

# Open Field

50p

February 2019



*Plough Sunday at Laxton Church  
Laxton 13<sup>th</sup> January 2019*

The monthly publication of the  
parish of Laxton & Moorhouse  
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# Open Field

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

**CONTRIBUTIONS for the next edition TO  
BE WITH THE EDITOR BY 16th FEBRUARY  
PLEASE. EARLIER PREFERRED.**

Cover: Plough Sunday  
Photograph by Janet Cooke



# Letter From Revd. Zoe

Dear friends

As I write this letter, we have just taken down our Christmas cards with several personal handwritten letters written inside of them. There is something about receiving a handwritten letter which in many ways has become something of a rarity. When was the last time you sent a personal letter to someone? Who did you send it to? Our handwriting reveals much about the person who writes the personal letter – is your writing hurried (are you always in a hurry), flamboyant (are you a flamboyant person)..... I know of many bereaved people who have re-read letters of condolence over and over again. Electronic communication, I am told, doesn't have quite the same effect and generally isn't cherished in quite the same way.

You will often hear me talk about 'both/and' rather than 'either/or'. I have a beautiful handwritten letter from my daughter in China – it is like I am receiving something of her each time I read it. To receive this letter, she had to go to the time and trouble to address an envelope and post it – I was somehow worth all this extra effort and attention. But saying this, I don't have to wait 3 to 4 weeks each time to receive correspondence from her as we 'video chat' weekly and message each other several times a week - this has made the distance more bearable – 'both/and' definitely does it for me!

As a result of social media I must confess that I feel more connected with my wider family and friends. Social media is a great medium for getting a message out there to lots of people at the same time – we shouldn't decry this and in many ways this makes receiving a personal letter all the more precious.

In recent weeks, the Christmas story reminded us that God chose to get personal – the Word became flesh and moved amongst us – God's personal love letter in the flesh - available for everybody to read! His words of hope and wisdom are also recorded in the Bible along with many personal letters written from Church leaders to their church communities. Down the Ages, these words of wisdom and encouragement have been cherished and re-read and re-read time and again. Have you read these words?

Perhaps we are challenged to reflect upon the impact personal letters make to our lives and whether we ought to write more letters in our own personal hand? When would be a good time to do this and to whom should we write them?

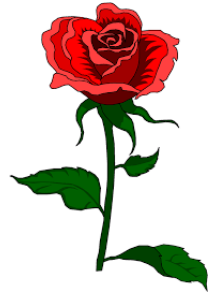
blessings  
Rev Zoe

## Sympathy - Eva Frecknall

The death of Eva Frecknall of Horbury, Wakefield occurred on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at the age of 95. Eva lived at 2 Church Cottages, Laxton with her husband Arthur until his death 4 years ago when through ill health she moved to Horbury to be near her daughter Elaine.

Her other daughter Elizabeth lives in America with her husband Richard and two children, Alexander and Amy-Eloise. Eva's funeral service was held at St Michael the Archangel Church, Laxton on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019. The service was taken by the Rev Philip Howson followed by burial in the Churchyard.

Our sympathy goes to all the family, including those still living in Laxton.



## From the Registers - Sympathy

The funeral service of Matthew Edward Murphy of Egmont Road Tuxford took place in Laxton Church on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2019. Matthew died on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> December at the age of 54. The service was conducted by the Rev Zoe Burton. Burial took place afterwards at Tuxford Green Burial site. Our sympathy goes to his wife Fiona and the children Naomi, Imogen and Isaac.

## Sympathy - Keith Dutton

We were all sad to hear that Keith Dutton had passed away on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January. Keith had just celebrated his 89<sup>th</sup> birthday on 9<sup>th</sup> January.

Our sympathy goes to Ann, Pam & Caitlin, Jay & Cairo.

Keith's funeral will be held in church on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 11.00am.







## Telephone Problems

As I mentioned last month, I have not had any calls from anyone in the village about continuing problems with telephone lines or Wi-Fi.

If anyone is still having problems, please let me know.

## Get Well Soon

We send good wishes to Margaret, who has recently been in hospital. We hope you are soon fit again.

All good wishes go to Colin, who is at the time of writing, still in hospital. We look forward to good news of you and to see you feeling much better soon.

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Christopher Juniper and Laura Hunt of Tuxford who were married on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at Ringwood Hall in Chesterfield. Laura is the daughter of Kevin Hunt and step daughter of Ann Hunt of Egmonton, and daughter of Debra Randall and step daughter of Neil Randall of Laxton.



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## Plough Sunday

Our traditional Plough Sunday Service took place this year on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> January. The Service was taken by Rev Zoe Burton and Reader Heather Brown of Eakring.

The Bible readings were read by Simon Hill (Moorhouse), Ian Thorne (Kneesall), Jonathan Price (Kirtton).

Thank you to Mike Jackson and Stuart Rose also for taking part and to Stuart for the loan of the plough and churn. Also a big thank you to Janet for again providing the refreshments afterwards.



## Christingle Service

On December 16<sup>th</sup> our annual Christingle service was taken by the Rev Philip Howson.

The children were all given Christingles which were then lit and



the lights were turned off while the children sang 'Away in Manger'.

Thank you to Jack and Ella Hoyland for playing their instruments and also to Janet for providing the mince pies and shortbread biscuits.

## Confirmation

There will be a Confirmation service this year at Southwell Minster on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

If anyone is interested in being confirmed or would like more information about confirmation and taking Holy Communion in church then please get in touch with the Rev. Zoe Burton for more details. (01623 862818).

## Christmas Cards

Once again a big thank you to everyone for supporting the annual Christmas card delivery around the village. A large number of cards were dropped off - we must count them one year! The senders donated a total of £171 to church funds.

Many thanks to Pat, Jeff and Janet who undertook the sorting and delivery.



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## Village Hall Update

As we have recently had a vacancy for a Committee member, we are very fortunately in securing a very willing volunteer! Ian Robinson from The Reading Room has joined us and he will undoubtedly prove to be an enthusiastic and valuable member of the Committee, bringing with him a wealth of financial expertise.



Over the Christmas break, Roger and Joan have been through all the paperwork and files concerning the Project and have done a really fantastic job of putting us in a position to proceed with the Refurbishment with all haste.

Roger, Joan, Ian and myself met with Carl the Architect and the Builders (Trio) on 10/1/19 and they have agreed our new budget and feel confident that the work can be completed within the costings.

They are very keen to start quickly and have suggested it could be as early as February.

We are on our way, watch this space!!!!

*Michael Manning*

## Church Electoral Roll

A new Church Electoral Roll is being prepared. All persons who wish to have their names entered on the new Roll, whether their names are entered on the present Roll or not, are requested to apply for enrolment not later than Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019. The new roll will come into operation on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

Forms of application for enrolment can be obtained from the Electoral Roll Officer, Brenda Noble, 01777 870541 or for more information please contact the Rev. Zoe Burton on 01623 862818.





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## Things to Do this Month

- Jan 30<sup>th</sup>** Rotary Meal and Speaker - CSI / Scenes of Crime Officer, Notts Police, **South Forest Leisure Centre**  
7 for 7.15pm.
- Feb 9<sup>th</sup>** Enjoy Bangers & Bingo with Tuxford Young Farmers 7.00pm **EVH**
- Feb 13<sup>th</sup>** The Fundamentals of Puppetry - Laxton WI, 7.30pm **EVH**
- Feb 20<sup>th</sup>** The History of Ossington - Laxton History Group, 7.30pm **EVH**
- Feb 27<sup>th</sup>** Rotary Meal and Speaker - local crime author, Trevor Negus, **South Forest Leisure Centre**  
7 for 7.15pm.
- Mar 1<sup>st</sup>** Get your table booked for the Village Hall Quiz Night , to be held at Egmonton **EVH**

**VH = Village Hall    VC = Visitor Centre**

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

The Estate Sale progresses and Expressions of Interest up to the end of December will now have been submitted and we await an update from The Crown Estate

As I mentioned last month, interest that we know about have been shown by Thoresby Estate and Nottingham Trent University (Brackenhurst) in partnership with Notts County Council. NTU/NCC have met with The Crown tenants and Thoresby has been invited to take the opportunity to do the same.

*Michael Manning*

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## Final Wednesday Speaker Evenings with Meal

Sherwood Forest Rotary, which meets at the South Forest Leisure Centre, Edwinstowe, is continuing its speaker programme for 2019. If you receive your Open Field before the end of January you maybe interested in our speaker on the 30th. He is a CSI and Scene of Crime Officer with Nottinghamshire Police.

For February we continue the crime theme by inviting a local crime writer to join us. He is Trevor Negus whose books include The Exodus Murders and The Coal Killer, which are based in Nottinghamshire. Trevor is a retired Police Officer.

For any history buffs amongst you our speaker on March 13th is speaking about the Webb family of Newstead Abbey.

Our evenings commence at 7pm for a 7.15 meal, followed by the speaker and associated questions.

If 2019 is the year you would like to find out how Rotary supports your local community then please come to one of our meetings. Transport is always available from Laxton or I can meet you at South Forest.

*Jeff (870601)*

## Village Hall Quiz Night

The next Quiz Night will be on FRIDAY 1st March 2019 and again at Egmanton Village Hall.

We hope you are all available again, please let me know if you want a team.

*Michael Manning*

## 2019 Open Field Subs

Your subscription for your 2019 magazines is now overdue. The price remains at £4. Please have it ready in an envelope with your name on to either hand to your distributor or to drop through their door some time soon. A very happy New Year to you all.

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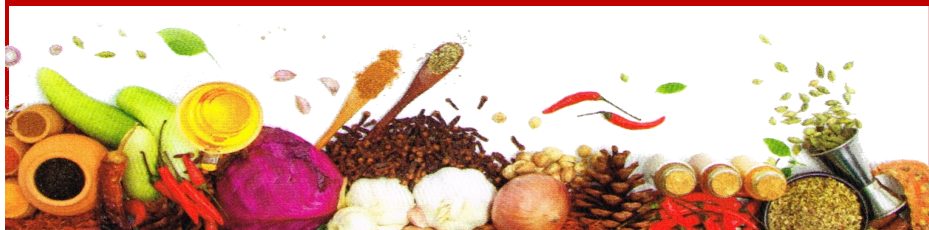


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LAXTON VILLAGE HALL



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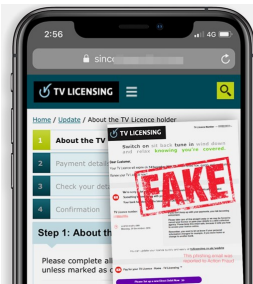
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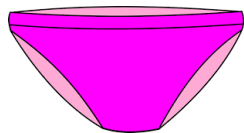


# Rotary 'Bras for Africa' Collection

As mentioned last month, the Rotary Club of Sherwood Forest are collecting underwear for women in Africa. They would like new or lightly used bras and new pants in adult sizes. Women who do not have a husband, father or brother, or whose family do not have enough money, to purchase necessary underwear often experience unwanted attention which can result in being socially excluded from a community resulting in restricted opportunities for work and education for their children.



Currently over 800,000 items have been supplied to four countries in Africa.



If you have anything to donate to this collection, please drop off at School House, Laxton, next to the Village Hall on High Street. This will be an on-going collection so please bear it in mind at any time.

## Coffee Morning

*14th February 10.30am - 11.30am*

The next coffee morning will take place on Thursday 10th January at Mampa's house, Ivy Cottage, opposite the pub.

Why not come and join us? Everyone is welcome to this informal group. You don't have to come every month and are welcome to pop in to enjoy some friendly, cheerful company.



Plenty of tea, cakes, and chatter.

# Laxton History Group



There was an almost full turnout for the first meeting of the season and it was good to find ourselves putting out more chairs. John welcomed everyone to the meeting and Jean distributed programme cards for the year to come. She pointed out a number of trips which will be by minibus on a first come, first served basis.

Later there will be a chance to visit Oxford for a rare chance to see the original of the 1635 Mark Pierce map of Laxton on public display. This may be opened to non-members if we opt for a big coach, so if you are not a member and would be interested to join us, please let Jean Hennell know to help with planning nearer the time.

Our speaker for the evening was Richard Jones, the son of Michael and Elizabeth from Norwell who have also been to speak to us. He specialises in medieval agrarian practice and peasant culture.

He introduced his talk with the title page of the 6th edition of the first full length book on manuring and its benefits. First published in 1796, it was a best seller of its day and recorded knowledge and practice some 50 years before agricultural chemistry and the advent of chemical fertilizers, when it all changed.

The medieval farmers learned from the cultures which preceded them. Roman writers had catalogued hierarchies of different manures. Pigeon manure was widely seen as the best, with the dung of ungulate mammals being prized above that of pigs and with warnings of the burning qualities of the excreta of water fowl. Green manures in the form of crops grown or material gathered to be ploughed in were also discussed. Varro alone advocated the benefits of human excreta. The nature of the soil and the availability of the materials available influenced manuring traditions in different cultures.

Texts advocated the best phase of the moon and the best weather conditions to apply manure. Our knowledge of what happened is gained from the written work of scholars. The oral tradition has been lost and Richard has worked to discover whether the scholarly wisdom was known to the peasants working the fields.

That manure and similar substances were important to the people can be seen from the 60 words which relate at that time to dung / filth / dirt. Many of these also appear in place names, mostly referring to sites or buildings associated with the dung. This can be seen in some old Laxton names which survive, some albeit in modified form e.g. Blacklands, Honeyhole and Skitterpool. While now we try to distance

ourselves from manure, to the medieval peasant it was a vital resource.

Archaeology demonstrates that peasant sites are remarkable in their cleanliness. Waste food, ashes and other material was gathered up, along with bits of broken pots etc., and spread on the land. Richard showed records of the patterns of pot sherd finds in relation to where people lived and he pointed out patterns. In one the majority of sherds are close to the village, reducing moving away. In two others the sherds appear in mutually exclusive patterns. The medieval peasants may have known where crops grew well and manuring where they do worse. Earlier manuring will have increased the organic matter in the soil and so improved fertility in the better performing areas.

Early pottery finds around villages and later finds predominantly in fields suggests that subsistence farmers prioritised manuring their gardens. Once they began to grow cash crops they prioritised manuring their fields to increase yield.

Richard remarked that most works on manuring in medieval times are expressed in modern chemical terms, which were unknown then. He looked back to 1246 when a writer expressed germination in terms of the elements of earth, fire, air and water and their properties of cold, heat, dry and wet.

A further text in 1286 built on this writing a work for estate managers which would have needed to be understood by peasants. This talks of the need to maintain balance between these elements and how mixing (cold) earth with (hot) dung works. It also describes the moon, sucking material from the earth when waxing and allowing it to move downward when waning. The advice was to manure during a waning moon so that the benefits were drawn into the soil.

The qualities of manuring substances can be fitted into the pattern of medieval understanding. Materials from fires and hearths, vegetable matter, animal bone and animal dung fit the pattern well and show how different substances can be used to improve different soils.

Comparing this with modern studies showing cropping and grazing in different areas, the chemical composition of dung and the demands of different crops, it shows that, however they got there, the medieval peasants had arrived at the correct solutions for the soil they had and the manures they had to treat it with. Evidence shows that lighter soils were fertilised with manure from the farmyard while heavier soils received manure from the fields in the form of plant material.

Next month Richard Weaver is coming to tell us about the history of Ossington. Everyone is welcome at 7.30pm in Egmonton Village Hall. Programmes for 2019 are now available from Jean Hennell (870276) if you would like one.

## CHURCH SERVICES FOR OUR VILLAGE CHURCHES

HC = Holy Communion   EP = Evening Prayer   MP = Morning Prayer  
Es = Evensong   WfA = Worship for All

**27th January      Epiphany 4**  
**9am                  Laxton HC**  
10.30am           Kirton HC

**3rd Feb      The Presentation of Christ**  
9am                  Kirton HC  
4pm                  Wellow EP

**10th Feb      4th Sunday before Lent**  
**10.30am           Laxton HC**  
4pm                  Egmanton Es

**17th Feb      3rd Sunday before Lent**  
9am                  Egmanton HC  
10.30am           Wellow HC

**24th Feb      2nd Sunday before Lent**  
9am                  Laxton HC  
10.30am           Kirton HC

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January – ‘Open Vestry Hour’ for Christening  
and wedding enquiries**

6.30pm – 7.30pm at St Paulinus Church Office, Church Circle,  
New Ollerton.

Revd Zoe can be reached at the Vicarage on **(01623) 862818** or  
work mobile: **07983 946930** or email: **[revzoe65@gmail.com](mailto:revzoe65@gmail.com)**



# *DATES FOR YOUR DIARY*

**2019**

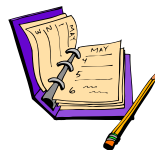
**Feb 9th**                      **TYFC Bangers & Bingo @ Egmonton VH**

**Feb 13<sup>th</sup>**                      **WI**                                      **@ Egmonton VH**

**Feb 14<sup>th</sup>**                      **Coffee Morning**

**Feb 20<sup>th</sup>**                      **History Group**                                      **@ Egmonton VH**

**Feb 25<sup>th</sup>**                      **MU**



## ***Forward Planning***

**Mar 1<sup>st</sup>**                      **Village Hall Quiz**                                      **@ Egmonton VH**

**Mar 26<sup>th</sup>**                      **Parish Council**

**Alternate months, 4th Tuesday**                                      **Parish Council**

**Sat / Sun May 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>**                                      **Newark Show**

**Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Sept**                                      **Southwell Ploughing Match**

## **Copy Date for March: 16th February.**

Please ensure we receive your contributions for the magazine by this date. We cannot guarantee to publish anything received later. We appreciate receiving items as early as possible.  
Thank you.

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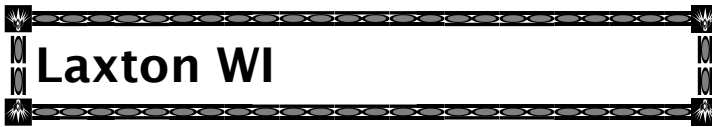
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We began our new year meeting with a number of birthdays recognised by cards and one 'Big' one. Congratulations!

The Newark Show in May is already concentrating minds as we need to find a volunteer to knit a dormouse ... Two craft items are required for our group entry.

Lesley has written an entry for the Canada Cup, which this time is for a humorous poem about GDPR. She read it out and it amused the listeners.

Brenda had a list of opportunities as long as ever and members were able to choose to take part in such diverse things as Bingo, beginners flower arranging, embroidering landscape pictures and learning about the finds during the restoration of Nottingham Castle.

We have finally had a reply to our Group's letter of objection to the unilateral decision by County to amalgamate us with other local WIs, which make us too big to hold meetings in out village halls. Our view has prevailed and we will remain as we have previously, much to the satisfaction of the members present.

Sandra is planning the annual party, but the date coincides with an invitation to History Group members to join in a meeting at Norwell. This will cause a lot of members to choose, so everything may change.

We welcomed Chris Abbott to talk about her life afloat. We learned that she planned to condense the story of 20 years of her life into 45 minutes. The big move afloat was the result of an existing interest in boating and a lot of discussion. Chris and Adrian, her husband, already had a boat and belonged to a club.

Adrian's job was stressful with long hours and the family had experienced a number of young deaths and serious illnesses. He could not face staying I the job until retirement and, after Chris commented that they could leave their children to stand on their own two feet in three years' time, he suggested buying a suitable boat and going off in it.

Chris agreed that they would try it for 5 years, letting their house out, selling their current boat and buying another. She was very distressed to have to leave her job as a vet nurse so they agreed tat after 5 years it would be she who had the final stay about continuing.

Narrowboats come as empty shells, so they ordered another and set about fitting it out for the trip. They arranged to have it moved from the landlocked Lancaster Canal which was 44 miles from end to end in to the main network. There followed a period of costing the plans and working out how to live on a very much reduced income. They considered how to combat boredom and living in such a small space for so long and planned for it.

They carried out the work, stored or disposed of their stuff' and set off complete with cat and dog. They loved the life and made many friends in the different places they visited. They often travelled in convoy with friends and enjoyed a very hot first summer.

They had to decide what to do in winter because you are not allowed to moor anywhere for more than 14 days unless in a boatyard with permission. The first winter they were offered free mooring in exchange for working two days a week as volunteers in a museum. Later they worked over winter and cruised in summer. Chris particularly loved cruising on the Thames.

Near the end of the 5 years they discussed continuing. Chris said she wanted changes such as a bath, a washing machine and a different layout so that mucky boots and dogs did not come straight into the lounge. This prompted buying another boat for Adrian to fit out. They expected selling their boat to take time, but in the end it was sold and three weeks later they had used the 10 days' notice they had to vacate it.

Adrian worked all hours to fit out the new boat and while having an engine fault fixed was introduced to people with a fleet of boats who wanted the skills he had. This led to a job with them after the engineers admired the new boat's design and workmanship.

So life continued until changed family circumstances caused them to once again take up residence on land. Margaret Palmer thanked Chris for a fascinating talk.

The competition for 'something nautical' was won with a model boat, with Heather second showing a pair of fenders and then Bridget with a photo of a WREN.

In February we welcome back Stephen John with 'The Fundamentals of Puppets', a talk about his puppet making and puppetry. The competition will be for something to do with puppets.

Everyone is welcome, so if you have been thinking about coming along, we shall be very pleased to see you.

## Tuxford Young Farmers



Happy New Year to All.

We ended our year with Wreath Making on the 12th of December, followed by a committee meeting on the 18th when our Bangers & Bingo, and Tractor run were discussed. Bangers & Bingo night, when we will serve Bangers and Mash and a selection of puddings, is set for the 9th of February at 7pm in Egmonton Village Hall.

If you would like to join us tickets are £10 each and available from:

Mark Hennell on 07812 908316

Daisy Haigh on 07961 097275 and

Harvey Gillatt on 07956 098611

The 19th found us having a club quiz night followed on the 21st with a meal and competitions in the Dovecote Inn. Will Gent won the 'How Many Sweets in the Jar'. Amanda Hennell and Archie Booth won the Christmas Jumper competition. Many thanks to our question master Rebecca.

The New Year started with a winter theme when we went Ice Skating at The Dome in Doncaster. There were a couple of tumbles but pleased to report no injuries were incurred.

*Emily*

## Dukeries Woodturning Society

The January meeting saw our AGM hear of the great success of the club in every way since the move to the new venue - the Jubilee Hall in Ollerton. The club finances are looking stable and indicate a further interesting and successful year to come.

Members are reminded that if they didn't pay in January, subs are due now. It is a great time for anyone thinking of joining to come along and make the most of the annual membership of £15. This entitles you to enjoy the excellent professional demonstrators, many of who come a considerable distance to show us their skills. There are also occasional 'hands on' nights. All ages and levels of experience are welcome for a free taster night, after which it costs just £5 a time.

We hope to see you at the Jubilee Hall, Ollerton on February 27th at 7.00pm.

# Laxton Weddings Marrison - Merrills

*Continuing the occasional series from Jo Godson's researches in the Retford, Gainsborough & Worksop Times:*

A pretty wedding took place on Boxing Day (1915) at Bracebridge Parish Church, the contracting parties being Miss Kate Merrills of Crosshill Farm, Laxton and Mr Hawksworth Marrison of Westwood Farm, Laxton. The bride was charmingly attired in pale mauve silk with pearl and lace trimming and also veil and spray of orange blossom (sent by her cousin). She also carried a sheaf of lilies. The bride was given away by her uncle, Mr G Taylor of Bracebridge. The bridegroom was attended by Mr James Price, who acted as best man. The bridesmaids were Miss Clara Merrills, sister of the bride and Miss E Lidgett, cousin of the bride. They were attired in fawn costumes with lace trimming and each carried a lovely shower bouquet of pink carnations.

After the ceremony, a reception at the bride's uncle (Mr G Taylor) where a large number of friends and guests attended. Later in the day the happy couple left Lincoln for Sheffield, where part of the honeymoon will be spent. The following is a list of presents:

Bride's mother and father, cheque.

Bridegroom's father and mother, cheque.

Mr & Mrs W Marrison, Newton, white Tablecloth; Mr & Mrs A Gray, Marnham, cheque; Mr & Mrs Hewerdine, Kneesall, cut-glass marmalade jar; Mr & Mrs Ackroyd, Wakefield, white counterpane; Mr & Mrs Taylor, Laxton Lodge, cheque; Bride's sister, rosewood stand; Mr Price, hall lamp; Miss Rhodes, Maplebeck, jam dish and spoon; Mrs Todd, Newark, pillow cases. Mr T Bagshaw, Laxton, bottle liquor; Mr and Mrs Whaley, Nottingham, bedspread; Miss Waterworth, Retford, silver egg stand and spoons; Mr & Mrs Hudson, Tinsley, wedding dress; Mrs Swinborne, Nottingham, egg spoons; Miss Coe & Mr F Marshall, Laxton, bunting crop; A friend, white counterpane; Mrs Taylor, Laxton, mantle border; Mrs Duckmanton, Laxton, fancy cushion; Mr & Mrs Francis, Tuxford, copper fern bowl; Mr W Sampson, fancy pillow case; A purse of gold, presented by the members of the chapel and friends of Laxton; Miss Nelly Rose, Laxton, cushion cover; Mr & Mrs Bennett, set of ball brushes; Miss Minnie & Miss Alice Bennett, cut glass jam dish; Miss Nicholson, Newark, handkerchief sachet; Mr & Mrs Small, Drayton, table centre and duchese set; the Misses R & W Moody, Laxton, cut glass fruit dish; Mrs Thornton, Thornlea, Retford, silver butter knife; Miss Wade, Thornlea, Retford, silver jam spoon; Miss Sampson, Laxton & Mr Jones, silver jam dish; Mr & Mrs Coe, Carlton, silver biscuit jar; Mr H I Marrison, Laxton, cushion; Stephen & Tommy, Laxton, cake knife; Mr B G Selby, Sutton, silver sugar basin; Gunner C H Marshall, marmalade jar and spoon; Curtis & Howell, Retford,

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# The Dukeries Singers

In what is usually a dismal month in the calendar, we had a lovely surprise in the garden, a small flock of long tailed tits (four!) feeding on the fat ball feeder. In 43 years in this house we have never had this variety of bird in the garden before but now we see them regularly. We just hope they spread the foody news to all their relatives.

We only have to see the "Fair Maids of February," (snowdrops) and our February will be complete and we can look forward to Spring.

The Choir too are looking forward and are rehearsing enthusiastically with new music and some old favourites to provide our audiences with a varied programme. We sing for all occasions: celebrations, anniversaries, fundraising and charity events. Our Secretary Pauline, would be delighted to hear from you on **07951 609217** and we have dates available for booking.

Information about the Choir can be found at:

**thedukeriessingers.com** We are also on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

We practise every Wednesday evening from 7.30pm until 9.00pm. in the upstairs Theatre Foyer area at The Dukeries Academy, Ollerton. This is best accessed via the Leisure Centre entrance and car park. Let's hope for a mild February but unearth the wellies just in case!

**Jan**



## *Marrison - Merrills wedding contd.*

pair of carvers; Mr & Mrs W Newton Marrison, London, silver butter dish and knife; Mr & Mrs W Waterworth, Retford, time piece; Mr & Mrs Pearce, Mrs Hawsworth & Mrs Burnard, easy chair; Mr & Mrs T Bennett, cushion; Mrs Newbold & Miss Bennett, chair; Mr & Mrs Clark. Laxton, salad bowl; Mr & Mrs Lidgett, Bracebridge, eiderdown; Miss Cotton, Lincoln, flower vase; Mr., Mrs and & Pape, Bracebridge, fruit dish; The Misses Tayles & Miss Keiby, Lincoln, fern bowl; Mrs Taylor, Bracebridge, tablecloth; Mr & Mrs Bowman, Lincoln, water jug; Mr J Cree, Laxton, photo frame; Miss S Lidgett, Bracebridge, table centre.

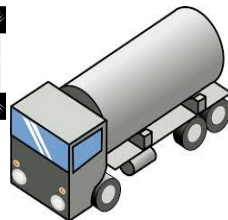
## Recent Bonus Ball Winners

Date	No	Name
15/12/18	19	John/Carol Shep
22/12/18	31	Mike M
29/12/18	28	ROLLOVER
5/1/19	6	Janet Cooke
12/1/19	26	ROLLOVER

We have sadly had a raft of numbers become available due partly to the sad passing of some long term supporters of the draw. Here is the up to date list of the 14 spare numbers: 1, 2, 11, 24, 26, 28, 42, 46, 51, 52, 53, 56, 57, 59. Please contact Ken Shep on 870605 / Mike Manning 870844.

## Group Oil Order

The New Year Order will be placed in February following the unusually warm weather through December and early January.



Thank you to those who have already notified their order. You will have a chance to increase it if you wish when the reminder email goes to the whole group.

Hearing from several people who are getting low is usually the trigger to initiate the order if the price is stable. If there are signs of a move in the wrong direction we like to order quickly, which is why we ask for you to notify early then it is easy to check and order, minimising the delay and the risk of a price rise while people think about it. We always want to achieve a good price for the group.

If you know now that you want to order, please email or phone with what you need. Those on the list will receive the reminder.

You can ask to join the list at any time by providing mobile and land line numbers, email and full postal address plus any special instructions e.g. guard dogs, gates with locks, difficult access etc.

If you want to order oil next time, please send a note of the volume you need to [oil@openfield.org.uk](mailto:oil@openfield.org.uk) as soon as possible. The suppliers need your full postal address plus email, land and mobile phone numbers. By ordering you permit us to hold and pass on this information. If you ordered last time please ensure you have notified any changes to your contact details e.g. phone or email.

NB Once the order is placed no new names can be added.



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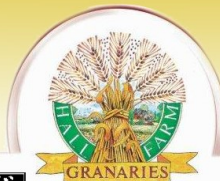
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## **Energy bills help from Citizens Advice**

If you have been wondering whether you could save money, or you are unhappy with your energy supplier, now is the time to do something about it. If you are dreading a big bill or your energy supplier has increased your direct debit payments – Citizens Advice Sherwood & Newark could help you get a better deal.

In the three years we have been offering energy appointments, we have seen significant changes in the energy market including poor customer service from some suppliers. We have helped consumers to:

- switch to better deals and save money (in some cases hundreds of pounds a year)
- set up affordable arrangements for arrears, or have them written off if they have been unfairly applied .
- sort out problems with energy suppliers and, where unresolved, take their case to the ombudsman

We have seen some alarming cases of people being made worse off by switching suppliers based on information given by doorstep or telephone sales people. It is important to remember that sales people, or callers who are not your existing supplier and offer you a smart meter, would be switching your account over to them and that may not be the best decision for you, particularly if you qualify for the Warm Home Discount. We can help you to assert your consumer rights.

Citizens Advice Sherwood & Newark is a local advice charity and part of the national Citizens Advice network. Our service is independent, impartial, confidential and free – and we won't push you to do anything you don't want to do.

Give us a call on **01623 861769** and ask for the Energy Adviser. Appointments are held at our offices in Ollerton or Castle House, Newark. If you find it difficult to get in to see us when we are open, we may be able to find other ways to help.

*For more information, contact Carol Jennings*

**([caroljennings@sn-ca.org.uk](mailto:caroljennings@sn-ca.org.uk))**

*Telephone 01623 861769 (main office) or mobile 07843 899436*

Anyone requiring advice or support can get help online at

**[www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)** or from Citizens Advice Sherwood & Newark Open Door Advice Sessions held at:

**New Ollerton:** 5 Forest Court, New Ollerton, NG22 9PL  
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**Newark:** Castle House, Great North Road, Newark, NG24 1BY  
Tuesday & Thursday: 9:30am – 2:30pm

**Telephone Advice Line:** 0344-411-1444 (Monday to Friday  
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**Or Call Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on:** 03454 04 05 06

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## **Events at Maplebeck Village Hall**

**[www.maplebeckvillagehall.org](http://www.maplebeckvillagehall.org)**

### **Race Night & Supper**

**Saturday 2nd February 2019**

This popular evening will kick off with a hot supper followed by a series of recorded horse races shown on the big screen. There will be a fun-filled atmosphere, a chance to place bets (and win!), with an interval for dessert and then more races.

**7.30pm. £10 to include food - book in advance with Jenny 01636 636692 or online at [www.maplebeckvillagehall.org](http://www.maplebeckvillagehall.org)**

### **Film: Three Colours Blue (15)**

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2019, 7.30pm, £5 on the door.**

Another sublime 5 star film from the Krzysztof Kieslowski trilogy. Juliette Binoche gives an intense and sensitive performance as the survivor of a car crash that killed her family. Despite her pain she cannot give up on life. The cinematography and score are inspired.

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# Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting held on 27 November 2018 at the Visitor Centre, Laxton

*(NB Shown here unseen and unapproved by councillors.)*

**Present:** Councillors: M. Manning (Chair), M.Hennell, S. Hill, R.Hennell, D. Brown, J.Hill, J.Godson

In attendance at parish council meeting

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

Members of the public (x1)

1. **Apologies for absence:** No absences.
2. **Declarations of interest:** The chair declared an interest as a member of the sports field committee in item 10 (Property matters – Sports field) and an interest as member of the village hall committee in item 14 a (Village environment – Village hall refurbishment project).  
There were no other declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda.
3. **Dispensations:** None required.
4. **10 Minutes public speaking:** The clerk will:
  - a. Report the poor road surface on High Street, Egmonton Road and Toad Lane
  - b. Seek an update from Mr Keeling of NCC regarding the areas of standing water on Moorhouse Road and Kneesall Road
  - c. Seek an update from Mr Pringle regarding relocating the 30 mph signs further out of the village.Councillor Michael will seek an update regarding the condition of Bar Farmhouse
5. **Minutes of the parish council meeting held on 25 September 2018:** The minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2018 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair.
6. **Matters arising:** *LMPC/95/18 – Service faults* – The clerk will seek an update from Mr Pringle regarding when fibre is likely to reach Moorhouse.

All other action points having been completed, being in hand or appearing elsewhere on the agenda, there were no matters arising.

7. **Reports from district and county councillors:** Mrs Michael reported that she had attended the recent SNG meeting where the police had warned of heavy objects being thrown from bridges on A1 between Carlton on Trent and Sutton on Trent between midnight and 2.00 am. Councillors noted that Inspector Louise Clark's successor, Heather Sutton, had been appointed. The clerk will ask Inspector Sutton to add the chair to her mailing list. The next SNG meeting is



on 3 January 2019. NCC is meeting on 14 December 2018 to discuss moving to a unitary council

8. **Reports from councillors:** The chair reported on an issue relating to Newark & Sherwood Homes and the steps taken by it to rectify inappropriate action it had taken in relation to a resident. Councillors were pleased that the matter had been resolved and Newark & Sherwood Homes had reviewed its processes. Councillor Michael confirmed that procedures were under review.
9. **Financial Matters:**
  - a. **Financial position as at 31 October 2018:** Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position at 31 October 2018 (incorporating the 2018-19 budget figures). The chair verified the stated balances against the reserve bank statement.
  - b. **Accounts for payment:** The council unanimously **approved** eleven payments totalling £726.03 noting that the new cheque book had not yet arrived. As a result there were no cheques available to sign.
  - c. **Appointment of internal auditor:** Councillors **agreed** that Mr Roe should be asked whether he would be prepared to undertake the role for a further year.
  - d. **Review system of internal control:** Councillors discussed the operation of the system of internal control and **agreed** that it was adequate for the size and needs of the council and continued to operate effectively, subject to the appointment of an internal auditor which was in hand.
  - e. **Consider need for interim internal audit:** The clerk advised councillors as to the on-going nature of the internal audit process. Councillors considered their financial affairs for the financial year to date. They **decided** that, given the thorough nature of the internal audit carried out by Mr Roe, an interim internal audit would be disproportionate and was not justified.
10. **Property matters including sports field:** The chair confirmed that payment of the council's rent invoice was in hand.
11. **Planning matters:**
  - a. **Applications:** None
  - b. **To note planning decisions by NSDC:**
    - i. **18/00754/FUL - HOUSEHOLDER APPLICATION FOR THE DEMOLITION OF END WALL OF EXISTING OUTBUILDING AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION AND DOOR AND WINDOW WORKS - 1 Church Cottages High Street Laxton:**  
Approval noted
    - ii. **18/01910/TWCA – Work to pear tree and hawthorn - Moorgate Cottage, Moorhouse Road, Laxton:** Approval

noted.

**c. Compliance:** No issues raised.

**12. Village development including The Crown's long term strategy:**

The chair reported:

1. That there was an update in the magazine
2. A meeting between potential partners in the village proposal had taken place earlier that day.
3. The Crown is waiting for bids and is believed to have received two to date
4. The bidding process may not be completed until spring 2019  
A meeting between tenants, the vice chancellor of NTU and Kay Cutts of NCC was taking place on 28 November 2018.

**13. Village environment and appearance, including:**

**a. Village Hall refurbishment project:** The chair reported that the costs of the project had increased significantly and now exceeded the lottery award. The architect is reviewing the plans and is confident that the costs can be reduced. Councillors expressed regret that the village hall had been closed for a long period and was losing revenue. The chair invited interested residents to join the committee and help take the project forward.

**b. Moorhouse – Village fingerpost including LIS funding application:** Mr S Hill reported that Mr Keeling of NCC Highways did not need to approve the design of the fingerpost because it is of a traditional design without artwork. Mr Keeling had also advised that the parish council was free to decide where to position the brown cycle way sign. Mr S Hill will decide whether this would be better incorporated on the new post or left on the existing.

**c. Permissive access – Land surrounding cricket pitch:** No developments.

**14. Service faults including landline telephone service and issues:**

The chair reported that various issues had eventually been identified and BT had taken steps to address them. Initial reports are that the problems have improved. Any further problems should be reported to the council.

**15. Correspondence:** Item a – NCC – Winter salt order - The clerk will place the 2018 winter salt order to be delivered to councillor R Hennell.

All other items of correspondence noted.

**16. 10 Minutes public speaking time:** Mr Brown will take down the poppies in Laxton and Mr S Hill the poppies in Moorhouse.

**17. Agenda items for next meeting:** As above.

**18. Date of next meeting:** 7.30 pm on 22 January 2019

## Egmanton Village Hall

[www.egmantonvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.egmantonvillagehall.org.uk) / 01777 871171

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

- ◆ **Yoga with Greg** – Tuesdays at 7:30pm
- ◆ **Laxton WI** - Weds 13th, 7.30pm,
- ◆ **Laxton History Group** - Weds 20th, 7.30pm
- ◆ **Egmanton WI** - Thurs 21st February
- ◆ **Children's Dance Classes** - Saturday mornings  
(Jill, 07790 601877)
- ◆ **Computer Problems?** - Call 01777 871171.  
If your computer is misbehaving or you need help setting up a new one, please call. Donations to Egmanton Village Hall in lieu of fee.

## Maplebeck Village Hall Events

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

### Regular Activities

Yoga	Tues 9.45am and Fri 9.30am
Clubbercise	Thurs, 8.30pm
Walkers	Weds, from approx.10.00am
Kurling (without the ice!)	2nd Weds monthly 7.30pm
Book Club	(26 <sup>th</sup> Feb, 26 <sup>th</sup> Mar, 30 <sup>th</sup> Apr, 4 <sup>th</sup> Jun, 9 <sup>th</sup> Jul. 3 <sup>rd</sup> . Sep.) 7.30pm

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

**2019**

Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Supper + Horse Racing	Race Night
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Film	Three Colours Blue

## Useful Contact Details

### Defibrillator Contacts:

Neil Randall 01777 871229 & 07710 398745, evenings and weekends  
Pat Naylor 01777 870601, evenings  
Jeff Naylor 01777 870601, as required  
Mark Hennell 07812 908316, evenings  
Stuart Rose 07939 228353, as required  
David & Linda, Dovecote Inn 01777 871586, as required  
Jeanette Geldard 07956 959135, daytime in Kneesall,  
evenings / weekends  
Anne-Marie & Geoff Rose 07961 933290 / 07957 991002, as required

### Police

PC Gary Sipson 07525 226575 or 101 x 800 7673  
Email : [gary.sipson@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:gary.sipson@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk)

PCSO 4741 Keith Crowhurst 07889 702823 or 101 x 8007671  
Email : [keith.crowhurst4741@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:keith.crowhurst4741@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk)

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

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

### Medical

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

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

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

Thank you to Margaret for sending this lovely photo (right) which she captioned 'Meals on Wheels' of 'Pony Express'.

It shows Violet and Marigold delivering Granny's tea. It certainly gives a countryside slant to a valuable service and must surely make the tea even more appetising.



The photo on the left was sent by their mother, Lucy Saxelby, showing the girls with some of their pet collection. This is a real tonic and a great advert for the benefits of living in a rural environment.

If you have any attractive photos you would like to share with other readers, please let us have them.