

# Open Field

£1

October 2023



*Harvest Time in Laxton, August 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  
**Chairman**

Vacant

Mrs Brenda Noble 01777 870541  
Mr Simon Hill 01636 822777

Vacant

Mr Ben Wells 01623 861309

Mrs Jean Crofts

Vacant

**P.C.C:**

**Deanery contact number**

01636 650063

**Parish Council: Clerk**

Catherine Millward 01636 813387

**Parish Councillors: Chairman**

Mr Simon Hill 01636 822777

**Vice Chair**

Mr Jem Hill

**Members**

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

**Thoresby Estate Office**

01623 822301

**Magazine Editor**

Mrs Jean Hennell 01777 870276

**Magazine Advertising**

Mrs Joy Allison 01777 871506

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

**Photography by / Photos from**

Janet Cooke, Dave & Helen Sheard,  
Jessica Rose, Michael Manning,  
Brian Hawkins, Paula Doyle, Heather  
Storton, Janet Carr, Diane Hunt,  
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 October 2023 PLEASE. EARLIER PREFERRED. You can send at any time.**



## A Message From Our Churchwarden



We are pleased to announce that Bishop Paul has appointed a new Rural Dean for the Deanery of Newark and Southwell.

His name is Revd. James Halstead. His duties commenced on the 4th September for a period of one year.

He will replace the Revd. Canon John Chambers, who recently stood down after his term of office. He is now Chaplain to the Nottinghamshire Fire Brigade Services.

*Brenda*

## Special Diamond Anniversary Wishes

Many congratulations to Terry and Jacqueline Smith of Laxton who will be celebrating their 60th (diamond) anniversary in October.

We wish them a wonderful day full of special memories and making new ones.

# 60

## Get Well Wishes

We send our very best wishes to anyone who is or has recently been unwell. We hope that they will recover quickly and fully.

We are also thinking of those waiting for hospital appointments

## Sympathy - Margaret Hutchins (Grundy)

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Margaret Hutchins, neè Grundy on Tuesday 15th September in Petersfield, Hampshire.

Margaret was aged 96 and was born in Laxton. She and her late sister, Rosemary (Crothers) lived with their parents at Blacksmith's Cottage in High Street, where their father was the village blacksmith.



*Margaret and Rosemary outside Blacksmith's Cottage in c.1931.*

We send sympathy to Tony Crothers of Egmonton, her brother in law, and all other family and friends.

## Sympathy - Barbara Beckitt

We were also saddened to hear of the death of another lady with strong Laxton connections. Barbara Beckitt neè Buckmaster, the widow of the late Terry Beckitt who was brother of the late Roy. Barbara died in a rest home near York on Sunday 20th August.

Barbara was brought up in Boughton and had four children with Terry: Melvin, Charmayne (who sadly died young), Sandra and Martin. The family were all brought up at Glebe Farm, Egmonton, then at Egmonton Vicarage.

After her marriage Barbara lived with her family in a wide variety of places including Yorkshire, Kent, Hong Kong, Leeds and latterly the Isle of Arran - to which address her sister in law Mavis would post Open Field every month. In her final years she had moved south again to be closer to family.

Barbara's funeral will be at Boughton Church at 12 noon on 7th October and those attending are invited to The Olde Plough at Egmonton afterwards at 1.00pm.

## The Village Hall to Celebrate the end of the Harvest Season with “Guys and Ghosts”



As you all know our church harvest festival supper is held in the village hall, but perhaps you don't realise that traditionally the end of harvest celebrations went on much longer in the past.

Halloween or “Holy Evening” marks the day in the Christian calendar before All Saints Day. It was celebrated in the past with feasts and prayers for Saints and for members of family and friends who had recently passed. It was a holy day of rejoicing and celebration, very important in the Christian calendar. It still remains a celebratory day, though in England it is mainly for children these days. On the Continent it is still a Christian celebration day.

In medieval times Christians went from house to house carrying hollowed out turnips to collect provisions or “soul cakes” from the rich, who would ask them to give prayers for their relatives. The tradition was carried over to America, where the turnips became pumpkins and soul cakes became candy. In turn the pumpkin tradition came back over here and the practice of carving funny faces on pumpkins began. Children, quite unconsciously of course, carry on the tradition with trick-or-treat.

We associate Bonfire night with Guy Fawkes, but actually the early Christians, and maybe even earlier folk, lit bonfires at that time of year to symbolise the end of the harvest season and the arrival of winter. Harvest, winter and the return of the sun in spring were of vital importance to the farming community. In Lerwick in Shetland ‘Up Helly Aa’ (Up Holy Day) is celebrated with bonfires still to mark the end of one year and to look forward to the next.

So, Halloween and Bonfire night are really an extension of our harvest festivities, marking the end of one season, the beginning of winter and looking forward to the return of the sun in spring, a genuine holy time to be celebrated. The Village Hall Trustees invite you to come to celebrate with us at our own end of harvest knees up on November 4th. We plan a children's Halloween picnic party from 4pm until 6pm, lots of fun and games and the chance to meet Winnie the Weird Witch of West Field. £2.50 per child.



Then to follow in the evening from 7pm until it finishes there will be an adult village community party, a ‘Stew and a Brew Supper’. Photos of Laxton in the past will be shown and tales will be told. There will be a bar, dancing and fun for all. £5 per person. Bring your friends and have some fun. For booking info please call Joan on **871137**. Tickets will be available from the pub and Trustees nearer the time.



## **OCTOBER CONGRATULATIONS**

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

*Happy birthday wishes go to:  
Anne D, Sophie Beckitt, Sylvia,  
Mark & Neil Hennell, Jem Hill,  
Anna Hill, William Hill, Ruby  
Doyle, Lee Doyle, Joy Allison and  
Bridget*

*We wish a happy anniversary to  
Terry and Jacqueline Smith who  
celebrate their 60th wedding  
anniversary this month and also  
to Tim & Heidi Keay and to Jem  
and Frankie Hill 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.*



## Change of Printer for Open Field

As we said last month, unfortunately after many years of working happily with Rev. Tony Tucker to bring you 'Open Field', he has told us that his service is unlikely to continue beyond the end of this year.

Laxton PCC manages the funds for the magazine and so find themselves looking for alternative ways of bringing you your monthly magazine. Locally a number of similar magazines have gone on line only while others have stopped publishing entirely due to a combination of funding and loss of volunteers to continue them.

It is the PCC's belief that a paper magazine is still the popular choice in Laxton and Moorhouse and so they looking for a new printing solution. There is also the possibility of leasing a machine to print ourselves - but is there a volunteer out there who would like to offer to house the machine and undertake the printing if this were affordable?

We explained last month that to continue with a commercial printer, the cost would mean an increase from the current £5 a year to £7.50 for the coming year. No objections have been received to this from readers, so it is assumed that this will be a viable prospect going forward.

More advertisers would enable the increase to be less, but again, nothing has come along, so this seems unlikely unless someone reading this would like to offer to take over securing and managing advertisers and advertising.

**The present position is that if nothing changes there will be a subscription increase to £7.50 per annum in January.**

If you can help in any way, please contact Brenda Noble on **870541** or Joy Allison on **871506**.



## A Young Laxton Fan

" Amazing how they can surprise you!

Summer hols, bit of woodworking, fancied making a wooden sign and asked if he could put the wording 'If you are reading this right now it means You love Laxton' on his sign!!

Think he loves Laxton too.

Mike and Cath Manning and Dylan."

# History Group Garden Tea



For once this summer the weather co-operated and when members arrived at the home of Dave and Helen Sheard for the garden tea on 16th August, there was a scramble to move seats under

the umbrellas and the tree for shade rather than running to take cover from the rain. It was a beautiful, warm afternoon and perfect for sitting in their lovely garden and relaxing.

Group members were joined by friends and in total 27 people came along. Helen had been busy baking and everyone was very appreciative of the tasty cakes and scones. Lots of tea



bags were used, so clearly plenty of tea was drunk.

It was interesting to hear how they are developing the garden, and a lovely new cottage border looked very established. Dave and Helen offered tours and if we are fortunate enough to be invited back next year, it will be great to see how their plans have moved on into new areas to enjoy.

Not only were both Dave and Helen there to look after us, but they had



also enlisted two of their grown-up children, who seemed happy to wait on the tables and ensure we had nothing to do but sit, chat and enjoy some very pleasant company in such a lovely day.

Oh, yes, and to make a fuss of the dogs! Bobby and Blaze are very appropriately named for Dave's connection to the Fire Service and Helen's to the Police. The well behaved duo made sure they went round to show



their toys to everyone and their gentle natures were a treat to see.



They even apparently take little notice of the solo chicken, who got settled among the visitors sitting at one table and seemed to enjoy the company. Her feathers only got ruffled at the point that the Labrador behind her began wagging his tail and she was in range! It

was amusing for those close enough to spot it and luckily no harm done.

Very many thanks to all the Sheards for all the effort they put into every aspect of the afternoon - the preparations, decoration, baking and hosting. It was greatly appreciated and everyone thoroughly enjoyed it.

NB Helen joined the History Group soon after the family came to Laxton and is already a valued member and friend. If you are also new, why not come and give us a try? We meet most months on the 3rd Wednesday.



# Ruby's Macmillan Fundraising Success

Last year we reported on the fundraising efforts of Ruby Doyle (9) and her friends Emily (20) and Samuel (14) Stronach in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. They have taken up the challenge once again



this year and their efforts landed them a front page photo on the Retford Times.



Emily and Samuel

experienced cancer at close quarters when they had two relatives diagnosed with the disease and as both these relatives were supported by Macmillan, they looked no further when they decided they wanted to do something to give back.

In addition to their famous Coffee Morning, Macmillan also promote a 'Swim It'

challenge, and as an avid swimmer, it was this which initially caught Emily's eye. She suggested the idea to Samuel, and she also mentioned it to Ruby's mother, Paula at the Bird's Nest Coffee Lounge, where they both work. Paula is the daughter of George and Brenda Noble of Laxton, and with Dad Lee Doyle they are often to be seen in the village. Following that chat Ruby became part of the team.

Last year they helped to raise more than £3,000 for the cause, swimming a total of 7 miles in the process. This year the swim has increased to 8 miles, which is 515 lengths of the 25m pool at Retford Leisure



Centre. They swim in public sessions and can do a maximum of an hour each visit depending on the time they have available around other commitments. They are on course to complete their individual swims by the end of September when the Coffee Morning takes place. Their joint total will be much the same as swimming the Channel!

On Wednesday 23rd August, Emily and Ruby walked with Paula the eight miles from Kneesall to the Bird's Nest at Hall Farm, Weston.

They dressed up in their purple cowboy hats and green Macmillan T-shirts and left Kneesall at 7.30am, heading through Mill Field, up through Laxton and across into Egmonton Wood, and out onto Weston Road in Egmonton.

They walked off-road as much as possible and the next part of their trek took them down Hagg Lane, Egmonton, where they were met by a surprise. Sandra Clarke had put balloons and flags out for them as well as a sign saying 'Keep on walking'. She was waiting with a cheery smile of encouragement to greet them.



Having crossed into Ladywood Lane, the grain store, which was their goal, came into view. Their final leg took them up the Old Great North Road past the Weston sign and on into the lane down into the Coffee Lounge. They arrived about 10am, tired, but elated to have completed their trek for such a worthy cause.

At the end of September they will additionally join Lesley and the team at the Bird's Nest Coffee Lounge to host a Macmillan Coffee Morning. This has become a major annual event there with the staff and customers all joining in with enthusiasm for a day long event.

This year the Coffee Morning will be on Friday 29th September between 8am and 4.30pm. In theory it will have happened by the time you read this, but we are often able to get the magazines out a little early, so this is a reminder for those who see it.

At the time of preparing Open Field, the fundraising appeal on line had reached almost £2,000 with more to come. The web site for donations has been down for about a month, so it would be appreciated if donations could be made in cash until further notice.

All donations will be gratefully received and you can contribute help by giving a donation to Brenda in Laxton, or to Emily or Paula at Weston.

Thank you, *Ruby, Emily and Paula*





# G.D. HALL LTD

(Independent Funeral Directors)

Newark Road  
TUXFORD, Newark  
Nottinghamshire  
NG22 0NA

13 Bridgegate  
Retford  
Nottinghamshire  
DN22 6AE

Tel. 01777 872929

Tel: 01777 701222

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

Private chapel of rest  
24 hour service

Golden Charter pre-payment plans available  
SAIF Approved

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

## New Hill Fruit & Veg

Fresh seasonal fruit and vegetables  
delivered to your door

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

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

### HERE'S A SMALL SELECTION OF OUR PRODUCE:

- |                     |                |        |                                  |
|---------------------|----------------|--------|----------------------------------|
| .Potatoes           | .Lettuce       | .Eggs  | .Pre set Fruit & Vegetable Boxes |
| .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   |        |                                  |

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

ORDER BY PHONE, TEXT,  
FACEBOOK MESSENGER OR EMAIL

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

# In Search of Laxton Roots

We were recently contacted by a gentleman looking for a higher quality copy of a photograph which had come into his possession via a fellow family history researcher. The photo relates to Ann Rose, born 1811, and was published in Open Field as part of a series of articles sent in by MWS in 2018. Our contact was sent a copy of a screenshot taken from an Ancestry page. Ann was the sister of his 3x great grandfather and appears to be the earliest member of his family to have been photographed.



Does anyone have the original of this photo, or indeed a good copy? If so our contact would be very pleased to be put in touch. We have already been able to put him in touch with another descendant from one of the Rose lines he has connected to.

Our contact has provided the following information about the family from his researches. Sisters Ann and Sarah Lacey married two unrelated gentlemen by the name of Rose. Ann married Joseph Rose from Lincolnshire, and Sarah's husband was Charles Rose. Both marriages took place in the 1830's.

In the photo above an elderly Ann Rose is shown with her son John Rose and grandchildren. Sarah Rose lived at Bar Cottage, which her husband Charles is believed to have built. There is a photo of Sarah standing in the doorway of the cottage c1890, which appears on P96 of the booklet 'Village Buildings' published by Laxton History Group. The photo was also copied as a painting by a Belgian refugee living in Laxton in 1916.

This seems to have been a long lived family. Ann lived to the age of 90 and Sarah to 86, while their father, William Lacey died aged 88 in 1864. His siblings also achieved great ages: Mary Bartle (1772-1864) - age 92, Andrew Lacey (1777-1865) - age 87, Ann Sampson (1785-1860) - age 75, Robert Lacey (1790-1867) - age 77, Moses Lacey (1791-1881) - age 90, James Lacey (1794-1883) - age 89, Samuel Lacey (1801-1893) - age 92.

# Old Newspaper Reports

*Our contact from the article on the previous page provided the following old newspaper reports, which relate to Laxton, and we thank him for sharing them. There seem to be some discrepancies in the ages given, but they are shown here as in the printed articles as are punctuation and spelling.*

## **Retford, Gainsborough, and Worksop Times**

**Friday, July 26, 1901**

**Laxton.**

**Inquest.**

An inquest was held at the Dove Cote Inn on Monday morning, on the body of Ann Rose, (who died on Friday last), mother of Mr John Rose, farmer. Mr Smalley was chosen foreman of the jury. Dr Whittington, of Tuxford (who had attended the deceased since June 29th), G, Rose (son), and Renny Rose (grand-daughter) gave evidence, which showed that the deceased, who was in her 91st year, fell down on June 29th, and broke her thigh. Medical evidence proves that the death was caused from shock, consequent from the fracture; and also from chronic bronchitis. The coroner was Mr F. B. Foottitt. A verdict of "accidental death" was given.

## **The Nottinghamshire Guardian**

**Friday, May 15th, 1863,**

**Laxton.**

**A Feast of Ancients.**

*(Paragraph breaks have been introduced for ease of reading. In the original this appears as a solid block of text.)*

The Rev, H C. Martin, vicar, and his esteemed sister gave a grand treat on Friday last, the anniversary of the birth and wedding-day of Mrs Mary Bartle, widow of the late John Bartle, a respected cottager of Laxton for a number of years. Good old dame has been a widow for the last 16 years, and on Friday, she attained the venerable age of 90, having been wife and widow for 66 years.

The worthy vicar and his esteemed sister bade her ask all her relatives, far and near, to be rejoicing, but, as she was personally unable to perform the task, a servant from the vicarage went round,



and about 4 o'clock, and 50 guests placed themselves at the table, at the house of her brother, Andrew Lacey.

Tea, beef, and ham with cake, and bread-and-butter, was supplied in profusion, and ample justice was done to all. Many more of the venerable matron's relatives would have attended, but that distance prevented their being brought together.

Amongst the guest present were a few of her brothers: Wm. Lacey, aged, 88; Andrew Lacy, 86; Robert Lacey, 76; Moses Lacey, 74; and James Lacey, 70.

After tea, the company enjoyed themselves to their hearts, content. Miss Martin gave an abundance of wine. Several healths were, cheerfully drunk, and the good old dame sang right merrily, contributing greatly to the amusement of all the company up to a late hour.

Two years ago, (*Ann Sampson*) a sister of the Lacey family departed this life at an advanced age, but previous to that event, not a death had taken place on the family for a period of 62 years.

*Our contact states that 'the mother of the 'Laxton Ancients' was born Ann Merrills in Laxton in 1754.' This family line connects a good number of the well known Laxton names of the period.*

**The Nottinghamshire Guardian,  
Friday, November 18, 1864  
Deaths.**

At Laxton, on the sixth inst., Mr William Lacey, shopkeeper, aged 88, for upwards of 50 years, a primitive Methodist local preacher. He was greatly respected.

**The Nottinghamshire Guardian  
Friday July 14, 1865  
Laxton**

Some time ago, we mentioned that the respected Vicar invited all the relatives of the venerable Mary Bartle, and gave a treat to upwards of 60 persons, when most of her sex attended. We have now to state that three out of the number have paid the debt of nature. Mrs Bartle, aged 93, William Lacy, aged 91, and Andrew Lacy, aged 89, her brothers. Laxton seems favourable to longevity and it contains many aged persons.

# LEE DOYLE

## Building Contractor

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

10 Elm Tree Rise  
Kneesall  
Newark  
Notts



## Britnell Tree Services



### All Aspects of Tree Works

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

### Gardening & Landscaping

Reliable & Trustworthy Fully Insured &  
Qualified

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

[BritnellTreeServices@gmail.com](mailto:BritnellTreeServices@gmail.com)

MUSIC  
THEORY  
AND  
PIANO  
ROYAL  
SCHOOLS



Quality Paintings  
or Drawings

# GRAHAM LAUGHTON B.A.

PICTURE  
FRAMING  
SERVICE &  
RESTORATION



01777 472885 or

07999 528397

[grahamlaughton50@gmail.com](mailto:grahamlaughton50@gmail.com)

# Stuart Rose

DESIGNER AND MAKER OF  
ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK

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

GENERAL BLACKSMITHING

IRONWORK REPAIRS & WELDING



# Beeby Plumbing

All plumbing enquiries please call:

Guy Beeby

**07792 484876**

**01636 822103**

Oftec qualified.

Fully insured.

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

No Gas Work

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

# A Message from a New Villager

*We were delighted to receive the following message from Brian Hawkins (pictured left below), who has recently moved into Walnut Cottage, the bungalow he has refurbished in Toad Lane. Please support his efforts if you can.*

## **Sir John Eastwood Hospice Fundraising Walks Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal Walk**



Once again, Michael Dickinson, Paul Sanders and I are planning a walk, in aid of the Sir John Eastwood Hospice. I am told by Michael, my long-time walking partner, who plans our walks, that we will be donning our boots for the canal walk as above, hopefully (weather permitting) in the week beginning 2nd October. We are

self-funded, so every penny we raise goes directly to the Hospice.

These days the miles take a little more time to cover so the days seem to be a little longer when we are out there, but the exercise helps to keep us fit and healthy. That said, we are conscious of another summer coming and going. None of us is getting any younger!! But while ever we are able to get out there and raise more funds, we will.

We raised a total of £21,996.00 with the amazing support of friends and family last year. If it is at all possible for you to consider supporting us once again, we would be most grateful.

Please feel free to drop any donation/sponsorship to my home address, Walnut Cottage in Laxton. Cheques should be made payable to "John Eastwood Hospice" or give me a call and I will happily collect from you.

Alternatively, you could donate on line at [justgiving.com](http://justgiving.com) and enter 'Brian Hawkins' in the search field

If you do wish to donate/sponsor us, please consider filling out the Gift Aid option. This adds a further 25% to your contribution!

Thank you for your time and thank you in anticipation of your fantastic support.

Yours gratefully  
*Brian Hawkins*

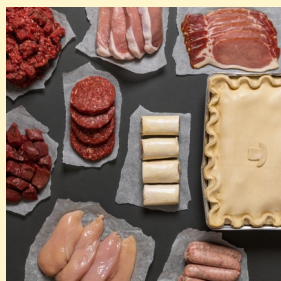


# **THE COUNTRY VICTUALLER BUTCHERS & BAKERS**

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

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

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



**Opening Hours:  
Tue - Fri 8am - 4pm, Sat 8am - 4pm  
Closed Sunday & Monday**

**01777 874700**

**Subscribe to our newsletter to receive online offers!**

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

**Nationwide delivery.**

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

**ASHVALE ROAD, TUXFORD, NG22 0NH**



# **Harvest Services in Our Village Churches**

## **Moorhouse**

**Friday 29th September, 7.00pm**

**Heather Brown**

## **Wellow**

**Sunday 1st October, 4.00pm**

**Rev. John Chambers**

## **Egmanton**

**Sunday 8th October, 9.00am**

**Rev. Vaughan Sweet**

## **Kirton**

**Sunday 15th October, 10.30am**

**Rev. Alistair Littlewood**

# Preparing for Laxton Harvest Celebrations

Everyone coming to the Harvest celebrations could not have failed to notice that the church was looking absolutely beautiful. This was thanks to the help of Tuxford Young Farmers.

They had obviously thought about all the preparation for the events which focus on the church at harvest and decided that they would like to help. Jessica Rose, currently Chair of Nottinghamshire Young Farmers, spoke to Janet Cooke and it was agreed that they would come along and set to work.

This is typical of how community minded our Young Farmers are and this has been noticed



on a wider stage than just Laxton. The

club has just been short-listed for the National Young Farmers' Achiever Awards for Community Spirit, which means they are in the top five in the country. On the basis of what we have seen this is very well deserved.

On Wednesday 13th September, before harvest weekend, 21 young people of all ages turned up at 7pm to work on cleaning, polishing and preparing floral arrangements to decorate the church. What might just have

been a job turned into a variety

of learning opportunities, which was particularly good, because the group have a lot of new members who were able to do something to help the community and a chance to learn useful skills. One young lady is a bell ringer and she was invited to come and have a look when the Laxton bells are rung.





Katie Gent is a skilled flower arranger and, while she set about preparing big arrangements for the pedestals, she first demonstrated, then oversaw and advised other less experienced members in preparing smaller displays for the five windows. The results were magnificent.

They had some help from some whose Young Farmer days are behind them. Dave Sheard and Stuart Rose scaled the ladders and wrapped string round four pillars to support the floral decorations to be added later, while Jean Hennell and Janet Cooke helped the flower arrangers with advice and fetching buckets of water. Jean showed another group, which included her granddaughter Emily, how to clean the brasses.

Jessica led from the front - or should it be top? - starting on the pillar decorating while other members of the group dusted the pews and swept the floors. Two things soon became apparent: The pillar decoration process was scattering bits and pieces on the floor, so the sweeping team needed to follow on behind and, once the sweeping was done, everyone had to stay well clear of the walls to prevent flakes of paint spoiling their efforts.

By 9pm everything was done, everywhere looked beautiful and a very pleased and satisfied group of young people packed up and went home. A VERY BIG thank you to all of you for such a great job.

*Jean.*







## OCTOBER SERVICES IN OUR VILLAGE CHURCHES

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

### 29th September (Friday)

7.00pm   Moorhouse   Harvest

### 1st October

10.30am   Laxton   HC   Rev Margaret

4.00pm   Wellow   Harvest   Rev John Chambers

### 8th October

9.00am   Egmonton   Harvest   Rev Vaughan

### 15th October

10.00am   Walesby   HC   Rev Vaughan

10.30am   Wellow   HC   Rev Margaret

10.30am   Kirton   Harvest   Rev Alistair

### 22nd and 29th October


No services

### 5th November

10.30am   Laxton   HC   Rev Margaret

### 12th November

10.30am   Kirton   Remembrance   Rev Alistair



# *DATES FOR YOUR DIARY*

## **September**

**Fri 29th**                      **Macmillan Coffee Morning, Bird's Nest, Weston**

**Sat 30<sup>th</sup>**                      Southwell Ploughing Match, South Muskham

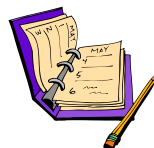
## **October**

**Weds 11<sup>th</sup>**                      **WI**

**Weds 18<sup>th</sup>**                      **History Group**

**Sat 21<sup>st</sup>**                      **Coffee Morning**

**Sun 29<sup>th</sup>**                      Clocks change



## **Forward Planning:**

**Sat 4<sup>th</sup> November Ghosts & Guys, Laxton Village Hall**

## **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 NOVEMBER 2023 edition:  
12 noon, 16th OCTOBER 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.*

## HILLCREST: Equestrian Services

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full livery    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secure               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Breaking       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CCTV                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School livery  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BHS Regd.            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rehab stabling | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Qualified instructor |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Holiday livery | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fully insured        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Selling livery | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident on site     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Riding lessons | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> with stables         |

Please phone or see web site  
for further information

**Tel: 07359 141 051**

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

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

## HILLCREST: Gardening Centre

Everything for your garden:

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

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

(for more details see web site)

**Tel: 07576 140 107**

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

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

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



# Laxton WI



On Wednesday, the 13th of September we held our monthly meeting in the village hall.

Invitations have been received from County. One was for a talk about the Caves of Nottingham. There was an invitation to a Victorian Evening - looking back at the old customs, then Christmas tea at County House.

Members were very interested in a Murder Mystery Evening at Southwell involving Robin Hoodie and his Merry People, Friar Tuckin and made Mad Marian, so a team are going to go and see if they can solve the mystery.

Knitting for the 4us charity has to be in by the 18th of October so the knitted items can be sorted, packed and are abroad for Christmas.

Our speaker for the evening was Rod Orton, who came to speak to us about the Chesterfield Canal Trust, of which he is a member. He told us all about the restoration work that has been done and showed us some old black-and-white slides made from old photos. They showed how the canal used to be when the barges were pulled by cart horses.



The Canal was opened in 1777, running for 46 miles with 65 locks from the Trent. West Stockwith to Worksop is 26 miles with 16 locks, Worksop to Clifton is 6 miles and has 31 locks. Kiverton to Staveley is 8 miles with 14 locks and Staveley to Chesterfield is 6 miles long with 6 locks.

The restoration work is all done by volunteers. The exception is very large jobs, when they have to employ contractors. When this happens they need to raise funds to pay the bills by applying successfully for grants etc.

In 2017 they won the Queens Award for Volunteers. It was very interesting, especially when the last two slides Rod

showed turned out to be of our members, taken when they went on a trip down the canal from Ranby to Stockwith last month. It was a day they thoroughly enjoyed.





Rod was very knowledgeable about everything. He is clearly dedicated to what he does and spoke so enthusiastically.

On the 11th of October we will be having something very different. We are going to have a go at bhangra dancing. This is a traditional folk dance performed during the time of harvest in the Punjab. It began in 1800 and there are 300 moves. These

dances should be fun. They mimic agricultural life like ploughing, sowing and harvesting. We are always pleased to see visitors or potential new members, so anybody is welcome to come and have a go.

Why not come along on 11th October and have a go with us. We meet at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.



## **OSSINGTON PCC invite you to HARVEST FESTIVAL**

At the Church of the Holy Rood, Ossington  
on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023, 6pm with The Bishop of Sherwood, The Rt Revd Dr Andrew Emerton

### **OSSINGTON HARVEST SUPPER**

Saturday 14th October at 6.30pm for 7pm in the Hut

BYO Drinks (glasses provided)

Tickets £15 Adults £8 Children

from **Sally 07815 917780** or **Heather 07896 715055**

Proceeds divided between the Church and the Hut



Ivy Cottage B&B . Main Street . Laxton . Nottinghamshire  
NG22 0NU . 01777 871254 . [www.the-goathouse.co.uk](http://www.the-goathouse.co.uk)

## VINCE DODD SERVICE & MOT

Sutton-on-Trent  
MOT Testing

☆ Servicing ☆ Repairs  
☆ Tyres ☆ Air Con

**01636 821200**

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

**COFFEE LOUNGE**  
**NOW OPEN!**

Serving Coffee, Cake and Light Lunches

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

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

@SeedToFeed.co.uk  
@buybirdseed  
@hallfarmweston

**07999 489624**



## Kitchen & Furniture Refurbishments

**We Spray:**

Kitchens, Free-Standing Furniture,  
Fitted Furniture, Wood, MDF & Paint Grade Vinyl

**25 Years Experience**

Contact: Darren  
Our Email: [scopesprayservices@gmail.com](mailto:scopesprayservices@gmail.com)  
Find us on Facebook: Scope Spray Services

# News from the Museums of Tuxford

## Looking at Leather

The museums have been exploring the contribution leather makes. It is a remarkable material. It can be strong enough to lift the weight of a horse and supple enough to wear very comfortably.



The Museum of the Horse has a horse sling from the late 19th or early 20th century made entirely from one piece of leather 204cm (5ft) long and 60cm (2ft wide). One wonders how large the animal was it came from. When given the contents of a tack room that hadn't been opened for 50 years, once the dust was cleared, it cleaned up superbly.

It never fails to amaze me how old heavy horse harness that has been kicking about in a barn for nearly 100 years remains fairly supple, if it has been looked after in its working life.

Recently in a dry part of China, a leather saddle dating from between 727BC and 396BC was discovered in a burial chamber and the leather was still well preserved.

The Museum of the Horse has all sorts of leather items as does the Walks of Life Museum, including Wyle's brothers' 'Leather for the People' cart.

Laurence White of 'Shedtime' visited us and is going to run a 4 hour leather craft workshop for up to 8 people on Saturday 21st October starting at 11am. The cost is £55.00 payable in advance. This is a chance to make a valet tray, pocket pouch, spectacle or gardener's pouch. Laurence is an experienced leather worker who teaches about the



history of leather and has turned his interest in the history of tanning and leather craft into a creative business.

When exploring the war graves of Tuxford our curiosity was aroused by the grave of John Edgar Stead, who died on the 9th October 1915, aged 19, at the battle of Loos. The Stead family have been sharing his personal story with us, bringing history to life. We have a talk about him on Saturday 14th October at 2 pm. A young man who gave his life for his country. Please let us know if you want to come along

Museum of the Horse Open Monday to Friday 10am to 4 pm Saturday 10am to 2 pm. Contact Sally **01777 838234** / **sally@dogart.com**

Walks of life Museum Open Thursdays and Saturdays 11am to 4 pm other times by advance arrangement **01777 872776**  
**dianehunt08@btinternet.com**

## Visitor Guide Booklets and Walks

The newly updated Village Booklet arrived as promised from Linneys the printers and is now on sale in the Visitor Centre. Copies have been given out to all the Trustees, to the History Group and the photographers.

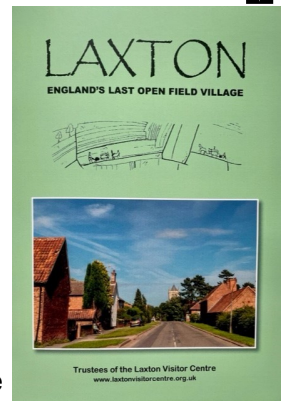
The booklet is very good; up to date with many additional colour photos and is now fit for purpose. It still maintains its charm and enthusiasm for the Laxton Estate but presents it in a more modern way.

The reference to the three walks in and around the village have been taken out as they are available to purchase as separate leaflets in the Visitor Centre and the map of them on the rear cover has been replaced by brilliant “then and now” photos taken of High Street from the Church Tower.

As was mentioned last month, it would not have been possible without the help and historical expertise of Professor John Beckett for all the work with updating the whole booklet and Joy and Dik for the technical input and new and exciting photos which are now included.

By the way there are still a limited number of the old booklets available if anyone would like one as a keepsake?

The walk leaflets are still being updated and again we hope they will be available shortly.



*Michael Manning*



## Recent Bonus Ball Winners

19/8/23	08	Evie (Neil R)
26/8/23	43	Edwin Swordy
2/9/23	16	Janet Cooke
9/9/23	56	Clive Corah

Spare numbers will soon be taken up by Tuxford U16 Football Team. To buy yours, please act now. The up to date list of the spare numbers is: **30, 35, 40, 41, 42, 51, 52** and **53**. Please contact me on 870844. Thank you.

*Michael Manning*

### Robert Paling Boiler Services

**07849747500**

**robpalingboilerservices@  
yahoo.com**

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

### Corrine Parkes

Your local weight loss consultant

**121 Diet by Cambridge  
Weight Plan**

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

**Contact me today**

**07857 187237**

**corrine.parkes121diet@gmail.com**



## Tuxford Lawnmower Centre Ltd



*Specialist in all types of Garden Machinery*

**Sales, Service, Spares & Repairs**

**Tel 01522 779110**

**Come & Visit our Showroom Today!**

Ashcroft, Gainsborough Rd, Gorton, NG23 7HX

**www.tuxfordlawnmowercentre.co.uk**

**info@tuxfordlawnmowercentre.co.uk**

# Egmanton Craft & Produce Show

The village hall in Egmanton was a colourful sight on 2nd September for the annual Craft and Produce Show. This year the age range of the competitors was particularly impressive, with the youngest being aged four and the oldest in her mid-90s. Even more impressively, they won four awards each.

Setting up the show included dealing with a monster 12ft tall hollyhock. Some of you may have seen it over the summer being trained up the remains of the pear tree outside Blacksmith's Cottage by Jean Hennell! It became the winner of the new class for the tallest flower. Some creativity was required to stage it. Fortunately Village Hall Chairman, John Bower came up with a way of safely suspending the entries.

The friendly atmosphere and enthusiasm of the competitors arriving lasted into the afternoon. Once the judging finished, people arrived to see how their entries had fared. They were greeted by a riot of colour provided by the floral entries, beautiful blooms and excellent arrangements of both flowers and garden produce. The photography table held a mass of high quality and well printed images and by the time the prizes were presented, the hall was packed.

The crafters had been busy. Alison Barber added a new dimension to the home-made angle on crafting by making a beautiful child's dress from fabric designed by her daughter.

The children had, as always, done superbly well. There were some innovative entries from the young ones. Brothers Efren and Albin Outram-Tate, grandsons of Janette who is a member of Laxton WI and History Group, vied for the prize for the younger class. Elder brother

Efren came out on top this time, but with his younger brother nipping at his heels.

The cooks had created a good entry of tempting looking cakes and bakes as well as a colourful array of jams and chutneys. The judges had been busy deciding between them all and colourful prize cards added to the overall



impression. Our local Councillor, Sylvia Michael, spent the afternoon at the show and was on hand to present the prizes.



**Mark Brisendon**  
Heating Engineer

T: 01636 678036  
M: 07734 450695

Oil boiler service,  
repair and installations



OFTEC registered

## **"FEET FIRST"**

**MOBILE  
CHIROPODY SERVICES**

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

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

## **Sherwood Forest Rotary**

**Supporting the Local  
Community**

**07711 802683**  
**Meeting every 2nd**  
**Wednesday at**  
**Ollerton House Hotel**

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

## **Stan The Sweep**

**Local Professional Vacuum  
Chimney Sweep**

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

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

**07831 661304**  
**01636 821466**

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



Member of the  
guild of master  
sweeps

**G.R. GRIMES & SONS**  
**SOLID FUEL & GAS MERCHANTS**



***Competitive Prices***

Ring for a Quote

Tel:

**01777 228273**

# Southwell Ploughing Match and Show

**This year at South Muskham (NG23 6EB) on  
Saturday 30th September 2023.**

You can still attend even if you have yet to buy tickets. See:

**[www.southwellploughingmatch.co.uk/tickets](http://www.southwellploughingmatch.co.uk/tickets)**

You can pay on the gates which open at 8am. Under 13s are free.

There will be signage on the surrounding roads. NB, if you are not going to the Show, you are liable to find roads around this side of Newark and South Muskham very busy in the morning.

## New History of Rufford Estate

*Judith Mills, the temporary editor of the parish magazine for Kelham, Averham and Staythorpe is also heavily involved with the Friends of Nottinghamshire Archives (FONA) and has told us about a new book she has been involved in, which might be of local interest. A copy has been ordered for the Laxton History Group library.*

A small group of us were given special access to historical documents about Rufford Abbey and its estates (which included a number of villages) that had not been researched before. The project was interrupted by COVID meaning research finished in mid 2022 and we have now produced a book based on our work.

**Rufford Abbey and Beyond: Estate Villages and People** was officially launched, at Rufford Abbey on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August. The Abbey was owned for many centuries by the Savile family (who also owned land in Laxton). It was sold in 1938. We were honoured that the present Lord and Lady Savile attended.

The book covers a huge range of topics about the 17,820 acre estate over a 200 year period: estate management, workers, tenants, shooting, horse racing and the Savile family itself, not to mention a rarely remembered family member who was, in his time, a huge celebrity and friend of royalty.

If you would like a copy of the book, please contact Joy on 871506. They cost £6.50 each and all proceeds go to the Friends of Nottinghamshire Archives <https://fona.org.uk/>.

*Judith Mills*



## Group Oil Order



The routine oil price watch is not making happy reading at the moment. The Boilerjuice England average 1,000 litre price on 10th September was 77.68p/litre (73.98p ex VAT) compared to the 54.1p we paid in July. We were fortunate to get in just before a steep price rise, which has continued.

The next order should be towards the end of November. This timing is to try to ensure nobody runs out over Christmas and New Year as well as to beat the inevitable seasonal rise as people place last minute orders. I have been praised for the judicious use of my crystal ball last time, but cannot guarantee to be as successful next time.

What really helps is to have orders to hand if there is either a dip in price or signs of a rise imminent. To give us all the best chance of a good price, please can you let me have your orders at the beginning of November, making an allowance for what you will use in the coming month.

I will still send out a message calling for final orders, when you can increase your order if you need to, but I will only allow a short, possibly very short, time to respond so that I can act quickly to secure the best price at the time for everyone.

Anyone whose order can be placed by email, either by themselves or by a friend or relative with authority to speak for them, is very welcome to join. Please contact me on my personal email if you have it. NB I do not publish it because of the volume of spam that generates. [oil@openfield.org.uk](mailto:oil@openfield.org.uk) is a general address you can use if you don't have mine.

The group currently covers an area of roughly 5 miles radius from Laxton, but one former resident, now 20 miles away, is still involved!

## Dancefit at Kneesall

\*DANCEFIT \* Mondays ,7:00 - 7:45pm, at the Bill Hemsley Centre, (St. Bartholomew's church) in Kneesall, £6.50 per session. Please consider coming along to support this small and friendly group. All welcome - suitable for all abilities.

For more information **contact Katie on 07834 233330**

E. GILL & SONS LTD  
Funeral Directors



*'Our family caring for your family'*

The Gill family are proud to have provided  
care and advice to families in the  
Newark and District Area for 100 years

We offer pre-paid funeral plans

55 Albert Street, Newark, NG24 4BQ  
01636 677461

## Plumbing and Heating

Alan Moorhouse

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



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



OFTEC registered

**Tel: 07854 069529**

## Advertising in 'Open Field'

Standard 1/6 page box: £30 p.a.(colour) £15 p.a.(B&W).

Larger sizes pro rata, e.g. £45 p.a. for 1/2 page (B&W)

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

# Tour of Britain, Stage 4, 6th September

Nottinghamshire once again put on a great show and welcome for the Tour of Britain on 6<sup>th</sup> September, when the world's best riders set off from Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre, heading for Clumber Park and a tour which would see them cover 166.6km to the finish in Newark.

They headed in our direction from Ossington and through Moorhouse, passing through Egmont and on up to Tuxford. The last stretch took them over Dunham Bridge and down to Newark via Collingham.

It was amazing to learn that their hot weather protocol had been implemented and feeding was permitted up to 15km from the finish.

There was the usual sprint to the line, which saw a little bit of history made when Olav Kooij, competing for the first time in this event, won his fourth stage from four. He now jointly holds the record for the most consecutive stage wins.

There was a surprising crowd in Egmont waiting to watch 2 break away riders, the peloton and all the associated support and emergency vehicles whizz over the bridge and round the corner near the church.

It was more by good luck than any amount of skill or judgement that the 21 year old Dutch rider was photographed on his way through the village (photo centre right above)



## **Fireworks Warning - Advance Notice**

Each November we carry a request for anyone planning to have a firework party to mention it to the animal owners, especially those with horses and dogs which can be easily frightened. This can lead to dangerous situations when large animals are concerned.

Owners naturally take precautions on November 5th, but in recent years fireworks seem to be going off from the end of October into the second week of November.

If you plan something on a date other than 5th, or a particularly big event on 5th, please let someone know. Michael Manning has the circulation list for local villagers and there is also an Egmont Facebook Group which would circulate a cautionary note.

Animal owners have a good grapevine among themselves and if you let Michael or someone associated with the magazine know when to expect fireworks, the word will be spread very quickly so we can all enjoy the spectacle safely.

Thank you for your cooperation and enjoy your parties.

## **Egmont Full Fibre Broadband Project**

Since the last edition work has proceeded apace with properties being connected to the fibre. Some have required works in the street and others the erection of a telegraph pole where underground access proved impossible.

People should be able to sign up with a service provider once their house is connected to the network. Before that the providers cannot see the property and so say no service is available. This is the point when they can sign up to a full fibre package. From this point people will incur an on-going monthly fee for the service they select, which seems likely to be similar to the cost of the present fibre to the box service, but should deliver a choice of much faster connections. Details of the companies offering the services will become known in due course.

Once the fibre is in place at all the distribution points, everyone on a list of 101 properties falling within the scheme will be able to sign up to a package of their choosing.

# Milton Mausoleum



## THE AVENUE, MILTON, NEWARK,

August was very busy and enjoyable . On Sat 12<sup>th</sup> we held a cabaret-style evening. The entertainer was a superb, international female vocalist, Lucy Campbell who enthralled us all and received standing ovations. In the interval guests enjoyed wine and canapes on the lawn.

On Tues 22<sup>nd</sup> the owners of the Lound Hall Estate invited us to an Open Gardens event at their home. Over 450 visitors enjoyed delicious refreshments, woodland walks by the river Maun and visiting the croquet lawn. Informative talks on the history of Lound Hall were presented by historian Adrian Gray. A manor house originally stood on this site in the 1700s. It was rebuilt and renovated in the 1930s as a family home for local businessman Sir Harald Peake, a prominent mining company director and once Chairman of Rolls Royce. During WWII the Hall served as an RAF base before converting into a military hospital to care for injured soldiers. The Hall was sold to the National Coal Board to be a further education college in 1955 which finally closed about 1993-4. The Hall returned to private ownership and was renovated back to its former glory in 2010 by the present family.

The Friends Committee and the family at Lound Hall would like to thank everyone for making this such a memorable day.

**DIARY DATES 2023 - BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!**

**Sat 11<sup>th</sup> November from 10am – 4pm Christmas Gift and Crafts Fayre** at Milton Mausoleum Free Entry

A great mixture of stalls for quality gifts and crafts by local companies, with some new additions this year plus a raffle, tours of the Monument room, hot and cold food and a welcome seating area

**Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup> December 3pm Carols by Candlelight in the Mausoleum**

Please reserve your seat for this fabulous start to the Christmas season. Will be joined by Village Harmony so come along and join us. This event has proved extremely popular and attracts a full house. For all enquiries and bookings please contact us at

**[milton.mausoleum@outlook.com](mailto:milton.mausoleum@outlook.com)** or

Bobby 01777 870300 and Jenny 01777 871706



## Ceilidh at Maplebeck - an invitation

Maplebeck Village Hall Committee warmly invites you to a **Ceilidh with a caller and live band** to be held on Saturday 21st October from 7.30pm.

A supper of pulled pork burgers and salads will be served and a vegetarian option will be available. *Please bring your own drink.*

Tickets cost £20 and are available from Roger Bell on **07900 887161** or by emailing Rachel Gardner on **[maplebeckvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:maplebeckvillagehall@gmail.com)**



## British Champion Carved Bird

At the 2023 British Championships for bird carvers in Bakewell, entries were up by 50% on 2022. The judges considered each entry carefully and then compared the class winners from the Advanced group to find the overall champion.

The winner was the white-winged sandpiper carved by Lennart Petterson, one of the Swedish members of the BDWCA (British Decoy and Wood Carvers Association) and a very talented carver. The runner-up was the sanderling by David Askew, who is the BDWCA Chairman and has won the championship twice before.

## Laxton History Group



We are hoping that in October we will be able to welcome Prof. Paul Everson to expand on his title 'Naughty Thoughts - A new interpretation of Laxton Castle'.

Paul was forced to postpone earlier in the year for personal reasons and is now hoping he will be able to come on October 18th to share some of the research and thoughts which have lead him to conclude that Nottinghamshire's finest motte and bailey castle may never have been a castle at all. Why not join us at 7.30pm in the Village Hall to see if you agree with him.

Everyone is welcome. The nightly fee of £3, includes refreshments.

**I need a new car but I can't afford a new one so I've been looking at second-hand options. I've heard so many horror stories. How can I ensure I don't buy a dud?**

Buying a new or second-hand car can seem daunting and complicated. Don't worry, there is information on the Citizens Advice web site on buying a car and what you can do afterwards if something goes wrong.

If you're buying from a trader, choose a trustworthy one with an established name with a good reputation. Ideally, they will be part of a trade association or follow the industry's code of practice.

If you're buying via an auction, this is much riskier as you'll have fewer legal protections like the right to returns or refunds so carefully read the terms and conditions before you bid.

If you buy from a private seller, there are a few extra steps to take. For instance, try to inspect the car at their home address so if something goes wrong later, you have a record of that.

Make sure the car's details are correct by using the DVLA's free online vehicle information checker. For this you'll need the registration number, MOT test number, mileage and make/model of the car. Also, check the car's MOT history for free on gov.uk

Keep a copy of these results (a screenshot or download the information) as well as the original advert or description of the car. You could also get a private history check for ~£20 to see if the car's been reported stolen, still has money owing on it, or has been in a serious crash.

Before buying a car, check if it meets emissions standards or you could be paying more to drive through London's ULEZ or other clean air zones.

Inspecting the car before buying is crucial. Ideally, do this during the day when it's not raining (rain can conceal scratches) and take it for a test drive for at least 15 minutes and on different types of road.. Check you have the appropriate insurance for a test drive (either your own or the seller's policy might cover you).

Having decided on a car, don't be afraid to negotiate on price. If you take out a loan or finance to buy it, check you can afford the repayments over the lifetime of the contract. If you pay with cash, you will have fewer protections than other options like debit.

Despite doing all these checks, you might find something wrong with the car after you've bought it. You may have a legal right to a repair, the cost of a repair or some money back but it's on a case-by-case .

For more information, check out the Citizens Advice website or call its consumer helpline on **0808 223 1133**.

# The Dukeries Singers at Harvest

## Harvest Sing Along

**23rd September 2.00pm - 4.00pm**

The venue is St Paulinus Church, Church Circle, New Ollerton.

This event is in aid of the CAR Food Bank and we are performing free of charge so that you can bring along some food to donate. All funds generated from the refreshments will also go towards CAR projects. Do come and join us.

The Dukeries Singers meet every Wednesday evening at The Methodist Church, Forest Road, New Ollerton, 7-9pm and its not just a place to sing a wide variety of material. It is a place to meet old friends and make new ones. We really enjoy each other's company and the group has a family atmosphere, sharing in fun together. We are an established mixed choir with a busy calendar of social arrangements.

We believe that everyone can sing and encourage all comers including those who cannot read music and have no experience. We have no auditions or tests. Just come and give it a try. Our Musical Director and pianist are very accomplished and will make you feel immediately at home. Why not join us, you can try for free for 6 weeks before paying subscriptions of approx. £2.50 per week.

If you want to book us to perform please call John Banbury on **01623 8222472** or mobile **07759 086132** at any time.

OUR CHRISTMAS CONCERT IS SATURDAY 9 TH DECEMBER 2023 at THE JUBILEE HALL, OLD OLLERTON at 7PM.

There are also keen hand bell ringers in Edwinstowe. The **Edwinstowe Hand Bell Ringers** are performing at the sing-along at St Paulinus Church on Saturday 23rd September and at St Nicholas Church Retford on Saturday 14th October at 7pm.

We hope to hear more about them soon.



# **Egmanton Village Hall**

**www.egmantonvillagehall.org.uk / 01777 871171**

**Please check the EVH web site or call for latest details.**

- ♦ **Yoga** – with Karen Baker Mondays, 7.15pm - 8.45pm  
For Information please contact, Email **karenbaker321@outlook.com**  
mobile **07399 669380**
- ♦ **Pilates** - Thursdays from 5:30pm - 6.30pm with Holly Rye.  
Contact **07415436001** Email **holly-rye@hotmail.co.uk**
- ♦ **Egmanton WI** - Third Thursdays in the Hall
- ♦ **Coffee Morning:** Second Saturdays 10 - 12. **9th Sept** All welcome

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

## **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**

## **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*

## **Laxton Sports Field Bonus Ball Weekly Draw**

We now only have 8 of the 59 numbers available for anyone who would like an additional one or a new member. All proceeds go to supporting the Laxton Sports and Recreation Field.

The available numbers are: 30,35,40,41,42, 51,52 and 53.

Please contact Michael on 01777 870844

A meeting was held on 14th September following Tuxford U16 team Starting to enjoy our facilities. A report of the meeting will be available in next month's Open Field.

*Michael*

# Useful Contact Details

## Defibrillator Contacts:

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

## Police

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

PC Gary Sipson 07525 226575 or 101 x 800 7673

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

PC2548 Deborah Bakin supported by  
PCSO 8524 Richard Dunn at Southwell

07595 074292

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

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

## Medical

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

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

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



# Ossington Art Group

The group is now meeting regularly again after the summer break. They can be found at The Hut on Mondays between 12noon and 2pm with tutor, Graham Laughton from Laxton. Everyone is welcome, regardless of where they live.

The painting shows cattle grazing on the former Ossington Airfield and the cattle are the family herd of the painters. Yes, painter **S**. This is a joint effort between grandmother and grand daughter. Isabel Johnson, started it with the background, sky etc. and her granny, Jean Johnson from Post Office Farm in Ossington, added the cows and foreground etc. It was a real family collaboration and Jean is a member of the Art Group, but of course living in Norfolk Isabel clearly can't be.



Dave Sheard sent in this attractive collage of shots taken around Laxton. They were just too late for the September issue, but still seem equally appropriate at the time of writing.

If you have nice photos you would like to see in the magazine, please send them in.