

Open Field

£1

June 2021



New Signage Being Painted at The Dovecote, Laxton, 15th May 2021

The monthly publication of the
parish of Laxton & Moorhouse
www.openfield.org.uk



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Flowers and Brasses Rota - suspended until further notice

Mr & Mrs S Clarke

Mrs M Beckitt & Mrs B Noble

Mrs S Rose & Mrs R Creighton

Coffee Morning Hosting Rota - will be published when they are resumed

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

Contributions for the next edition TO BE WITH THE EDITOR BY NOON ON 16th JUNE 2021 PLEASE. EARLIER PREFERRED. You can send at any time.

A Message from our Churchwarden, Brenda.



On Sunday May 9th we held our Rogation Service, which was conducted by the Rev. Alistair Littlewood. The first half of the service was held in church and the weather held, so we continued

with the rest of the service in the church yard. It was nice because we were outside and we were able to sing the final hymn.

Our next service will be a Holy Communion service on Sunday 30th May with the Rev. Margaret Groves. We hope we can now keep having regular services and return to normal soon. It will be lovely when we can sing hymns as it doesn't seem the same without hymns and the organ.

We will be holding our PCC AGM on Monday 24th May 2021 in church at 7.00pm. We would welcome anybody who would like to join us on the Parochial Church Council to help in any way with the running and upkeep of our lovely old church. If you are interested, please get in touch.

As things are at the moment we don't know whether we will be able to hold our Annual Garden Fête in July. Probably we will try later in the year or have something else to raise some funds for our church. As a group of 12 churches, we are looking to the future and have requested a meeting with the Area Dean to discuss what the Diocese are proposing for our churches as to whether we will be re-grouping or having a new priest-in-charge, we can but hope.

Brenda

Thank You - Max McNaught

Linda and family wish to extend sincere thanks following Max's death for the support received, the cards, messages, letters and generous donations made in Max's memory.

As the cortège passed through Laxton, we were overwhelmed to see so many people lining the streets from the bottom to the top of the village including so, so many gathered on Cross Hill green, all paying their final respects to Max. It was all very touching. Max would have been so proud of you all.

Thank you Brenda and Michael for your lovely contributions regarding Max in May's Open Field.

Thank you everyone from the bottom of my heart.

Linda xx

Get Well Wishes

We send best wishes for a speedy recovery to Brenda C and Heather.

Both have had recent trips to hospital and, after a period of recovery, should feel the benefits. We hope both will soon be back to good form.



Special Birthday Congratulations



We send congratulations and very best wishes to Joan Weatherall for her 90th birthday on June 6th.

We hope she has a memorable day and can make the most of the easing of Corona virus restrictions to enjoy her celebrations.

Restoration of the Memorial Table

A very big thank you to John Chambers for restoring the Memorial Table for the church.

The table was made originally by Bob Froggatt and was partly funded by money remaining in the Hand Bell Fund. There was a plan at the time to try to put a glass top on the wood as it was to be used to display floral tributes. Unfortunately the glass was never fitted because of the curved edges of the table and the difficulty of safely fixing it so that it could not be knocked off.

The result was that, over the years, the surface of the table deteriorated badly because of the water which seeped from arrangements or was accidentally spilled.

John is known for his excellent woodworking skills, so Jean had no hesitation in asking him if he could do anything. John took the table away and carefully rubbed it down to good wood before giving it several coats of waterproof varnish to protect it from further contact with water. The table should stand proudly for many years to come, and provide a suitably attractive place on which to display floral tributes to loved ones.

Many thanks to John and to Janet Cooke for supplying the photo.



Congratulations - Golden Wedding



Many congratulations to Dave and Joyce who will be celebrating 50 years of marriage this month. Let's hope they are able to make the most of the easing of restrictions on gatherings to celebrate in style.

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JUNE CONGRATULATIONS

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



The birthday roll of honour for this month is: Jessica, Rebecca, Lucy, Serena, Justine, Oliver, Joan Weatherall (90)

We wish a happy anniversary to George & Brenda, Dave & Joyce (50), Mark & Amanda, Stuart & Sylvia and anyone else celebrating this month. Do send in details so we can celebrate your special day

If you are celebrating a special date, we send best wishes. If you know someone we have missed, please tell us in time for next month.

We would love to give a mention to everyone for their special day, so please let Jean or Brenda have details with dates in good time.

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Classes now held at Laxton Village Hall Mon 18.30 & Thu 09.15 and at Hall Farm, Weston, NG23 6SY. Please call if you are interested.

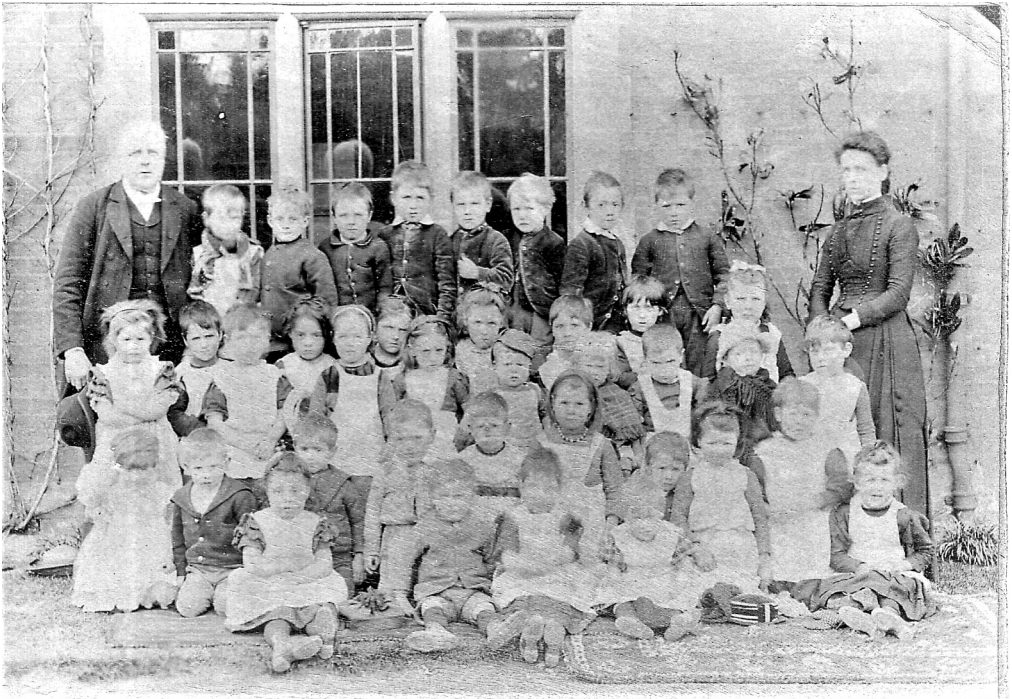



Coffee Mornings

The Coffee Mornings remain
suspended for the time being.
We will let you know when we
can start again. The rota on the
inside cover will remind
hostesses so that we can start
as soon it is right to do so.



Mystery Photo



The photo above was submitted by a reader who says it was thought to be of Laxton School. A few people have had a look at it and there seem to be a number of questions raised by that idea:

- The window is not one at Laxton School, now the Village Hall
- The gentleman really does not look like Mr Willis. Could he have been a farmer? Mr Willis did take the children to Mr Marrison's 80th birthday party at Westwood Farm. (He got into trouble as the Schools Inspector made an unannounced visit and found everyone missing!) Might it be from that occasion?
- The clothes the children are wearing. The boys seem to be wearing velvet jackets it would be surprising to think that even one of them owned such a garment.

Can anyone shed any light on the venue, the occasion or the people pictured? Please let us know if you can.

If You Go Down to the Woods Today

Did you have picnics when you were a child? Not those socially distanced, formal rituals in the park. I mean before we had a car days, before the pre-packaged snack food days, before portable media days. Our family was not the hamper, cold Chablis and dressed-up picnic type.

We lived on a pleasant council estate within easy walking distance of cultivated fields, not picnic material at all. What Mum wanted was a good long outdoor experience, plenty of walking and somewhere lovely to eat and be together. So it was hunks of cake, much making of 'butties', hard boiled eggs with a screw of salt and pepper, flasks and bottles of water. There were towels, face flannels, changes of clothing and pac-a-macs (do you remember pac-a-macs?).



By his early teens my elder brother Eric had discovered pot holing, and was setting off to thread himself down some claustrophobic crack in the Peak District. So it was usually the four of us – Mum, Dad, me and my younger brother Ian - who stood laden like a set of yaks at the no 10 bus stop as early as we could. The

destinations were varied, but all had to include trees or rocks or both to climb, water and space to run and play. The moors were all around us and places like Hardcastle Craggs, Cragg Vale and Blackstone Edge beckoned. If it took two bus rides to get there, so what?

We walked for miles, and if Mum strode ahead sniffing the air like an inspired bloodhound Dad would whisper "Oh no, she's in one of her Wuthering Heights moods again." We invariably trailed home in the evening tired, filthy and ravenous having thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

This ritual was reinstated when we three siblings were grown up with our own children. Since now the nuclear family numbered thirteen it took more organization, and now the transport was by car. It also

included my older brother, who was a larger than life, ebullient soul with a salty turn of phrase. He was woefully clumsy and could and did trip over frequently and was 'incident prone'. For example, once he was attending a Burns Night supper and seated at the head of a long refectory table; the haggis was piped in with fine ceremony, the bearer then tripped over the piper and hurled the steaming haggis down the length of the table straight at Eric. Not a common occurrence, I think you'll agree.



One day we had gathered for one of our spring forays. The winter had been dedicated by the knitters of the family to the 'Aran sweater' in genuine Irish cream wool. We assembled fully equipped – sweaters, hat, gloves, the lot – and felt very posh. Eric watched as we ambled off en masse from the car park and let out a loud, derisory hoot of laughter. "We look like a herd of ruddy sheep." So much for swank.

Mum loved Chatsworth. She said she felt she belonged there, and after we had refreshed her aristocratic longing we settled beside the river on the sloping ground. We chatted and spread ourselves and the welcome goodies out, accompanied by the distant cries of "Henrah! Henrah!" which seemed to come ever nearer. Always fond of his food, Eric raised a large ham sandwich in his right hand and a mug of coffee in his left into the air in salutation of what was to come. What did come was a very large dog careering wildly, trailing its lead. It cannoned into Eric's back, and pausing only to snatch the sandwich from his hand it shot off at speed. Following, but going badly, were a well-dressed, heavily perspiring couple still bleating "Henry! Henry!" It was over in seconds. We all gazed at the forlorn figure dripping coffee down his face, gazing piteously at where his sandwich used to be. The incident gremlins had struck again.



Mum was a flower arranger and gardener. This is polite speak for an inveterate foliage and cuttings kleptomaniac. Private property was safe, but anything else fair game. One of the times she commanded Eric to "keep cavey" and slipped into what had once been a fine garden by a derelict house. He stood patiently with his daughter

sitting on his shoulders until a lady came along with a small terrier dog. She engaged him in conversation. Mum was nowhere to be seen. The rest of us melted away (cowards that we were) and the lady chatted on and on while the dog darted at Eric's shoes and trouser bottoms. He began what can only be described as bizarre soft shoe shuffle while the dog growled and lunged. By the time Mum reappeared things were moving at quite a rate and my younger brother was helpless with laughter, gasping out: "Oh, the style. Oh, the grace. It's Sid Astaire."

At one of our more remote venues Eric decide to show assorted nephews the rock scrambling techniques he used. After a little while a loud crashing sound hit the air. We dashed to the rescue, only to find Eric emerging from the undergrowth covered in greenery. Cries of "Are you alright?" were greeted with a breathy giggle. "I'm grand. But I've rendered me trousers inoperative." And indeed they were split from waistband to waistband – it was not a pretty sight.

The hike back to the cars was eventful as his trousers flapped around him and caught on every twig. Repeated calls from the front of the queue to hurry up were finally answered with "I am. I am. I'm mincing along like a ruddy geisha girl with the trots."

It has to be said that no one laughed louder or longer than Eric did at the frequent incidents that marked his progress through life. His lifelong charity work, from his beloved hospice movement to volunteer taxi driver for the Stroke Club, was carried out with the same good humour and love of life.

Nothing illustrates this better than his appearances at the Fire Brigade's children's Christmas party, hosted in the station itself. Eric persuaded two burly firemen, six foot five and six foot four respectively, to dress each year as Fairy Snow and Fairy Nuff as his assistants. He coerced the rest of the firefighters to dress as characters from pantomime. The party was as popular with the adults as the children. The proceeds of the raffle went to charity of course.



As Eric put it: "If I'm going to look a complete prat, some one might as well benefit." He was dissuaded from making his entrance down the fire station pole. I wonder why.

Lesley Booth

Parish Council News

Following the widely anticipated lifting of restrictions on 21st June 2021 and the opening of the Village Hall, the Parish Council have arranged for Gregor Pierrepont from The Trustees of Thoresby Settlement, Laxton's new Landlord to give a talk/ presentation to the village about how he sees the future for Laxton and how they intend to preserve the Open Field Farming System.

The meeting will be on Tuesday evening **13th JULY 2021** at 7pm

Everyone is welcome, light refreshments will be provided so please come along and bring your questions with you!!

Michael Manning

Public Meeting

Laxton Village Hall

Tuesday 13th July, 7.00pm

Gregor Pierrepont

from

The Trustees of Thoresby Settlement

will present

The Trustees' view for the future

and

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Confirmations at Laxton

This month sees the 78th anniversary of the confirmations recorded on the first page of the Confirmation Register for St Michael the Archangel, Laxton. Thanks to Brenda for sharing it with us all.

Confirmation took place at Laxton Church
on 28th June, 1943 at 7pm

Candidates were prepared and presented
by the Rev.A Keeton, Vicar of the Parish
and confirmed by the
Bishop of Southwell.

No.	Name	Age	Address
1	Colin Cree	13	
2	John William Roy Beckitt	13	
3	Bernard Francis Dickinson	12	
4	Arthur Evelyn Frecknall	13	
5	Ronald Frecknall	12	
6	Reginald Victor Gruynne	13	
7	Antony Albert Martin	12	
8	Reginald Mark Rose	17	
9	John Cree Rushby	13	
10	Wilfred Frederick Ilott	16	
11	Hilda Bartle	13	
12	Sheila Margaret Beckitt	13	
13	Marian Rushby	12	

All candidates received their first Communion on

July 4th 1943

In Laxton Church

There were also 5 candidates from Ossington

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Fond Memories of Mrs Violet Saxelby

Christmas, Easter, Whitsun and Harvest time – all reminders to me of Mrs Saxelby's Christian love and kindness. Looking at her photo brings tears to my eyes. She loved having children around her. There was delight on her face at the children's Christmas party – watching us enjoying the peaches and other treats, playing games, receiving specially chosen gifts and reciting our anniversary poems etc.

At Easter we had sweet scrambles. At Harvest Festival Margaret helped her mother to make sure we all had some produce to carry in the procession. At Whitsuntide Mrs Saxelby always took Sylvia and me to the Sutton Sunday School Anniversary. 'Wear your Anniversary dresses' she would say. Whitsun also heralded a trip to the seaside. Before we got off the bus Mrs Saxelby gave all of us some spending money.

Frequently throughout the year she would stop the car at our garden gate and call, 'Leaphia, ask your mum if you can come – I'm just going to Tuxford', – or wherever she was going. She would say, 'Come as you are'. In those days we had best dresses – or rather a best dress for special occasions.



Mrs Violet Saxilby in her garden

We enjoyed little games, (with our shoes off) on her beautiful lawn, edged with geraniums, and helped Margaret with the heavy lawn roller. We ate butter and ate un-countable meals at her table as well as custard and lemon tarts from her pantry. Mrs Saxelby took us to lantern slides at the village hall and, as I was athletic, she took me to a sport's meeting. When she was

away from the farm sometimes, I would stay overnight with Margaret. Sylvia and I helped in potato picking and hay making; tried milking cows, bringing the cows up from pasture and collecting the hens' eggs from their nest boxes or favourite laying places around the farm.

I went with Mrs Saxelby to collect Nancy, the Land Army girl, and visited numerous friends and relations with her. As she drove us around in the car we loved to hear her say the alphabet. She said it backwards at speed. We would say, 'Say it again Mrs Saxelby', and she would. 'ZYX, WV, UTS, RQP, ONM, LKJ, IHG, FED, CBA.'

Leaphia.

With thanks to Leaphia Hill for this piece about the years 1939 - 1949.

CHURCH SERVICES FOR OUR VILLAGE CHURCHES

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

30th May Trinity Sunday

9.00am Kirton **Patronal Festival HC** Margaret

10.30am Laxton HC Margaret

6th June Trinity 1

9.00am Kirton **HC Margaret**

4.00pm Wellow **EP Janice**

13th June Trinity 2

10.30am Laxton HC Alistair

4.00pm Egmonton **EP Heather**

20th June Trinity 3

9.00am Egmonton **HC Alistair**

10.30am Wellow **HC Margaret**

27th June Trinity 4

10.30am Kirton **WS Janice**

For any enquiries about baptisms, weddings etc, please contact
our churchwarden, Brenda, in the first instance (**870541**)



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

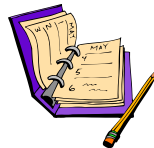
2021

Forward Planning

Subject to the lifting of lockdown restrictions following the Government's roadmap and coming into effect on June 21st.

July

13 th	Public Meeting with Gregor Pierrepont, 7pm VH
14 th	WI
27 th	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 July: 12 noon, 16th June

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

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Laxton WI



We are already in June and are now thinking of restarting our meetings, hopefully in July. The decision has been taken after discussing guidelines from County Office at a Committee Meeting and being able to hire the Village Hall.

Obviously this will depend on the Government 'roadmap' for the ending of Corona virus restrictions not being disrupted by the current increase in cases due to the Indian variant which is causing considerable concern as 'Open Field' goes to print.

The County Office in Trent Bridge House, re-opened on 1st May. The staff remain on part time furlough, but will be pleased to see any members who call when they are there.

Our Annual Spring Council Meeting was held on 22nd April when our County Chairman, Pam Stoddart, retired after three years in office.

Our new County Chairman is Dr Helen Rose, who at the age of 50, studied for a doctorate in Education. She says there is something to learn every day. Helen is a member of Watnall WI and lives in Hucknall.

We have three new members on the Board of Trustees this year. Debbie Clark from Hucknall WI, is our new ACWW (Associated Country Women of the World) rep and a member of the Sports and Leisure Committee.

Sarah Manton from City WI is a member of the Support Team and Communications Team.

Carrie Young from Ollerton WI, is a member of Creative Activities.

Wendy Richardson, who has been to us in her role with the Sports and Recreation Committee when she has run some very enjoyable Kurling evenings, is now the County Vice Chair. Suzanne Plamping will also act as Vice Chair. Jenny Bailey from Eakring WI remains as County Treasurer.. Jenny also produces our county newsletter, 'Hornblower'.

This year we have once again missed the Nottinghamshire County Show and doing our competition exhibition.

Our National AGM will take place on Tuesday 8th June. The

Resolution to be discussed and voted on is 'A call to increase awareness of subtle signs of ovarian cancer'. Things will be different this year. Our delegates will take part in a digital meeting, where they will hear the resolution debated. They will then bring information from the meeting for us to vote on, which will then go back to National for them to follow up with the relevant bodies such as the NHS and Government.

In June we have Zoom meetings on Banksy, the Artist, Women Writers in Nottinghamshire, Crop Circles and the Canal and River Trust.

Our 2022 diaries are ready to order, and probably we shall have something to put in them, unlike last year.

We would always welcome any new members who are interested in joining us. You will always be made most welcome. We meet in the Village Hall on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me or any Committee member.

I hope everyone is keeping well and hope to see you all soon.

Brenda Noble **01777 870541**

Sherwood Forest Rotary - Cycling 1220 Miles Rome for Prostate Cancer Research.

The Rotary Challenge to match the local Rotary District number of 1220 in mileage started last July. A 1220 mile radius was drawn from Edwinstowe and Rome was the major city that came closest, hence the 'Cycle to Rome' that I've been involved with.

I'm *very very* pleased to announce that for the final two weeks of May I've metaphorically been relaxing in Rome and sipping my coffees at the tourist hotspots having completed the challenge.

During lockdown the Sherwood Forest Rotary has raised over £2600 for Prostate Cancer Research and I thank all those who have sponsored me from near and far on my rides around Laxton.



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Pat's Plant Stall



The weather continues to provide challenges in the growing and nurturing of plants this year. However, as I write, the air temperature is warmer and the rain is regular.

Tomatoes, courgette, kale, beetroot and runner beans are all available with French beans and mangetout close behind.

Bedding, geranium, hanging baskets, containers planted with sweet peas and planted pots are all available along with a range of herbaceous plants.

A new line in cushions and second hand books will also be on display, weather permitting.

Pat

Was Cross Hill intended to be a Village Green?

I have recently been engaged on a project about green spaces, mostly relating to Nottingham, but I want to ask what we mean by a green space because that I think brings in Laxton.

In the past, people lived in the countryside, and they enjoyed the benefits of fresh air and open space. Some villages developed greens. Two examples in Nottinghamshire are Ruddington and Thoroton, but the intensity of agriculture in this area meant that little land was left out of production and few villages had greens, by contrast with southern England.

Laxton had one small area that might be thought of as a village green. This was, and is, Cross Hill. Possibly this was an early market, at a



time when Laxton was growing rapidly before the Black Death, but if Laxton did have a market it was never chartered as such. It would have been in the 12th or 13th centuries, after which the village contracted.

In marketing terms, the alternative was to take goods from the village for sale in neighbouring markets such as Tuxford and, later, Retford and Newark. Edith Hickson recalled in her diary that many of the farmers' wives at the end of the 19th century had stalls at Tuxford. Markets, and hiring fairs, were also a good means of meeting a potential partner.

But if Crosshill was not intended as a market, what was its purpose? Was it a small village green? It is certainly treated as such now, and used to be on a Sunday afternoon when estate workers gathered to hoot the vicar as he left for the service at Moorhouse. Subsequently it was treated as a green with the planting of a tree in 1897 to celebrate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. The tree remains.

Would you need a green in a village like Laxton where children could play in the fields without restriction? Some village greens were created for recreational purposes following enclosure, when land was privatised. Again, however, Laxton did not qualify. People could enjoy walking in the fields and woodlands, playing games in the street or the yards of the pubs. Indeed, it was this ability to enjoy fresh air and open spaces that distinguished villages from towns.

We shall never know who decided to conserve the Cross Hill as a green space but as long as no one tries to cover it with a block of flats it will continue as an interesting feature of the village and one we would all like to see conserved.

John Beckett

Progress at the 'Little School'

The most obvious change since last month is the fitting of the roof trusses. It certainly looks very different now compared to the sad sight we have all been used to.



Laxton History Group



Professor John Beckett's Retirement Lecture

Another casualty of the lockdown was Prof. John Beckett's lecture planned to mark his retirement from the University of Nottingham. This was to have been held at the end of June 2020, but along with so many things it was deferred.

As John is the Honorary President of Laxton History Group we had hoped to be represented. Needless to say it was impossible for the event to go ahead live.

The lecture, known as the Cust Lecture, will now be held via Zoom around the anniversary of the original date. . That in itself sounds like a note for the history books. The advantage is that, while invitations to 'attend' the event live are limited, it is hoped that the lecture will be available online afterwards. We will publish details of where to find it as they become available.

Group Oil Order

The next group order is planned for the end of July - August depending on demand and the price of oil at the time. Please let me know if you are getting ready for more as that probably means others are as well.



It is also a good time to think if you have changed any of your contact details. I pass your land line, mobile(s) and email address to the chosen supplier. If you have changed any of these recently, or indeed since you joined the group, please send details. If I can't contact you, you will not be reminded about the order and no supplier could get hold of you. Please don't assume your incoming email address is checked against the records, because it isn't!

New residents in the villages are very welcome to join. Please contact me on oil@openfield.org.uk and let me have your full address, contact details (email and phone) and any special instructions.

The group currently has members in Laxton, Kneesall, Egmonton, Tuxford, Weston, Sutton on Trent and Carlton on Trent. Anyone in this area is welcome to join as long as they can be contacted by email.

Joy

Milton Mausoleum

The Mausoleum will be open every Sunday from 2pm – 4pm, until the end of September 2021. The AGM will be held on Sunday 6th June at 2pm when refreshments will be available. We welcome visitors to this meeting which will be held inside the Mausoleum subject to Covid regulations, of course.

As before the building will be open every Sunday but refreshments will only be available on the first Sunday in the month on a trial basis on 4 July / 1 Aug / 5 Sept).

Enquiries, please to Email: milton.mausoleum@outlook.com

Phone Gillian (01777 248310) or Jenny (0779 1527569)

Covid Restrictions from 17th May

- ⇒ **Outdoor gatherings** are limited to 30 people and **Indoor gatherings** are limited to 6 people or 2 households (each household can include a support bubble, if eligible).
- ⇒ **New guidance on meeting friends and family** emphasises personal responsibility rather than government rules. Instead of instructing you to stay 2m apart from anyone you don't live with, you are encouraged to exercise caution and consider the guidance on risks associated with COVID-19 and actions you can take to help keep you and your loved ones safe.
Remember that the risks of close contact may be greater for some people than others and in some settings and circumstances, there will be specific guidance that you will need to follow even when you are with friends and family.
- ⇒ **Indoor entertainment and attractions** such as cinemas, theatres, concert halls, bowling alleys, casinos, amusement arcades, museums and children's indoor play areas are permitted to open with COVID-secure measures in place.
- ⇒ **People can attend indoor and outdoor events**, including live performances, sporting events and business events. Attendance at these events is capped according to venue type, and attendees should follow the COVID-secure measures set out by those venues.
- ⇒ **Indoor hospitality venues** such as restaurants, pubs, bars and cafes can reopen.

COVID-19 Vaccinations

People aged 38 and 39 are now being offered their first vaccinations. Second vaccinations continue. Those who had their first vaccination at the Showground were also given a second date. There have been suggestions that people may be called sooner for their second jab as a response to the Indian variant of the virus. Please look out for your letter and act on it, even if it shows a different date.

You can book your vaccination using the details below. You can also use the web site to check if the age range has been extended.

Web: <https://swiftqueue.co.uk/nottinghamc19vpatient.php>

Book by phone: 0115 883 4640

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The Royal British Legion's 100th Anniversary, 2021

On Saturday 15th May 2021, the Royal British Legion marked its centenary year and we hope you will join us in celebrating this exciting milestone.

Throughout our history, the work of the Royal British Legion has left a deep-rooted legacy for generations to come and we remain dedicated to our mission of creating better futures for all those who have served and continue to serve with the British Armed Forces.

The Royal British Legion was formed in the aftermath of the First World War to fight for the rights of those who had given so much and who came back to so little. Today, we continue to stand with the Armed Forces community and challenge injustices to ensure all those who have served and sacrificed on our behalf get the fair treatment and recognition they deserve.

As we reflect on our achievements over the last 100 years, we know they are not ours alone. The Royal British Legion has always been supported by an extensive network of volunteers, members, fundraisers and partner organisations who share our passion for bringing people together to support, commemorate and celebrate our Armed Forces community. An enormous amount of hours have been spent over many, many years with volunteers helping to collect during Remembrance and for our annual Poppy Appeal. We would like to pay our sincere gratitude to every single person who has sold or bought a Poppy or contributed towards the Appeal over the years. Without their support, we would not be reaching our milestone this year.

Throughout the decades, the Royal British Legion has evolved and adapted, responding to the changing needs of the Armed Forces Community and reflecting the modern-day society in which we play an important role. As we face our next chapter, we are inviting a new generation to be part of our future and continue our vital work.

For any enquiries about the Royal British Legion such as volunteering and fundraising or if anyone would like to do an activity to mark our centenary, please do get in touch with Mark Smith at

msmith1@britishlegion.org.uk or
call 07920 378588.

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Recent Bonus Ball Winners

Date	No	Name
17/4/21	04	Cath Manning
24/4/21	01	ROLLOVER
1/5/21	14	Anne Dutton
8/5/21	15	Anne Dutton
15/5/21	50	Ian and Jackie

We have various numbers available. Here is the up to date list of the 14 spare numbers: **1,2,7,11,20,23,26,27,34,51,52,56,57, 59 (14)?**

Please contact Mike Manning 870844. Thank you.

Michael Manning

Laxton History Group



Our PowerPoint presentation of old photos of Laxton is online as part of the Great Nottinghamshire History Fair, which this year is virtual.

There are items about the Handcart Museum Trust from Tuxford and the Mayflower and the Pilgrim Fathers. The celebrations for the 400th



anniversary of their sailing were much disrupted by the pandemic.

The event has been running free of charge for the whole month of May, so if

you get your copy early, you may still be able to see them.

The easiest way to find the presentation is to search for the fair using Google or similar and then to put 'Laxton' into the search bar on the site.

Egmanton Village Hall

www.egmantonvillagehall.org.uk / 01777 871171

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

- ♦ **Yoga with Greg** – Suspended. Watch for details of restart.
- ♦ **Egmanton WI** - Suspended at present
- ♦ **Zumba Class** - Cancelled for now **Call 07817 311627**
- ♦ **Computer Problems?** - Call **01777 871171** for phone advice
If your computer is misbehaving or you need help setting up a new one, please call. Donations to Egmanton Village Hall in lieu of fee.

Village Notices

Mike Manning maintains a list of email addresses for villagers and other local people who want to receive up to date information.

If you are not already on the list and would like to be kept informed, please contact Mike at kneecott@googlemail.com

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

A Swarm of Bees ...

- 🐝 A swarm of bees in May is worth a load of hay
- 🐝 A swarm of bees in June is worth a silver spoon
- 🐝 A swarm of bees in July isn't worth a fly

See overleaf for a swarm found in Laxton. The value of an early swarm is that they will have time to make a good stock of honey and provide the bee keeper with a good return.

Useful Contact Details

Defibrillator Contacts:

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

Police

Sgt 2949 Christial 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
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

Swarming Bees in Timothy Road

On 16th May there was a large gathering in Laxton - but not one of the prohibited kind! Janet Cooke noticed a swarm of bees circling over her house and her neighbour's. Luckily we have our own village bee keeper in Stuart Rose, so Janet gave him a call and he popped up to see where they were.



Conveniently they had settled on a wall, so no climbing was needed to get to them, as often happens. On this occasion the only unfortunate element was the elements themselves. Stuart had to work in a heavy hail storm, although someone had thoughtfully provided an umbrella to keep the bees dry!

After his quick check, he had brought back his protective clothing and equipment to gather them up. There was a cardboard box and a smoke gun for the first stage of the gather. The bees were swept into the box and from there they could be

tipped into a 'nucleus box' - a small portable container about 25% the size of a hive.

It is impossible to gather every last bee, so the nucleus box was left on a white cloth until dusk when the bees stop flying. Those which were still outside very obligingly put themselves inside and Stuart returned to take them to more permanent quarters.

We will have an item about why bees swarm in the July edition

