

# Open Field

£1

March 2023



*A Glorious Sunset Over Laxton, January 2023*

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

**P.C.C:**

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Mrs Brenda Noble 01777 870541  
Mr Simon Hill 01636 822777

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 Michael Manning 01777 870844

**Vice Chair**

Mr Simon Hill

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Mr Stuart Rose

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

# A Message From Our Churchwarden

As I have spoken of previously, things in the Church of England seem to be going through a bad patch with a shortage of priests and churchwardens. The younger generation don't seem to be following on, which is a shame. We don't know what will happen in the future.

At the moment we still have our expenses to pay such as electricity and heating oil bills and other running costs. Our insurance is over £3,000 a year and rising, like everything else.

When Covid struck the church, like many others, lost out on fundraising events, such as our supper dances, garden fete, coffee, mornings, and harvest auctions etc.

We are now trying to raise some money to build up our funds again to enable us to keep up with all of our expenses and repair work.

As you will see from an advert elsewhere in the Open Field, we are organising a Flower Festival in April, which we are asking people to support. We are asking different organisations, businesses, or individuals to donate a flower arrangement, flowers or make a donation for us to buy flowers. Of course we would also be grateful if you would just like to donate to our funds. We hope to make our lovely old church look splendid over the weekend and hope that we have lots of visitors come through the doors.

We will be providing tea and cakes and would be grateful to anybody for the offer of some refreshments.

If anyone can help or provide anything we have asked for, please get in touch with:

Brenda, Noble, (01777) 870541

Jean, Hennell, (01777) 870276

Janet, Cooke, (01777) 870385.

Thank you once again.

*Brenda (churchwarden)*

## **Birth Congratulations - Logan**

Congratulations to Teriann and Daniel Smith of Timothy Road, Laxton, on the birth of Logan Daniel on 10th January weighing 8lb 8oz. Logan is a brother for Lucie and Willow.

## **Laxton's Baby Boom**

How nice it is to hear that we have got some young babies in the village!. It is over 50 years since there have been so many babies born in Laxton in such a short period.

We offer congratulations to the families in Laxton who have had children, grandchildren, and occasionally great grandchildren. In the last year there has been a total of seven new arrivals recorded here. Four of the babies live in Laxton, and three of them live in Timothy Road and were born just a few weeks apart.

As Open Field goes to print we await news of another Laxton birth! Congratulations to all the families.

## **Happy Big Birthday**

We want to send special birthday wished to George N for his 80th this month. Enjoy your special day and a big thank you for everything you do for the community.

Big birthday wishes also to Sally B, who does not live in Laxton, but who has been the Treasurer for Laxton WI for a good number of years as well as a regular attender at meetings. Thank you Sally, and we wish you a great birthday.

## **Get Well Wishes**

We send best wishes for a speedy recovery and return from hospital to Margaret M and anyone else 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.



# Congratulations Jessica



At the end of last year we shared the news that Jessica Rose of Laxton had reached the final five in the selection process for the National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs' Heart of YFC Achiever Award.

Recently Jessica and her family attended the awards ceremony at the NEC along with more than 400 others. NFYFC presents the annual Achiever Awards to recognise the achievements of members during the previous membership year in a number of categories. To her delight, and that of all her many supporters, Jessica was announced as the winner for her dedication to developing rural young people involved in Young Farmers' Clubs.

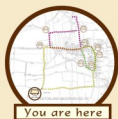
Jessica's nomination was based on her support for the young people in-

involved in her club as well as her tireless efforts in organising county-wide events such as the County Show, participation in Southwell Ploughing Match, the Christmas tractor run and for her work on county and national YFC committees. She is the current Chair of Nottinghamshire YFC and has been on BBC Radio Nottingham a number of times in recent times promoting their events.

After the event, Jessica said "It is the greatest honour to win this award. Something I only dreamt of winning is now somehow my reality. I love what YFC stands for, the opportunities it gives you and the places it takes you. The links you make within your local community are invaluable, forging lifelong friendships with people you didn't know lived on your doorstep or fundraising for charities in your area who thrive from your support.

YFC enriches the lives of so many young people and I hope to be involved for many years to come, giving back to the organisation that has given me so much."

Huge congratulations to Jessica on winning this important national award. Congratulations also go to Daisy Haigh from the same club, Tuxford YFC, who also reached the final five in her category.



You are here



Mill Field has always been the largest of the open fields at Laxton. In 1655, the field contained 833 acres, 24 acres of which were strips of common grazing called sykes. Most of the rest was divided into 778 arable strips. Today, the open field area is 196 acres, divided into 68 strips.

Mill Field takes its name from one of the windmills of Laxton, which stood here until 1916 when it was blown down in a gale and not restored. Today, its site is marked by a stand of trees behind you. A second windmill is shown on Mark Pierce's map of 1655, standing in South Field. There are also two more earthenwork mounds, one in the former East Field and one beside Ed Lane, which look very like the mounds used to support a post mill.

Under an open field system, rotation of crops is used to rest each field in turn. Here at Laxton, a simple three-course rotation is followed. In any year, one field is under a winter-sown wheat crop, the second has a spring-sown crop, such as barley, and the third field is fallow. The fallow field used to be grazed, so it could be manured by the sheep feeding on the weeds and grass. Now it is used to encourage groundnesting birds, and sheep grazing is restricted to certain parts of the open fields and sykes.



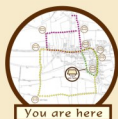
Year	Winter-sown wheat	Spring-sown crop	Fallow
1	South Field	Mill Field	West Field
2	West Field	South Field	Mill Field
3	Mill Field	West Field	South Field

In the spring-sown field, farmers have a choice over what crop to grow on their own strips. This is the field where you may be able to see the differences between neighbouring strips. If you are here at right time, you can look out for the wooden stakes indicating the boundaries between strips.

### PASTURE AND GRAZING

The need for animal feed was a vital part of the open field farming system. As the area of land being used for arable crops increased, there was less and less common and waste land left for grazing. But animals were essential for meat, milk and wool, for pulling ploughs and also for their manure to fertilise the fields.

Strict grazing rules were needed to make the best use of the land. Sowing and harvesting of crops were synchronised so that animals could be safely left in to graze on stubble and the fallow field. There were also rules for the use of the sykes, and how many animals a farmer could have on the commons.



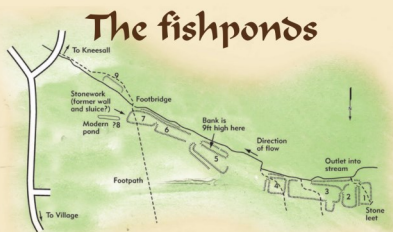
You are here



Along the valley floor are nine fishponds. They were made by digging out earth from the hillside and then banking it up on the stream side and at each end. Some banks were stone-faced for extra strength.

To keep the water fresh, and to prevent flooding and erosion, a gentle flow of water through the ponds was maintained by using sluice gates. You can see where the sluice gate used to be in the stonework at the end of pond 7.

Using these gates, each pond could be isolated from the others. Separate ponds could be used to store different ages or types of fish. Bream, pike, perch, tench and eels are likely to have been kept in these ponds (carp were introduced in the mid-15th century). The ponds could also be emptied of water and cleaned out.



© Bluesky International Ltd

There are many fishpond earthworks across Nottinghamshire. The keeping of fish was very important for medieval people as a useful source of food, and also because no meat could be eaten on Fridays (because the Crucifixion took place on a Friday) or on other fast days, but fish was allowed. Fishponds were a status symbol because they were expensive to create, and the fish were highly valuable. The ponds also came to be valued as ornamental features in their own right.

These ponds probably belonged to the Lexington family. A new manor was made for them some time before 1232, and it is thought that the manor house stood between here and the church, on land still known as Hall Grounds or Hall Orchard. There is another set of fishponds to the north of the castle, associated with the manor there.



Pike

Photo courtesy of NOAA, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, Michigan.



Bream

# Laxton History Group



There was an obvious appetite for our impromptu get together for afternoon tea at The Birds Nest Coffee Lounge at Weston in January.

22 people attended, including a couple of

potential members. It was great to see everyone after quite a break and to have a chance to have a chat.

We have been invited to take part in the new style Notts Local History event at Mansfield Library. This will take place on Saturday 13th May 2023 between 10am and 2pm. This is a change of day from the usual pattern and the displays are going to be on the main floor. It is being promoted as a 'Hands On Heritage Day', so our contribution will be both smaller and tailored more towards visitor interaction. We hope to share more information as ideas develop, but make a note to come and have a look at this free event on the day.

We got our new year off to a good start with a good attendance on February 15th with a film night. We were pleased to welcome two new members. Anyone is very welcome to join at any time, and there is not even a membership fee.

Jean had hired a film entitled 'Right of Way', which predictably addressed the issues of rights of way many years ago. Jean commented that the amount of traffic way back when really surprised her. The idea had been to capitalise on the dark evenings as well as to avoid the potential for the speaker to be unable to reach us because of adverse weather conditions. Who could have predicted the lovely dry, sunny days this February has brought, giving the farmers a goods chance to get out and do some field work as well as getting people servicing and even using lawn mowers!

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 15th March in the Village Hall at 7.30pm and promises to be an intriguing one. Prof. Paul Everson is coming to give a talk entitled 'Naughty Thoughts'. In this case, his 'naughty' take on things relates to his recent research which has led him to conclude that Laxton Castle was never a castle, but a manor house. It promises to be interesting for locals and others with an interest in history, and all are welcome.



## **MARCH CONGRATULATIONS**

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

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

*The birthday roll of honour for this month is: Stuart C, Sandra C, George N, Jacqueline S, Geoff R, Roy S, Janet G, Annie M, Sally B, and Janette T.*

*We wish a happy anniversary to Wayne & Mel Voce and anyone 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 in the next edition.*



# Could YOU be a Parish Councillor?

The parish council is encouraging enthusiastic and engaged members of the community to stand as councillors.

The work the parish council does is interesting and rewarding. An integral part of a councillor's role is getting involved to preserve and promote the local environment and working with local councillors to ensure services meet the community's needs.

We meet at Laxton Visitor Centre bi-monthly on the fourth Tuesday of the month.

Find out more about the local elections and how to become a councillor at <https://www.nalc.gov.uk/makeachange>

*Laxton Parish Councillors*



**LAXTON VILLAGE HALL**



## QUIZ NIGHT

**FRIDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH AT 7.30PM**  
**PRICE £8.00 INCLUDING SUPPER**



**TO BOOK YOUR TEAM**

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**OR**

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| .Carrots            | .Tomatoes      | .Bread | £12 Essentials Box               |
| .Cabbage            | .Cucumber      | .Cakes | £16 Family Box                   |
| .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   |        |                                  |

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**St Michael the Archangel Church, Laxton**  
**presents**

# **A Spring Flower Festival**

**Saturday 22nd April**

**Sunday 23rd April**

**10 am to 5 pm**

**Everyone welcome**

**Refreshments available**

**Laxton WI**

**are holding a**

## **Fashion Show & Clothes Show**

**by SOS clothing company**

**Laxton Village Hall**

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023.**

**Tickets £6 inc light refreshments**

**7 pm refreshments for a prompt**

**7:30 pm start of show.**

**Tickets from:**

**Brenda Noble 01777 870541 or**

**Margaret Palmer 07826 429987 (evenings)**



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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.



## Laxton & Moorhouse Community Coffee Morning

Dear friends and neighbours,  
old and new. Let's get together  
for a cuppa and a chat.

**Saturday 11th March**  
**10am - 12 noon**  
**Laxton Village Hall**



Tea, coffee and cake. All help and donations gladly  
received. Proceeds in support of village groups,  
societies and amenities.

For further information call Helen Sheard  
**07905 161392**

## The Walks of Life Museum

33 Lincoln Road Tuxford

Invite you to their

## Craft Fair

sell YOUR crafts on our carts in the barn, £10 a stall

Monthly on the first Saturday of the month from  
**4th March 10am - 2pm**

Museum open until 4pm, coffee and tea available  
Support your local craft workers and the museum

Stall holders need to book a stall in advance

Contact Diane **01777 872776**  
email [dianehunt08@btinternet.com](mailto:dianehunt08@btinternet.com)

# Southwell Treasure Voted No.1

Recently senior clergy at Church of England Cathedrals all across England and six in Wales identified their own 'Treasures' in a competition organised by the Association of English Cathedrals (AEC). From these a list of the nation's top 50 was compiled. To add to the anticipation of the final vote an entry was announced daily for 50 days during Advent.



The treasures on the list date from Ripon Cathedral's crypt of St Wilfrid, dating from 672AD to the Newport Cathedral Rood, a modern work of art installed in 2020.



Our local entry was 'The Leaves of Southwell', the intricate natural carvings in the Chapter House at the Minster. The carvings date from the 1290s and depict plants animals, birds and green men. They are regarded as the best example of 13th century naturalistic carving in the United Kingdom and are globally important. The craftsmanship is truly

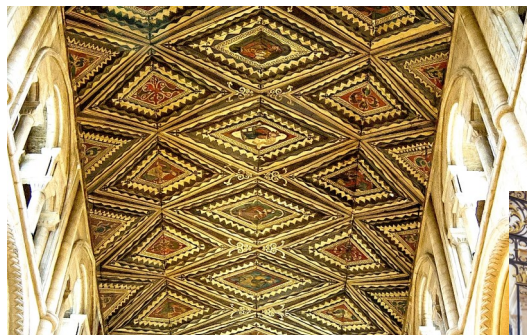
something to behold and there are all manner of creatures, both real and mythical to be found hidden among the leaves.

It was a very modern competition, with the entries shared across the AEC's social media platforms and ten treasures made it to the final – determined by the number of likes, shares, and engagements throughout the campaign.

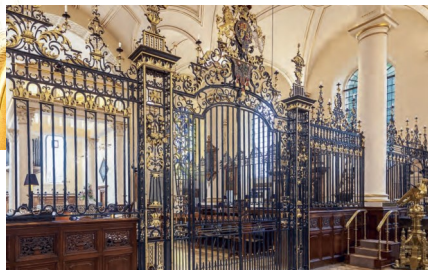


Last month this top 10 was announced and people were invited to vote for their favourite. It has just been announced that the top three are all in our broader region, with the outright winner being The Leaves of Southwell.

Our winning local entry obtained over a fifth of the 4,477 votes cast.



Second was the Nave Ceiling of Peterborough Cathedral followed in third place by the Bakewell Screen in Derby Cathedral.



If you've never been to visit 'The Leaves', there's never been a better time! Recent conservation works, as part of a Heritage Fund UK project, have been completed to help preserve these incredible treasures of our past, and a new cantilever lift has been installed to make them fully accessible to all.

For anyone who would like to know more a book is available describing all the entries.

## Dog Bins

The additional dog bin has arrived and is awaiting siting outside the Sports Field gate.

As soon as it is in situ, signage will be placed on the Pavilion.

*Michael Manning*

## The Choir

Congratulations again to the Choir of Kneesall C of E Primary School, who again this year took part in the "Young Voices" choir event at Sheffield Arena on Thursday ninth February.

They left school after lunch to travel to Sheffield for an afternoon rehearsal with the rest of the choir, which totalled 5,000 children.

The evening performance was in front of family and friends. It was a long day and a late night for them, but a great experience also.

## Laxton Open Fields Interpretation Boards/Panels

We have had no further news about the proposed installation. The Interpretation Panels are with Thoresby who are arranging for the panels to be made and installed.

Best wishes, *Michael*

## Thank You Stamp Collectors



**BRANSBY HORSES**  
— Rescue and Welfare —

I would like to thank all my stamp collectors for their stamps for Bransby Horses.

I visited Bransby with a bag full of stamps in the New Year and they were very grateful. It is a wonderful place, well worth a visit. Please keep collecting. Happy New Year to you all.

*Sandra*

## Walks of Life Museum Auction

The museum have organised an auction to be held at their premises in Lincoln Road, Tuxford on 25th March.

Items are invited for the auction. £1 per item or lot (box of items

Commission fee of 10% payable to the auctioneer on the hammer price

- ◆ Upholstery must have fire retardant label
- ◆ Electrical items need to be P.A.T tested. This can be arranged for £1.00
- ◆ Catalogue closes on 6th March, but items may still be entered after this.
- ◆ You can also donate items to support the museum

Auctioneer Northgate auction house, Northgate Newark 01636 605905

## Egmanton Upcoming Event

We have organised an evening of upbeat folk music from ***Scratchy Beard Quartet***. It will take place on Friday May 5th at 7:30pm. Ticket information will be on our website soon.

All events are open to anyone wishing to attend. Details of them all appear on the web site and the address is in the usual item at the end of the magazine

## Using Old Stamps - New End Date

The familiar stamps issued by Royal Mail are being replaced by bar coded equivalents . Royal Mail had widely advertised 31st January as the final date for using up your old stamps, but this has now been extended to **July 31st**. Non bar-coded stamps issued as Christmas specials or other pictorial commemorative stamps continue to be valid and need not be swapped.

'Eligible stamps', which must be swapped, are defined as the regular 1st and 2nd class stamps featuring the profile of the Queen and those similar style stamps that show any other value. Any commemorative pictorial stamps, such as those issued for previous Christmases or special events, remain valid for postage and do not need to be swapped out.

There is a form available which simply asks for your name and address plus the number of stamps you want to swap. This has to be completed in capital letters and placed in an envelope with the stamps you want to swap.

Self adhesive stamps must be stuck to their original paper backing or book and any which are not self adhesive need to be stuck to a **sheet of paper**. **The envelope should then be sent to 'Freepost SWAP OUT' by 31st July.**

The above instructions apply to a combined stamp value of under £200. For stamps of a combined value of over £200, see **[royalmail.com/barcodedstamps](http://royalmail.com/barcodedstamps)** for more information.



## MARCH SERVICES IN OUR VILLAGE CHURCHES

**HC** = Holy Communion **EP** = Evening Prayer **MP** = Morning Prayer

**Es** = Evensong **WfA** = Worship for All **WS** = Word Service

### 5th March

10:30am	Laxton	<b>HC</b>	Rev Margaret
4.00pm	Wellow	<b>EP</b>	Heather B

### 12th March

10:30am	Kirton	<b>HC</b>	Father David
4pm	Egmanton	<b>EP</b>	TBC

### 19th March **Mother's Day**

10am	Walesby	<b>HC</b>	Rev Vaughan
10:30am	Wellow	<b>HC</b>	Rev Margaret


### 26th March

9 am	Egmanton	<b>HC</b>	Father David
10:30am	Kirton	<b>HC</b>	Father David

### 2nd April

10:30am	Laxton	<b>HC</b>	Rev Margaret
4pm	Wellow	<b>EP</b>	Heather B

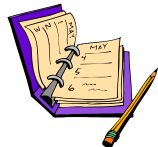




# *DATES FOR YOUR DIARY*

**2023**

<b>Weds 8th</b>	<b>WI</b>
<b>Sat 11th</b>	<b>Coffee Morning</b>
<b>Weds 15th</b>	<b>History Group</b>
<b>Tues 28th</b>	<b>Parish Council</b>
<b>Fri 31st</b>	<b>Quiz Night</b>



## **Forward Planning**

<b>Sat 13th May</b>	<b>Nottinghamshire 'Hands On Heritage Day'</b>
<b>22nd &amp; 23rd April</b>	<b>Flower Festival</b>
<b>Weds 24th May</b>	<b>WI Fashion Show</b>
<b>Mon 31st July</b>	<b>New last date to use non bar coded stamps</b>
<b>Sat 30th Sept</b>	<b>Southwell Ploughing Match, South Muskham</b>

## **Regular Events:**

<b>Parish Council</b>	<b>4th Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November</b>
<b>Quiz Nights</b>	<b>1st Friday of December &amp; March tbc</b>

**Copy Date for APRIL 2023 edition:  
12 noon, 16th MARCH 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.*

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## Laxton WI



We welcomed two members back to join us at our meeting this month. We are trying to build our numbers back up again after our meetings stopped due to Covid and now that things are back to normal.

Saturday, March 25th is our Spring Council meeting, which this year will be at a new venue for us at the Southwell Minster School. It is also a Saturday so that more people can attend. The speaker will be Tom Kersall, astronomer and astro photographer who will speak about 'The Moon and You' and the Northern Lights. He will show some of his out of the world photography.

This year's National AGM will be held in Cardiff in May.

Two of our members joined Sutton on Trent for their birthday party.

Members discussed arrangements for a fashion show, which we have booked as a fund raiser on Wednesday 24th May.

Our speaker for the evening was Paul Hawkins from the charity "When You Wish Upon a Star". The charity was founded in Nottingham by Barbara White, OBE, who was inspired by a seriously ill four-year-old with a dream to meet Mickey Mouse. She wanted to try to bring smiles to the faces of many more brave children. Since 1990 they have granted over 18,500 wishes across the UK. The places that the children most wish to go to is Florida Disneyland, Lapland or to a pantomime.

One of the videos he showed us was of a young girl who was suffering with cancer and wanted a big party so that she could get dressed up and dance. Her wish was granted, and she even went in a white Cinderella coach drawn by white horses, but some children just ask for a mobile phone.

At our March meeting our speaker will be Mike Storr, who will give us a presentation called 'Masters of Mirth', which is about the old musicals. It will be something a bit different.

If anyone would like to join us as a visitor, they will be made most welcome.

*Brenda (President)*



# Photo ID Now Needed to Vote

On Thursday 4 May 2023, local elections are taking place across England. **To vote at a polling station, you will need to bring photo ID.**



Bring  
photo ID  
to vote

## **Voter ID requirement**

**From 4 May 2023**, voters in England will need to show photo ID to vote at polling stations in some elections.

This will apply to:

- Local elections
- Police and Crime Commissioner elections
- UK parliamentary by-elections
- Recall petitions

From October 2023 it will also apply to UK General elections.

If you don't have accepted photo ID, you can apply for a free voter ID document, which is known as a Voter Authority Certificate.

## **Register to vote**

If you have not already done so, you need to register in order to be able to vote. All you need to register to vote is 5 minutes and your National Insurance number. The deadline to register to vote in the elections in England on 4 May 2023 is 11:59pm on Monday 17 April.

## **Accepted forms of photo ID**

You can use any of the following accepted forms of photo ID when voting at a polling station.

- **Passport**
- **Driving licence** , including a provisional driving licence
- **A Blue Badge**
- **Older Person's or Disabled Person's Bus Pass**
- **Registered Blind SmartPass**
- **Identity card** with the PASS mark (Proof of Age Standards Scheme hologram)
- **Voter Authority Certificate**
- **Anonymous Elector's Document**

You will only need to show one form of photo ID. It needs to be the original version and not a photocopy.

## **If you don't have an accepted form of photo ID**

You can apply for a free voter ID document, known as a Voter Authority Certificate, if:

- you don't have an accepted form of photo ID
- you're not sure whether your photo ID still looks like you
- you're worried about using an existing form of ID for any other reason, such as the use of a gender marker

You need to register to vote before applying for a Voter Authority Certificate.

- Out of date photo ID can still be used as photo ID if it's out of date, as long as it looks like you.
- The name on your ID should be the same name you used to register to vote.

If you're registered to vote anonymously and want to vote in person, you'll need to apply for an Anonymous Elector's Document. More information on this is available on the web site

**[www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID)**

You can vote in the following ways:

### **In person**

This will be no different to the process in previous elections, except that in addition to asking for your name to check that you are on the electoral register, you will be asked for your ID. The officer will check that it's accepted, and that it looks like you. A private area will be available should you choose to have your photo ID viewed in private. This might be a separate room, or an area separated by a privacy screen, depending on the polling station.

### **Applying to vote by post**

If you will be unable to get to the polling station, you can vote by post by downloading and completing the application form. This process will verify you are eligible before issuing your ballot pack.

### **Applying to vote by proxy**

Your alternative way to vote if you can't get to the polling station is to ask a trusted person to vote on your behalf and to complete an application form for a proxy vote. In this case your proxy will go to the polling station for you and vote as you wish on your behalf. Your proxy will need to show their own ID.

This is a brief overview extracted from the Electoral Commission website. For full information you should consult the site or the local council.

## Recent Bonus Ball Winners

21/1/23	18	H Sheard
28/1/23	25	Sam & Sophie
4/2/23	56	Clive Corah
11/2/23	50	Ian & Jacquie

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*



### Sing along with The Dukeries Singers!

How about a Spring diary date? The Dukeries singers are hosting an old-time singalong with lots of golden oldies. This will be on Tuesday **18th April** at 2pm at The Ollerton Methodist Church Hall, Forest Road, Ollerton NG229QS.

It is a free event with refreshments available for a small donation (provided by the Methodist Women in Britain group). Sing along with friends (words provided on a song sheet), listen to Pianist John Sellers and make new friends too! If you need CVS transport, please contact John Banbury on 07759-086132 in advance of the day.

It may be that a club or group you attend is having its own celebrations or event this Spring/Summer. The Dukeries Singers are available to book at a very reasonable price.

We also welcome new members. Being part of our choir is not just about singing. We are very much a choir family who have fun and enjoy social events together.

If you would like any further information, you can phone our bookings secretary Margaret **01623 642464** or **07896 491314** or email us at [thedukeriessingers@gmail.com](mailto:thedukeriessingers@gmail.com).





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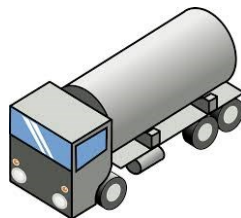
[www.hillcrests.co.uk](http://www.hillcrests.co.uk)

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

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

**Now  
Open**

## Group Oil Order



The price of oil proved to be virtually impossible to predict from Christmas onward. Some people were getting low on stocks and so an order was placed while prices were on the way down. Unfortunately it took a few days to get all the orders in, it went up slightly from the then lowest point. It has continued to see saw up and down, but overall is coming down. Let's hope the trend continues and we can order at better prices next time. The next planned order is due in late July / August

Our group will continue while members feel we benefit them. To pay monthly you will need to deal direct with the supplier of your choice. Most now seem to be offering monthly payment plans to help people budget for these high bills.

Anyone whose order can be placed by email is very welcome to join. Please contact me on [oil@openfield.org.uk](mailto:oil@openfield.org.uk) We cover a radius of about 5 miles, but one member has remained with us since moving 20 miles away.

*Joy*



A white roller shutter door is shown partially open, revealing a brick wall. A hand is holding a remote control, pointing it at the door.

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## Coffee Mornings

Coffee Mornings remain  
suspended for the time  
being.

We will let you know when  
we plan to start again. The  
rota on the inside cover will  
restart to remind hostesses  
of when their turn is  
coming round.

# Laxton Parish Council

## Bar Farmhouse

Good news that the unsightly scaffolding on the farmhouse has now been removed and the roof has been felted and retilled. Unfortunately work has again stopped and the replacement of the rotten windows has not been undertaken.

At the last Parish Council meeting it was agreed to ask Sylvia Michaels to check on current progress with the District Council.

## Bonus Ball Anniversary

It is now 17 years (February 2006) since we started the Bonus Ball draw to provide funds to support the Sports Field Amenities and Pavilion and it seemed a fitting time to thank everyone who has taken part.

Many people who took a number in the beginning have still got them, some have more than one and some people have swapped their numbers to try to increase their chances of winning! With the help of computers we have kept a list of every single ball that has come up, 49 numbers until 2015 when the total increased to 59! We use the Nat Lot Saturday Bonus Ball number as the winner and have put together a Top Ten Bonus Ball winners list!

So, many, many thanks to everyone over the 17 years and good luck!!!

Number	No. Wins	Number	No. Wins
15	27	10,12,18,19,	18
8	25	3,6,14,16,21,	17
4,11,20,	22	1,5,22,23,43	16
48	21	25,26,28,39	15
17, 24	19	9,33,44	14



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## **Our Dementia Choir with Vicky McClure Saturday 3 June, 7.30pm, Southwell Minster**

**Tickets for this event are now on sale.**

**'Our Dementia Choir' began as part of a documentary created for BBC1 in 2018, formed by BAFTA award-winning and local actress, Vicky McClure. Their recent series – the third one for the choir – 'Our Dementia Choir Sings Again' was aired on BBC1 in October 2022.**



## Would you like to volunteer with Citizens Advice Sherwood & Newark?

If you have a day a week to spare, have IT skills and would like to help your local community, Citizens Advice Sherwood & Newark would be pleased to discuss what volunteering opportunities we have. Don't worry, all our volunteers get training for their role.

'As an adviser with Citizens Advice Sherwood & Newark, I can use my skills and capabilities for the benefit of other people in ways that I would not otherwise be able to. I feel very strongly about some of the unfairness that people struggle with today and being an Adviser helps me to do something to make things better' - Sue.

To find out more, visit: <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/sherwood-newark/volunteer/> or

contact our office on **01623 861769**.

### **Get advice via:**

Our offices 9.30am - 2.30pm

Ollerton: Monday/Wednesday 5 Forest Court, NG22 9PL

Newark: Tuesday/Thursday Castle House NG24 1BY

### **Phone**

Office: - **01623 861769** (you may be offered a call-back)

Adviceline: 0800 144 88 48 (RelayUK - type what you want to say: 18001 0800 144 8884) Monday-Friday 9am-5pm.

Chat online - [www.citizensadvice.org.uk/contact-us](https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/contact-us)

Website <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/sherwood-newark/>

- Citizens Advice is made up of the national charity Citizens Advice; the network of independent local Citizens Advice charities across England and Wales; the Citizens Advice consumer service and the Witness Service.
- Our network of charities offers impartial advice online, over the phone, and in person, for free.



# Milton Mausoleum Season Begins .....



We can now announce the following

- Sun 30<sup>th</sup> April** Friends Lunch at the West Retford Hotel, North Road, Retford Menu on request – 2 courses £20 per person Speaker & Raffle
- Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> April** A History Walk & Talk: Milton & West Markham by Pilgrims & Prophets. Meet at Milton Mausoleum 10am until 12.30 approx. £8.50 per head includes contributions to Churches Conservation Trust and West Markham Church. Walking distance approx. 2-3 miles
- Sat 29<sup>th</sup> April** Leading local historian and author Adrian Gray leads a walk full of interesting facts and landmarks. Please contact directly [talksandtours@gmail.com](mailto:talksandtours@gmail.com) or phone Maggy on **07950 167821** for more information and bookings.
- Sat 13<sup>th</sup> May** **Something special in the planning stage**  
**Watch this space!**
- Sun 14<sup>th</sup> May** The first of our Sunday openings 2pm – 4pm with our volunteer guides.

**For lunch bookings and menu choices contact:  
Gillian 01777 248310 and Bobby 01777 870300.**

## 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 every Monday at 7.15pm.  
For Information please contact, mobile **07399 669380**  
Email **karenbaker321@outlook.com**
- ♦ **Pilates** - Every Thursday at 5:30pm with Holly Rye.  
Contact **07415436001** Email **holly-rye@hotmail.co.uk**
- ♦ **Egmanton WI** - Third Thursdays in the Hall
- ♦ Coffee Morning Sat. 11th March 10 - 12. All welcome

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

## Bonus Balls Available

Below is the up to date list of spare numbers available in the weekly draw. If anyone would like a number or an additional one please let me know.

**1,7,11,13,20,26,32,34,35,37,38,40,41,44,51,52,53,57, and 59**

Best Wishes

*Michael*

## Laxton Defibrillator

The defibrillator in the Visitor Centre, is always accessible as neither the Visitor Centre door nor the cabinet housing it is locked.

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

*Michael Manning*

## Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council

A reminder about the pot hole 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**

# 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@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.mike.pringle@nottscc.gov.uk) 0115 977 5661  
Parish Council website: [www.laxtonandmoorhouseparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.laxtonandmoorhouseparishcouncil.co.uk)



Trent Valley Military Vehicle Trust (MVT) called at the Ossington Airfield war memorial, which is dedicated to all who were based there, on their manoeuvres around the district on Saturday 4th February 2023.

*Jordan Voce*

A view up Landsyke, off Kneesall Road, taken by Dave Sheard

