

Open Field

£1

Coronation Edition

June 2023



The Coronation Street Party, Laxton, 7th May 2023

The monthly publication of the
parish of Laxton & Moorhouse

www.openfield.org.uk



Priest in Charge
Churchwardens

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Mrs Brenda Noble 01777 870541
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Vacant

Mr Ben Wells 01623 861309

Mrs Jean Crofts

Vacant

Deanery contact number

01636 650063

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Catherine Millward 01636 813387

Parish Councillors: Chairman

Mr Simon Hill

Vice Chair

Mr Jem Hill

Members

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Mr Dave Sheard, Mrs Anna Moorhouse
Mrs Rebecca Creighton

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Allison

Open Field

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**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 16th June 2023 PLEASE. EARLIER PREFERRED.
You can send at any time.**

A Message From Our Churchwarden



I must apologise to those in church on Sunday morning for our Rogation Sunday service. First, the organ decided not to work, then we found we had no electricity. Then I walked Simon, our saviour, who managed to get some electricity so we could have some music.

The reason the organ didn't work at Margaret's funeral was

because the boiler blew all the fuses, as we found out later when the electrician turned up. The boiler, which is underground, was standing in water. Thanks Lee for pumping it out.

The next thing was waiting for the vicar to turn up, which he didn't, so it wasn't a very good day! Thanks again to Simon, who was passing on his way to help Jem with the sheep. He popped in and ended up taking the service for us!

Thanks also to Joy for giving us a write-up in 'Open Field' about the traditions of Rogation Sunday, which is one of the traditional services, which we have kept going.

Brenda

Laxton Open Fields Interpretation Panels

As reported last month, a site visit was made to all the nine locations with Thoresby's Jim Muirhead, Stuart Rose and Robert Haigh from the Trustees and Gates and Common and Michael Manning from the Trustees Board.

With slight modifications to the existing sites, all locations were agreed and we were assured that they were in the process of being made and that they would be installed in the week following Easter.

Unfortunately this has not happened and we are again waiting for an update from Thoresby.

Best wishes
Michael Manning

Birth Congratulations

Congratulations to Jamie Hennell and Chloe While on the birth of Dolcie Isabelle Louise on 12th May weighing 7lb 6 oz at Kings Mill Hospital.

Dolcie is a sister for Isla and Logan, a grandchild for Neil and Rachel Hennell of Laxton and a great granddaughter for Roy and Jean Hennell, also of Laxton.

Get Well Wishes

We send our very best wishes to George Noble, who has had an unexpected stay in hospital. We wish him well with his recovery. Our thoughts and prayers are with him, Brenda and their family at this difficult time.

We are very pleased to know that John S has finally had his operation and is recovering well. We send best wishes and hope he will soon be fully fit.

We send best wishes for a speedy recovery and to anyone who is unwell at the present time. Our thoughts are also with those awaiting hospital admission.

We are always pleased to share good wishes for anyone who is unwell, but we do need to know that they consent to their names being published please.

Thank You from Brenda

I would just like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has enquired about George after he was suddenly rushed into hospital on Easter Monday for an emergency operation. He is now home and making a slow recovery, which will take time.

Thank you to everyone who sent cards; has called on the phone or has been to see him at home. Thank you to those who made the journey to Doncaster to see him, and to Edwin, who has been to see him most days, trying to keep his morale up.

It will probably be quite a while before he's driving his tractor up and down the village, but I'm sure he'll get there.

Brenda

Elections for the Parish Council

Following the election on 4/5/23 the newly elected Councillors were sworn in on 9/5/23 and they are as follows in alphabetical order:

Rebecca CREIGHTON

Anna MOORHOUSE

Mark HENNELL

Stuart ROSE

Jem HILL

David SHEARD

Simon HILL

This is my last Laxton Parish News report for the magazine. I decided to retire after “a long time” as a Parish Councillor and therefore did not stand for re election.

I wish all the re-elected and newly elected Councillors every success, hope they find the job as stimulating and worthwhile as I have and that they will enjoy looking after our unique and precious Parish.

Best wishes,
Michael Manning

Publishing Full Names in Open Field

Thank you to the people who have given permission for us to use their full names in the magazine. Until we have a longer list you will still see a mixture of full names and first name plus initial. At least one family has expressed pleasure in seeing their names in full in future.

When the laws on personal information changed a few years ago, the then vicar, Zoe Burton, told us that we should not use the full name of anyone who had not given explicit permission for that to happen. Southwell Minster carries a message to this effect in every issue of its ‘Pew News’.

The magazine runs under the auspices of the church and so we must to follow their guidance.

If you are happy for your name to be included in full in this publication and in the on-line version, please let Jean Hennell or Joy Allison know. We now have a list of people we may name and we would like to be able to add you to it.

Thank you

Jean & Joy



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Village Hall News



The Village Hall Trustees held their AGM in the village hall on May 11th. The Trustees thanked Adrian and Clare Walker for their service to the village in helping to maintain the upkeep of the village hall, and a presentation of a garden voucher and a bottle of whisky was made to them.

Joan Cottee will in future take on the role of chair for the group. Sam Wortley will continue to be treasurer, ably supported by Ian Robinson. Roger Cottee will take on the secretarial role and bookings for the hall, also supported by Ian Robinson as minuting secretary and also link with the Charity Commission who grant us Charitable Incorporated Organisation status.

The other members of the Village Hall Trustees are Lesley Booth, Charlotte Gregory, Sam Harrison, Keith Morton, Stuart Rose, Karen Sanford, and Dave Sheard. Linda Malloy was also proposed as a Trustee. This will bring the Trustees up to their full number.

Each Trustee contributes whatever skills and experience they have in order to run the village hall as effectively as possible; catering, looking after the fabric of the hall, accountancy, secretarial skills, I.T., links to the village, fund raising, advertising and the many other tasks involved in keeping our lovely hall open for the use of the village.

This year the hall has been used for christenings and funerals, training events, the village quiz, voting, coffee mornings and parties. It is the cheapest and, in our opinion best equipped, hall in the area. Despite our efforts, however, the village hall runs at a loss, so we would be grateful for your continued support. Please feel free to book on line or to call Joan and Roger Cottee on 01777 871137.

Joan Cottee

on behalf of the Village Hall Trustees.

Doddington Hall Iris Week

This colourful and popular event runs between Sunday 28th May - 4th June, 10am - 4pm, £8.50 adult, 4 - 16 £4.50.

Family ticket available, Season ticket holders, Historic Houses members and RHS members free.

Church Flower Festival



What a glorious sight the church was over the weekend of 22nd and 23rd April.

A small team had worked hard in the period immediately before, cleaning every square inch they could reach, first for Margaret Maddison's funeral, then baby Ralph Creighton's baptism and putting the finishing touches on the Thursday before the Festival. How lovely our beautiful old church looked.

The flowers began to arrive and it was extremely kind of Lisa Hollingsworth from Forget-Me-Notts florists in Ollerton to stay and help arrange the flowers she had delivered. We also send a big thank you to Lisa for all her help in acquiring the flowers for us.

The display included individual arrangements honouring special people or events as well as those provided or sponsored by local groups and organisations. We had over 30 displays of flowers. On behalf of the Parochial Church Council, I would like to take this opportunity to thank those businesses, societies, clubs, and members of the public for all their delightful floral arrangements.

It was particularly good to see two arrangements supplied by friends from Wellow, yet again supporting Laxton. It is always appreciated.

The reception team were in place by the opening time of 10am on the Saturday. They had changed their title from cleaning team to flower arranging team and now became the welcoming party and assistants at the refreshment table. Yes, some of them had also found time to bake cakes for the visitors! Thanks to them and all the other bakers.

Expecting a steady flow, they were pleasantly surprised to find the church 'packed' around mid day on Saturday. Sandra was sitting by the door in the afternoon and had a large jar beside her with an encouraging collection of blue/green and brown notes in it. At the moment, we have not got a final figure on the profit we have made for the church funds, as we still have some more money to come in.

Visitors continued to arrive throughout the afternoon and it was rewarding to hear the pews echoing to happy chatter and to see people enjoying looking at the flowers, the vestments on display and the photo albums in the choir stalls.

Those who came on Sunday were to be commended for turning out on what was a far from pleasant day. Despite that everyone enjoyed the occasion, the company, the flowers and the refreshments.

Thanks to everyone who came or helped in any way, especially those who stood in for me when I was unable to be there. Special thanks to Janet and Jean who have been watering the flowers since.

Thank you everyone, *Brenda*

JUNE CONGRATULATIONS

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

June must take the prize for the month with the most celebrations taking place among villagers and friends.

*Jessica Rose, Rebecca Creighton
Julie Bartle (neè Rose) Lucy,
Serena C, Elaine B, Oliver N, Joan
W (92), Mary, and Brian.*

*We wish a happy anniversary to
George & Brenda Noble, Stuart &
Sylvia Rose, Dave & Joyce Stone,
Mark & Amanda Hennell, John &
Brenda Chambers, Christopher &
Julia Banks, Jonny & Lynnette D
and anyone else celebrating this
month.*

*If you are celebrating please accept
best wishes. If you are aware that
we have missed someone,
please let us know so that we
can congratulate them.*



Laxton History Group



Laxton History Group has been part of the annual Local History event at Mansfield Library from the beginning ten years ago. This year things had to be scaled down as they moved the displays into the main Library to be in front of more people, but with consequently less space for everyone exhibiting.

The theme this year was 'Hands On Heritage', so we were asked to provide something interactive for the visitors. We opted for a rolling picture show of photos of all aspects of the village and a quiz based on Laxton dialect words, which Joan Cottee developed for the presentation based on our booklets which we took to other groups.

Unfortunately the footfall in the area we were allocated among the large dictionaries and reference books was very limited. The team saw hardly anyone and consequently had little opportunity to engage with the visitors. In fact when someone went to ask where to find our display, nobody at the front desk had any idea. All in all it was a disappointing day with a disproportionate effort by the team for the results achieved. We have decided not to take part in future.

The planned excursion in July has run into some difficulty in securing the booking. Jean still hopes to arrange somewhere interesting for us to go, but please look out for details or see the noticeboard in the village for details. Thanks to Helen Sheard for offering to keep the board up to date. This has already brought about a big improvement.



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EVERYBODY WELCOME!

**Raffle proceeds to the Salvation
Army Ukrainian Appeal.**

**All other proceeds to
Kirton Church Fund**

May Day at Laxton Castle



It was one of those rare occasions when 1st May falls on the early May Bank Holiday, so it was an ideal opportunity for people who wanted to go and watch

Rattlejag Morris from Retford dancing to welcome the May Day sunrise on top of Laxton Castle. Rattlejag had mustered a good team of dancers as well as their musicians. They also needed some cooks



because bacon cobs were produced from a barbecue accompanied by

beer or hot drinks. There was such a good crowd - around 150 according to one estimate - that they sold out and the dancers were rationed to half a cob each at the end.

The crowd included a good representation from the village, made up of some for whom work commitments make it difficult to attend

regularly; newer villagers for whom it was their first time and visitors. Everyone had a good time despite the rain, which decided to fall at just about the time everyone was making their way up to the castle. Maybe the faint rainbow which appeared behind the dancers was some compensation, but luckily it stopped, allowing the sun to beam through the clouds at about 6.30am, just as the dancing finished.

There was no shortage of volunteers to join in the public dancing after the Rattlejag dancers showed the way.



Dawn Chorus Walk

Lynda Milner and Chris Gunn, regular attenders who are also skilled at identifying bird song, came to join Stuart Rose to lead the Dawn Chorus walk after the dancing was over. Reinforced with best quality bacon cobs and the lively,

traditional tunes and steps of the Morris dancers, 15 people, including 6 year old Louis in sturdy boots, and his 3 year old sister Lucy on her dad's shoulders, cautiously made the slippery descent from the Castle Hill, eager to follow Stuart along the paths and byways to look out and listen for birds.

By now the sun had burned through the cloud and the birds responded. A skylark ascended beside our path, singing all the way up into the blue and a whitethroat, with

its distinctive song, bounced up from a nearby hedge before descending parachute-like back to its territory.



Whitethroat by Des Lloyd



Skylark by Des Lloyd

The Open

Fields were alive with more skylarks while overhead 3 buzzards glided and flapped in an elaborate display. On the ground grey partridge and pheasant made an unmusical accompaniment. But it was the hedges and nearby Kirton Wood that provided the cover and song posts for

yellowhammer, blackcap, robin, chiffchaff, wren, bluetit and song thrush. Closer to the village greenfinch, blackbird, dunnock, house sparrow, pied wagtail and chaffinch augmented the chorus with swallows overhead. No cuckoo this time but two had been heard locally in previous days. 24 species were recorded by 9 am. What a start to the Merry Month of May.

Chris Gunn & Lynda Milner



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A Moorhouse Departure



Those who pass up and down the road from Moorhouse towards Egmonton and Tuxford will have noticed a large shelter which appeared a while ago. Those passing slowly enough

had a chance to spot James and Kimberly's barge standing inside being prepared for a life on the water. At the end of May it



was ready and Simon Hill captured these photos of its exit over the hedge to begin its journey to Redhill Marina. Thanks to Simon for sending them.

Laxton History Group



Laxton History Group has uncovered references to celebrations of earlier coronations. During the work undertaken to produce the Lottery funded booklets, we discovered this reference to the arrangements in 1902.

"In 1902 a meeting of parishioners was called in the schoolroom to discuss what might be done to celebrate the forthcoming Coronation of King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra. This was to take place in Westminster Abbey in June, but having been postponed due to the King's illness, did not take place until 9th August that year.





It was agreed to make a collection to pay for the celebration and William Bennett, together with Samuel Peatfield from the cottages at Ide Farm willingly offered to canvas house to house. The Newark Herald of 3rd May 1902 reported that the villagers 'contributed liberally' and 20/- [£1] had already been collected."

Since the publication of our booklets, Stuart Rose has discovered the ticket (above) for the Dinner which was held.

Also in the files we discovered this quote about the origins of her enterprise from Florrie Bennett, the popular shopkeeper who ran her business from the building which was still the shop until relatively recently.

'It was King George V's coronation that got me going. There was a big tea for everyone in the village and I got the order for the food. I laid in a good stock of biscuits, cakes and minerals. There was a dance at night and it was so crowded that a lot of people came into my shop for refreshments. The shop, the store room, the living room and the kitchen were all full of people until one o'clock in the morning. This gave me a bit of cash with which to speculate.'

In 1953, the celebration took the form of a Coronation Tea, with so many people interested that two sittings were needed. It seems it was the norm to bring your own cutlery. Own crockery and glasses were specified in 1953, so the idea of bringing your own is certainly not new.

 Laxton Coronation Tea 	
June 2nd, 1953	
CHILDREN	4.30 p.m. ... (a)
ADULTS	4.30 p.m. 1st Sitting ... (b) 1
	6.0 p.m. 2nd Sitting ... (b) 2
in the Village Hall	
Please return this Card stating at (a) number of Children under 15 years attending and at (b) 1 or (b) 2 number of adults and which sitting preferred.	
All adults please bring own cutlery, cup and saucer and plate.	

The Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla



As the earlier examples show, Laxton can be relied upon to celebrate in style, and this Coronation was no different. A weekend of activities and festivities was planned by a whole host of people and involved villagers and friends.

A big thank you to everyone who has written their accounts and / or allowed their photographs to be used in *Open Field*. Bringing all of these accounts together, we hope it will bring back memories of the events you took part in and the images you saw on the TV and in the press to create a souvenir of a very special day.

It is not possible to list everyone's name, but we have included extra colour pages this month to enable us to make the most of the wealth of photos and stories we were sent. We hope you enjoy seeing your souvenirs of this historical event in print.

Starting the weekend was **The Dovecote Inn Party**.

As we all recall, Saturday 6th May broke to overcast skies and rain showers. Despite this, the afternoon and evening of Coronation Day



was a great success at The Dovecote, where Sam and Sophie Harrison hosted a family fun day which was organised by manager Alice Stanley.

Villagers, families and friends from Laxton, Moorhouse and further afield came together. Children enjoyed the helter-skelter despite the chill in the air, whilst families partook of the delicious hog roast, ice cream barrow and the spoils of the Victoria sandwich cake competition.

The competition certainly produced some delicious looking entries, though maybe the strict definition of 'Victoria Sponge' was stretched a little. Congratulations to Lucy Hamilton, Ben and Arlo who were declared the winners.

Laxton Street Party

On Sunday 7th May it was time for the village street party. It could not have been more different with blue skies and glorious spring sunshine.

Preparation for the event began some weeks ago, and thanks should go to the special 'Coronation Committee' brought together for the purpose: in alphabetical order Joan and Roger Cottee, Rebecca Creighton, Sam Harrison, Mark Hennell, Frankie, Jem and Simon Hill, Graham Laughton, Mike Manning, Anna Moorhouse, Ivan Rayner, Stuart Rose, David and Helen Sheard.

The event was funded by the Parish Council and a grant from the District Council. Staging of the event started very early that morning. Obtaining a road closure is no simple affair, so the wide pavement and verge near the Village Hall (Plan B in case of wet weather) were fenced off using farm fencing with very handy gates.

Just to make sure that any passing motorists realised they should give the area a wide berth, four vintage tractors were parked alongside, giving the whole thing a very Laxton atmosphere. Many thanks to Linda and to Jon for offering use of their drives.

Later on tables, bunting and sound system were set up ready for the guests. Unlike previous Coronations, everyone was invited to bring their own picnic to eat at the long street table.

Some had gone to town with table decorations and crowns; union flags and patriotic hats appeared. Joan Cottee was given the responsibility of judging them for special prizes. The well deserved winners were John Shepherd with his imaginative wooden crown table decoration and Sylvia Rose with her crown. Grandson Ralph came a close second with his crown

Everything was relaxed and informal with plenty of bubbly to toast the



occasion. A jolly time was enjoyed by all. With everyone sated and enjoying the companionship on a sunny afternoon, the younger generation in the form of Helen Sheard and Rebecca Creighton galvanised everyone to tackle a surprisingly competitive game of bingo or two.

Much laughter was heard as chocolate bars were handed out as prizes. The original idea was that they rewarded the first line, but with a bursting bag to distribute and good fun being had, it seemed that any raised hand was rewarded.

A full house earned a bigger reward with boxes of chocolates or bottles of prosecco going to the lucky winners of the three games. Many thanks to the brilliant hosts for their efforts.

Helen also made sure that the afternoon was recorded in photos and took advantage of a tractor to get an elevated viewpoint.

As the afternoon drew to a close, Michael Manning, recently retired Chairman of the Parish Council, presented the children with commemorative coins. These were gifted to all the village children up to and including 16 years of age and were funded by the Parish Council with a contribution from the Community Coffee Morning.

Four of the recent babies were there and all gave their gifts the taste test before parents quickly put them safely out of reach.

Many thanks to everyone who put so much effort in to making the afternoon such a pleasant, community centred occasion, and especially to the younger ones and newer villagers who took a big part. Thank you everyone.

The Big Help Out

Monday 8th May was a day of volunteering. Villagers gathered with members of the 'coronation committee' and members of Tuxford Young Farmers at the Village Hall, before setting off undeterred by the wet weather, on a litter pick.

Twenty five bags of rubbish were collected before folks returned for hot drinks and bacon/sausages cobs expertly prepared by the "support" team in the kitchen.

Litter pickers in addition to the committee included Geoff and Anne Marie Rose, Clive and Sue, Richard Waltham, Karen Sanford, Mampa, Stephanie Tunnard, Keith Morton, Karen Singleton, Alan Moorhouse, Lucy Hamilton, Jessica Rose, Ian Creighton, Andrew Hill. Ralph Creighton will be able to claim that he was the youngest of the

JUNE SERVICES IN OUR VILLAGE CHURCHES

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

28th May

No services

4th June

10:30 am Laxton	HC	Rev Alistair
4.00 pm Wellow	HC	Rev John Smith.

11th June

9.00am Egmanton	HC	Father David
10:30am Kirton	HC	Father David
10:30 am, Kneesall TBC.		

18th June


10.00am Walesby	HC	Rev Vaughn
10:30am Wellow	HC	Rev Margaret.

25th June

No services

2nd July

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



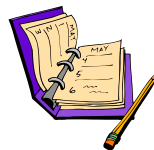
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2023

May

Mon 29th

Wellow Maypole Day



June

14th

WI

17th

Coffee Morning LVH

21st

History Group

Forward Planning

Fri July 14th

Laxton Church Garden Fete

Sat 15th July

Coffee Morning

Mon 31st July

Final date to use non bar coded stamps

Sat 30th Sept

Southwell Ploughing Match, South Muskham

Regular Events:

Parish Council

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

Quiz Nights

1st Friday of December & March tbc

**Copy Date for JULY 2023 edition:
12 noon, 16th JUNE 2023**

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.

team on the day, although it is unlikely he will remember much about it.

The Young Farmers had had a litter pick of their own earlier and came on to help out in Laxton after that. Jessica Rose had travelled from Windsor to be there, but more of that later ...



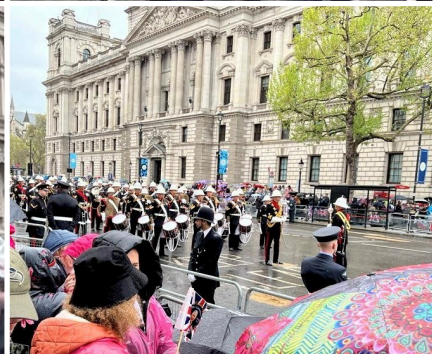
Individual Celebrations

Some locals got into the swing of things with some suitably themed Coronation fare for their celebrations at home. At the Hoyland household in Egmonton, Jill made the Coronation quiche recipe, thanks to some broad beans in the freezer, while daughter Ella made a patriotic flag cake. Even their Jack Russell, Alvin, got in the mood in his 'union jacket'.

A Visit to London

Lee, Paula and Ruby travelled down to London for the Coronation of King Charles III. They stopped Friday night ready for an early start on Saturday morning. They decided to go near the Cenotaph in Whitehall, thinking it probably wouldn't be as busy.

When Charles and Camilla were going to the Abbey they were so many rows back on the pavement. When the procession had passed, people moved away, probably going for food etc. Then they got near the front and had a great view of the gold coach as it came back from the Abbey.



It was a day Ruby will not forget. Tiring but well worth it. On Sunday they had a look round at the sites and all the decorations before travelling home in the afternoon.

Paula managed to get some great photos which appear on here and on the previous page. She told us that they knew they would have to be in position early as the route would start being closed off early. Their early start proved worth it as they heard of others who came a little later and found their way barred.

The whole service from Westminster Abbey was relayed to the crowds via speakers in the street. The grand finale of the trip was a wonderful view of the scaled back flypast, and Paula got a great shot of the Red Arrows flying overhead.



The Coronation Concert

The National Federation of Young Farmers Clubs were allocated 20 of the 10,000 tickets for seats at the Coronation Concert at Windsor Castle.

Jessica Rose was invited to put her name forward for the ballot for these tickets because this year she is the Chair of the Nottinghamshire Young Farmers Clubs. She was thrilled to be one of the lucky winners.

Fearing bad weather as the forecast for the weekend did not look too promising, Jessica decided that a clear poncho would be a useful addition to the small bag she would be allowed to take in. A shopping



The newly crowned King in the gold State Coach and the Coronation Concert at Windsor Castle



trip to Newark revealed that clear ones were nowhere to be found, but she did find a cheerful yellow one. As more observant readers may have noticed, it came in very useful during the Litter Pick on the Monday.

Getting to Windsor meant a trip involving several trains, but fortunately another winner was travelling from Leeds and they were able to meet up on the train and travel together.

Everyone had to be on site early for the concert giving the YFC winners a chance to meet up and get to know each other if they had not met previously. They found that their seats were in front of those for volunteers from Battersea Dogs' Home and behind some Royal Army Cadets.

Jessica wrote about her experience on the day on Facebook:

"7.05.23 a day I will never forget. The biggest heartfelt thank you to the National Federation of Young Farmers Clubs for giving me the opportunity to attend the Coronation Concert and of course to the Royals for kindly inviting our organisation.

NFYFC can take you to places never imagined. The whole concert was AMAZING, I'm truly grateful I was a part of it. So much world class talent in one place. The drone display took my breath away.

A moment in history. What an honour.

God save the King."

Another local person who found herself in London, and actually in Westminster Abbey, was Paula Routledge from Floral Media at Caunton. She was rewarded for her volunteering efforts as well as being one of the 'Flowers From the Farm' group of artisan growers of local, seasonal cut flowers whose gift of more than 4,500 blooms decorated the Quire and the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior.

Paula is a gardening expert on BBC Radio Nottingham, making regular broadcasts and answering listeners' questions. In an interview with one of the presenters after the event she said that it was a wonderful occasion, possibly made more friendly and sociable since everyone was invited individually, without their 'plus ones'. This meant people had nobody to automatically chat to, so they were all chatting with each other and comparing stories.

Paula's ticket gave her a choice of seat in the Nave. She was concerned that her large green hat might obscure the views of others, so she selected a seat at the back. This turned out to be right beside the path taken by key groups taking part, and more significantly, by the crown, the orb and the sceptre. She was thrilled to have a very close up view of these fabulous items as they paused before being taken through.



We had a very interesting and amusing speaker at our meeting on 10th May. Yvonne Henson is a bespoke hat maker, who uses traditional skills. She demonstrated how she uses the methods of hand blocking, sewing, and the finishing of hats. She brought some

materials with her, including flowers and feathers that she makes to contrast with the hats. She finished by trying some hats on Margaret, showing us the different styles which suit different people. This caused a laugh. Chris said she couldn't wear hats, but she found one to suit her too.

In June, members are going to Southwell again for a game of croquet and we have entered a team in the County Quiz. For this annual quiz, teams from all over the county take part, trying to answer the same questions at a choice of six different locations. All papers are taken back to the office to be marked, so we have to wait to see how we did.

Two of our members are going to attend a watercolour workshop at our County House and will be painting blooming irises .

We have a County Lunch at West Retford Hotel. The lunch will be followed by talk about the "Mayflower Pilgrims". Also coming up is an 'Evening at the Dogs' at Nottingham, archery at Newark and a glass fusion workshop.

We are appealing for knitted articles for children such as woolly hats, gloves, puppets, and mitts. The sizes needed are 2-4 , 5-9 , and 10 years and above. There is a particular need for mittens for boys over 10 years. They are collected for the "Appeal for Teams4U" and will be taken to Romania, Ukraine, Bosnia and Belarus to be given in time for Christmas. The WI has supported this charity for several years.

On 14th June, we have one of our sports committee members coming to show us how to play the game of Kurling, which should be another interesting night. If anyone would like to come along as a visitor and have a go, they are most welcome.



Recent Bonus Ball Winners

22/4/23	46	Lesley and Steve
29/4/23	59	ROLLOVER
6/5/23	7	ROLLOVER
13/5/23	28	Lesley and Steve

We have various numbers available. Here is the up to date list of the spare numbers: 7,11,13,20,26,32,34,35,37,38,40,41,44,51,52,53,57, and 59. Please contact me on 870844.

Thank you.

Michael Manning

Laxton Church Fête

After several years without being able to hold this fun and popular church fund raiser, it is finally happening again in 2023! Jean and Roy Hennell have kindly offered to hold it at Blacksmith's Cottage, High Street. Please let Jean know if you can help or drop in prizes for the Tombola or raffle. Thank you

Laxton Garden Fête

6.00pm, Friday July 14th

Blacksmith's Cottage, High Street, Laxton

**Tombola, Raffle, Plants, Cakes,
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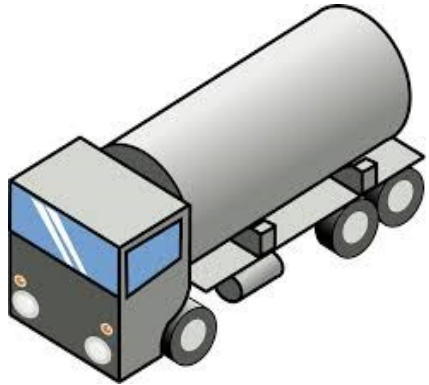
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Group Oil Order

The price of oil roller coaster ride has fortunately seen a downward trend, which has been quite consistent since the end of last year.

At the time of writing, the Boilerjuice average 1000 litre price for England is 58.62p/litre, about 55.8p ex VAT, and a far cry from the £1+ a few months ago.



The next order is due in **July / August**, but as some people economised after the winter order and did not order last time, it may be needed sooner rather than later. There were a few enquiries in May, but not enough to trigger an extra order.

We will keep a close eye on prices and if there seems to be a good reason to order earlier, all those on the list will be contacted. Getting your name down sooner rather than later with a probable amount avoids you missing out if you are away when the word goes out, especially with the holiday season approaching.

It would also be useful if you can supply holiday contact details and arrange someone who could make sure your delivery can happen in your absence.

Please let me know if you think you will be needing an order **from early July onward**. If you don't want to miss the chance to get a discount by ordering with a substantial number of others, please notify your current contact details and delivery instructions such as lock, need advance notice of delivery etc.

Anyone whose order can be placed by email is very welcome to join. Please contact me on oil@openfield.org.uk

The group currently covers an area of roughly 5 miles radius from Laxton.

Joy



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Please do remember that the defibrillator must only be used once authorised by a call to 999.

Michael Manning

OSSINGTON GARDEN PARTY

Ossington House

Saturday 8th July from 3pm

**Come and join in the fun and games
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Everyone welcome

Local Open Gardens

The following gardens will be open in aid of the National Gardens Scheme in the coming months.

Saturday 17th June, Saturday 22nd July

Clyde House, 23 Westgate, Southwell, NG25 0JN admission £5, children free, home made teas

Sunday 2nd July:

Very local to Laxton and even more so to Moorhouse: 2 - 5 at Ossington House, NG23 6LD, jointly with Hopbine Farm House just opposite.

Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th July:

Cauntun Manor, Manor Road Cauntun. 1 - 4pm, admission £6, teas, children free.

Saturday 29th July

Floral Media, Norwell Road, Cauntun, NG23 6AQ, 10am - 4pm admission £4, children free, home made teas.

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Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council:

Draft Minutes of the Meeting on 28/3/23

Present: Councillors: S. Hill (chair), R. Hennell, M.Hennell, J.Hill
S.Rose, J. Godson

In attendance at parish council meeting;

C. Wilson (Clerk), S. Michael, M. Pringle, Members of the public (x3)

1. **Apologies for absence:** There were no absences.
2. **Declarations of interest:** The chair declared an interest in the sports field and Mr Rose in the village hall.
There were no other declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda.
3. **Dispensations:** None required.
4. **10 Minutes public speaking:** The following were raised and discussed:
 - a. The safety of Toad Lane corner where a resident had been involved in a road traffic incident. The view was expressed that traffic calming measures in addition to the existing chevrons would be of benefit. Frustration was expressed that NCC Highways/Via had refused the request to bring the 30 mph speed limit out beyond its existing position when the speed limit was extended at the other three entrances to the village. Mr Pringle informed the meeting that a new area manager had been appointed so a fresh approach would be worthwhile. The possibility of a 40 mph limits was discussed. Mr Pringle will raise the relocation of the 30 mph sign with officers.
 - b. Savannah Rags has ceased operations for now although the chair had encouraged the village to continue to leave donations as the bin was no to full as yet.
 - c. The possibility of a Neighbourhood Plan was discussed to manage potential construction in Laxton. The limitations on its effect because such a plan would be subordinate to NSDC's planning policy were noted. It was also noted that the conservation area had recently been reviewed to address potential construction risks to the locality because of its special importance. The matter to be considered at a future meeting.
5. **Thoresby Estate report (if any):** The clerk reported that Mr Pierrepont had advised that currently no one is available to attend meetings. Councillors asked the clerk to request an update on progress with the information boards.

6. **Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 24 January 2023:** The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 24 January 2023 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair.
7. **Matters arising:** There were no matters arising which were not otherwise on the agenda.
8. **Reports from district and county councillors:** Mrs Michael reported on the following:
 - a. A kerbside glass collection scheme being introduced elsewhere in the county
 - b. As a result of new government regulations, soft furnishings and bedding must be collected separately at additional cost to residents giving rise to concerns at the potential for an increase in fly tipping
 - c. Enforcement in relation to fly tipping, litter, waste transfer, dog fouling, and fly posting through penalty notices and fly tipping prosecutions.
 - d. Mr Pringle reported on:
 - e. New NCC Highways/Via personnel
 - f. £3.3 million in a designated highways budget
 - g. 30 March 2023 is a devolution vote dayLamp no. 18 has finally been repaired.
9. **Reports from councillors:** Mr S Hill reported that the:
 - a. last meeting had discussed fly tipping and speeding
 - b. next SNG meeting was on 13 April 2023 and asked councillors to let him know of any incidents or issues to be raised.
 - c. The clerk will report a loose manhole outside 1 & 2 Main Street.
 - d. Councillors noted a serious incident of fly tipping at the bottom of Brockilow Hill which had included asbestos. NSDC had cleared the site as it was on common land. The use of gates was considered but it was recognised that these bring their own issues.
10. **Review code of conduct:** Councillors considered the revised code of conduct recommended by NALC and **decided** to adopt the new code with effect from 1 May 2023.
11. **2023 election:** The chair reminded all present that nominations must be submitted by 4 pm on 4 April 2023. It was noted that there had been some interest in the village. Councillors listened with sadness to the chair's announcement that, after 32 years, he would not be standing again and would cease to be a councillor from 10 May 2023. They thanked him for

all that he had done for the village. Mr Pringle and Mrs Michael echoed their sentiments.

12. **Annual Parish Meeting 2023 – Arrangements:** Councillors discussed the statutory timing constraints in an election year and **decided** to hold the:
 - a. Parish Council annual meeting at 6.30 pm on Tuesday 9 May 2023
 - b. Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 9 May 2023 both in the village hall. The clerk will invite Notts Bus representatives, the NCC Local Area Co-ordinator, Mr Pierrepont and NCC Highways/Via officers to attend.
13. **Property matters including sports field and Glebe Field matters (if any):** Councillors noted that trees had been planted up the side of the footpath. The Glebe field quicks damaged by the summer's unseasonable hot weather are to be replaced by a local resident volunteer. Councillors expressed their thanks. Activities resume shortly at the sports field. The dog bin will be fitted.
14. **Planning matters:**
 - a. **Applications:** None
 - b. **To note planning decisions by NSDC:** None
 - c. **Compliance:** No matters raised
15. **Defibrillator inspection report:** Mr J Hill confirmed that the defibrillator had been inspected and there were no issues save that the new set of pads were awaited.
16. **Archive of parish records:** Councillors noted the outcome of the clerk's enquiries of NCC. The clerk will invite the office to visit to determine which records were of value and should be held in the NCC archive.
17. **Village environment and appearance, including Bar Farmhouse:**
 - a. **Community network group:** Councillors noted that the chair's publicity had not generated many volunteers. They also noted that the fire service had offered to undertake a village safety check visiting the homes of more isolated residents. The resident who had raised this possibility will be able to speak to the village at annual parish meeting.
 - b. **Bar Farmhouse:** Mrs Michael reported that the work necessary to satisfy the notice had been completed. NSDC is aware that the doors and windows are in poor repair and is looking into the issue. NSDC is also concerned about the interior. She noted a report of issues at the rear which are not visible from the road. She will notify the officer.
 - c. **Parish roads and pavements:** NCC Highways/Via officers being invited to the annual parish meeting (LMPC/146/23) above.
 - d. **Bench for Moorhouse:** Mr S Hill reported that he had researched benches and consulted Moorhouse residents. A wood effect bench

was the favoured option and he had looked at a couple of designs with the preferred design being one called Wirksworth at a cost of £650 including VAT. Councillors looked at the model on line and **agreed** with the choice.

- e. **2022 Coronation Committee – Event arrangements:** Councillors noted the muted interest in the village compared with previous events. The Dovecote is holding an event on Saturday 6 May 2023. It was noted that a litter pick had been organised for Monday 8 May 2023 for which refreshments would be required. The parish council considered and approved the arrangements. Mr S Hill will approve the risk assessment on the parish council's behalf and Mr Rose and Mr J Hill will support with the briefing and collecting the rubbish.

There was discussion of the possibility of a street party. Councillors **decided** to support a street part on Sunday 7 May 2023 with a road closure between 9 am and 5 pm. The clerk will make the application. Mr S Hill will approve the risk assessment for the party on the parish council's behalf.

The clerk will apply to Mr Pringle for a £200 donation towards the street party. A grant would also be available in the sum of £150 for the litter pick refreshment costs. The clerk will apply.

- f. **NottsBus On Demand:** NCC officers being invited to the annual parish meeting (LMPC/146/23) above. The chair reported that a combined system of on demand and timetabled buses had been requested.
 - g. **2023-24 dog bin contract:** Councillors considered and **approved** the contract. Mr J Hill will let the clerk know when the new bin has been installed. She will then inform NSDC.
18. **Financial position as at 28 February 2023:** Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position at 28 February 2023 (incorporating the 2022-23 budget figures). The chair verified the stated balances against bank statements
- a. **Donation to flower festival:** Councillors **approved** a donation in the sum of £50.
 - b. **Accounts for payment:** Councillors unanimously **approved** ten payments totalling £989.42 together with advance approval of expenditure up to £650 on the bench to enable the clerk to place the order once confirmed by Mr S Hill.
 - c. The need for a new signatory following the chair's announcement was noted.

- d. **Community Infrastructure Levy - £1,178.89 – Proposals for use:** Councillors will continue to consider how the funds might appropriately be applied.
 - e. **Lady Rozelle donation:** The chair confirmed that a grant had been made to fund additional Christmas lights.
 - f. **Change of banking provider:** Councillors discussed the market and issues with ID procedures and **agreed** that there appeared to be little viable alternative to the current provider.
- 19. **Service faults:** None reported
 - 20. **Correspondence:** None
 - 21. **5 minutes public speaking time:** Concern at the infrequency of postal deliveries was raised. Delivery dates will be shared with the clerk by way of evidence to take up with Royal Mail.
 - 22. **Agenda items for next meeting:** See above and noticeboard management.
 - 23. **Date of next meeting:** 6.30 pm Tuesday 9 May 2023 in the Village Hall.

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- ♦ **Egmanton WI** - Third Thursdays in the Hall
- ♦ **Coffee Morning:** Second Saturdays 10 - 12. (10th June) All welcome

All events appear on the web site - see above

Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council

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Parish Council website: www.laxtonandmoorhouseparishcouncil.co.uk



Coronation celebrations . Below the group of young villagers and parents. Left, the commemorative coins presented to the children of the Village by the Parish Council.

