

# Open Field

£1

July 2025



*Members of Laxton Rounders Teams Enjoying Some Social Time  
After Their Match, 3rd June 2025*

The monthly publication of the  
parish of Laxton & Moorhouse

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



**Priest in Charge**  
**Churchwardens**

LAXTON  
MOORHOUSE  
KNEESALL  
WELLOW  
WELLOW

Vacant

Mrs Brenda Noble 01777 870541  
Mr Simon Hill 01636 822777

Vacant

Mr Ben Wells 01623 861309

Mrs Jean Crofts

Vacant

**P.C.C:**

**Chairman**

**Deanery contact number**

01636 650063

**Parish Council:**

**Clerk**

Catherine Wilson

01636 813387

**Parish Councillors: Chairman**

Mr Simon Hill

01636 822777

**Vice Chair**

Mr Jem Hill

**Members**

Mr Mark Hennell, Mr Stuart Rose,  
Mr Dave Sheard, Mrs Anna Moorhouse  
Mrs Rebecca Creighton

**Laxton Village Hall: Chairman**

Mr Dave Sheard

07941 625761

**Thoresby Estate Office**

01623 822301

**Magazine Editor**

Mrs Jean Hennell

01777 870276

**Magazine Advertising**

Mrs Joy Allison

01777 871506

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

**Photography by / Photos from**

Janet Cooke, Helen Sheard, Diane Hunt,  
Sally Mitchell, John Banbury,  
Dik & Joy Allison

**Open Field**

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

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

**We believe all illustrations to be free to use. If anyone feels their image has been wrongly used, please get in touch.**

Contributions for the next edition to be with the Editor by **NOON ON 14th JULY PLEASE**. Earlier preferred. You can send in your contributions at any time.

# A Message from our Churchwarden



## Lammas Day

As we have said before, Lammas is one of the old traditional services and we celebrate it every year at Laxton.

This year we are having a special service for Lammas Day, when our preacher will be our Rural Dean, Rev Sarah Pattern. This will be a Group service for the Rural Dean to meet

the people of our Group and speak to us about the future of our churches. Please try and come along.

We usually have bacon cobs after the service at Lammas and this year will be no different.. If you could let me know if you are coming **(870541)**, it will help with the numbers for catering.

Thank you

*Brenda.*

## Laxton Garden Fête



## Friday July 18th

It will soon be our church garden fête on Friday 18th July and we would kindly appreciate any donations of items for the stalls such as cakes, raffle, tombola and any other offer of help.

**Please get in touch with Jean at Blacksmith's Cottage, High**

**Street or 870276** with your donations or offers if you can help in any way.

Do try to come along. All money raised goes to supporting the church.

Thank you

*Brenda.*

## **Sympathy - Dr Vic Rampton**

We were sorry to hear that Dr Vic Rampton has died peacefully at his home in Beckingham on 27th of May aged 89. For those of you who remember him he was the husband of the Reverend Valerie Rampton who was our Vicar for several years. Vic was a reader in our group of churches and helped with our church choir. His funeral was held on 20th June at Beckingham Church.

## **Sympathy - Frank Ward of Ossington**

We were also sorry to hear that Frank Ward of Ossington had passed away on 15th May at the age of 86.

Frank farmed at Ossington for many years. He leaves his wife Dorothy and sons Alan and Brian. He had a long connections with Laxton as he played cricket for Laxton in the Bassetlaw league for several years.

His funeral was held at Laxton before burial at Ossington, where the church is still closed awaiting repair of the smoke damage.

## **Congratulations - Marriage**

Congratulations to Richard and Helen Pick of High Street, Laxton, who were married on 8th June. We wish them every happiness.

## **Congratulations**

We are delighted to wish Margaret Noble a very happy 91st birthday in June. We hope she enjoys her special day and send congratulations.

We suggested last year that Margaret is now the village resident who has lived in Laxton the longest, and in the absence of any comment on that, we feel that she does indeed hold this title. Wishing you many more happy years here, Margaret.

91



## Welcome to People New to the Village

We are pleased to welcome:

- ♦ The new people at Ide Farm. They moved in in April, but we have not been able to contact them for permission to publish their names.
- ♦ Jamie and Chloe Hennell with children Isla, Logan and Dolcie, who moved into Timothy Road in May.

## New Publicans at the Dovecote

We are very pleased to welcome our new village publicans at The Dovecote, Toni & Dave Birch and Jess. Toni and Dave have taken over the tenancy and are planning to move into the premises to live. They have brought in Jess, a manager with whom they have worked before, to deal with the day to day running.

They are very keen to introduce themselves to the village with an article about themselves and their plans, but with the opening under their management falling so very close to Father's Day and our copy date, we have agreed to include something from them next month and look forward to hearing what they have to say.

Meanwhile, the pub will be open for business and they look forward to welcoming everyone in the meantime.

## Get Well Soon

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to **Margaret (Ilott) Saxilby** who has unfortunately had a fall and broken her hip. After an operation we understand she is on the way to recovery. We are sure this is not how she would have chosen to spend her 95th birthday, but we send congratulations and hope she has a good day.

We are sorry to hear that neither our churchwarden and WI President, **Brenda Noble nor her husband George** have been very well recently. We wish them all the best and hope that both are feeling much better very soon. We will all be thinking of them.

Special thanks to Brenda for managing a substantial contribution to Open Field this month despite feeling under the weather.

# Village Hall News



Our Laxton Alive Projects are working well: -

## “Chop & Chat”

We have applied for another grant via NSDC, which will hopefully pay for the next season of Chop & Chat. Still no update!

We are having a break over the summer, with a plan to resume again in October.

“Chop & Chat” on tour, started with a trip to Maxey’s farm shop near Kirklington, on Monday 2nd June. More details are in the separate article

The **“Pilates”** class is being supported well, and is now being run by Rachel, our experienced fitness teacher. Rachel is asking for 4-week block bookings up front to keep things manageable, priced at £24. Please contact Helen Sheard - there are a few spaces left. Laxton Village Hall, Thursday evenings 18:30 to 19:30.

## Other news

Laxton Village Hall has signed up as a good cause in the Newark & Sherwood Community Lottery. You can all sign up and support the village hall starting at £1 per week. You have a chance to win the lottery. For each ticket sold, our good cause gets 60p.

To find out more information, you can follow the QR code, or the link below. It’s a great way to support your village hall.

[https://www.newarkandsherwoodlottery.co.uk/referral/1499120727/192397949?utm\\_source>manual](https://www.newarkandsherwoodlottery.co.uk/referral/1499120727/192397949?utm_source>manual)



We hope to hold a **disco in September**, no more details yet.

**Can you spare** some time to help with the running of the Village Hall? We are looking for some additional folks to join us as trustees. The role is not too onerous, and of course *“many hands, make light work”*. Contact one of the trustees for more information.

Once again, thank you for your continued support, it helps us in our goal as trustees *“Managing and maintaining Laxton Village Hall for the benefit of the community of Laxton, Nottinghamshire and the surrounding villages”*.

Many thanks,

Dave

# Michael Dicksbury Memorial Road Run

A popular local event with both spectators and participants is the Michael Dicksbury Memorial Vintage Tractor Road Run.

This annual event is held in memory of Michael Dicksbury of Tuxford and supports Weston Park Hospital's cancer



ward at Sheffield, where Michael was treated. The event is organised by his family who are invariably represented among the drivers. Villagers from Laxton, Egmont and the surrounding area take part and it is not unknown for there to be over 100 tractors in the convoy. They set off from Tuxford at 10am following a circular route.

Because of the proximity of the villages, it is common for the route to run through Laxton and Egmont in one direction or the other, so there is often an opportunity for villagers to come out to support them as they drive through. There is usually someone on at least one of the vehicles or their passenger trailers who is in phone contact, so it is a good idea to look out for people coming out to stand at the roadside.

In 2025 it will take place on **Sunday 6th July**.

## Thank you from George and Brenda

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who sent cards, flowers and gifts to George and I on the occasion of our diamond wedding anniversary (60 years) and to Paula for the lovely flowers, cake and food, which was a surprise.

A big thank you also to those who called to wish us a special day.

Thank you again

*George and Brenda Noble*

## Church Fête Contributions Needed

The Church Fête is being held once again in the garden at Blacksmith's Farm. Jean and Roy are hosting everyone and in addition to hoping that the weather does not suddenly produce a downpour as it seems to have a habit of doing, they would be very grateful for any of the following:

- \* Raffle and Tombola Prizes
- \* Cakes for the Cake stall
- \* Plants, books etc.
- \* Offers of help

Please drop your contributions off at Blacksmith's Cottage or call Jean on **870276**.Thank you

## Family History Enquiry

*We have received a request from an internet reader in Australia, looking for information about family members who lived in Laxton:*

Please accept my apologies as I have already asked for some info around 4-5 years ago and some lovely members of your community were able to help me, but since then I have lost the contact details due to changing email addresses and also moving house.

A lovely lady emailed me to say she lives in the house that my ancestors lived in and said I could visit when i next come over. (I live in Australia now.) I was also posted a copy of a booklet that my maternal grandfather Moses Lacey was in, but again I have lost this in my house move.

Moses was a gardener and that's pretty much all I know, except for he married Ann Beck and one of their children was William Lacey (my Grandma's dad).

I've started researching the family tree again to try and find out more but wondered if anyone has any more information on this side of the family for me.

I'll be visiting next April and would love to visit all the places that mean something to my family.

Thanks so much  
Nichola Morgan

My email address is: **nicholajm16@gmail.com**

## New Copy Date for August Edition

Last year we were regrettably unable to bring you your summer magazines on time because the school where Open Field is printed were on their long summer holiday.

We are trying our best to ensure that this year things go more smoothly. To ensure it is printed before the holidays, the copy date for the August issue will be **mid day on 14th July**.

We must submit the magazine for printing on 16th July. It needs to be designed and proof read before then. The earlier you can let us have your material, the better. We will be unable to include anything that arrives after 14th July at mid day.

The September edition cannot be printed before the first week of September once the school has gone back, **so please let us have anything for early September in time to be printed in the August edition**. We will be able to be a little bit flexible with the copy date for that edition if you let us know and book your space.

Thank you in advance for your help and understanding.

*Jean, Joy and the Open Field Team*

## “SAVE THE DATE “

### ALAN & ANNA MOORHOUSE

HAVE KINDLY AGREED TO HOST THE VILLAGE BARBECUE

IN THEIR GARDEN THIS YEAR,

AT **1 SAYWOOD COTTAGES**

IN THE AFTERNOON/ EVENING OF

**SATURDAY 16TH AUGUST 2025**

IT WILL BE A SIMILAR FORMAT TO LAST YEAR

THE **PRICE** IS TO BE CONFIRMED, BUT IT IS A NOT FOR PROFIT EVENT

THE **TIMES** WILL ALSO BE CONFIRMED NEARER THE DATE.



# Chop & Chat on Tour 1

The first stop on the Chop & Chat Summer Tour was a visit to Maxey's Farm Shop and Café for morning coffee. The plan to make use of the 'On Demand' bus service so that we could all travel together unfortunately failed.

It turned out that a group booking was not possible - we all needed to book independently.



It takes more than a minor obstacle to stop Laxton folk, and fifteen members from our usual group turned up to enjoy a very pleasant couple of hours. Maxey's did us proud. Their service, customer care and sweet treats were excellent. Thank you!



We were given a nice table at one end of the room and the staff were very friendly and helpful. They didn't bother us nor did they suggest that, with lunch time approaching, we might start to make a move.

It all served to prove that even with out the usual chopping in advance of the meal, there was still

plenty of chat and everyone enjoyed a good get together. If you or one of your friends or relatives would care to join us in the future, please keep an eye out in Open Field or on Facebook for further details. You are guaranteed a warm welcome.

It being "National Volunteer Week", we were visited by representatives of Newark & Sherwood DC who gave the group a thank you card and small gift.

This was particularly apt as so many individuals around the table, have in the past or currently support Laxton Village in its upkeep or are active members/coordinators of its societies e.g. Parish Council, Parish Church, Village Hall, WI, History Group, the Community Coffee Morning, sports teams and Sports Field Committee. Well done everyone. Your contributions ensure our village is a vibrant and community focused place to live.



In July the dates don't work out quite so conveniently and it was decided to make the next stop on the tour a combined one with the History Group, who had already made a booking to go to the Horological Museum at Upton Hall. This will take place on Wednesday 16th July. The group will be taking a guided tour at 10.30am and we will be meeting up there shortly before.

Anyone will be very welcome to join in this trip. You don't need to have attended either group before. The Horological Museum is being sold, so this could be a good opportunity to make a final visit there before it closes. The cost of the tour of the Museum is £100, to be divided among those attending, so around £5 per person. Everyone will select their own lunch and settle their own bill at Maxey's.

If you would like to join the group for either the tour or the lunch or both, please give your name to Helen Sheard on **07905 161392**.

August: There will be no Chop & Chat on the first Monday of the month. Instead the History Group will be having afternoon tea in the garden at Orchard View on Wednesday 20th August. Again, you are most welcome to join in.



## Coffee Morning Corner



 2nd Saturdays Egmonton Village Hall	10 - 12	July 12th
 3rd Saturdays Laxton Village Hall,	10:00 - 12:00	July 19th
 4th Saturdays Ossington Hut,	11 - 1	July 25th



# HILLCREST: Equestrian Services

- |                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| ✓ Full livery    | ✓ Riding lessons       |
| ✓ Breaking       | ✓ Secure               |
| ✓ School livery  | ✓ CCTV                 |
| ✓ Rehab stabling | ✓ BHS Regd.            |
| ✓ Holiday livery | ✓ Qualified instructor |
| ✓ Selling livery | ✓ Fully insured        |

Please phone or see web site  
for further information

**Tel: 07359 141 051**

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

[email: hillcrests@outlook.com](mailto:hillcrests@outlook.com)

# HILLCREST: Gardening Centre

Everything for your garden:

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 🌸 Fertiliser     | 🌸 Bedding plants  |
| 🌸 Compost        | 🌸 Hanging baskets |
| 🌸 Seeds & bulbs  | 🌸 Giftware        |
| 🌸 Shrubs & trees | 🌸 Fruit & Veg     |

**Open from 9am, closed Tues & Weds**

(for more details see web site)

**Tel: 07576 140 107**

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

[email: hillcrests@outlook.com](mailto:hillcrests@outlook.com)

*We are at the top of Laxton Hill, Egmonton*

**Now  
Open**

## **JULY CONGRATULATIONS**

*Congratulations to everyone celebrating a birthday, anniversary or other special event this month. We wish you all a wonderful day and a happy and healthy year to come.*

*The birthday roll of honour for this month is: Margaret Noble (91), Stephen Noble, Poppy Noble, Doreen Hayes, Amanda Hennell, Simon Hill, Sarah Hill, Andrew Godson, Roy Haynes, Elisa Mills, Margaret Saxilby (95).*

*The anniversary roll call for July is: Lee & Paula Doyle, Ian & Rebecca Creighton, Mike & Cath Manning, Steve & Lynda Moore and Roy & Ann Haynes*

*We are pleased to congratulate anyone else celebrating a special event this month.*



*Brenda*

# VINCE DODD SERVICE & MOT

**Sutton-on-Trent  
MOT Testing**

- ☆ Servicing    ☆ Repairs
- ☆ Tyres        ☆ Air Con

**01636 821200**



**Hall Farm Stocks a Wide Range of Wild Bird Products, Accessories & More**

**COFFEE LOUNGE  
NOW OPEN!**

Serving Coffee, Cake and Light Lunches



BIRD'S NEST coffee lounge

**OPENING HOURS:**  
 Mon – Fri 7:30am – 5pm  
 Sat 8am – 3pm  
 Sun CLOSED

Payment methods: VISA, Apple Pay, Mastercard, PayPal, Debit

**The Grain Store, Wadnall Lane, Weston, NG23 6SY** [@SeedToFeed.co.uk](https://www.seedtofeed.co.uk)  
 (Behind the Great Wall Chinese) [@buybirdseed](https://www.buybirdseed.co.uk)  
**Tel: 01636 821232** [www.seedtofeed.co.uk](https://www.seedtofeed.co.uk) [@hallfarmweston](https://www.hallfarmweston.co.uk)

## Plumbing and Heating

**Alan Moorhouse**

- Oil boiler installation, service & repair
- Oil tank installation & pipework
- Bathroom installation
- Sealed hot water systems
- Power flushing



**Email: [alsperfectplumbs@gmail.com](mailto:alsperfectplumbs@gmail.com)**

**Tel: 07854 069529**



OFTEC registered

## Robert Paling Boiler Services

**07849747500**

**[robpalingboilerservices@  
yahoo.com](mailto:robpalingboilerservices@yahoo.com)**

- Oil Boiler Servicing and Repairs
- Oil Boiler installation and commissioning
- Oil Tank Installation
- Emergency Call Outs
- Fully Insured
- Oftec Registered

## BRANSBY — HORSES —

**Sandra Clarke collects used stamps to help this horse rescue and welfare organisation at Saxilby. You can help by passing used stamps to her, to Jean in Laxton or Joy in Egmont. Thank you.**



# The Longest Yarn 2 - Britain at War

Southwell Minster has announced that, in the wake of the success of The Longest Yarn in September 2024, it has been chosen to host the follow-up exhibition, 'The Longest Yarn 2: Britain at War'

This is a study in 80 1m long knitted panels on what it was like in Britain between September 3rd 1939 to VE Day on 8th May 1945...

Accompanying this will be 'The Gang' - life-size representatives of all the services that saved Britain in the hour of need - from a Land Girl to a Spitfire Pilot.

**This new exhibition will run from 3rd to 27th September 2025.**

**Timed tickets can now be booked on line.** They are free, but you should reserve your spot. The easiest way to get them is to Google the name of the exhibition and follow the link to the Eventbrite page. This should overcome the queueing issues at the previous event.

Please note there will be a small number of tickets set aside each day for walk-ups, but when they're gone they're gone, so it is highly recommended to book your ticket to guarantee entry. A maximum of 6 tickets can be reserved per booking. You are politely requested to only book what you need, as the number of tickets is limited .



## Laxton & Moorhouse Community Coffee Morning All are welcome for coffee and cakes

**Laxton Village Hall 10:30am - 12:30**  
**(3rd Saturday in the month - 19th July )**

**18<sup>th</sup> October**

**20<sup>th</sup> September**

**November (LHG Craft Fayre)**

**13<sup>th</sup> / 20<sup>th</sup> December**

*Helen*

# Laxton History Group



The May meeting of the Group welcomed Denis Hill, who had come to talk about 'Lord Byron of Newstead Abbey'.

Hearing the name of our Hon. President, Prof. John Beckett, mentioned at the beginning of the meeting, Denis said that he had studied for his masters under John and that he had also worked as a volunteer at Newstead Abbey in the 1980s



Summarising Byron's early years, Denis told us that he was born in London on 22nd January 1788. He had a club foot and would limp for the rest of his life. In 1798 on the death of his Great Uncle, he inherited the title and the estates, which sounded wonderful until he explained that the uncle, had deliberately ruined them. As a result, Byron moved with his mother to

Burgage House in Southwell.

Byron attended Harrow School and Trinity College, Cambridge, gaining a Masters degree in English. He spoke 7 languages, including fluent Greek. Whilst at University he became infatuated with Mary Ann Chaworth, his second cousin, but she rejected him, thus inspiring some of his first poetry.

After university he spent 2 years on a Grand Tour of Europe. His mother died on the day of his return, but he refused to go to her funeral as she had let his pet bear die whilst he was away.



He set about repairing as much as possible at Newstead Abbey, using the rent paid by tenant farmers to fund it. He was known for throwing parties that lasted several weeks. Guests would party all night, sleep until lunch time, go hunting, and then back to partying all night. Guests were expected to join in the sports which Byron so enjoyed, boxing, cricket, shooting, riding, sword fighting and swimming.

The first book of poems, "Fugitive Pieces", written when he was 18 years old, was considered too racy and had to be rewritten as "Hours of Idleness". When he wrote to the press attacking the critics of this book it shot him to fame. "Child Harold" and "Don Juan", two of his most famous poems, are both based on himself. He is considered one of our greatest romantic poets and his poetry achieved significant recognition and acclaim during his lifetime.

Byron loved women and had an affair with Lady Caroline Lamb, the wife of a future prime Minister. She dubbed him "Mad, bad and dangerous to know".

He later married Anne Isabella Millbank, but was three days late to his wedding! They had a child, Ada Lovelace, who is now considered to be the first computer programmer. After Ada was born the marriage split up and Byron left England.

Byron set up home with Shelley, Mary Shelley, Claire Clairmont and Dr. Polidori at Lake Geneva. Mary Shelley wrote "Frankenstein" at this time and Dr Polidori wrote a vampire story based on Byron. Inevitably Byron began an affair with Claire Clairmont and they had a child, Allegra. Unfortunately, she died aged 5, whilst in the care of nuns.

Byron moved to Italy, settling in Venice, Ravenna and Pisa, 1816 - 1823. His next affair was with Countess Guiccioli, who was married to a man 30 years her senior.

Despite never being in the army, Byron gained more military fame than any of his military ancestors. Britain formed a London-Greek Committee to support the Greek fight for Independence against Turkish rulers. They invited Byron to try to unite the Greek tribes against the Turks. He managed to do this but unfortunately did not live to see the Greeks win and gain their independence.

He died in 1824 of syphilis complicated by pneumonia, aged just 36. He is, however, still remembered with great affection in Greece as their "Deliverer".

Byron's body was brought back to England, but he was not laid to rest in Westminster Abbey on the grounds of "questionable morality". He is buried in his family's tomb in St Mary's church at Hucknall.

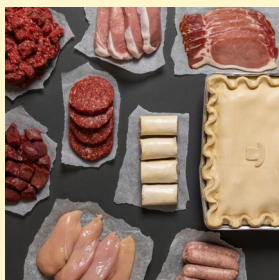
The Group traditionally has an outing in July. This year we have decided to join forces with Chop & Chat as there is considerable overlap between the groups. We will be visiting the Horological Museum at Upton. This is probably the last chance many will have to go there to see the vast collection of clocks, because they are selling the building. We are meeting there at 10.30am on July 16th.

# **THE COUNTRY VICTUALLER BUTCHERS & BAKERS**

Award winning handmade pork pies,  
oven ready pies, cured bacon, free range pork  
and Longhorn Thoresby beef

Heritage recipes and a warm welcome await  
you at our Tuxford Pod.

- Order & Collect
- Free kerb side parking
- Daily hot food to go specials
- Loyalty card rewards
- Senior Citizens' 10% off Wednesday



Opening Hours:

Tue - Fri 8am - 4pm, Sat 8am - 4pm  
Closed Sunday & Monday

**01777 874700**

Subscribe to our newsletter to receive online offers!

<https://thecountryvictualler.co.uk/newletter-subscription>

Nationwide delivery.

[thecountryvictualler.co.uk](https://thecountryvictualler.co.uk)

ASHVALE ROAD, TUXFORD, NG22 0NH

We then move on to Maxeys for lunch together before making our way home. Anyone who is interested in either the visit or the lunch will be most welcome. You can join us for either of both parts of the day.

Helen Sheard is co-ordinating the event, so please get in touch with her on **07905 161392** and let her know what you would like to join in with. We look forward to seeing as many people as possible for what should be a memorable day.

## Laxton Rounders Team

Laxton Ladies Rounders Team continues to thrive. This is our third season where we have been able to enter two teams into the Sherwood League.

On Tuesday June 3rd these two teams, Laxton Rockets and Laxton Spirits, played each other. Once again Rockets triumphed over Spirits in a good humoured game.

Afterwards, as has become customary, the two teams decamped to the Carpenter's Arms in Walesby for a drink and food. Our thanks go to the Carpenter's Arms for their continued hospitality.

The teams practice on a Monday evening at 6.30pm on Laxton Sports Field.

We have welcomed about six new players this season. If you fancy a go, please do just turn up. You are guaranteed a warm welcome. You do not have to play competitively if you would prefer to just "have a run around" with this friendly and sociable group of ladies, you will still be very welcome. We currently range in age from 18 to 60+.

Matches are played on Tuesday evenings.£4

For further details please see our Facebook site.





# News from the Museums of Tuxford

**The Museum of the Horse** hosted a tea dance in celebration of V.E Day. Jessica Mary Brett got everyone joining in singing and dancing. It was an exciting experience that Sally hopes to repeat. Look out for the next event on the Museum of the Horse Facebook page.

Sally is looking to hold the next auction in September. Do contact her if you have things to be included.

At the Museum of the Horse you can see tributes to many horses and riders from the racing world and military. There are those that belonged to famous riders as well as the aristocracy, including horses which served the country in various ways.

The humble pit pony is an important part of history. Records show pit ponies were used from 1750. In 1913 there were 70,000 working underground. They had such a hard life, only coming up from underground for the two week colliery holiday. Records show that the last pony to be used was Tony. He finished his days at the Newcastle cat and dog shelter. He was 40 years old when he died in 2011.

**At the Walks of Life Museum** we are delighted that people who



used to work at Dosco of Tuxford have sponsored a display in the museum, as this is such an important part of Tuxford history. The display includes memories from Hollybank. The company exported worldwide, producing equipment for such projects as the Mersey

Tunnel. Do come along and see the display and chat with former members who have been sharing their memories.

We were really delighted to be present when Norman Birkitt's hard work was rewarded at the BCVS volunteer award ceremony. His dedication in getting the war memorial restored and work to remember



those lost in wars as well supporting the community of Tuxford is inspirational. He won the Heritage Volunteer of the Year award and was astounded to be recognised as Bassetlaw Volunteer of the Year.



Norman has kindly donated the 'Tranquillity' rose awarded to him to be part of our memorial garden. This will be planted along with a 'Peace' rose when we have a rededication of the war memorial ceremony. The event is yet to be organised.

We recently planted roses in memory of Pauline Pottinger, Shelia Francis and Trevor Cook who all connected with many people and gave such a lot to Tuxford over the years. The photo shows a rose called 'Dorothy' planted to remember our founder Dorothy Harrison. Flowers bring such joy as do lovely photos.

Snappers, a photography group from Beckingham near Gainsborough, visited both museums recently. They have shared with us some lovely images displaying their unique skills. Do come along and have a look.



One of these photos was part of the talk by Brian Horne on his discovery in conserving and researching objects in our collection. This was fascinating and has left us astounded at the skills of people in the past. We feel the same about Brian's care and attention to detail in giving them a new life, enabling us to tell the story. We hope to carry on this work and show more to our visitors in the future.

Do contact the museums if you would like to visit hold an event or bring a group

**Museum of the Horse / Gallery:**

**Tel: 01777 838234      [curator@museumofthehorse.co.uk](mailto:curator@museumofthehorse.co.uk)**

**Walks of Life Museum**

**Tel: 01777 872776      [dianehunt08@btinternet.com](mailto:dianehunt08@btinternet.com)**

## JULY SERVICES IN OUR VILLAGE CHURCHES

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

### 6th July

10:30 am	Laxton	HC	Rev Margaret.
4.00 pm	Wellow	EP	Heather B

### 13th July

10:30 am	Kirton	HC	Rev Alistair
----------	--------	----	--------------

### 20th July

10.00 am	Walesby	HC	Rev Vaughan
10:30 am	Wellow	HC	Rev Margaret

### 27th July

**No services**

### 3rd August

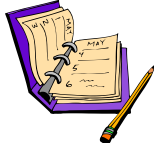
10:30 am	Laxton	Lammas and HC Rural Dean	Rev Sarah Pattern
----------	--------	--------------------------	-------------------



# *DATES FOR YOUR DIARY*

## **JULY**

<b>Sun 6th</b>	<b>Michael Ducksbury Tractor Run</b>
<b>Weds 9<sup>h</sup></b>	<b>WI</b>
<b>Weds 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Joint History Group / Chop &amp; Chat trip</b>
<b>Fri 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Garden Fête at Blacksmith's Farm</b>
<b>Sat 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Coffee Morning</b>
<b>Tues 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Parish Council</b>



## **Forward Planning:**

<b>Aug 16th</b>	<b>Village BBQ</b>
<b>Sept: 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Laxton Harvest weekend</b>
<b>Sat 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Harvest Competition</b>
<b>Sat 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Southwell Ploughing Match (Farnsfield)</b>

## **Regular Events:**

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

**Copy Date for AUGUST 2025 edition:**  
**12 noon, 14th July 2025**

*Please let us have your contributions in good time. We do what we can to include last minute items, but it is not always possible. Late arrivals are unlikely to make it into print.*



# G.D. HALL LTD

(Independent Funeral Directors)

Newark Road  
TUXFORD, Newark  
Nottinghamshire  
NG22 0NA

13 Bridgegate  
Retford  
Nottinghamshire  
DN22 6AE

Tel. 01777 872929

Tel: 01777 701222

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

Private chapel of rest  
24 hour service

Golden Charter pre-payment plans available  
SAIF Approved

Personal Visits to your home  
**Mobile 0797 257 6020**

## New Hill Fruit & Veg

Fresh seasonal fruit and vegetables  
delivered to your door

Call or Message: 07928 503467  
Email: [newhillfruitandveg@yahoo.com](mailto:newhillfruitandveg@yahoo.com)

With free delivery to Laxton and surrounding villages every Monday and Thursday, why not call now to book your fresh fruit, vegetable and bread delivery slot or Find us on Facebook to see our list of produce and any daily offers. Alternatively you can visit us at Clovelly, New Hill, Walesby, NG22 9PB Or Call 07928 503467

HERE'S A SMALL SELECTION OF OUR PRODUCE:

- |                     |                |
|---------------------|----------------|
| .Potatoes           | .Lettuce       |
| .Carrots            | .Tomatoes      |
| .Cabbage            | .Cucumber      |
| .Broccoli           | .Peppers       |
| .Red & White Onions | .Spring Onions |
| .Mushrooms          | .Soft Fruits   |
| .Courgettes         | .Apples        |
| .Sweet Potatoes     | .Satsumas      |
| .Baby leaf Spinach  | .Pears         |
| .Mange Tout         | .Bananas       |
| .Celery             | .Grapes        |
| .Garlic Bulbs.      | .Local Honey   |

**Pre set Fruit & Vegetable Boxes**  
**£15 Essentials Box**  
**£19 Family Box**

We are now proud to be working along side Atherleys Bakery of Farnsfield, offering a range of fresh baked bread and cakes by pre order only.

**ORDER BY PHONE, TEXT,  
FACEBOOK MESSENGER OR EMAIL**

**Deliveries now subject to a £1 charge.**



Linda Coppin's first encounter with the benefits of massage came when her first husband was very poorly. The District Nurse who came to tend to him and massaged his hands and feet and brought him terrific respite and relief from much of his symptoms.

This planted the seed, and when she was able, Linda trained and qualified as a practitioner in the different types of massage that she knew were of benefit to others.

How fitting it should be that the dedicated district nurse who so influenced her should be in our group that evening. That nurse was none other than Janet Cooke.

Linda explained that head massage was not only effective against stress, anxiety and tension, but could be self-administered. So rather than reach for the pills, a headache could be banished. There were also beauty tips to be had. Head massage stimulated the hair follicles and scalp to release the natural oils into the hair, and cleaned the hair of dandruff and sebaceous detritus. The scalp can be subject to immobility and tightness, and massaging releases this.



To demonstrate, Linda chose Sandra, as she has more hair than the rest of us (and we were all agog to see Sandra's mane unplaited).

Using firm but gentle movements, Linda worked through Sandra's hair into her scalp. To try to describe these actions is difficult. The hair was lifted and moved away from the scalp and dabbing and combing done with the fingers all over the head. Sometimes the fingers were combed through the hair from nape of the neck towards the brow, ruffling the hair.

A final beauty tip was to lightly



Bespoke Framing  
Fine Art Reproduction  
Canvas Stretching  
Greetings Cards  
Books  
Prints  
Paintings  
Museum of The Horse

Sally Mitchell's Gallery, Tuxford.  
[sallymitchell.com](http://sallymitchell.com)



## Trinity Cottage B&B, Tuxford

Relax in Style

Luxury en-suites, Visitors'  
Lounge & Courtyard, TV, Wi-Fi

Evening meals on request

If you are local and have no room for visitors to stay, we can accommodate them, or maybe if you are looking for a base to explore this interesting and beautiful area, we offer a quiet location in the centre of the village. There are all amenities, gift and coffee shops, museums and galleries, buses to Lincoln, Newark and Retford.

2 nights in our double room: £150 including full English breakfast or alternatives.

**Phone Richard on 07836 699911**

'patter' the fingertips over the face, round the eyes and cheek bones. This gently stimulates blood supply as well as being relaxing. To finish, the nape of the neck was massaged, soothing the muscles that carry the head.

When Linda had finished demonstrating, the model was wearing what could only be described as a relaxed and almost soporific air. We couldn't wait to start.

Linda moved among us and guided us on technique, giving advice and instruction. Soon the majority of members were sporting 'hair dos' that resembled Ken Dodd on speed and giggles were rife. What was obvious was that all were content, relaxed and thoroughly enjoying it, including those doing the head massage.

It could be argued in 'sociology' terms that it was a bonding experience. Who cares? It was a congenial, friendly evening which fostered a good feeling in all those involved. The general consensus was that the massage worked well and everyone felt the benefits. During the evening there had been several cries of 'Can I book you for next week?' when even amateur massage had been applied and had been effective.

It is always good to see a competent and skilful practitioner at work and her explanations were clear and understandable. Thank you, Linda.

We had literally let our hair down and had a very enjoyable and informative evening.

Unfortunately, Brenda was unwell and was unable to join us, but we sent a card and our best wishes for her and George's 60 wedding anniversary.

Next month we are having a talk about some of the more unusual epitaphs and grave messages. It promises to be a good evening. The talk is entitled 'The Last Laugh'. So come along and enjoy the company and the evening. **All are welcome on the second Wednesday of the month, 9th July.**



*We are assuming that Joan was meant to be giving Helen some head massage, but we wonder if she had the technique quite right?*

## Tuxford Museum on Channel 4 Show

The Museum of the Horse, Tuxford has recently appeared on the second series of Channel 4's programme 'Millionaire Hoarders' in a quest to fundraise for its future. Sally Mitchell, the Museum's owner, curator and founder of Sally Mitchell Fine Arts, was approached by the TV production company about a year ago to get involved in the programme which features Antiques Roadshow expert, Ronnie Archer-Morgan. Filming took place last Summer and Autumn.

The programme aired as part of Episode 2 on Friday 9th May and showed Antiques expert, Ronnie rummaging through Sally's vast equestrian collection to unearth something to sell on the show to raise funds. When Sally revealed a painting by George Stubbs, the renowned 18th century English artist famed for his horse portraits, hidden away in a storeroom for more than 50 years, Ronnie couldn't believe his eyes! The painting depicts a grey cob named Rainbow. It



is recorded in the Catalogue Raisonne and experts at Sotheby's confirmed that Stubbs produced the artwork during his twilight years in 1802-1804. Sally agreed to sell the painting in Sotheby's in Bond Street to help raise funds for the future of the Museum and help finance the renovation of the Museum's new Conference room.

Ronnie Archer-Morgan was extremely moved by the find, commenting: "I've just been handling and talking about a Stubbs. It's been in my hands; it's a wonderful thing - this is why I love my job. Getting the best price for Sally so she can continue her dream. Her dedication to her museum brought me to tears. She's so humble and dismissive of any praise for what she's done, but what she's achieved is monumental."



Sally commented: "It was a very interesting experience being involved in the programme and hearing what Ronnie's expert



opinion was on items like the Japanese saddle which also featured. I am absolutely delighted with the auction result of the Stubbs which is a wonderful start to our fundraising efforts to enable the Museum to continue when I fail to do so. I am eighty this year and sadly none of us live forever!"

"The Museum is the only one of its kind in the UK and the collection is unique; it is the history of all of us, in war, transport, agriculture, the horse powered the world for over 3000 years while the combustion engine has only been around for about 150 years. Hopefully the TV programme will help spread the word and encourage more visitors to the Museum and who knows, maybe some sponsors too."

The Museum is comprised of nine rooms and over 2000 objects. It was created in 2014 and is based in a former Posting House, a coaching inn where the coaches changed their horses, on the side of the old Great North Road.

Sally, the founder of Sally Mitchell Fine Arts, the UK's leading countryside art publishing and gallery business, along with her son, John Mitchell, acquired Tuxford's iconic Newcastle Arms following a long period of dereliction and vandalism. John and Sally spent years bringing the Grade II listed building back to life and moving their existing gallery business to the new larger historic space.

The Museum and Gallery is open 6 days a week Monday – Friday 9.30am – 4.30pm, Saturdays 9.30am – 2.00pm. There is car parking at the rear along with a café in the courtyard. To find out more: visit **[www.museumofthehorse.co.uk](http://www.museumofthehorse.co.uk)** or watch Channel 4's Millionaire Hoarders:

**<https://www.channel4.com/programmes/millionaire-hoarders>**

## OSSINGTON GARDEN PARTY

Ossington House will host the  
**Annual Garden Party**  
**on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July from 3pm**  
Come and join in the fun and games  
with bric-a brac, plants and cakes to buy

MUSIC  
THEORY  
AND  
PIANO  
ROYAL  
SCHOOLS



Quality Paintings

or Drawings

**GRAHAM  
LAUGHTON**  
B.A.

PICTURE  
FRAMING  
SERVICE &  
RESTORATION



01777 472885 or

07999 528397

grahamlaughton50@gmail.com

## G.R. GRIMES & SONS

SOLID FUEL & GAS MERCHANTS



*Competitive Prices*

Ring for a Quote

Tel:

**01777 228273**

**BRANSBY**  
— HORSES —

If you would like to help Bransby Horses, please save stamps from your mail. Cut them off with about 1cm all around and pass to Sandra Clarke who collects them

for Bransby. You can also pass to Jean in Laxton or Joy in Egmonton.

## Advertising in 'Open Field'

Standard 1/6 page box: £30 p.a.(colour) £15 p.a.(B&W)  
Larger sizes pro rata, e.g. £45 p.a. for 1/2 page (B&W)

Please contact [advertising@openfield.org.uk](mailto:advertising@openfield.org.uk) or  
call **01777 871506** for details and  
info on web pages / links.



# Wellow Maypole Celebrations 2025

Despite an uncertain weather forecast, Wellow Maypole Celebrations were once more very well supported, with the Maypole Green crowded with spectators in anticipation of the afternoon's entertainment.

Master of Ceremonies Rob Rose, BBC East Midlands TV weatherman and broadcaster, kept the crowds amused as the afternoon unfolded. The highlight is the children's procession onto the green from St Swithin's church, followed by the Crowning of the new May Queen. Retiring May Queen Evie Hollingworth placed the crown upon the head of Gaby Cooper, Wellow's May Queen 2025, and then the



maypole dancing began. Local children learn the intricate dances for several weeks in advance of Maypole Day, with the more complex dances especially relying on teamwork and timing.

Also entertaining the crowds during the afternoon were the Medieval Maniax with their tricks and slapstick humour, and Ollie Hayes – local musician and former maypole dancer himself – with a wide repertoire of songs

including his very own 'Maypole Days'. Local Morris side Rattlejag plus Punch and Judy could be found around the green, as well as classic Mini cars, a working model steam engine, traditional organ, children's swing boats and lots of stalls and games. Something to interest everyone, which is always one of the aims of the organisers Wellow Maypole Committee.

At the end of the event the grand raffle was drawn with the lucky winners claiming prizes, many donated by local businesses in support of the event. Fundraising through the raffle, tombola, souvenir programmes and home-made cakes continues to be an important aspect of the day's activities.

This year marked 75 years since Wellow Maypole Celebrations restarted

# Beeby Plumbing

All plumbing enquiries please call:

Guy Beeby

**07792 484876**

**01636 822103**

Oftec qualified.

Fully insured.

- Domestic Plumbing •
- Taps to Toilets Installation & Repair •
- Central Heating Installation & Repair •
- Oil Boiler Installation & Service •

No Gas Work

*[guy.beeby@btinternet.com](mailto:guy.beeby@btinternet.com)*

## Corrine Parkes

Your local weight loss consultant  
121 Diet by Cambridge  
Weight Plan

- Virtual or face to face consultations
- Special new client discounts
- Free first consultation

Contact me today  
**07857 187237**

[corrine.parkes121diet@gmail.com](mailto:corrine.parkes121diet@gmail.com)

## Stuart Rose

DESIGNER AND MAKER OF  
ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK

SECURITY GRILLES, RAILINGS, SCROLLWORK & GATES FOR HOME  
& BUSINESS

GENERAL BLACKSMITHING

IRONWORK REPAIRS & WELDING

## Stan The Sweep

**Local Professional Vacuum  
Chimney Sweep**

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

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

**07831 661304**

**01636 821466**

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



Member of the  
guild of master  
sweeps



after a prolonged break during and after World War 2. As the only village in Nottinghamshire continuing to celebrate its maypole heritage, Wellow is unique. Support for this event is evident by the amount of people who return year after year to witness the crowning and maypole dancing. It is hoped to continue this tradition

for many more years to come!

## **Dukeries Singers**

The recent concerts by The Dukeries Singers at Ollerton and Edwinstowe were well received by the audience. Under the guidance of Musical Director, Mr. John Pope, the choir delivered performances that left the audience both enchanted and exhilarated.



Mr. Pope compered the events with his signature brand of humour, creating a warm and friendly atmosphere. His witty interludes made the evening not just a musical treat but also a joyous communal experience.

The theme of the concerts, "Songs from the Musicals," showcased the choir's versatility and passion. The highlight of the evening was the medley of songs from *Les Misérables*. The powerful renditions of these timeless classics drew enthusiastic applause and even a few tears.

Another standout moment was the medley of upbeat Beatles songs, reimagined in a boogie style. This arrangement had the audience clapping, singing along, and even dancing in their seats. It was clear that both the choir and the audience were having the time of their lives.

These concerts were a testament to the hard work and dedication of The Dukeries Singers and their director. They not only showcased exceptional musical talent but also brought the community together in celebration of the arts. Here's to many more such memorable evenings! If you would like to join the choir, contact **John Banbury on 07759-086132**. While we would wish to particularly strengthen the alto section there is no need to be able to read music, and you won't have to audition or test; just come along and sing, have fun, and make new friends.



# KNEESALL

MUSIC MARATHON

RAISING FUNDS FOR CHURCH ROOF REPAIRS



## 5th & 6th July

### SATURDAY

Piano and Violin  
massed playtogether

Workshop by  
"Power of Drums"

The Piano Barn  
celebration concert

### SUNDAY

Singalong Hymns  
with Breakfast

Kneesall Knightingales

Finale concert:  
Jill Crossland piano &  
Radcliffe on Trent MVC

### ALL WEEKEND

Explore the beautiful  
rewilded churchyard

Local musicians

Refreshments & Raffle

Open Church

For tickets and more information:

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

Or scan the QR code



## Usedgardenmachinery.co.uk

Formerly of Beacon Court, Ollerton (Not connected with JBK Services)

**Lawnmowers, Garden Machinery Serviced, Small  
Repairs, Free advice & Pricing etc.**

*All repairs carried out at main service centre*

*Small collection & delivery charge for  
repairs*



**All makes of machinery bought  
and sold.**

**Free collection when we buy**



**Don't scrap it! Recycle it.**

**T: 01623 860343**

**M: 07594 198646**

# Sports Field Bonus Ball Weekly Draw

Date	Bonus Ball No.	Winner
10/05/2025	18	Dave & Helen
17/05/2025	26	Anne- Marie H
24/05/2025	04	Cath & Mick
31/05/2025	52	Steph
07/06/2025	56	Clive & Sue
14/06/2025	46	Lesley & Steve

We now have 5 numbers available (30, 35, 40, 41 & 53). If you would like to join or indeed, if anyone would like an additional number. All proceeds help support the Sports Field and facilities.

A weekly prize of £25 is up for grabs. The winning number is the bonus ball number drawn in the Saturday Lotto draw. If a free number is drawn, the prize rolls over to then following week.

Thank you for your support,

*Dave & Helen.*

Wellow Church Schoolroom with the Wellow Heritage & Tourism Group invite you to join

## **Guided Village Walks around Wellow's Heritage**

**Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> July at 2.00pm or  
Sat 13<sup>th</sup> September at 1.30pm**

from the Schoolroom

Each walk takes around 90 minutes, covering 1.5 miles.

You are invited to stay for a cup of tea and rest in the Schoolroom after the walk and enjoy browsing the heritage displays.

**Wellow Church Schoolroom, Newark Rd, Wellow NG22 0EA**

Places are free but limited, therefore booking is essential.

To book a place and ask about parking, email:  
**denishill1066@gmail.com or call 07443 536811**



# LEE DOYLE

## Building Contractor

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

10 Elm Tree Rise  
Kneesall  
Newark  
Notts



## Britnell Tree Services



### All Aspects of Tree Works

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

### Gardening & Landscaping

Reliable & Trustworthy Fully Insured &  
Qualified

All works carried out to BS3998  
Call Will today for your free quote on  
07821 342942 or 01636 702807 or  
email

BritnellTreeServices@gmail.com



**DOG GROOMING AND TEETH CLEANING**  
**AVAILABLE IN SUTTON-ON-TRENT**

**CONTACT HANNAH: 07771631848**  
[tudorgrooming@gmail.com](mailto:tudorgrooming@gmail.com)

**TUDOR COURT, SHIRES WAY, GREAT  
NORTH ROAD, SUTTON-ON-TRENT,  
NEWARK, NG23 6PP.**

## "FEET FIRST"

**MOBILE  
CHIROPODY SERVICES**

**Sharon Foster**  
**M.Inst.Ch.P.**  
**HPC Registered No:**  
**CH18101**

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



## Tuxford Lawnmower Centre Ltd



*Specialist in all types of Garden Machinery*

**Sales, Service, Spares & Repairs**

**Tel 01522 779110**

**Come & Visit our Showroom Today!**

Ashcroft, Gainsborough Rd, Girton, NG23 7HX

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

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



# Milton Mausoleum

**Saturday & Sunday 13th & 14th September: Heritage Weekend at the Mausoleum & West Markham Church.**

Do you know much about your local or family history? Many interesting, historical and detailed archives will be on show. Maybe, you could add more? Do you have some interesting memorabilia that you would like to share? Free entry to this event. Third draw of our 100 Lottery. Refreshments available. Come along and share your knowledge.

For more details, please contact us.



**Sat. December 6th at 3pm Carols by Candlelight in the Mausoleum** – our extremely popular start to the Christmas celebrations. Our entertainment is by The Four Players. There will be Mince Pies, Mulled Wine, and a Seasonal Raffle. The list is already filling up. Come along and join in the fun. Book your place as soon as possible as there is limited seating at this event and places are being reserved now!

**All our events lists for 2025 are open NOW for your bookings, book early to avoid disappointment.**

For all enquiries: please contact Gill **01777 811358** or Jenny **01777 811219** or email **[milton.mausoleum@outlook.com](mailto:milton.mausoleum@outlook.com)** for bookings and any enquiries about the above events.

*The Milton Mausoleum is cared for by the Churches Conservation Trust*

*Milton Mausoleum, The Avenue, Milton NG22 0PW*

## New Season at Doddington Hall

An exciting new development for this year and on-going is the return of the **Sculpture Exhibition**. Previously this has been on alternate years, but the decision has been made to make it an annual event. This will be the first year when the exhibition will return after just 12 months. As usual there will be plenty of time to see it as it will run from **26th July to 7th September**, and again will include the 'Young Sculptor' Award.

## Citizens Advice gives advice on Winter Fuel Payments.

In June the government announced a U turn on their decision around winter fuel payments.

The change in criteria will mean approximately 9 million pensioners in the UK will receive the payment. You'll get a payment for winter 2025 to 2026 if:

- you've reached State Pension age
- your income is up to £35,000 a year

If your income is over £35,000 a year, you'll still get the Winter Fuel Payment - but the government will take back the money through your taxes.

The winter fuel payment is an annual one-off payment to help you pay for heating during the winter.

For winter 2025 to 2026, you'll be eligible if you were born before 22 September 1959.

Your household will get either £200 or £300 - this depends on your age. The money will be paid automatically.

- If you or your partner is under 80 years old, your household will get £200.
- If you or your partner is 80 or over, your household will get £300.
- Each household will only get one payment.

Right now we don't have much more information on how and when the payments will be distributed, we expect more information later on in the year.

To check your eligibility for this and other energy schemes please give us a call on **0300 5610330** or

visit our website **[www.ca-centralnotts.org.uk](http://www.ca-centralnotts.org.uk)** .

We can inform you of our drop in session availability or arrange to call you back with further advice.



## Group Oil Order

The happy news reported last month was that the 1000 litre average price for oil in England published daily by Boilerjuice, has continued to go nicely downwards since we placed our February order, taking it lower than it has been for three years. It continued to go down reaching a fraction under 50p/litre including VAT on 9th June.

Then trouble worsened in the Middle East and the price went up immediately. On 16th June it had risen to 53.26p / litre. With the warm weather we have had, and in the absence of any messages saying oil is needed, it seems prudent to wait a few weeks to see what happens before thinking about buying.

We normally have a late summer order to stock everyone up before the winter is upon us. It would seem a good idea to delay this until August unless members of the group are needing to buy sooner. Please let me know when you think you will need to order and I will plan with the majority.

The ordering group is simply a way of a number of people placing their order through me at the same time to benefit from a discount. This is given to reflect the simplicity of the process for the supplier and the volume ordered. The more the volume, the better the price, so we encourage people to order with us if they want to.

There is no need to order each time. You just send in your contact details to join the group and then notify your requirements by the date given on each occasion we order if you wish to take part. If you have plenty, or change your mind you simply don't order.

Once the supplier has been chosen, everyone is notified and it is then up to you individually to handle the payment. New members of the group are welcome at any time, and if you are new to the village, please feel free to make yourself known.

The only requirement is that you can notify what you need by email or have someone who can do so on your behalf.

At the present time we have group members in Laxton, Moorhouse, Egmonton, Kneesall, Tuxford, Sutton on Trent - and Sturton le Steeple! If you want to be part of the next order, please contact me on my personal email if you have it or on **oil@openfield.org.uk** as a new member.


*Joy*

# Friendly & caring residential homes for your loved ones

At Ashall Care, we have genuine affection for our residents. It matters to us and it matters to our residents. Our dedicated and long-serving team of friendly carers are tirelessly committed to the wellbeing and happiness of residents' lives.

24-hour residential care, offering permanent and respite accommodations

**Contact us to book a visit to see what we can offer**

  
**Barnby Court**  
CARE HOME

**Barnby Court Care Home**  
Great North Road, Barnby Moor  
Retford DN22 8QS  
**01777 705902**

  
**Farthings**  
RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME

**Farthings Residential Care Home**  
Old London Road, West Drayton  
Retford DN22 8ED  
**01777 838219**

Email: [info@ashallcare.co.uk](mailto:info@ashallcare.co.uk) Website: [ashallcare.co.uk](http://ashallcare.co.uk)



## **E Gill & Sons** *Funeral Directors*

E Gill & Sons are proud to have provided care and advice to families in the Newark and District area for over 100 years

**24 Hour Personal Care**  
**Prepaid Funeral Plans Available**

**Newark and District**

**01636 677461**



[egillandsons.co.uk](http://egillandsons.co.uk)



## New Exhibition at Lakeside, Nottingham

Professor John Beckett has drawn our attention to the following event:

### **Country Lives: exploring the English countryside from 1800.**

This is an exhibition convened at Lakeside, University of Nottingham, by the Department of Manuscripts and Dr Sarah Holland of the Department of History. It is open now and runs until 21st September.

This exhibition, which is in the Weston Gallery, does what it says on the tin and is very well worth visiting if you are in the vicinity. The main question is what have we done with the countryside over the past 200 years. It draws heavily on the resources of Manuscripts and Special Collections, and is free to access. If you want more information **0115 846 7777**.



*Thanks to Dave  
Sheard for this set  
of photos.*





# 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.

- ♦ **Yoga** – with Karen Baker Mondays, 7pm - 8.15pm.  
Email [karenbaker321@outlook.com](mailto:karenbaker321@outlook.com) mobile **07399 669380**
- ♦ **Pilates** - Thursdays from 5:30pm - 6.30pm with Holly Rye.  
Contact **07415436001** Email [holly-rye@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:holly-rye@hotmail.co.uk)
- ♦ **Egmanton WI** - Third Thursdays in the Hall
- ♦ **Coffee Morning**: The second Saturday of the month from 10 - 12 .  
Next will be **July 12th**. All welcome.

*All events appear on the web site - see above*

## Reporting Potholes

A reminder about the pothole reporting contact details are:

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



Or ring Customer Services on 0300 500 8080

## Laxton Defibrillator

The defibrillator in the Visitor Centre, is always accessible as neither the Visitor Centre door nor the cabinet housing is locked. Please do remember that the defibrillator must only be used once authorised by a call to 999.

*Michael Manning*

## Booking Laxton Village Hall

The Hall is available for anyone to book and bookings are taken through the web site. Please visit:

<https://www.laxtonvh.org.uk/>



# Useful Contact Details

## Defibrillator Contacts:

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

## Police

Sgt 2949 Christian Hurley, Sherwood Neighbourhood Policing Team,  
Ollerton Police Station

PC Gary Sipson 07525 226575 or 101 x 800 7673

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

PC2548 Deborah Bakin supported by  
PCSO 8524 Richard Dunn at Southwell

07595 074292

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

**Cardiac Arrest? Say “Alexa Activate Emergency CPR” to an Alexa device**

Fire Safety Advice (Tuxford Fire Station) 01777 870381  
MP Mr Robert Jenrick: [robert.jenrick.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:robert.jenrick.mp@parliament.uk) 01636 612 837  
County Councillor: [cllr.mike.pringle@nottsgov.uk](mailto:cllr.mike.pringle@nottsgov.uk) 0115 977 5661  
Parish Council website: [www.laxtonandmoorhouseparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.laxtonandmoorhouseparishcouncil.co.uk)



Roger, Joan and Reggie Cottee seem to have taken the expression 'making an exhibition of yourself' a little too literally.

This shot was taken by Bryony, Joan's daughter, at the Royal Cornwall Museum, where she is the Artistic Director

One friend commented 'Oh, she accepted the bribe then!', but happily she soon let them out after capturing a very unusual shot for the family album.

# **Laxton Garden Fête**

**Friday, 12 July 2024, 6:30 pm**

**At Blacksmiths Cottage, High Street**

**by kind permission of Roy and Jean Hennell**

**Cake stall, tombola, books, bric a brac, plants, raffle**

**Hot dogs, cream scones, tea and coffee**

**Bowls, Skittles, Ladder, Bean Bags**

**Come along and enjoy the evening.**

***Any prizes or donations for the stalls will be gratefully received***

**All proceeds for Laxton church**