigh Eteo*

Tuxford YFC Press Correspondent

## Christmas Trip

Some years ago we had access to a minibus which we could hire to drive ourselves and a number of great trips were arranged for villagers and friends. They have been missed, but now we have a new opportunity. Jean Hennell, who organises trips for the History Group, has found a local minibus with driver which is not tied up with school runs, and which is available during the day.

She was persuaded to arrange a trip to Gates' Garden Centre near Oakham at quite short notice just before Christmas. This is a large venue with a wide range of giftware and plants, a couple of clothing outlets and a nice restaurant. It also has very unusual urinals and wash basins. They were the talking point of the day!

Thanks to Jean for organising a very enjoyable day. We hope to persuade her to arrange a couple more trips next year and they are open to everyone as they are not tied to any specific group. If you would like to be added to Jean's list of people available in the daytime who might like a trip out- always to somewhere with good food and coffee - please let her know on 870276. If we have time we will advertise trips through the magazine as well.



## CHURCH SERVICES FOR OUR VILLAGE CHURCHES JANUARY 2018

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

**Sun 31<sup>st</sup> Dec**

10.30am

**New Year's Eve**

Family of Churches HC, St Matthews Boughton

**7th Jan   Epiphany**

9am

Kirton HC

10.30am

Kneesall HC

4pm

Wellow Es

**14th Jan   Epiphany 2**

9am

Walesby HC

**10.30 am**

**Laxton Plough Sunday**

4pm

Egmanton Es

**21st Jan   Epiphany 3**

9am

Egmanton HC

10.30am

Wellow HC

**28th Jan   Epiphany 4**

9am

**Laxton HC**

10.30am

Kirton HC

**Tuesday 12th December – ‘Open Vestry Hour’ for baptism and wedding enquiries** 6.30pm – 7.30pm at St Paulinus Church Office, Church Circle, New Ollerton. Alternatively contact the Church Administrator, Eileen on Fridays at the Vicarage between 9am – 2pm  
**07983 946930 or email: churchadmin1931@gmail.com**

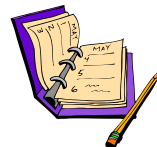
**Revd Zoe's number** at the Vicarage: (01623) 862818.



# *DATES FOR YOUR DIARY*

2018

*Jan 10<sup>th</sup>*      *WI*  
*Jan 11<sup>th</sup>*      *Coffee Morning*  
*Jan 17<sup>th</sup>*      *History Group*  
*Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>*      *Parish Council*



## **Forward Planning**

*Mar 2<sup>nd</sup>*      *Village Hall Quiz*  
*Mar 16<sup>th</sup>*      *Church Dance expected to be in the Village Hall*  
*Mar 27<sup>th</sup>*      *Parish Council*  
*May 22<sup>nd</sup>*      *Parish Council with Annual Parish Meeting*  
*July 24<sup>th</sup>*      *Parish Council*  
*Sept 25<sup>th</sup>*      *Parish Council*  
*Nov 27<sup>th</sup>*      *Parish Council*

Details of other events will appear later, bearing in mind the closure of the Village Hall for works.

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.**

Please ensure we receive your contributions for the magazine by this date. We cannot guarantee to publish anything received later. We appreciate receiving items as early as possible. Thank you.



# **Wagstaff Construction**

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# Laxton WI



We had an almost full house for our December meeting with 23 people present. This included two visitors, Jenny Bailey and Ellie Briggs from the county Executive who are trying to see that every institute receives a visit during the centenary year. We also welcomed Ann from Kirton who hopes to join us

next year.

December sees our AGM, but there was plenty of business before we got to that.

Brenda reported that seven members had been to the Taster Evening at Weston WI. They had thoroughly enjoyed it and over indulged in the delicious desserts on offer. It seems that boozy and creamy was the order of the day and they were just too tempting and quite irresistible.

The River Group Carol Evening had taken place at an almost full East Markham church with ten Laxton members attending. They agreed that it was a lovely evening and they had managed to follow the two unfamiliar carols. They had also enjoyed the music provided by a very good young harp player and a soloist.

Pat Naylor was thanked for buying more bulbs for the village and for getting them planted with the aid of her willing team.

We had a collection of photographs representing a wide period of the life of our WI from which to choose five to send in for the County Centenary Archive Book. Members were given five votes each and there were five clear favourites. Top of the list was the image of Joyce on horseback about to set off with the national centenary baton bound for Egmont. Another features a group of members all in great spirits before a trip on the Trent. This was memorable because it was followed by tea at the Red House. During the tea the rain began and by the time we left it was ankle deep in the car park. It carried on raining and we drove home through floods which just carried on, resulting in much distress locally in the following days.

We are also collecting material for our own centenary book and members were asked to keep photos and memorabilia from events they attend until that time.

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Brenda read out a lovely note from Nora Kent's daughter thanking the WI for catering for her funeral and for making the

family and friends feel so welcome.

We were excited to hear that the WI team had only missed out on winning the recent Village Hall Quiz by 1 point. Well done to the team members.

The Notts County Show will be held on 12th and 13th May but already we need to start thinking about our group entry. This year the theme is 'The Three Rs'. In our case the Rs are 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle'. That should give the grey matter a good workout!

The five Resolutions for consideration to be put to the National AGM were published in the November edition of 'WI Life'. Members are asked to write their choice on the form in their own copy of the magazine and bring to the meeting on 10th January at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Also due at that meeting are the £41 subs for the year. Of this Laxton WI keeps £20. The speaker will be Diane Hemsley from the craft shop at Retford who will be talking about 'Ladder Necklaces'. She will be asked to judge the **competition for 'A Pretty Necklace'** (bought or home made) Brenda gave her review of the year, reminding us just how much we had packed into 2017 at meetings and other County organised events. She thanked our Secretary, Lesley, and Treasurer Sally for their hard work; Sandra for organising our outing and party; the Committee for their support and efforts and members for all working together to make our Wi enjoyable for everyone.

Treasurer Sally received a pat on the back from the WIFI who inspects our books. She said it is always a pleasure to do ours as they are so well organised. Well done Sally. Congratulations too to Brenda Noble for being re-elected as our President for another year.



At the end of the business Jenny Bailey read out a lovely poem entitled 'Nativity Play' by Claire Bevan which beautifully captured the school nativities we have all seen where the small children provide such great entertainment - often unintentionally!

We then moved on to the traditional treat of a tasty bowl of home made soup followed by some delicious home made sweets. It was an excellent supper, so thank you to the cooks and Happy New Year to all readers from Laxton WI. If you would like to come and give us a try in 2018 we would be pleased to offer you a warm welcome.

## Recent Bonus Ball Winners

Date	No	Name
11/11/17	54	Simon Hill
18/11/17	11	ROLLOVER
25/11/17	8	Evie
2/12/17	52	ROLLOVER
9/12/17	19	John and Carol Shep

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 11, 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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## Events at Maplebeck Village Hall

### Burns Night Supper and Ceilidh with Charlie's Aunt Live Band

Saturday 20th January, 7.30pm

**Tickets £15 per person**

**Contact 01636 636185 / 636421**

### Tinker, Tailor, Soldier Spy     Film (15)

Tuesday 23rd January, 7.30pm

This is an excellent two-hour period adaptation of John Le Carre's cold war spy novel. It features great performances from Colin Firth, Tom Hardy, Mark Strong and Gary Oldman (George Smiley, the taciturn, aging spymaster, who is brought back after the death of a colleague (John Hurt)).

**Tickets £5 on the door**

**Contact 01636 636421**

## Group Oil Order

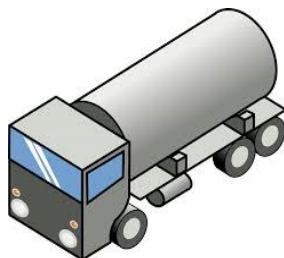
The November order was delivered to 20 households in the Laxton area at a price of 41.95p/litre. One customer sent in the following message with her thanks:

*Oil safely delivered very smoothly this morning. My neighbour (not in our group) had oil out of the same tanker and had paid 46.9p! I told him to join our group and I heard someone paid 53p yesterday.*

Admittedly the price we pay can depend on the timing of our call, but it does seem bizarre that oil delivered from the same tanker can have been sold at such very different prices.

The bad news is that the price of oil is still edging up at the time of writing, so the next order could cost more per litre. We always negotiate for the best price and readers may be interested to know that since September 2006, the highest we paid was 59.80p per litre in March 2013. The highest quote for that order was 63.75p per litre.

The next order will be placed in approx. February depending on how cold it gets. Please notify the volume you need around the end of January to [oil@openfield.org.uk](mailto:oil@openfield.org.uk). If it is evident that people need an earlier order, those on the mailing list will be contacted in the usual way and given the chance to order earlier.



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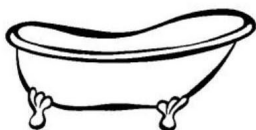
Sandra Clarke collects stamps for Bransby Horses throughout the year. If you have a collection from Christmas or you would pass on or you would like to save yours, they can be left in Laxton with Jean Hennell or in Egmonton with Joy Allison and they will be passed to Sandra.

Thank you.

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# The Dukeries Singers

We have had a very busy Christmas schedule and have come through it all having sung at the Lights turn on at Edwinstowe High Street, Winterfest at Thoresby Courtyard, Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre, Milton Mausoleum, Norwood Park Christmas Experience, The Alders Pub/Restaurant and Edwinstowe Village Hall.



I think we could all have relished a lie down in a darkened room but our audiences enjoyed it all, as did we, and we had wonderfully committed Choir members who turned out to all these events. I must think on for next year and get the Thermal Undies right. At some venues they were needed and at other venues we were in sauna conditions!! Many thanks to all the appreciative audiences who certainly enjoyed the wonderful Christmas music we performed.

Looking forward to the New Year, we have some concerts in the pipeline for Spring with dates to be arranged. We are also taking bookings for 2018. If you would like us to sing for your celebration, charity, or fund raising event, please give Phil our Concert Secretary a ring on **01623 822070**. He would be delighted to hear from you.

Choir rehearsals begin again on Wednesday, 17 January, 2018, from 7.30pm until 9.15pm, in the Concert Hall at The Dukeries Academy, best accessed via the Leisure Centre entrance and car park.

For more information about the Choir, you can find us on Facebook, Twitter, You Tube and on line at [www.thedukeriessingers.com](http://www.thedukeriessingers.com)

And a Happy New Year to you all.

*Jan*

## Winter Opening at Recycling Centres

Nottinghamshire's recycling centres, operated by Veolia (NCC's waste contractors) are on winter opening hours. The recycling centres will be open from 8am and close at 4pm until Wednesday 28th February. This includes those at Brailwood Road, Bilsthorpe, Brunel Drive, Newark and Hallcroft Road, Retford.



# **Citizens Advice Sherwood and Newark warns people of getting tied into subscriptions.**

Citizens Advice **Sherwood and Newark** is warning people about getting stuck with subscriptions after new research reveals people are wasting hundreds of pounds on them when they're no longer wanted.

Analysis of 500 cases reported to the Citizens Advice consumer service between June and August 2017 finds people lost an average of £160 from subscriptions they wanted to cancel, but weren't able to.

Citizens Advice **Sherwood and Newark** is now sharing tips on how to avoid getting tied into a subscription and campaigning to help people understand their consumer rights. The analysis from national Citizens Advice reveals that companies can make it hard to cancel a subscription with 9 in 10 people prevented from doing so after initially asking. Common reasons for turning down a cancellation include being told to use a specific method, like the phone, or to give more than a month's notice.

People also reported not being made aware they had signed up for a subscription in the first place, or that their contract would continue on an auto renewal basis.

With subscriptions now being offered across a range of goods and services, from beauty products to TV streaming, Citizens Advice **Sherwood and Newark** is urging people to check the small print before they sign up to one.

Under the Consumer Rights Act 2015, businesses can't enforce terms on consumers that are unfair.

**Lesley Barrick, Advice Service Manager** of Citizens Advice **Sherwood and Newark** said:

"People can be made to feel like they're going round in circles when trying to cancel a subscription".

"This research shows that companies are continuing to cash in on unwanted subscriptions by blocking people's cancellation on the grounds of a technicality. It's important for people to read any terms and conditions before signing up to a subscription, but they should also be on the lookout for companies who are deliberately throwing obstacles in their way when they try to cancel".

"Anyone who needs advice on how to cancel a subscription, or runs into difficulty doing so, should contact us for further help."

## **Need to know tips about subscriptions**

### **Check what your cancellation rights are**

Each supplier can set their own cancellation policy and they don't need to offer you a right to cancel your subscription early. Make sure the terms and conditions look reasonable before signing up.

### **Remember you've got a cooling off period if you buy online**

If you bought the subscription online, the law says you usually have 14 days to get your money back if you change your mind. However, you might not be able to get a refund if you start using the service straight away.

### **Follow the cancellation policy**

Make sure you follow the cancellation policy set out in your contract when you're ready to end your subscription. Don't stop your payment without checking what else is required first - otherwise your subscription may not be cancelled and you could be liable for any missed payments.

### **Challenge unfair T&Cs**

There are no strict definitions for what counts as an unfair policy. But if you're finding it tough or have to give a long period of notice to cancel a subscription, contact the supplier's customer services department. If this fails go to the supplier's trade or complaints body or report to Trading Standards via the Citizens Advice consumer service.

**Anyone requiring advice or support can get help online at**  
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**Newark:** Castle House, Great North Road, Newark, NG24 1BY  
Tuesday & Thursday: 9:30am – 2:30pm

**Advice Line:** 0344-411-1444  
(Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm)

**Or Call Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on:**  
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## It's Panto Time. Oh Yes it Is!

If you enjoy going to the pantomime you couldn't do better than pay a visit to Markham Players who will be performing 'Cinderella' by Bob Heath and Cheryl Barret directed by Peter Marshall and choreographed by Angela Allen. You are assured of an evening full of traditional fun.

There will be three performances in East Markham in the Village Hall on Friday 26th January (7.30pm) and Saturday 27th January (2.00pm and 7.30pm) and two at Dunham on Saturday 3rd February at 2.00pm and 7.30pm.

This is an experienced local amateur group with a strong membership and wide age range. They have been rehearsing since September and perform with enthusiasm and skill to appreciative audiences.

Tickets cost £6.50 and £4.50 with a family ticket costs £20. They can be bought at East Markham Post Office from 5th December on Tuesdays and Fridays during Post Office opening times. East Markham School will be selling them from 4th December in school hours.

Tickets for all performances can be bought at Mitchells Gallery in Tuxford Monday to Saturday 9am - 5pm. For more information please contact 07522 437179.



## Music at the Mausoleum

Some Laxton residents went to the annual musical event in Milton Mausoleum in early December. The building currently has no power, so no heating and those attending are advised to wrap up warmly. Everyone was welcomed with mulled wine and a mince pie. Music of many different types was played, some of it on historical instruments. The Dukeries Singers sang and the audience was involved as well, joining enthusiastically in the carols which set the seasonal atmosphere beautifully.

The Friends of the Mausoleum are working hard to get the funds and to overcome the practical and bureaucratic obstacles to installing heating, so maybe next year the warmth of the event will not be due only to the seasonal glow and goodwill of the participants.



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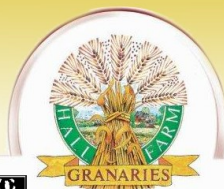
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**Meeting most Wednesdays  
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Robin Hood Crossroads,  
Edwinstowe**

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

# Minutes of Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council Meeting 21/11/2017

## **Present: Councillors:**

M. Manning (Chair), M.Hennell, J.Godson, S. Hill, R.Hennell, J.Hill,  
D. Brown

## **In attendance:**

C. Millward (Clerk)

M. Pringle (County councillor), S.Michael (District councillor)

The meeting was preceded at 7.00 pm by an open meeting to discuss the installation at key locations of brown signs directing visitors to the village and the design of any such signs.

No members of the public attended.

After discussion, the following locations were identified:

- A616 - Kersall crossroad
- Kneesall crossroad
- A6075 - At the bottom of Cocking Hill at the brickworks
- The Tuxford junction between Newcastle Street and Newark Road
- A614 island at Ollerton and Ollerton roundabout itself
- Egmanton Green
- At Weston - B1164 to Egmanton

The clerk will investigate the funding available and how to access those monies. Councillor Pringle will support any funding bid.

The words, "Laxton - Historic farming village" with a graphic of a plough as a potential working design.

1. **Apologies for absence:** There were no absences. Mr Godson had been delayed. Councillors noted that, for holiday reasons, there had been some administrative issues regarding the circulation of the meeting papers.
2. **Declarations of interest:** The chair declared an interest as a member of the sports field committee in items 11 a (Property matters – Sports field) and an interest as member of the village hall committee in item 15 b (Village environment – Village hall refurbishment project).
3. There were no other declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda.
4. **Dispensations:** None required.
5. **10 Minutes public speaking:** No public present.



6. **Minutes of the parish council meeting held on 26 September 2017:** The minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2017 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair.  
Mr Godson arrived at 7.40 pm during this item
7. **Matters arising:** There were no matters arising.
- 1) **Reports from district and county councillors:** Councillor Michael reported that:
  - 2) She would seek a progress update regarding the two empty properties in the village
  - 3) The next Safer Neighbourhood Group meeting is at South Muskham village hall on 11 January 2018 at 5.30 pm. Mr S Hill will try to attend  
NSDC has housed six Syrian families, chosen because each has a family member with a disability and a family member with a trade who will be able to make an economic contribution to the district.  
Councillor Pringle reported that:
  - 1) NCC has a new sky lantern policy to address the fire risk associated with the lanterns
  - 2) The new LIS funding scheme has opened to applications
  - 3) The full council is considering a motion on 22 November 2017 to preserve all county owned land and historic sites from fracking works

He will chase up the restoration of the fingerpost at Westfield

8. **Reports from councillors:** Mr R Hennell confirmed that the winter salt had been delivered.  
Mr Brown reported that streetlights 13, 17 and 19 had been repaired but with LEDs which were incongruous with the remaining lights. He and the chair will undertake an inspection of the condition of all the lights to ensure that they are in full working order for the winter.
9. **2018 meeting dates:** Dates as circulated by the clerk approved, save that the January 2018 meeting date should be Tuesday 23 January. The clerk will forward details to the Open Field editor.
- 10. Financial Matters:**
- a. **Financial position as at 31 October 2017:** Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position at 31 October 2017 (incorporating the 2017-18 budget figures).
  - b. **Accounts for payment:** The council unanimously approved six payments totalling £383.19.
  - c. **External auditor's report:** Contents and comments noted.  
Councillors were pleased to receive an unqualified report. They also noted Mr Butler's letter of thanks.
  - d. **Appointment of internal auditor:** Mr S Hill reported that he had been unsuccessful in his approach to a potential candidate. The clerk will make enquiries of a colleague she had met on her NALC CiLCA training.

- e. **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.
- f. **Consider need for interim internal audit:** The clerk advised councillors as to the on-going nature of the internal 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 Mr Butler and routine nature of the parish council's financial affairs this year, an interim internal audit would be disproportionate and was not justified.
- g. **Review schedule of fixed assets:** Councillors reviewed the schedule of fixed assets. They confirmed that, contrary to the existing schedule, the council owns four benches in Laxton at a value of £400 each. They also decided that the value of Glebe Field was too high and that £10,000 was the appropriate figure. After extensive discussion, it was confirmed that the Wellington bomber memorial belongs to the council and should be recorded in the schedule.
- h. **Donation to Open Field printing costs:** Councillors recognised the contribution the magazine makes to the community and in bringing the council's minutes to residents' attention. They agreed that the council should support the publication by donating £60 per year towards the printing costs. They thanked the editor and her team for producing the much valued Open Field.

## **11. Property matters including:**

- a. **Sports field:** Having declared an interest, the chair withdrew from the meeting.  
Councillors discussed whether there was an agreement that the sports field committee would reimburse the council for the field rent. The clerk will review the council's minutes for any record of an agreement and write formally to the sports field committee asking them to check their minutes for any record of what had been agreed.  
The chair returned to the meeting.
- b. **Cricket pitch:** The chair confirmed that the landowner had indicated a willingness to retain the cricket pitch in case the cricket team was ever re-formed in the future. No longer required as an agenda item.
- 12. **New parish council website:** Mr Brown agreed that his editorial access should be withdrawn to comply with the council's risk management arrangements. The chair will supply the photos used in the Visitor Centre display to be used on the website.

Councillors noted that the website is now being updated with council news.

### **13. Planning matters:**

#### **a. Applications:**

- i. 17/01671/FUL | Householder application for the relocation, reconstruction and restoration of a timber and blockwork barrel roofed building. | Twitchill Farm House Cross Hill Laxton: Councillors considered the application and unanimously decided to support the proposal.
- ii. 17/01772/FUL | Householder application for construction of single storey side and rear extension and demolition of a uPVC porch and the construction of an Orangery. | Twitchill Farm House Cross Hill Laxton: Councillors considered the application and, on the understanding that the Orangery is no longer part of the proposal, decided that they had no objection to the proposal.

- a. **To note planning decisions by NSDC:** 17/01814/TWCA – The Dovecote, Cross Hill, Laxton – Fell sycamore (x1), clear branch tips blue cedar (x1) – Approval noted.

- b. **Compliance:** No issues raised

14. **Village development including The Crown's long term strategy:** Councillors discussed Mr Iain Mills of The Crown's email and Mr R Jenrick MP's letter, both dated 16 November 2017. They were pleased that attention is now being paid to the community's concerns and needs and that plans are being developed to transfer ownership to a body more structurally suited to the stewardship needs of the open field system and community. It was noted that a meeting is taking place on 7 December 2017 between the Director of Rural Estates and the tenants to discuss matters further. Councillors did not wish to pre-empt those discussions. Until matters progress a little further, the council will not, therefore, be in a position to reach an informed view regarding the future.

The councillors agreed that the matter is unlikely to proceed quickly. They were anxious to ensure that they and the village gain the maximum benefit from all the support and interest Mr Jenrick was engaging and would be delighted to welcome Ms Coffey MP, Junior Minister for the Environment, to the community. However, if the full value of that visit is to be realised, its deferral to later in the New Year might be more useful.

The clerk will write a letter of thanks to Mr Mills and seek an indication of The Crown's estimated timescale for the production of a strategy. She will also write a letter of thanks to Mr Jenrick and explain the concern to ensure that Ms Coffey's visit is as

informative as possible.

The chair, Mr Brown and Mr S Rose are meeting with Sir John Temple and the Sherwood Trust to explore possible stewardship options.

There was discussion of the formation of a working group to help maintain the momentum and support active engagement by the community.

**15. Village environment and appearance, including:**

- a. Location of and access to community resilience container: Mr R Hennell confirmed that the containers are situated at Corner Farm and at Home View. They are left unlocked for swift access. There was discussion as to whether Home View was the best location for the second container. Mr S Hill and Mr J Hill will investigate.
- b. Village Hall refurbishment project and grant: The chair reported that the necessary financial arrangements have been made and funds are being paid. It is hoped that work will begin in spring 2018.
- c. Brown information road signs: See above public meeting preceding this meeting
- d. Moorhouse – Village fingerpost: This year's LIS funding has been announced. It was agreed that the council is not in a position to make a strong funding bid at this stage. After discussion, it was decided that the council should begin to accrue a fund to be used for match funding the cost of a fingerpost in the future. The clerk will make a formal request for a donation from councilor Pringle.

16. **Service faults:** See LMPC/112/17 above (Reports from councillors). The clerk will write to thank NCC for the quality of the works to the Moorhouse 'bumps'.

17. **Correspondence:** All items of correspondence noted together with NCC's validation consultation received after circulation of the agenda. The clerk will email a copy to all councillors for their information.

18. **10 Minutes public speaking time:** No public present

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

British Legion **lamp post poppies to September 2018 agenda**

20. **Date of next meeting:** 23 January 2018 at Laxton Visitor Centre

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm.

*NB To ensure these minutes appeared in the magazine for January they are included in draft form prior to review by Councillors.*

# Laxton Cricket Club

*This month we continue Jo Godson's research into the social side of Laxton Cricket Club as reported in the Retford Gainsborough and Worksop Times. NB spellings shown as published*

## 12th January 1923

**CRICKET CLUB** – The annual supper was held in the Parish Room on Thursday, when upwards of thirty members sat down to an excellent repast. Amongst those present were the **Rev S B Bleau** (president). **Mr F Willis** (chairman) **Mr R Clark** (treasurer). **Mr A Grundy** (captain) and **Mr J Cook** (secretary). **Mr Grundy** was presented with an excellent bat, given by **Mr Clark**, for the highest average in the batting of last season. An enjoyable social evening was spent, the programme of dancing being interspersed with songs. **Mrs Hare, Mrs Price, Miss A Bennett, Mr C Smith, Mr H Willis** and **Mr G Andrews** assisted in the musical part of the programme. The hearty thanks of the committee are due to the following ladies for the excellent arrangements for the supper:- **Mrs Clark, Mrs Hare, Mrs Price, Mrs Quibell, Miss Willis, Miss Clark and Miss Hilton**

## 4th May 1923

**BOYS CRICKET CLUB** – A whist drive and dance was held on Thursday to obtain funds for the boys' cricket club. The whist prize winners were – Ladies: 1 Mrs Cartledge; 2, Miss V Saxelby; 3 Miss G Raynor. Gentlemen: 1 Mr Beckett; 2, Mr R Clarke; 3, Mr J Farrer; mystery prize Mr W Morton. As a result of this effort, a sum of £6 14s was handed to the Boys Club and their thanks are due to the organisers. Mr and Mrs Sampson, Mr Cartledge, Mr and Mrs Morton and other friends for this great help

## 9th May 1924

**A WHIST DRIVE AND DANCE** was held in the schoolroom in aid of the Cricket Club Pavillion fund. The M.C. for the whist drive were Mr Cartledge and Mr Andrews. Mr Cook was M.C. for the dance. The following were prize winners:- Ladies; 1, Mrs Cartledge; 2, Mrs F Merrills; 3, Miss Edith Howe. Gentlemen; 1, Mr Beet; 2, Mr Jones; 3, Mr R Turner. The Cricket Club Committee take this opportunity of thanking all who assisted by gifts of prizes or of refreshments to make the entertainment successful. The proceeds amounted to £7. The pavilion has just been placed on the cricket ground and will be quite ready for use at the first home match, which takes place to-morrow (Saturday)



# 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 - 31st
- ◆ Yoga with Greg – Tuesdays at 7:30pm
- ◆ WI - Thurs 18th November
- ◆ 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.



## LOST PROPERTY

This back pack was found in the Dovecote car park during December. Please contact the staff if it is yours.

The classes found at the History Craft fayre have still not been claimed.

## Maplebeck Village Hall Events

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

### Regular Activities

Yoga	Tues 9.45am and Fri 9.30am
Fitness	To be announced shortly
Walkers	Weds 10.00am
Kurling (without the ice!)	2nd Weds monthly 7.30pm
Book Club	Tues 7.30pm 6 Jan, 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb, 20 <sup>th</sup> Mar, 24 <sup>th</sup> Apr, 5 <sup>th</sup> Jun

### Upcoming special events

20 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 7.30pm	Burns Theme	Ceilidh and Supper
23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan 7.30pm	Film	Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy

## 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  
Linda & Max McNaught 01777 870127, as required  
David & Linda, Dovecote Inn 01777 871586, as required  
Jeanette Geldard 07956 959135, daytime in Kneesall,  
evenings / weekends  
Anne-Marie & Geoff Rose 07961 933290 / 07957 991002, as required

### Police

PC Gary Sipson 07525 226575 or 101 x 800 7673  
Email : [gary.sipson@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](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
MP Mr Robert Jenrick: <a href="mailto:robert.jenrick.mp@parliament.uk">robert.jenrick.mp@parliament.uk</a>	01636 612 837
County Councillor: <a href="mailto:cllr.mike.pringle@nottscc.gov.uk">cllr.mike.pringle@nottscc.gov.uk</a>	0115 977 5661

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

# *Funds Raised in 2017*

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. The total below is just the sum published in *Open Field* between January and December last year.

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

**£9,314**

This sum does not include the Gymkhana, which did not report its takings and there is no longer a Dog Show.

The Bonus Ball draw, which raises funds for the Sports & Recreation field, made a further **£1,404** this year through the regular contributions of the people who buy the numbers, which brings the village total to

**£10, 718**

Also:

- The Village Hall Committee reported their Lottery grant of ~ **£204,000**, which has yet to be paid in full
- Laxton History Group received the final payment from the Heritage Lottery Fund, which was a further **£2,685** and
- Laxton Visitor Centre Trust received **£1,500** for new audio visual equipment from NSDC Tourism Support Group
- Clothing Bank receipts (Oct16 - Sept 17) **£366**

This has been another great year, so thank you to everyone who helped!

**THANK YOU**