

# Open Field

£1

May 2020



*The WI Flowering Cherry Tree in the Churchyard,  
Laxton, April 13th 2020*

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



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**Flowers and Brasses Rota** - suspended until further notice

Mr & Mrs S Clarke	3 <sup>rd</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> May
Mrs M Beckett & Mrs B Noble	17 <sup>th</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup> May
Mrs S Rose & Mrs R Creighton	31 <sup>st</sup> May & 7 <sup>th</sup> June
Mrs L Booth & Ms H Keay	14 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup> June

**Coffee Morning Hosting Rota** - for reference when they are resumed

June 11 <sup>th</sup>	Mampa Haste (NB 10.45am)
July 9 <sup>th</sup>	The Dovecote
August 13 <sup>th</sup>	Joyce Stone

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

**Contributions for the next edition TO BE WITH THE  
EDITOR BY NOON ON 16th MAY PLEASE. EARLIER  
PREFERRED. You can send at any time.**

## Editorial Message

These strange and difficult times have been made harder for those who are part of our church community by the continuing closure of the church. We may not be able to give thanks in the building, but we would like to thank publicly everyone who is helping us get through this coronavirus pandemic.



We echo the many thanks given to the NHS workers and all those who make it possible to be in or visit hospitals - the support staff, cleaners, porters, caterers and others. Also thanks to the people who keep food arriving at the shops and who deliver all manner of goods and post and to the refuse teams who continue to keep our bins emptied.

We send support and good wishes to anyone who is unwell or suffering at this time, not forgetting all the people whose medical needs are unrelated to the pandemic.

In particular we would like to give sincere thanks to all the local people who are helping their friends and neighbours with daily acts of kindness. We know there are many of you and your quiet and caring support is appreciated by all.

If you are older or vulnerable and need help, please contact Mike Jackson (details below) with your phone number and email. He is co-ordinating a team of volunteers to bring in shopping, collect prescriptions etc. If you could help, please send your details to

**Mike Jackson**

**01777 870042, Mobile 07860 676085,  
email [jackomgj@gmail.com](mailto:jackomgj@gmail.com)**

**This magazine was distributed online, with printed copies only for those in need to avoid unnecessary travel and risk to our team.**

# A Thank You from the PCC

On behalf of the PCC, I would just like to say a very big thank you to Dave and Joyce Stone for their donation to the church of the cupboards from their kitchen when they replaced them. They have now been rehomed in the church bell tower vestry.

Thank you to Jean and Rachel for helping me clean and prepare the vestry and to Roy, Jean and Mark for transporting and fitting the units.

The cupboards will be used for catering utensils, cleaning equipment, vases and flower arranging containers.

Once again thank you to Dave & Joyce.

Brenda

NB this work was completed before we entered 'Lockdown'.



## Church Closure

I am sorry to say that the church will still remain closed during the present crisis. This is being done on the advice of the Archbishop of Canterbury. No services will be able to take place in church until further notice. This includes baptisms, weddings and funerals.

If you have any queries, please feel free to get in touch with me.

## Get Well Wishes

We send good wishes for continuing good recoveries to Neil, Sue and Ken. We hope you are all doing well and that we will see you before too long.

The same good wishes go to anyone we haven't been told about. Get well soon and stay safe, as we all now say.





## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

*We would like to congratulate anyone celebrating a birthday, anniversary or other special event at present. We are giving you the chance to let us know about anyone you would like to send good wishes to. The roll of honour for April and May is:*  
***Cath, Jean, Joyce, Roy, Joan, Roger, Elizabeth, Lesley and Pam***  
*If you know someone we have missed, please tell us.*



### Vernon Bartle

In these troubled times Jean Bartle has asked us to remember how Vernon was one of the first to offer help to the people of Egmont, where he and Jean lived. He would take someone into town whenever requires, rotavate gardens and cut grass. Had this pandemic happened in his younger years, we could have counted on Vernon to help.

He cut the grass in Egmont churchyard with his small Typhoon mower. He would remove all the brambles, ivy and nettles to stop it from looking like a wilderness.

In winter he would clear the snow from the chapel to the end of the pavement. The roadside was always clean and neat at his home in summer, and those who have lived here some time know how beautifully Vernon and Jean kept their own garden, which was always a joy to pass.



## Village Notices

Mike Manning maintains a list of email addresses for villagers and other local people who want to receive up to date information. In the present situation, information that might normally have waited for the magazine has been sent to Mike to ensure people were made aware of help available and needed etc. at the earliest opportunity.

If you are not already on the list and would like to be kept informed, please contact Mike on 870844.

## A Little Light Relief - Moments of Clarity I

As I sat, strapped in my seat waiting during the countdown, one thought kept crossing my mind . . . . Every part of this rocket was supplied by the lowest bidder.

*John Glenn*

When the white missionaries came to Africa they had the Bible and we had the land. They said 'Let us pray.' We closed our eyes. When we opened them we had the Bible and they had the land.

*Desmond Tutu*

America is the only country where a significant proportion of the population believes that professional wrestling is real but the moon landing was faked.

*David Letterman*

I'm not a paranoid, deranged millionaire. I'm a billionaire.

*Howard Hughes*

After the game, the King and the Pawn go into the same box.

*Italian proverb*

The only reason they say 'Women and children first' is to test the strength of the lifeboats.

*Jean Kerr*

I've been married to a communist and a fascist, and neither would take out the garbage.

*Zsa Zsa Gabor*

When a man opens a car door for his wife, it's either a new car or a new wife.

*Prince Philip*

A computer once beat me at chess, but it was no match for me at kickboxing.

*Emo Philips.*

Wood burns faster when you have to cut and chop it yourself.

*Harrison Ford*

## Take Away Meals From The Dovecote

### Support your 'local' while they support you.

Sam at The Dovecote is offering a take away service during this difficult time when we cannot go to pubs and restaurants and he has had to close to the public.

Those who use Facebook can see the available menu there. Others should phone The Dovecote on 01777 871586 and ask for details of the menu.



You can order over the phone for collection from the pub.

They are also offering FREE delivery to Laxton, Moorhouse, Kneesall and Egmanton between 12 - 2pm and 6 - 8.30 every day except Sundays.

Payment by card with order over the phone for this service please.

## Early May Bank Holiday - Friday 8th May

Easter came and went in this strange year we are having and it was hard to remember the usual celebrations and the delight of a long weekend. How wonderful it would have been with such beautiful weather to visit the seaside or drive to a favourite beauty spot. Instead we all stayed home, thinking of the medical staff working all hours to save lives.

In May we should have been celebrating as a nation, remembering the sacrifice and bravery of another generation who fought to save lives. The government has announced that the early May Bank Holiday has been changed to Friday 8 May to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

We may not be able to hold big, public celebrations, but we can all give thanks to the brave men of that time long ago who fought for the freedom we enjoy now, even in this restricted way.



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## Coffee Mornings

*There will be no more Coffee Mornings for the time being.*

*We will let you know when we can start again.*

*The rota will remind hostesses so that we can start as soon as it seems right to do so.*





# Thank You

*Time to say thank you to my family and friends while I am able.*

To my son, Jonathan and Lucy for looking after me all these years and, particularly now; shopping, feeding me and caring for my needs.



To Lucy for trying to keep me computer wise and sorting me out!.

To Jonathan for enabling me to stay at home without the need for other carers.

To my granddaughters for entertaining me with songs, dances and acrobatics on the lawn or trampoline, for the paintings I can put on my walls.



To Violet, 12, who has learned how to play 1930/40s songs on the piano and gives me recitals, She looks after me like a mother hen; an old fashioned expression but true.

To Marigold for hugs and bike and buggy rides.



To the relatives and neighbours who are nearby and friends who keep in touch from afar.



To the doctors who prescribe the medicines which me alive and the 'medical ladies' who bring them each week.

To all who keep "isolated" and to all those who work to keep everything going.

To all these named and unnamed.

Above all to all my family **THANK YOU.**

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# Parish Council Meetings

On advice from Newark and Sherwood District Council the Annual Parish meeting due to be held on Tuesday 26/5/20 in the Visitor Centre has been deferred for 12 months and will be held during May 2021.

Our bi-monthly Parish Council meetings have also been cancelled; if anything urgent need attention this is being sent to Councillors by e-mail from the Clerk.

If any Parishioners have any issues please contact any of the Councillors whose names are listed on page two of the magazine.

Notices to this effect have been placed in the Parish Notice Boards situated outside the Village Hall and in Moorhouse.

Please take care and keep safe.

*Michael Manning*

## Revised bus service 334

Due to the corona virus Notts Bus will be changing the way we deliver our services. From Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April we will be trialing a demand responsive transport in this area.

Anyone wishing to use the service should please call.

**0115 8044699** - Fleet Transport or e-mail [Fleet.ops@nottsgov.uk](mailto:Fleet.ops@nottsgov.uk)

between 10:00 -12:00 Monday to Friday to book transport for the following day.

If you could inform us of the times you wish to travel and your return Journey, we will try to provide a service to operate the normal route for this.

**These services are for essential travel only in line with current Government guidance.**

## Bus Timetable Revision

Please see left details of revisions to the bus timetable which also applies to 333.

Please note the main details which are:

Anyone wishing to use the service should please call.

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## That Virus

I saw a Peanuts cartoon recently in which Snoopy supposedly says something to the effect that 'this virus has done more than any woman has done - kept him away from the match AND the pub.'

Another effect has been to keep us for the most part within the village. We've had to shop once in the last month as we couldn't get a delivery slot but other than that the car has stood still.

Another effect has been the 'Boris Walk'. Over the past few weeks we've slowly progressed further away from base, gradually increasing the diameter of the circuit, investigating the track that goes right (or left) from the one we normally walk. As a consequence we have walked the four roads in the village in both directions and by walking rather than driving one thing became increasingly apparent - LITTER.

Eventually we decided to give an extra purpose to our walks and resolved to clear all the litter from the roadside along Acre Edge between the Old Mill track and the village. That took two days and really made a difference, in our eyes at least.



Having successfully achieved that we decided to look at the road towards Kneesall Woods. We started by the stream before Brockilow and worked our way back, again two days worth of collection. Occasionally a pattern would develop. On the Ollerton road it was gin and tonic bottles with bags of meatballs. Some lads really know how to impress the girls! Just beyond Corner Farm the theme was cigarette packets. It is obviously someone's secret that they smoke because they consistently throw the empty box out of the window as they drive into the village.

A few days later our circuit took us out on the Tuxford road and through Egmonton Woods and back. Again the hedgerows were heavily littered as soon as we got to the top of the hill by Mavis and we returned the



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next day to start the clearance. In all we have filled two and a half wheelie bins from the three roads, and they were heavy bins. All the cans, boxes and plastic bottles were crushed before collecting. Already, despite very little traffic and no school buses or school trips, the odd can and fast food bags have reappeared so now we walk with a plastic shopping bag to collect the new litter.

On Easter Sunday we walked the length of West Field and emerged on to the road at the Holocaust Centre and sure enough between the Centre and the mill track there was enough litter for another day or so of collection.



We returned and after two longish days we have now cleared the verges from the Holocaust Centre back to the Mill track. An amazing amount of litter has been collected, as much as the other roads combined, making four+ wheelie bins in all. The theme for this part of Ollerton Road was the normal beer cans and fast food containers at field entrances along with gin, vodka and cider bottles.

On the off chance of communicating with the person who for many years has dumped plastic bags full of garden waste in this area would you please take it to the waste centre, or if not at least empty your garden litter out of the plastic bags so it can decompose naturally.

The major deposits of litter were within a hundred metres of the Holocaust Centre and consisted mainly of lemonade cans, packed lunch containers and sweet wrappers. It is purely speculation to suggest that children empty their packed lunch rubbish out of the windows of their double decker buses on the way home (coaches don't have windows that open).

All our feed in roads are now clear of litter though the three tyres, the double glazing plastic window surrounds and the wrecked plastic from a car mishap do still live out there, not forgetting the child's car seat.

It would be nice to think that by collecting the rubbish the problem would be solved but I'm sure it's only a temporary clearance. Perhaps if we all carried a Tesco bag (other bags are available) when we walked the roads and fields we could perhaps keep the village and it's surroundings as they should be.

It would be wonderful if it could stay as it is now but .....

*Pejay*



# A Family Who Left? 4 - The Jepsons

Is this where it all began? In South Leverton when William Jepson married Elizabeth Keyworth c1576, both leaving wills in the early 1600s.

The Jepsons lived in both Laxton and Moorhouse for over 300 years but most of the information I have found relates to farms in Moorhouse.

A deed for a property sale in Moorhouse in 1860 appears to show that the Jepsons might have been farming land there as early as 1613.

However the first real record is the marriage of John Jepson to Alis Taylor in 1628. John came from South Leverton to Laxton and in 1638 he was leased a cottage, yard and close, now 'in his occupation' and some more land for 21 years. After he died in 1657 Alice, his widow, was allowed to continue the lease for a further 21 years.

In 1644 Richard, John's son, leased a messe / farm in Moorhouse. The farm was close to the church - see the map, which shows Moorhouse before any roads were built. The turquoise stripes show land which was Jepson's since early the 1600s. The bottom middle was acquired later.



The family lived there through the generations, acquiring other 'lands' as they became available. There are records of births, marriages and deaths, tombstones, land transactions, mortgages and wills over the years. The first wills, including one in 1696, still mentioned 'my lands in South Leverton.'

Richard Jepson (1752-1836) married in 1788 and had daughters and three sons, John, Richard and Thomas who were all included in his will. In the 1790s all three held property in Moorhouse [See record of Tythes]

Richard sold out to Thomas and went to live in Laxton.

John is in a directory as a farmer in Moorhouse in 1832. A few years later, the farm was said to be too dilapidated to repair. He was offered another house at East Park and land as available, but didn't live long enough to benefit.



John Barlow, his nephew, was his beneficiary and he sold out to the Denisons of Ossington in 1865.

John's other brother, Thomas, had died in 1831, leaving his effects to his 'wife' and children. They had also sold to the Denisons in 1853 for £980 and so the name disappeared from Moorhouse.

None of the 3 brothers of this generation, John, Richard or Thomas, married but Thomas had 4 children with his common law wife, Elizabeth. The first three, Harriet, Thomas and Richard, were born in Moorhouse and Jemima was born in Laxton.

Thomas, farmed in Moorhouse for a few years, with his sister, Jemima, as housekeeper. He was listed as a farmer in a directory there in 1844. Over the next 70 or so years they all lived at some point with their mother in the cottage in Low Street [see picture] which I believe had been Jepson property since the beginning. I have been told that it was pulled down to build the "new house" in Low Street (now Moorhouse Road) which I think is now called Willoughby House



The family were variously known as Barwick, Jepson Barwick or just Jepson, described as farmers or living on their own means. In the 1911 census, Jemima is recorded as living in the property on her own. She died in 1913 but there appears to have been some dealing in her property before that and it disappeared from the Jepson annals. I am not sure what happened to Jemima but she was the last of the Jepson name in Laxton.

However, the blood line continues. Probably after his marriage to Ann in 1750, Thomas Jepson came to Town End Farm from Moorhouse. He had 2 children, Richard and Ann.





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Thomas died in 1785, his son also died, leaving Ann, his wife, as administrator.

His daughter, Ann, had married William Keyworth from South Leverton in 1774 and had children there, one of whom, Richard Keyworth, came to help his granny until her death in 1799.

Other claimants to the estate renounced their rights and Richard became heir and administrator. Thus began 80 years where the Keyworths played a leading role in the life of the village and were 'relatives' of many Laxton people! 100 years after his death, John Keyworth in particular, was being talked about by the older people in the village.

MWS

*The picture of the Jepson property is believed to have been painted by a Belgian. The picture of Town End Farm was copied by permission of Janet Cooke from a painting by H.J van Batenburg, the Belgian refugee who lived with his family in Laxton and around 1916 was painting various local scenes. His story appears in the Laxton History Group booklets.*

## **Keeping Spirits Up - How You Can Help**

Within the whole community of Laxton and Moorhouse, we recognise that we have a good number of people in the older age group who, as this is written, are being asked to self isolate as much as possible. This is hard at any time and maybe having their magazine drop through the door will be something to look forward to.

We want the magazine to be something uplifting and cheerful in difficult times, and there will be no reports of interesting meetings to read. This is an appeal for all readers to try to contribute something. We could include stories, photos - modern or historic -, recipes, poems, recollections of Laxton, childhood etc. ... The list is endless. It would be lovely if ~~Open Field~~ could help us all get through the difficult months ahead.

And while all publications like a 'scoop' we will share important news items via email etc asap. Please feel free to pass anything on for sharing. Please give to Jean or email to Joy (by 16th for the following month.)  
*Thank you.*

## Your Chance to Contribute to the Archives about this Significant Time

The forthcoming events in Laxton which might be of wider interest are sent off to other local magazines for inclusion if their editors think they may interest their readers. Through this route, I regularly receive a digital copy of The Plough which serves Averham, Kelham and Staythorpe.

The Editor, Judith Mills recently got in touch inviting people to write diaries about the lockdown period which would be submitted to the Nottinghamshire Archives for the benefit of those researching the pandemic in the future.

Some of you may already be writing diaries and it may appeal to you to provide them to Judith for the project. Her involvement with the county Archives is as Chair of the Friends and she is liaising with staff about the formalities.

If this interests you, please get in touch with Judith directly via [editor.plough@hotmail.com](mailto:editor.plough@hotmail.com)

In summary, Judith says:

- ∂ ☆ You can write what you like about whatever interests you in this time
- ∂ ☆ You can write daily, weekly or occasionally
- ∂ ☆ You should avoid naming people to escape the privacy rules which lock up papers for up to 100 years, so say 'my friend' not Sue Mann
- ∂ ☆ Ideally write in Word, but scans of hand writing or even loaning an original hand written text are fine.

Judith will collect everything together into a single volume – or maybe two (restricted and unrestricted access). Without editing or making any changes – what you send is what will be deposited. I will probably write some kind of introduction or explanation about how this all came about. She suggests we continue until some of the lockdown restrictions are lifted and life starts to get back to normal. She says *'Like the government, I can't say when that will be but I have a feeling that a natural end date will emerge. Maybe some of you will run out of steam sooner rather than later. If you decide to stop writing, just send me what you've already done.'*





# ***DATES FOR YOUR DIARY***

**2020**

***Thursdays, 8pm Clap for Carers - outside your house.  
Make some noise for those caring for us all***

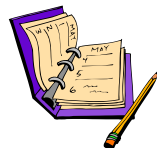
***May 8<sup>th</sup> (Fri) Bank Holiday for 75th anniversary of VE Day***

## **Forward Planning**

***26th May Parish Council (?)***

***Sept 26<sup>th</sup> . Southwell Ploughing Match***

***Dec 4<sup>th</sup> Quiz Night***



## **Regular Events:**

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

***Quiz Nights 1st Friday of December & March***

**Copy Date for June: 16th May, mid day.**

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. We are unlikely to be able to publish anything received late.

Thank you to everyone who took the trouble to send in contributions this month. We hope you find what might have been a very slim volume an interesting read.

Thank you.

# Laxton's Historic Open Field Farming System and Sale of the Laxton Estate

Tenants have now been contacted by Thoresby to confirm that the Estate did indeed come into their ownership as planned, despite all the unfortunate circumstances which surrounded everything at the time.

The new owners had intended to hold a meeting for tenants and, following that, for the whole village and friends of Laxton to talk about what happens next, and no doubt to share their vision of the future. There is no date for either event at present and we will keep those villagers who are not estate tenants informed as we learn more.

## Laxton History Group



*Our Honorary President, John Beckett is always someone we can call upon when we need a speaker or information. Now, as the historic change of ownership of the Laxton Estate from The Crown Estate back to Thoresby, the owners between the 1600s and mid 1900s, coincided with a historic enforced lack of activity in this most sociable and active of communities, it was obvious that we should turn to him to comment on this latest phase in the history of the Estate.*

Why was it so important for the transaction that restored Laxton to Thoresby should take place on 25 March?

One of the peculiarities of English land law is that it makes full use of Quarter days. Obviously there are four of those each year, but from the point of view of land law, the two key ones are 25 March, Lady Day, and 29 September, Michaelmas or the Feast of St Michael and all Angels. The other two are 24 June, Midsummer's Day, and 25 December which you all know and do not need reminding about.

25 March, Lady Day, was traditionally the first day of the new year, and as such it seemed an appropriate day for agricultural tenants to pay their rent. If they paid the rent twice, rather than once a year, the second occasion would be 29 September, Michaelmas, which was

half way through the year, and was also associated with Harvest Home and similar celebrations marking the end of the harvest period, together with traditional hiring fairs in the days when young men were hired for a year to work for a particular farmer.

But 25 March was not just about paying the rent. It was also traditionally the day on which tenancies changed. An outgoing tenant would have been expected to till the soil over previous months (ploughing, sowing/drilling winter wheat etc), and would be compensated by the landlord for the costs involved. Part of the compensation would probably be paid either directly by the incoming tenant or via the landlord. By the 19<sup>th</sup> century this practice was known as 'tenant right'.

During the period of Parliamentary enclosure (1760-1830), which did not involve Laxton but was relevant to most of the villages in the neighbourhood, the reallocation of strips and closes, always took place on 25 March.

So when the Thoresby Trust took over Laxton on 25 March it was following a long and well known tradition.

Of course, we no longer celebrated 25 March as the beginning of the new year, but it is not so long ago since this practice was still important. The year was deemed to begin on 25 March, so that all the months that followed were named on the assumption that March was the first month.

In 1752 the official first day of the year was put back to 1 January, to bring us officially into line with most of western Europe. It also meant that later months of the year were also altered. This is why readers of this article who have studied Latin will be aware that September – the seventh month as in 'Sept' – is actually the ninth month of the year. Similarly October should be the eighth month, as in Oct, and December – the tenth month – is actually the twelfth month on our calendar.

All clear then!

*John Beckett*

Honorary President  
Laxton History Group

*John is the author of 'A History of Laxton, England's Last Open Field Village', Basil Blackwell, 1989, which he dedicated to 'The People of Laxton'. This is now out of print, but newcomers to the village might like to look for a copy on the internet or in libraries - eventually.*

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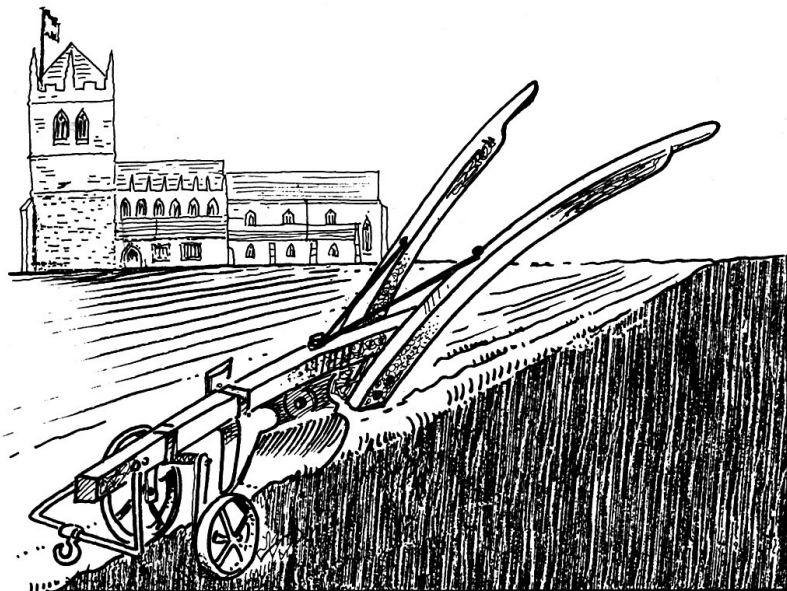


## Do You Remember This Event?

Thanks to Roy Saddington who sent in this item. It has puzzled several who have long been at the heart of Laxton goings on. Do you remember it? See more overleaf.

# LAXTON

Nr. Newark, Notts.



# VILLAGE FESTIVAL 1969

PROGRAMME 2/6

SUNDAY, 13th JULY — SUNDAY, 20th JULY, 1969

## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

\* SUNDAY, 13th July. FESTIVAL SERVICES.

10 a.m. The Family Mass

6.30 p.m. Evensong. The Choir and Orchestra of  
The Dukeries Comprehensive School Ollerton

\* TUESDAY, 15th July. MUSIC AND DRAMA IN THE PARISH CHURCH

7.30 p.m. Refreshments in the Village Hall

FRIDAY, 18th July. GRAND BARB-A-Q DANCE IN THE GIANT MARQUEE

9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Admission 7/6d.

Chickens. Hot Dogs. Bar.

SATURDAY, 19th July, GYMKHANA. Twelve Classes

Paddock at 2.30 p.m.

Teas. Stalls. Childrens Fancy Dress.

5/- Entrance to the Gymkhana.

Fancy Dress entrance forms available in advance

Auction of gift from H.R.H. The Princess Margaret.

SALVATION ARMY BAND CONCERT 7.30 p.m.

In the Marquee.

\* SUNDAY, 20th July. FESTIVAL SERVICES. Times as above.

### ALL WEEK

- \* FLOWER FESTIVAL in the Parish Church. The first part of the week arrangements by local people, in the latter part of the week the arrangements will be provided by the Edwinstowe Guild of Floral Art.

- \* EXHIBITIONS There will be exhibitions of ART, SCULPTURE, CRAFTS, NEEDLEWORK, POTTERY, HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS, CONCRETE POETRY, and other items of interest IN THE PARISH CHURCH

*Photos - by kind permission of the Newark Advertiser.*

*Printed by F. H. Davage & Co. Ltd. Newark.*

There was certainly plenty going on. Some of you who have lived here a long time may be able to tell us about it.

The programme was a small booklet and this is just the back cover, the illustration overleaf being the front. Who drew the illustration? Graham Laughton?

There was certainly a prestigious list of supporters, and someone, or a local committee must have worked hard to arrange it all. Just look who contributed:

### **SOME OF THE PATRONS OF THE FESTIVAL**

The Lord of the Manor

(The Minister of Agriculture)

His Grace the Duke of Portland

The Countess Manvers

Sir Stuart Goodwin

Sir James Whitaker

The Ministry. of Agriculture

Lt. Col. W. M. E. Denison

Major J. Prestwich

Henry Spencer and Sons

The Farmers Weekly

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We have received the good wishes of Her Majesty  
the Queen.

H.R.H. The Princess Margaret has sent a gift to be  
auctioned on Saturday, 19 July.



## **Be Prepared - Prescriptions**

A villager heard someone who had left it until the last minute being told that it could take up to 72 hours to get a prescription authorised, delivered to the pharmacy and dispensed.

If you need regular medication and use repeat prescriptions make sure you don't leave it to the point you are running out before you submit it. You should also check with your surgery what their process is for collection. You may be asked to wait outside for it to be brought to you.

## Citizens Advice Sherwood & Newark announces emergency changes to services

# Sherwood & Newark

citizens  
advice

Citizens Advice Sherwood & Newark has announced that face-to-face advice services in Newark & Sherwood will be suspended for **the foreseeable future** from 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020.

People who have already booked appointments should not attend and we will contact them to arrange a telephone appointment.

There are a number of ways people can continue to get advice during this time.

- General advice will be given via our Advice line which people can reach by calling **03444 111 444**. This is open Monday to Friday from 10am to 4pm.
- People can chat online to an advisor by visiting our website at [citizensadvice.org.uk/contact-us](https://citizensadvice.org.uk/contact-us).
- People looking for advice on consumer issues (e.g. issues related to products or services you've purchased) can contact the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on **0808 223 1133** or chat online to an advisor on our website
- Anyone seeking to make a new claim for Universal Credit should call the Universal Credit Help to Claim line on **0800 1448444**.

Waiting times for these services may be slightly longer than usual as we adapt to our new patterns of working.

You can find frequently updated advice on a range of issues related to the Coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak at [citizensadvice.org.uk/coronavirus](https://citizensadvice.org.uk/coronavirus).

Citizens Advice will continue to offer advice over the telephone on their Adviceline. People looking for advice can also chat to an advisor online at the Citizens Advice website.

They are looking into other ways in which we can help people to get the advice that they need during this period.



## A Surprise Contribution

*We were delighted to receive this contribution from a reader whose magazine is posted to him each month.*

My grandfather, John (Jack) Wilson was a farm labourer and worked at Brocklow Farm .. He was married to Violet who was a housekeeper, presumably for Alfred Chell, the tenant in 1911. Mr Chell's father was George Chell, Vicar of Laxton Church. They lived there along with their two children Annie & Bernard, who were 4 years & 1 year respectively.

Some time later Grandad moved to Saywood on the edge of the village and remained there during my memory until his death. Their neighbours were Sid Johnson and his wife whose cottage next door was much more up to date. My Grandfather was the Woodman for Thoresby Estate and I remember the cottage being beautifully positioned but very primitive. An outside WC, no electricity and only a cold pump in the scullery. However, he always had a good fire on which all the cooking was done. The living room was lit by a green glass oil lamp which I still have, and only recently have I parted with his wooden armchair in which he always sat; it was made by Wilkinsons of Newark.

My Grandparents went on to have a further 5 children, Ernest, Jack, Edwin, Fred & Frances. Fred was my father and he married Alice Hurt of Kneesall. The Hurt family extend over 500 years in Kneesall village. My cousin Graham Hurt is the last male member of the Hurt family. He has farmed in the area all his life and still lives in Kneesall.

My mother Alice, along with her sister Mabel, visited my Grandfather often after Grandmother died, taking home made cakes and cleaning through. She travelled there by Cartwright's taxi from her home in Walesby.

I was born, second eldest of four ; Peter, Dennis, and Donald. I remember we 3 oldest lived in a cottage on Moorhouse Road. I attended Laxton School up to the age of 6 years when my family relocated to Walesby. My father grew most of the vegetables we needed, a habit he continued into his eighties. My father's name appears on War Memorial board in Laxton Church.

Laxton represents many happy memories for me and I return every two weeks or so to buy my eggs from Stuart Rose at Bottom Farm. Walking is an enjoyable pastime for myself & my wife; We sometimes ramble over the fields towards Moorhouse and always enjoy the panoramic views.

*Terence Wilson*

## Recent Bonus Ball Winners

Date	No	Name
21/3/20	41	Richard & Diane
28/3/20	11	ROLLOVER
4/4/20	25	Sam (Dovey)
11420	50	Ian & Jackie

We have various numbers available. Here is the up to date list of the 14 spare numbers: **1, 2, 7, 11, 20, 23, 26, 28, 34, 46, 51, 52, 56, 57, 58, 59**. Please contact Ken Shep on 870605 / Mike Manning 870844. Thank you.

*Michael Manning*

## Road Works at Egmonton - Latest

The following appeared last month. The latest news from Egmonton Parish Clerk, John Smith, is that the work is still to be carried out, but that in the present situation no details of dates are available. We will let you know through the magazine and if the timing doesn't work out well, we will ask Mike Manning to circulate the people on his contact list.

Via EM, now part of NCC, have announced that they will be relaying the section of road between the 30mph sign on the Tuxford Road just beyond the church to the post box, which is just past the turning into Weston Road.

They hope to keep one lane open much of the time, but have said there will be times when the road will have to be closed. At these times there will be no through route between Laxton and Tuxford. It may also not be possible to turn into Weston Road. Laxton residents may find it more satisfactory to find an alternative route during the works.

There is no firm date for the works, but a general date of May has been provided.

In addition to this permanent road laying, Egmonton will be having maintenance work done to fill pot holes and the work done last year by the new machine will also be rectified in the foreseeable future.

We hope that more information will be available next month, so please check then. We will share information about works and closures as it becomes available.

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## Rotary Update



The pattern with Rotary is much the same this month as every other organisation. Meetings and venues have been suspended for another month or so, perhaps longer. Consequently the events we organise to fund our support for groups, individuals and charities have also been postponed or even cancelled. The St George's Day celebration in Ollerton, by the Hop Pole, has been cancelled and our Duck Race on the river with it. The Duck Race has been a regular fixture for about 30 years but the ducks will have to stay in their box now until next year.

Our next fixture, which we've run for three or four years, was to be a Golf Day at Rufford Park Golf Club which, through sponsorship of each hole and support from Jones and Co, would make about £1000 for us to support the local community. Again both the event and the venue are not available to us.

A remarkable figure I heard quoted last week related to the annual income nationally raised by charity events and charity shops. That figure was £7 billion pounds, and a good many of those charities are going to struggle to survive if the present circumstances continue too long.

For the groups we support at Rotary, and the needs supported by charity shops, that need still exists. Currently we are supporting the Ollerton, Edwinstowe and Clipstone foodbanks albeit with funds restricted by the above events being cancelled at a time when the need is at its height. Let us hope for a speedy end to this Covid pandemic.

*Jeff*

## Bonus Ball Numbers

There are currently 16 vacant numbers for the Bonus Ball draw, which supports the Laxton Sports & Recreation Field. They are:

**1, 2, 7, 11, 20, 23, 26, 28, 34, 46, 51, 52, 56, 57, 58, and 59.**

Please contact Mike Manning 870844 if you would like one of them. Meanwhile existing holders have a greater chance of winning a ROLLOVER!

Thank you.

*Michael Manning*



# In the Time of Quiet

This poem, which must echo what many of us are feeling, was sent by a reader. We are happy to acknowledge what we believe to be the originators of the work; the Sue Ryder Foundation.

*No one's told the daffodils about the pause to Spring  
And no one's told the birds to roost and asked them not to sing  
No one's asked the lazy bee to cease his bumbling round  
And no one's stopped the bright green shoots emerging through the ground  
No one's told the sap to rest, deep within the wood  
And stop the sleepy trees from waking, wreathed about in bud  
No one's told the sky to douse its brightest shades of blue  
And stop the scudding clouds from puffing headlong into view  
No one's asked the lambs to still the springs beneath their feet,  
To stop their rapid rush and quell each joyful bleat  
No one's told the stream to halt its gurgle or its flow  
And warned the playful breezes, not to gust and blow  
No one's asked the raindrops not to fall upon the earth  
And fail to quench the soil in the season of rebirth  
No one's locked the sun down, or dimmed the shimmer of the moon  
And even in the darkest night, the stars are still immune  
Remember what you value, remember who is dear  
Close the doors to danger and keep your family near  
In the quiet all around us take the time to sit and stare  
And wonder at the glory unfurling everywhere  
Look towards the future, after the ordeal  
And keep faith in Mother Nature's power and will to heal*

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# Thought for Today

Normally when one looks skyward, especially on a winter's day, you can usually see six vapour trails progressing across the sky at any one time, no doubt with the associated pollution descending on us.

Currently we are observing about three planes a day. They are usually flying from or to Germany/ Belgium/France from The States.

Currently there are now only five or six planes in the sky, at any one time, over the U.K. and a few private planes.

The air must be so much cleaner, no planes and 80/90% less road traffic.

Having said all that I'm sure we're all looking forward to getting back to normal.

JN



Thanks to Jeff Naylor for these pictures taken during his 'Boris walks' round Laxton



What a bonus that having to produce the magazine online means that most readers will have the benefit of seeing all the illustrations in colour.

## 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 Greg** – Suspended. Watch for details of restart.
- ◆ **Egmanton WI** - Cancelled
- ◆ **Zumba Class** - Cancelled for now **Call 07817 311627**
- ◆ **Children's Dance Classes** - Cancelled for now Call Jil, **07790 601877**
- ◆ **Computer Problems?** - Call **01777 871171** for phone advice  
If your computer is misbehaving or you need help setting up a new one, please call. Donations to Egmanton Village Hall in lieu of fee.

### Advertising in 'Open Field'

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## Maplebeck Village Hall Events

[www.maplebeck.org.uk](http://www.maplebeck.org.uk) / 01636 636421

### Regular Activities No updates on what is running were available

Yoga	Tues 9.45am and Fri 9.30am
Clubbercise	Thurs, 8.30pm
Walkers	Weds, from approx. 10.00am
Kurling (without the ice!)	2nd Weds monthly 7.30pm
Book Club	Tues, 7.30pm, 28 Apr, 2 Jun, 7 Jul;

### Upcoming events and Films (all 7.30pm)

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April

Stan & Ollie PG

Film (Check if it is on!)



## Useful Contact Details

### Defibrillator Contacts:

Neil Randall 01777 871229 & 07710 398745, evenings and weekends  
Pat Naylor 01777 870601, evenings  
Jeff Naylor 01777 870601, as required  
Mark Hennell 07812 908316, evenings  
Stuart Rose 07939 228353, as required  
Jeanette Geldard 07956 959135, daytime in Kneesall,  
evenings / weekends  
Anne-Marie & Geoff Rose 07961 933290 / 07957 991002, as required

### Police

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PCSO 4741 Keith Crowhurst 07889 702823 or 101 x 8007671  
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Web, showing other contacts: [www.nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](http://www.nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk)

Danger to life or crime in progress	999
Otherwise police switchboard	101
Crimestoppers (anonymous crime reports)	0800 555111

### Medical

Tuxford Medical Centre	01777 870203
Sutton-on-Trent Surgery	01636 821023
Ollerton Surgery - Middleton Lodge Practice	01623 703266
Newark Hospital	01636 681681
Bassetlaw Hospital	01909 500990
King's Mill Hospital	01623 622515

Fire Safety Advice (Tuxford Fire Station)	01777 870381
MP Mr Robert Jenrick: <a href="mailto:robert.jenrick.mp@parliament.uk">robert.jenrick.mp@parliament.uk</a>	01636 612 837
County Councillor: <a href="mailto:cllr.mike.pringle@nottsc.gov.uk">cllr.mike.pringle@nottsc.gov.uk</a>	0115 977 5661

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



Above: Laxton in Lockdown, April 15th 2020

Below The A1 at 5.15pm on a Tuesday Afternoon, April 14th 2020

