

Open Field

£1

December 2022 & January 2023



The Lights Switch On, December, Laxton, 2021

The monthly publication of the
parish of Laxton & Moorhouse

www.openfield.org.uk



Priest in Charge
Churchwardens

LAXTON
MOORHOUSE
KNEESALL
WELLOW
WELLOW

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Vacant

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Mrs Jean Crofts

Vacant

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Open Field

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

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

Contributions for the next edition TO BE WITH THE EDITOR BY NOON ON 16th January 2023 PLEASE. EARLIER PREFERRED. You can send at any time.

CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERIES,



Christmas is just around the corner. Not long to go. If you want to save on postage or your legs walking round the village, then we will be putting the Christmas card box out again in the church.

If you wish to have your cards delivered, just pop them into the box on top of the bookcase at the back of the church with a contribution to church funds in the metal box on the wall. Then they will be sorted and delivered for you.

The first day will be 3rd December finishing 15th December. They will then be sorted and delivered. Thank you

Remember, just post your cards into the box and make a donation to the church, from **3rd December - 16th December, for delivery soon after.**

Please note the advice below.

1. Deliveries are made in Laxton and Moorhouse only.
2. Please make sure each envelope has a **clear name and FULL address on the envelope.**
3. Remember, "To Sue" is unlikely to get to Sue and "Sue, Timothy Road," will not fare much better.
4. Please support the church this Christmas. The income from the donations is very valuable.

Thank you, *Brenda*

Christmas Greetings from the PCC

On behalf of the Parochial Church council of Laxton and Moorhouse I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Brenda

Baptism Congratulations - Phoebe Rose



On Sunday 2nd October Phoebe Rose Billing was christened at St Michael the Archangel's Church, Laxton

Phoebe with her parents and Godparents in Laxton church

Phoebe is the daughter of Gavin and Evangeline Billing and granddaughter to Debra, Neil, Lisa, Chris, Ann and Kevin, Hayley and Paul.

The baptism was followed by afternoon tea at the Village Hall.

Birth Congratulations

Congratulations to Corrine Parks of Timothy Road on the birth of her baby girl, born 14th October 2022 weighing 6 lb 7 oz. She is still to be named and is a baby sister for Heidi.

Thanks

Thank you to Dave Sheard who has kindly offered to take over the mowing of the churchyard next year and also to Richard Waltham for offering to continue with the strimming again. It is very much appreciated.

A big thank you also to our local plumber, Alan Moorhouse, who came to our rescue the night before the harvest festival, when our church central heating decided not to work.

Thanks also to Lesley and Helen for helping to clean the church ready for the baptism and harvest.

LAXTON VILLAGE HALL

QUIZ NIGHT

FRIDAY 2ND DECEMBER, AT 7.30PM

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DECEMBER CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to everyone celebrating a birthday, anniversary or other special event in December.

The birthday roll of honour for this month is: Dorothy C, Brenda N, Margaret M, Emily H, Ann F. and Jonathan M and Jake N,

JANUARY CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to everyone celebrating in January.

The birthday roll of honour for this month is a very long one!:

Sue S, Margaret P, Margaret P and her twin Steff L, Mike J, Mary N, Mike M, Stuart R, Pat H, Anne H, Jeff N, Pat N, Chris W, Jenni V,

We wish a happy anniversary to anyone celebrating in December or January.



Remembrance Service

Our annual Harvest Festival was held in church on Friday 14th October and the service was taken by the Rev Alastair Littlewood. Thanks to Graham for playing the organ so that we could sing some good old harvest hymns and thanks to Simon and Stuart for reading the lessons.



Supper of roast pork cobs with stuffing and apple sauce were provided by Anna and Simon. Jean and Lesley provided apple pies and Janet the teas and coffee. I hope everyone enjoyed it. It's so difficult to know how to cater for these occasions especially when you don't know how many are coming as well as trying to keep the costs down.

Church Meeting

I recently attended a meeting at Eakring with representatives of the rest of our Group of churches. The meeting was chaired by the Archdeacon Tors Ramsey, also the Area Dean Rev John Chambers and our Deanery Administrator, Paula.

The meeting was called to discuss what was happening within our group and also the future. Tors had been looking at splitting our group and putting us with other churches or benefice. As Laxton, Moorhouse, Wellow and Kneesall are already a benefice, this would take a long drawn out legal process. Other church groups are in the same situation such as the Norwell, Caunton and Sutton group. They have no Priest in Charge.

Our Archdeacon said she had been in conversation with someone about a 'House for Duty' post, which is in the early stages. That means the priest can live in a church house rent free in exchange for taking services etc.

We don't seem to be getting any further or getting any answers about the future, but we must keep together and work to keep our church open. We don't want our lovely old Grade I listed church to close after all these years.

Laxton Traditions - Court Day

Last month we described the background to Laxton's Jury Day and its part in the farming heritage of the village. Jury Day 2022 is scheduled to take place on Thursday 24th November, which falls after this edition will have gone to print.

The following week is Court Day. Many people think that the strips are what makes Laxton unique, but in fact the truly unique feature is the Court Leet. This is the last surviving manorial court in the country to maintain its powers to determine legal proceedings and levy fines.

The Administration of Justice Act was revised in 1977, and at this point Laxton was listed to lose these powers. Luckily the Steward at the time, a representative of Tallents Solicitors in Newark, stepped in and made it known that the powers are still used here. As a result, Laxton became the only place to retain such powers in relation to a crop rotation system. (The Act also includes the Estray Court of Denbeigh, which has powers relating to rounding up stray sheep.)

The Court Leet has three officers. These are:

1. The Steward, who is a solicitor appointed by the Lord of the Manor. Currently this is Alistair Millar, a partner at Tallents in Southwell. He has served in this capacity for approximately 15 years and he ensures that the legal requirements are fulfilled, including undertaking the swearing in of the Jury members.
2. The Bailiff, Robert Haigh. Robert is a Laxton farmer and succeeded Edmund Rose in the role 20 years ago
3. The Clerk to the Gaits & Commons, Stuart Rose, who succeeded his father Reg in the role. Stuart is another Laxton Farmer and his role combines the duties of Secretary and Treasurer. He manages the funds from various sources made available to the Open Fields and those who farm them.

Each of the three Open Fields has a Foreman who holds a permanent appointment. Currently these are Roy Hennell (Mill Field), Johnny Godson (West Field) and Ivan Rayner (South Field). All are Laxton farmers who are descended from at least one previous generation who farmed here.

Duties of the Court are to appoint the members of the Jury, also referred to as the Homage, who will inspect the wheat field the following November and to deal with the issues arising from the inspection the week before the Court meets. Other matters may arise

from time to time and are also dealt with during the session.

The Bailiff summons the members to attend and asks individuals if they will serve on the new Jury. At one time a person may have done this only every few years, but now that the number of farms is so low, most members serve every year.



The court is a public event and so anyone can choose to attend to observe, but guests have no right to speak. Until last year the venue was The Dovecote, but the small rooms do not lend themselves to either the larger numbers attending in recent years or providing enough space for current health recommendations. Last year the move was made to the Village Hall, which looks like being the venue of choice from now on.

Robert reads a traditional proclamation to open the proceedings of the Court. The new Jury members are then sworn in. The Foreman of the field which is has been sown with wheat is first, taking a longer oath on behalf of his fellows for the coming year. Traditionally the other members were sworn in as groups of four, but since Covid it has been done individually.



The Steward calls the names on the Manor Suit Roll, which is a list of people living within the manor boundaries who are eligible for the Jury. If they fail to attend a 2p essoign , a particular type of penalty payment, is paid for each.

The Court then considers any matters arising from actions

agreed the previous December and goes on to look at the transgressions noted by the inspecting Jury the week before.

Suggested fines are read out where appropriate and once agreed are entered in the Court record. Any issues which have arisen since the previous Court are discussed and when all matters have been resolved and actions agreed, Robert reads a further traditional proclamation to bring the proceedings to a close. Following this there is usually an opportunity to discuss any matters of local importance which fall outside the jurisdiction of the Court.

This year Court Day falls on Thursday 1st December at 10.30am.

Remembrance Service

Our Remembrance Sunday Group Service was held this year at Saint Edmund's Church, Walesby. The service was taken by our Area Dean, the Rev Canon John Chambers. Wreaths were laid by Laxton, Moorhouse, Egmanton, Wellow, Kirton, Walesby, Laxton Parish Council and the Rotary Club.

Jon played the Last Post and Reveille on the bugle and the National Anthem was sung. After the service tea and coffee were served in the church hall.



Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council

Bar Farmhouse

Good news, work seems to have started up eventually and the roof is being re tiled. We wait to see if the other work is undertaken and the scaffold removed.

Thanks to Sylvia Michaels our District Council for giving Newark and Sherwood D. C. a bit of a push!!

Dog Bins

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

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

Laxton Open Fields Interpretation Boards/Panels

The Information Panels have now been forwarded from Linney's to Thoresby who will now organise the manufacture prior to installation.

Thoresby have said they will check that the locations for the panels are still appropriate and discuss with the Visitor Centre Trustees. However if anyone has a suggestion about the siting I'm sure the Trustees and Thoresby would be pleased to hear.

Panels 2 and 3 appear in this month Open Field.

Best wishes, *Michael*

A Little Church History

We have just acquired a new register of services for our church. Our old one has just lasted 40 years. The new one is a little thicker so I wonder how long this one will last. Will it still be in use in 40 years time, or will our church be closed, as now we are only getting one service a month? What will it be like in a few years time. With the decline in the congregations all over the churches and the drop in the number of curates going forward to be ordained, it is a worry as to what will happen.

Our old register cost a total of £7.50 including VAT. The new one was £33.25.

The first entry in the old register was on Saturday, October 31, 1982 and our vicar at the time was the Rev Jack Hassett. It was the wedding of Albert Elliott, our church warden, and Mrs Winifred Ward, Enrolling Member of the Mothers Union.

It makes interesting reading. On Sunday 31st October there was a Holy Communion service and a family service. On 7th November there were also two services. On the following Tuesday the funeral of Wilfred Rayner (uncle of Ivan) was held and on the 25th November

the funeral of Mary Elizabeth Frecknall took place. She was the grandmother of Stuart Julie and Geoff Rose.



The Rev Hassett was with us until the end of February 1983 until he retired to go and live down south. On 17th of March 1983 we welcomed our new vicar the Rev Clive Handford.

He was installed as vicar of Kneesall with Laxton, licensed as priest in charge of Wellow and licensed as a rural dean of the Norwell and Tuxford deaneries by the Bishop of Southwell.

Our first entry was a wedding on the 31st of October 1982 and the last was our harvest festival on the 14th of October 2022





LAXTON

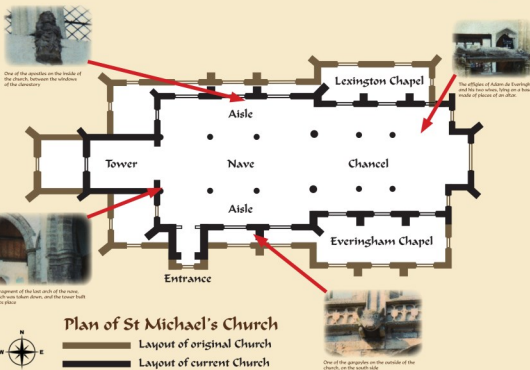


The Church of St Michael dates from the 12th century. At that time, burial within the church was reserved for a few people, including lords of the manor. The Lexington family had their burial place to the north of the chancel and before 1257, John de Lexington founded a chantry chapel with an altar built there. At the same time, the aisles were enlarged and a little later, in the early 14th century, the chancel was rebuilt. The Everingham family were buried in their chapel on the south side of the chancel. At the end of the 15th century, the top row of windows (known as clerestory) was added, as well as the gargoyles between each window on the outside and the carvings of angels and apostles on the inside.

Monuments inside the church represent members of the Everingham family. Adam de Everingham (who died in 1341) is accompanied by both his wives, Clarissa and Margery. The oak effigy of Margery Everingham (died in 1336), who was his second wife, is the only surviving wooden effigy in Nottinghamshire. The figures lie on a base made up of pieces from the altar that used to stand in the Lexington chapel.

During the 18th century, many churches suffered from a lack of maintenance and Laxton was no exception. In the 1790s, John Throsby was appalled by the state of the building, describing the north chapel as "the foulest man ever saw".

The Church of St Michael the Archangel



In the 19th century, Earl Manvers, lord of the manor, paid for a drastic remodelling of the church, which took place from 1859 to 1860. The tower was taken down, the nave shortened by one bay, the aisles reduced in width and the chapels demolished. The materials were then used to rebuild the tower further to the east, at the end of the shortened nave. You can see the starting point of the arch that was removed inside the church, on the south side of the nave. The seating capacity was reduced from 397 places to 295.

CHANTRY CHAPEL

Wealthy patrons would pay for a priest to conduct masses for the souls of themselves and their families. Often, a new chapel with an altar would be constructed within the church, where the masses took place, and this was known as a chantry chapel.



The church before 1860



LAXTON



In front of you are the remains of a medieval castle built by a great Norman landowner called Robert de Caux. In the 12th century, he was appointed hereditary Keeper of Sherwood Forest. The size of the castle reflected this important role, and many royal visitors were received here.

In the 1230s, the castle and responsibility for Sherwood Forest passed to the Everingham family. In 1286, Robert de Everingham was imprisoned at Nottingham for trespass on the king's deer – he had been poaching.

The castle fell out of use during the 14th century. When the Roos family acquired the manor of Laxton in the mid-15th century, the old castle was no longer a desirable place to live.

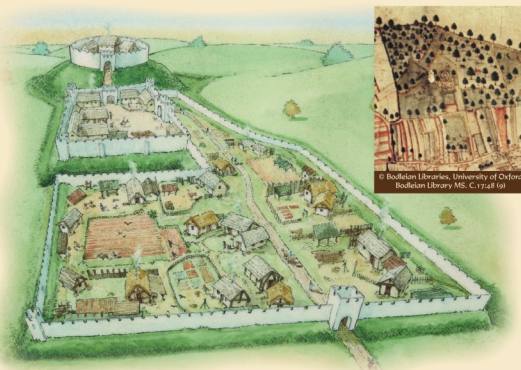
THE MOTTE

This motte, the largest in Nottinghamshire, is nearly 22 metres high and 37 metres across the top. The buildings on top of the motte were the hub of the feudal castle, dominating the village and the surrounding area.

THE INNER BAILEY

The inner bailey defences were built during the earliest days of the castle. The enormous bank may once have been capped by stone walls. Within the bailey were buildings essential for the working life of the castle: stables, accommodation and kitchens.

Laxton Castle



THE OUTER BAILEY

This outer enclosure is a later extension to the castle. It was probably built after the de Caux family became the Keepers of Sherwood Forest in the 12th century.

THE POST-MEDIEVAL CASTLE

A new manor house was built in the inner bailey. This house, the old castle motte and the baileys are shown on Mark Pierce's 1635 map of Laxton (pictured left). At the same time, many of the medieval earthworks were reduced in height to give better views from the house and gardens. Traces of buildings survive as hollows, where the foundations have been dug out.

The earthwork mound crowning the motte appears to be a garden feature belonging to the house. It is known locally as Pan Pudding Hill, and is likely to have been a prospect mound, from which to view the gardens below.



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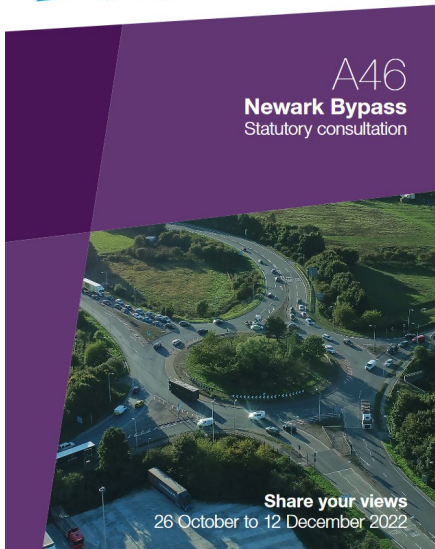
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A46 Dualling Around Newark



Anyone who has ever been a victim of the traffic congestion at the 'Cattle Market Roundabout' where the A616 crosses the A46 just outside Newark (and that will be just about everyone in Laxton and Moorhouse) will be likely to have a view on the best way to improve things.

You now have a chance to have your say. A public consultation is in progress until December 12th. This edition may reach you in time to go to the public event in Newark Town Hall in 30th November between 11am and 4pm.

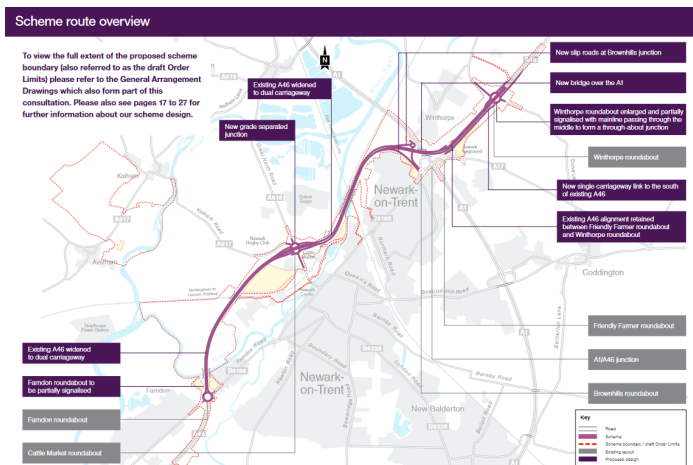
You can also complete a response form online at

<https://nationalhighways.co.uk/a46-newark-bypass/>

If you want to study the proposals before completing the response and / or prefer to complete a paper form, copies of the consultation brochure and response form are available free of charge at deposit locations throughout the consultation period. The deposit locations

include Castle House, Newark Library and the Lord Ted.

You can collect from these places and others, which are listed on the web site above, during their normal opening hours.



Tuxford Young Farmers

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE YOUNG
FARMERS CLUBS



Santa's Tractor Run 2022

Saturday 3rd December

Look out for Santa, his
elves, and decorated
tractors coming through a
village near you!



Approximate Timings:

5:00pm Morton
5:10pm Fiskerton
5:15pm Rolleston / Staythorpe
5:30pm Upton
5:45pm Southwell
6:05pm Halam / Edingley
6:15pm Farnsfield
6:30pm Oxtun
6:45pm Epperstone
7:00pm Lowdham
7:05pm Caythorpe
7:15pm Hoveringham
7:25pm Thurgarton
7:30pm Goverton / Bleasby

For updates, route, tracking Santa, donations & bookings

visit www.facebook.com/nottsyongfarmersclubs or www.nottsyfc.co.uk

Tuxford Young Farmers are having a busy time in the run-up to Christmas.

Following the huge success of their illuminated tractor run last year, they are repeating it on Saturday 3rd December.

The list of villages which will see the convoy pass through is on the poster (left). Southwell is probably the closest to our villages, or you could

go the other way to Farnsfield to see them. It was a lovely, bright and cheerful start to the festive season last year, at a time when everyone really needed a boost. The same might be said of this year for different reasons.

The lead tractor also arrived at Laxton for the Lights Switch on, accompanied by Santa aboard his trusty Land Rover - see front cover.

Local Young Farmers Recognised

Jessica Rose from Laxton has been shortlisted among the final five in a national Young Farmers competition. The 'Heart of YFC Achiever of the Year 2022' competition was open to all members and it is a huge endorsement of her hard work and commitment to the organisation to have reached the final 5.

Each of the short listed members had to list their achievements at club, county and national level and Jess' list is testimony to her tireless efforts for the organisation. Most recently she was interviewed on BBC Radio Nottingham to promote the county calendar - see overleaf for details.

There are a number of other categories which members can enter

Ossington PCC invite you to

The Carol Service at

The Church of the Holy Rood,
Ossington

6pm Sunday 18th December

Join us for drinks and mince pies
after the service

and the

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

10am

Once again we are
donating our Christmas
card costs to charity, so we
would like to wish all our
friends in Laxton and
surrounding area

**A MERRY CHRISTMAS
and A HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

Dave and Joyce Stone.



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Coffee Mornings
Coffee Mornings remain
suspended for the time
being.
We will let you know when
we plan to start again. The
rota on the inside cover will
restart to remind hostesses
of when their turn is
coming round.

and Daisy Haigh, also from Tuxford YFC reached the final of the 'Aspiring Rural Leader' category. Two further Notts members from Collingham and Papplewick made the finals. Congratulations to them all.

Notts County YFC have produced a wall calendar, comprised of photos submitted by members. The cover photo was chosen by a vote and was won by Jack Briggs of Worksop YFC.



The calendars cost £15 each and the proceeds will go towards supporting the many activities of the county's clubs. They were available for pre order until 30th November, but can be ordered by email from office@nottsyfc.uk after this date while stocks remain.

Christmas light switch on 2022

sunday 4th december
from 5pm at The Dovey

Kneesall School Choir
Carol Singing with the Dukeries
Community Band
Mulled Wine & Roasted Chestnuts
Food TBC

Lights switched on at 5:30 sharp!

Please bring lanterns, torches & your best singing voices!

Donations to FoodBank and the village church welcomed on the night.
FoodBank donation bin at the pub.

December Village Competition - Best decorated house frontage - Hamper Prize! Winner announced in the pub during the Christmas Quiz on Christmas Eve!

Tuxford YFC

Wreath Making

30th November 7:00pm

£20pp Mulled Wine & Refreshments
@Egmanton Village Hall
All Welcome, contact Iona-07809 133904 for booking
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Open Field Subscriptions

Subscriptions for the year 2023 are due in January, but can be paid at any time from now.

The price remains the same as last year, at **£5** for the year, which is less than half the true price of printing. We send our sincere thanks to our advertisers whose continuing support makes this possible. New advertisers are welcome at any time.



Thank you to all contributors for your articles, photos etc. over the past year, to Jean and Roy who often collect the printed magazines and sort them for distribution and to our dedicated team of distributors.

Please put your £5 subs in an envelope with your own name and address on it and hand it to your distributor, put it through their door or drop it into Jean's letter box at Blacksmith's Cottage, High Street before the end of January. Thank you.

WI River Group

Carol Concert

Saint Michael's Church Laxton

Monday, 5th December 2022

7 pm

Carols, readings, poems

Followed by

Tea, coffee, mince pies

Everyone welcome

Egmanton Classes and Activities

Yoga

The yoga classes in Egmanton have been a popular and successful activity for over 20 years. Unfortunately Gregg has retired from teaching and his classes have stopped.

Karen Baker is another local yoga teacher and she came in November to run a trial, which proved successful and she will be running classes on Monday nights in future. The time is slightly earlier at 7.15pm.

Karen can be contacted by email at karenbaker321@outlook.com, mobile **07399 669380**.

Pilates

Hopefully there will soon be an additional opportunity for gentle exercise at Egmanton Village Hall with Pilates classes, which are currently being planned.

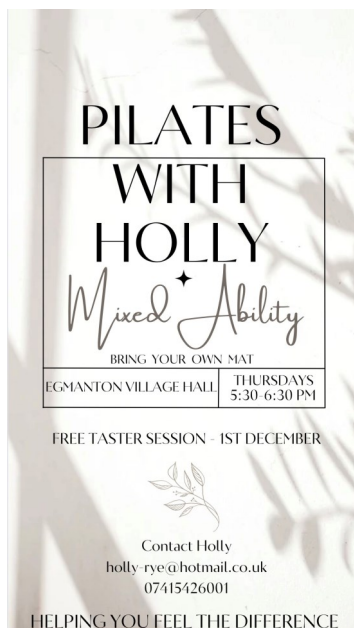
Holly Rye is a teacher who will be coming to Egmanton to give a free taster session in the Hall on **December 1st**. The session will be mixed ability and those attending should bring their own mat.

Anyone who is interested can contact the teacher Holly by email at holly-rye@hotmail.co.uk.

Coffee Mornings

Egmanton Village Hall have recently started holding monthly Saturday morning Coffee Mornings. The Christmas one will take place between 10.00am and noon on **Saturday 10th December**. Everyone is very welcome to attend. It will be an opportunity to see the new windows recently fitted to the main hall.

All events appear on the web site and the address is in the usual item at the end of the magazine.




PILATES
WITH
HOLLY
Mixed Ability

BRING YOUR OWN MAT

EGMANTON VILLAGE HALL	THURSDAYS 5:30 - 6:30 PM
-----------------------	-----------------------------

FREE TASTER SESSION - 1ST DECEMBER



Contact Holly
holly-rye@hotmail.co.uk
07415426001

HELPING YOU FEEL THE DIFFERENCE

Don't Forget to Use Old Stamps

The familiar stamps issued by Royal Mail are being replaced by bar coded equivalents as we mentioned several months ago. The final date for using the old ones is rapidly approaching.



Non bar-coded stamps issued as Christmas specials or other pictorial commemorative stamps continue to be valid and need not be swapped.

We all like our seasonal stamps, but this year Royal Mail are urging people to use up the stamps they have in stock without bar codes. This applies to “eligible stamps”, which are defined as the regular 1st and 2nd class stamps featuring the profile of the Queen and those that show any other value.

Any commemorative pictorial stamps, such as those issued for previous Christmases or special events, remain valid for postage and do not need to be swapped out.

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

Self adhesive stamps must be stuck to their original paper backing or book and any which are not self adhesive need to be stuck to a **sheet of paper. The envelop should them be sent to** ‘Freepost SWAP OUT’ by 31st January.

The above instructions apply to a combined stamp value of under £200. For stamps of a combined value of over £200, see royalmail.com/barcodedstamps for more information.

DECEMBER / JANUARY SERVICES IN OUR VILLAGE CHURCHES

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

4th December

10:30am	Laxton	H/C	Rev Alastair
4.00pm	Wellow	E/P	Heather B

5.30pm Laxton **Carols during Lights Switch On**

5th December (Monday)

7.00pm Laxton **Group WI Carol Service**

11th December

10.30am	Kirton	H/C	Father James
4.00pm	Egmanton	Advent Carols	Father James
4.00pm	Kneesall	Christingle	Rev Richard Ford

18th December

10.00am	Walesby	H/C	Rev Vaughn Sweet
4.00pm	Wellow	H/H + Carols	Rev Richard Ford

Christmas Eve

4.00pm	Kirton	Christingle	Father James
6.00pm	Egmanton	Crib Service	Father James
7.00pm	Moorhouse	Carol Service	

Christmas Day

10.30am	Kirton	H/C	Father James
---------	--------	------------	--------------

1st January 2023

10.30am	Laxton	H/C	Rev Margaret
4.00pm	Wellow	E/P	Heather B

8th January

10.30am	Kirton	H/C	Father James
10.30am	Laxton	Plough Sunday	Heather B



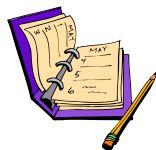
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2022

Weds 30 th Nov	YFC Wreath Making, Egmonton VH, 7.00pm
Fri 2 nd Dec	Village Hall Quiz Night
Sat 3rd Dec	Young Farmers' Illuminated Tractor Run
Sun 4 th Dec	Christmas Lights Switch On 5.30pm
Mon 5th Dec	WI Group Carol Service
Tues 13th Dec	Beat Surgery, pub car park, 12 noon
Weds 14th Dec	WI
Fri 16th Dec	last date to leave Christmas card in church.

Forward Planning

Weds 11th Jan	WI
Tues 24th Jan	Parish Council



Regular Events:

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

**Copy Date for FEBRUARY 2023 edition:
12 noon, 16th JANUARY 2023**

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

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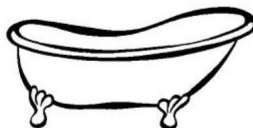
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Laxton WI



Our meeting was held on Wednesday 9th November. Members were welcomed by our President.

Sandra was thanked for organising our 60th anniversary party. We had a lovely meal followed by entertainment.

After the business we welcomed the speaker for the evening, who was Dr Andrew Ward of Norwell Nurseries. He gave us a lovely slideshow of "Plants Through the Year".

This showed some lovely plants and shrubs, how they change colour throughout the year, where they should be planted on heavy or light soil, in the shade all in the sun. It was very interesting, especially with all the names. I don't know how he remembers them! He brought some plants that are flowering now to show but with the weather everything seems to be early or still flowering now when it shouldn't be.

Next month, on December 14 we will be having a craft night.

We wish everyone, members, past members and friends a happy Christmas and New Year.

Laxton History Group



In October we were pleased to be invited to join our friends at Norwell Parish History Group for a talk from David Amos about Mining in Nottinghamshire. David began his working life in the mines and later became a qualified teacher, working in further education and specialising in research to preserve and make known the history of our mining communities.

Continuing on this theme, our November meeting was a second visit to Norwell to hear a follow up talk from Natalie Braber entitled 'Miners Talking'. She is interested in language and dialects and her work complements David's drawing attention to the language which existed among the miners in the coalfields.

To complete a busy month, The annual Craft Fayre was planned for November 19th. This had been a popular annual get together before Covid struck, and this was the first opportunity to revive it since things became easier. Jean has been working hard and has found a good selection of craftspeople to come with their wares.

We now take a break for December and January.

Christmas Tree Lights Switch On

We are looking forward to this, our second "Christmas Lights Switch On" which takes place on **SUNDAY 4th December**.

We are pleased to welcome Kneesall School Choir and the Dukeries Community Band once again. The band will lead the Carol Singing.

There will be mulled wine and roasted chestnuts and food, but you will need to be there to see what we are serving!

The switch on is at 5.30pm sharp. If you are not there for the big moment, you will miss it!!

We will also be thinking of others with a food donation bin at the pub and donations to the church welcomed.

December Village Competition

There is a hamper prize for the best decorated house frontage. The winner will be announced on Christmas Eve during the pub Christmas Quiz.

Best wishes

Michael



The Dukeries Singers CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Ticket price £8

Saturday 10th December 2022

7pm at The Jubilee Hall Ollerton

Featuring:

The Dukeries Singers
The Forest singers
The Edwinstowe Handbell Ringers
Soloist Vicki Melling
Pianist John Sellers
Guitarist Ashley Argile

thedukeriesingers@gmail.com The Jubilee Hall, Wellow Road, Ollerton NG229AP For tickets contact Alison : 01623863450

*price Includes light refreshments





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Kneesall Village Signs

Kneesall Parish Council recently successfully applied for a grant to erect the kind of cast iron village signs we have in Laxton, and which are such an attractive feature of many small local communities in this area.

They were directed towards the designer Vanessa Morris who hand crafted the signs in three dimensions. Villagers had been asked to supply images which might be used on the signs and she drew her inspiration from these and ideas put to her for the overall feel of the signs.

She used villagers' images, distilled the essence of our ideas, including Mr Ian Thorne's unique crest. She also used photographs of the cattle at Ompton for the Kneesall and Ompton Gateway signs.



The designs for the signs were crafted to give a relief effect before they

were cast at a foundry. When the cast signs were returned, Vanessa Morris hand painted the enamel onto them before they were fired at high temperatures to bake the enamel to the metal.

Vanessa's hand made master



designs are in storage in case any of the signs are damaged by traffic! It's worth taking a closer look at the signs to appreciate the unique designs capturing the essence of these villages.

With thanks to Kneesall Knatter for permission to use their text and photos.



What a busy autumn we have had, what with Macmillan coffee events and Harvest Festival concerts in aid of our local food bank. But there is no rest for us yet as Christmas is our busiest time! If you would like to see us perform this Christmas, this is where we will be:

Nov 24th Edwinstowe Christmas lights switch on

Nov 25th Ollerton Christmas lights switch on

Nov 26th West Markham Church 7pm

Dec 2nd Alders pub Ollerton 6pm

Dec 4th RSPB (Sherwood forest visitors centre) 11.30am

Dec 12th St Paulinus Church Ollerton

Dec 10th Jubilee Hall Ollerton – The Dukeries Singers main Christmas concert. 7pm

Dec 17th St Lawrence church, Mansfield – Guests of The Forest Singers at their main Christmas concert. 7pm

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for timings, changes and additions.

In the meantime, if you would like to join the choir or book us for your special event then please contact our bookings secretary Margaret **01623 642464 or 07896491314** or email us at **thedukeriessingers@gmail.com**.





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Recent Bonus Ball Winners

15/10/22	39	Alan and Anna
22/10/22	34	ROLLOVER
29/10/22	41	ROLLOVER
5/11/22	34	ROLLOVER
12/11/22	39	Alan and Anna

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

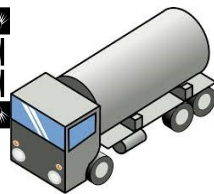
Thanks to Steve Digby, Editor of 'Idle Talk' for permission to use this quiz, set by his sister in law.

Straightforward, cryptic, hidden or phonetic: what's the link

Quiz Questions (answers overleaf)

1. Which annual sporting event was first held in 1829?
2. According to the Book of Genesis, who were the first inhabitants of the Garden of Eden?
3. Which singer do we know we'll meet again some sunny day?
4. Who is Coventry's most famous horsewoman?
5. What foodstuff do you associate with Melton Mowbray?
6. In Les Miserables, what exactly did Jean Valjean steal?
7. Which open area around London was once the haunt of Dick Turpin?
8. Which Christmas treat, originally containing meat, was much frowned upon by Puritans?
9. Who was the demon barber of Fleet Street?
10. Which platters would you never find in a vegan's fridge?
11. *What is the connection between the answers. See overleaf.*

Group Oil Order



The next order will have gone in by the time you are reading this. Thank you to the people who sent in their orders early. It reduces the effort at the last minute and helps us respond more quickly if there seems to be an advantage in doing so.

While the price, as monitored by looking at the Boilerjuice 1000 litre average price for England, had sadly not come down significantly. The good news, if it can be called good, is that the price is about as low as it has been over the last 3 months, being around 89p at the time of writing.

On 16th October there appeared to be a slight upward movement, so the order email was generated.

Depending on demand, prices and weather, the next order is liable to be late January / early February.

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

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

Joy

Beat Surgeries

Our local police are taking the opportunity to get out into the community and meet people in advertised locations. These events are advertised by PC 2548 Deborah Bakin and PCSO 8254 Richard Dunn.

They planned a date in the latter part of November in Egmonton and there is a date in the diary for Laxton. If you have any issues you would like to discuss with the police or would simply like to put a face to the names we list in the magazine, the next Beat Surgery in Laxton will take place in the pub car park on Tuesday 13th December at 12 noon.

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Quiz Answers:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Boat Race - face | 6. Loaf of bread - head |
| 2. Adam and Eve - believe | 7. Hampstead Heath - teeth |
| 3. Vera Lynn - gin | 8. Mince pies - eyes |
| 4. Lady Godiva - fiver | 9. Sweeney Todd – Flying Squad |
| 5. Pork pies - lies | 10. Plates of meat – feet |

11 They are all expressions from Cockney Rhyming Slang



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Things to Look Forward to ...

YFC Charity Wreath Making 30th November, 7pm in aid of the Alzheimer's Society at Egmonton Village Hall. £20 including mulled wine. All welcome. Please contact Iona: 07809 133904.

Pilates - Free Taster Session, Thursday 1st December, Egmonton Village Hall, 5.30 - 6.30pm

Laxton Village Hall Quiz, Friday December 2nd, 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Young Farmers Illuminated Tractor Run, Saturday 3rd December- see article in this edition for the nearest places to see the procession.

Laxton Christmas Lights Switch On, Sunday 4th December. Last year the first Switch On event was held in the Dovecote Car park and was a great success. This year you can not only plan to attend, but also help to plan the event. Volunteers are needed for the organising group. Please contact Michael Manning on **870844**.

Handel's Messiah at Southwell Minster, Monday 5th December, 7.30pm. Tickets now on sale from www.ticketsource.co.uk (search 'Handel's Messiah Southwell' or call 0333 666 3366

The Magic of Christmas, Saturday 17th December, 7.30pm. Presented by Frances Finn of BBC Radio Nottingham. The concert will feature The Choir of Southwell Minster, Central England Camerata, Marcus Farnsworth (baritone), Jonathan Allsopp (organ) and Paul Provost (conductor). Tickets £40 (Front Nave), £30 (Middle Nave), £20 (Rear Nave), and £10 (Side Aisles). Buy from The Cathedral Shop and www.southwellminster.org/magicofchristmas.

Superfast Broadband in Egmonton

Egmonton has recently had a significant presence of OpenReach vans and personnel. They are undertaking preliminary work ahead of installing the infrastructure to support the new superfast Broadband service. They are finding the ducts where wires currently run, ensuring they are unblocked if necessary, and laying in drawcords to make pulling of wires quick and easy. Further work is expected in the New Year.

Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council

Draft Minutes of the Meeting 27/9/22

Present: Councillors:

M. Manning (chair), R. Hennell, M.Hennell, J. Godson, J.Hill , S,Rose

In attendance at parish council meeting

C. Wilson (Clerk), S. Michael (District councillor),

Members of the public (x3)

1. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Mr S Hill. Mr Pringle was also absent.
2. **Declarations of interest:** The chair declared an interest as a member of the sports field committee in item 10 (Property matters – including sports field and Glebe Field). There were no other declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda.
3. **Dispensations:** None required.
4. **10 Minutes public speaking:** A resident explained that they had attended because they had understood that a police representative was attending the meeting. The chair stated that he had wanted to raise the issue of intruders and attempts to remove property which had recently been experienced in the parish. Mr Rose listed a number of different incidents which had occurred recently. It was noted that the police have a rural crime unit but it does not appear to be providing a deterrent.

Mrs Michael drew attention to the role of the Safer Neighbourhood Group which discusses incidents in the villages in the area. However, the police often say that unless issues are reported at the time, it is difficult for them to take action retrospectively. Councillors noted that the next meeting is in 2 -3 weeks' time. The possibility of the resident in attendance joining SNG as a parish representative was discussed, the resident being a retired officer.

Crime in the parish to be an agenda item for discussion at the November 2022 meeting.

A resident requested an additional street light at the Bar near Cross Hill going up Egmonton Road. The chair will provide the lamppost numbers. The clerk will then raise a request with NCC.

The clerk will also report debris in the tree at Cross Hill.

A resident expressed dissatisfaction with the pilot NottsBus on Demand service. Councillors noted the difficulty of getting to Southwell particularly first thing in the morning but also between the two designated transport areas which are administered separately. Councillors recognised the need for a more joined up approach to bus services if they are to meet the parish's needs as a rural community. The chair reported that he had already raised concerns with Mr Pringle. After further discussion, it was decided that the parish council should begin a petition to present to Mr Pringle seeking a revision of the pilot on demand scheme.

5. **Thoresby Estate report (if any):** No representative was in attendance. The clerk will invite Mr Perry's replacement to the meeting on 22 November 2022, requesting a written report if he was not able to attend in person.
6. **Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 19 July 2022:** The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 19 July 2022 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair.
7. **Matters arising:** The History Group had requested that it be noted that they had made a contribution to the finger post in Moorhouse (LMPC/64/22). No other matters arising which were not otherwise on the agenda.
8. **Reports from district and county councillors:** Mrs Michael reported that:
 - a. Planning delegations had been reviewed and changed reverting to applications being called in if refused by the parish council
 - b. Plans to move to devolution continue to be pursued.
9. **Reports from councillors:** Concerns at speeding traffic and the volume of HGVs in were reported and noted.
10. **Property matters including sports field and Glebe Field matters (if any):** Councillors noted that the newly laid hedge in Glebe Field had suffered badly in the excessive heat this summer. Councillors discussed the matter and agreed that the lost hawthorn quicks should be restored. They recognised that it was necessary for this work to be completed at the right time of year which would be before the next meeting. With this in view they authorised Mr Rose and Mr J Hill to incur costs up to £250 plus VAT to repair the hedge. Councillors discussed the issue of dog waste on the sports field. Councillors agreed to purchase a new dog bin for the sports field and that the bin at the village hall should be re-sited to somewhere more heavily used by dog walkers.

11. Planning matters:

- a. **Applications:** None
- b. **To note planning decisions by NSDC:**
 - i. **22/00440/FUL- Implementation of Phase One of Landscape Masterplan, plus new Extensions to the Ronson Building and the Cottages with associated alteration and refurbishment works. Alteration and refurbishment works to the Main House. | Beth Shalom:** Approval noted
 - ii. **22/01308/HOUSE | Demolition of existing Conservatory. Installation of external door and window. | School House High Street Laxton Nottinghamshire NG22 0NX:** Approval noted
- c. **Compliance:** No matters raised
- d. **NSDC – Planning delegation update:** See LMPC/86/22 above (Reports from councillors).

12. Defibrillator inspection report including spare replacement pads:

The chair confirmed that he had the signs which had been ordered at the same time as the new battery. He will display a sign on the Visitor Centre wall. After discussion, it was **agreed** that there was no need to order spare replacement pads as they were likely to go out of date.

13. Village environment and appearance, including Bar Farmhouse:

- a. Bar Farmhouse Councillors expressed concern that the condition of the property was now worse than it had been before with the roof removed and a window out. The lack of protection meant that the floor would now be damaged. Mrs Michael will raise these concerns with enforcement and update the chair.
- b. **Parish roads and pavements – County councillor's inspection visit 26 August 2022:** The chair reported that, no one else being available, he and Mr Pringle had met on 28 August 2022 and inspected the following:
 - i. Bar Road
 - ii. Drain at then bottom of Hill Lane
 - iii. The water pooling on Green Lane
 - iv. High Street

and discussed the volume of HGVs visiting the brickworks and the disproportionate the impact they have on road surfaces compared to cars. Mr Pringle will press NCC to restore the dilapidated road surface.

- c. **Fly tipping:** The clerk is still awaiting a reply from NSDC.
- d. **Bench for Moorhouse:** The chair had inspected the bench. He expressed the view that it should be removed. Mr S Hill will also inspect. The bench will be removed if unsafe. Mr S Hill and Mr J Hill will canvass the views of Moorhouse residents on a replacement bench and report back to the next meeting.
- e. **2022 Christmas celebrations – Planning arrangement:**
Councillors discussed arrangements and decided that the light switch on event should be repeated on 4 December 2022. They noted that the Christmas tractor run is to take place on 3 December 2022. A WhatsApp group of volunteers has been set up. The number of trees to be erected was discussed. Mr Rose will enquire of Thoresby Estate as to how many trees they would donate this year. Councillors discussed how best to undertake arrangements and agreed to set up a Christmas Committee comprising the chair, Mr J Hill, Mr Rose and Mr M Hennell to arrange the event. The chair will apply to the Thoresby Estate for a grant again this year. The clerk will establish the council's powers in relation to expenditure of the precept on an event and confirm to councillors as soon as possible.

14. Financial matters:

- c. **Financial position as at 31 August 2022:** Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position at 31 August 2022 (incorporating the 2022-23 budget figures). The chair verified the stated balances against bank statements.
- d. **Accounts for payment:** Councillors unanimously approved six payments totalling £428.80.
- e. **Change of banking provider:** The clerk reported the outcome of her investigations into an alternative provider. She will contact potential providers of free banking to establish the opening requirements.

15. Service faults: None

16. Correspondence: Item b – Winter salt - Councillors agreed that salt was not required this year. Item c – Devolution – See above at LMPC/86/22 above (Reports from councillors). All other items of correspondence noted.

17. Agenda items for next meeting: See above

18. **Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 22 November 2022 in the Visitor Centre.



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With the holiday season and sales fast approaching, Citizens Advice Sherwood & Newark has some top tips to remind bargain-hunters how to shop safely online.

1. **Do your research:** Before buying from a site you haven't used before, spend a few minutes checking it out. See what people have said about the person or company by looking at reviews on different websites - don't rely on reviews on the company website.
2. **Be wise to scams in disguise:** If a bargain seems too good to be true, it probably is. If it's branded but a lot cheaper than it appears on the brand's website, it could be fake. It could be a legitimate 'look-a-like' product. Either way, it might not be the quality you were hoping for
3. **Ways to pay:** Beware of a seller who asks you to pay by direct bank transfer. Bank transfers have limited protection if things go wrong. You should only send and receive money through the online marketplace app or website using a debit or credit card, or via trusted methods of payment such as PayPal
4. **Know your rights:** If you've bought from a retailer you might be entitled to a replacement product or a repair of your faulty goods. You can even claim a full refund if you can prove the goods are faulty. If you've bought from an individual, perhaps via an online marketplace, you have far fewer rights. In fact, you have no right to return, so long as the goods are 'as described'. Always be sure to take a screenshot of the description, and be sure to check and double check before you buy
5. **When things go wrong:** Sometimes things just don't go to plan. If you've bought something that is broken, damaged, unsafe or not what you expected then contact the seller and give them a chance to put it right. If that doesn't work - reach out to the Citizens Advice.

If you're worried that something you've seen online might be a scam, contact the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 0808 223 1133 or Relay UK - if you can't hear or speak on the phone, you can type what you want to say: 18001 then 0808 223 1133, Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm (closed bank holidays). Calls from mobiles and landlines are free. Or visit the website for more information. If you need to speak to someone in person pop into one of Citizens Advice Sherwood & Newark's offices.

Milton Mausoleum

We would like to thank all our friends, supporters and visitors over this last year. Again, it has been a busy year with all our usual events plus an additional one, a Commemorative Service for the life of Georgiana, the 4th Duchess of Newcastle.



This year was the 200 years anniversary of her death (26.09.1822). This service was a mixture of music, hymns, a poem, quotations from the diary of the 4th Duke and also an insight into the life of the Duchess. A special part of the service was a reading of the 23rd Psalm via internet from America by the Lady Patricia Pelham-Clinton-Hope, daughter of the 9th Duke and great, great, great granddaughter of Georgiana. A very unique event.

We will be finishing the year with our very popular Carols by Candlelight on Saturday Dec. 3rd from 4pm – 5pm. This event is now fully booked and we are running a waiting list.

Our first event of 2023 will be our Sunday lunch in April, more details to follow, which precedes our regular Sunday openings of the Mausoleum from 2-4pm beginning on Sunday May 7th. We are again planning a year full of a variety of events and look forward to seeing you all again.

May we wish you a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

The Friends of the Milton Mausoleum Committee.

You can reach us for information and advice:

In person

Newark office Tues/Thurs 9.30 - 2.30, Castle House NG24 1BY

Ollerton office Mon/Weds 9.30 - 2.30, 5 Forest Court, NG22 9PL

Phone local office: **01623 861769** (you may be offered a call back)

Phone Adviceline **0800 144 88 48** or **Relay UK** - if you can't hear/speak on the phone, type what you want to say: **18001 0800 144 8884**. Monday to Friday 9am-5pm.

Chat online - www.citizensadvice.org.uk/contact-us

Website

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

Egmanton Village Hall

www.egmantonvillagehall.org.uk / 01777 871171

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

- ♦ **Yoga** – This popular activity will now be run by Karen Baker as Gregg has stopped teaching. Please note the new time of 7.15pm. For Information please contact, mobile **07399 669380**
Email **karenbaker321@outlook.com**
- ♦ **Pilates** - classes are being planned for Thursday evenings at 5:30pm with Holly Rye. **Thursday 5.30 - 6.30, 1st December**
Contact **holly-rye@hotmail.co.uk**
- ♦ **Egmanton WI** - Thursday 15th December in the Hall
- ♦ **Christmas Coffee Morning** - Saturday 10th December, 10.00 - 12.00

All events appear on the web site - see above

Bonus Balls Available

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

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

Best Wishes, Michael

Laxton Defibrillator

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

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

Michael Manning

Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council

A reminder about the pot hole reporting contact details are:
**[www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/potholes/
report-a-pothole](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/potholes/report-a-pothole)**

Or ring Customer Services on 0300 500 8080

Useful Contact Details

Defibrillator Contacts:

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

Police

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

PC Gary Sipson 07525 226575 or 101 x 800 7673

Email : gary.sipson@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk

PC2548 Deborah Bakin supported by
PCSO 8524 Richard Dunn at Southwell 07595 074292

Web, showing other contacts: 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
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MP Mr Robert Jenrick: robert.jenrick.mp@parliament.uk 01636 612 837

County Councillor: cllr.mike.pringle@nottsc.gov.uk 0115 977 5661

Parish Council website: www.laxtonandmoorhouseparishcouncil.co.uk



Moorhouse Carol Service

Christmas Eve

7.00pm Saturday 24th December

Moorhouse Church

Everyone Welcome



Plough Sunday Service

Laxton Church

**Sunday, 8th, January,
10.30am**

This is one of our traditional rural services. It will be led this year by Lay Reader Heather Brown. The service includes the blessing of the plough and the churn.

Everyone is very welcome and the service will be followed by refreshments