

Open Field

50p

March 2016



*The First Lamb of 2016?
Born to Mark Hennell's ewe, born in early February 2016 at Laxton*

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

Priest in Charge
Churchwardens LAXTON
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KNEESALL
WELLOW
WELLOW
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Open Field

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

Photographs of children appear in Open Field and on the web site with the consent of their parents / carers. Open Field appears on the Web in its entirety plus additional photos. If in doubt, photos are not used.

**ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO BE WITH THE EDITOR BY
16th MARCH PLEASE**

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Cover photo: The first lamb in
Laxton 2016?
Photo by Jean Hennell



Letter from the Revd. Chris Levy

Dear Friends,

Last month we were thinking about the start of the season of Lent. As March begins we are now nearly half way through this season and on March 6th we reach the Fourth Sunday of Lent. This is often referred to as 'Refreshment Sunday' or we perhaps know it more familiarly as Mothering Sunday. We all are most probably aware of the many traditions and customs from times gone by about the importance of Mothering Sunday. In our own times it has become more a time to send cards, buy a present, give flowers and yes if families live a distance away visit and spend time together.

In the Church's teaching there is more to this special day than just the opportunity to show love and gratitude to our own Mothers. There is that additional element of thinking about Mary who was the Mother of Jesus and our relationship with the Church itself, which we often refer to as Mother Church. There are other times during the Church's year when we think of Mary but on this day it is particularly appropriate to think of her as His Mother at the centre of their family life together in Nazareth. Family life for Mary all those years ago would have been so different than what it is for many Mums today. The idea of Mothers working outside the home would have been unheard of. No the place of a mother was at the centre of the

home, looking after the children, caring for where they live and supporting their husband as he goes about his daily work. This picture of a family is one that lasted for many years and if you have been watching the series 'Back In Time' recently you will have seen that the Mother from the 21st Century found it very difficult to relate to the way many women lived as recently as the 1950's! It was not until the 60's that many of the changes that seem so 'normal' to us today that begun to happen.

There is still a desire to give every Child a good stable relationship within our homes. In her way Mary did this and with all the different pressures and at times the luxury of items not around 2000 years ago many Mothers carry out that same important role today. Hence we can look to Mary and see one who offers an example of one who shows love and devotion to her family. We are not told how much Jesus did or did not appreciate all that she carried out for him but at the centre of their family there must have been the same gift of love that cements our family life together still today.

And so it is as Christians we come to Church. Just as we see God as our Father so we see her as our Spiritual Mother. The place where we come for nurture, support, fellowship and to know that we are loved. Just as not every child always remembers to show love to

their Mothers we too can often neglect to show how important the Church is to us. However, the important thing to remember is that the love we receive from her is unconditional and whilst we may occasionally turn our back on Her she is still there waiting for us to return.

So give thanks to God for our own Mothers, Mary who became the willing Mother to Our Lord and Mother Church our Spiritual home.

Yours,
Christopher.

Sympathy

We are sorry to hear of the death of Mr Ray Harris of Twitchill Farm on Monday 8th February 2016.

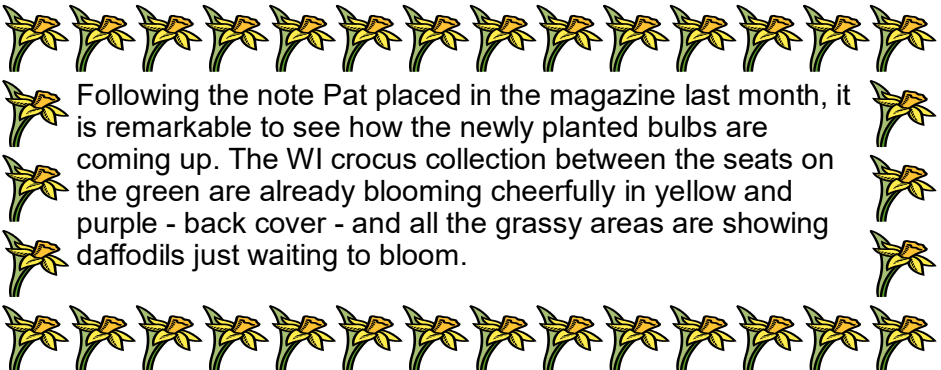
Our sympathy and prayers are with all his family and friends at this sad time.

Good News

We are very pleased to know that Pat Shepherd is home and enjoying short visits from friends and neighbours.

We are delighted to hear that Keith Morton is recovering well from his knee replacement surgery. We hope to see you out and about again soon Keith.

Bulb Planting in Laxton



Following the note Pat placed in the magazine last month, it is remarkable to see how the newly planted bulbs are coming up. The WI crocus collection between the seats on the green are already blooming cheerfully in yellow and purple - back cover - and all the grassy areas are showing daffodils just waiting to bloom.



LAXTON VILLAGE HALL



PRESENT THEIR

QUIZ NIGHT

FRIDAY 4TH MARCH

AT 7.30PM

PRICE £7.00 INCLUDES HOT
SUPPER

RING 870844 TO BOOK YOUR TEAM

PLEASE NOTE TO BRING OWN DRINK
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Supper Dance

Friday **18th March**

7.30 pm

Laxton Village Hall

Tickets **£7** from Jean, Margaret or Brenda
Supper included

Please bring your own drink and glasses

All proceeds to Laxton Church

Summer Barn Dance - Can you Help?

We are organising another 'Laxton Barn Dance' and would like to invite interested parties and potential volunteers along to our open meeting to be held on

**Wednesday 16th
March at 19:30pm**

**at Bar Farm, Laxton
(Christine and Ivan's)**

to expand our small
existing committee and
gather support for the
event.

For further details please
contact



Georgie on 07904 979361

Easter Sunday Services

Sunday March 27th

Moorhouse Church

3.00pm

Family Service

followed by

Holy Communion

Everyone welcome

Parish Council News

Dog Fouling

We are sorry to again report that despite it being mentioned several times, we continue to receive reports that dog fouling is continuing.

It is a highly offensive and illegal practice for dog owners to allow this to happen but the Parish Council is most concerned at the moment as we are now in the lambing season.

If anyone sees this occurring would you please contact a member of the Parish Council or Newark and Sherwood District Council or Nottinghamshire County Council. Obviously it would be helpful to have photographic evidence but this is entirely up to you.

The person or persons continuing this have been warned!!



Energy Saving

There is a new Energy supplier on the market at the moment - ROBIN HOOD ENERGY. It is a "not for profit company" run by Nottingham City Council. They guarantee to save you money on your electricity and gas (but not gas in Laxton and Moorhouse!!!) as they are not in the business of making a profit! If enough of us move to them from our current suppliers who DO make a profit, it may make them reduce their prices too!!!

It is a simple job to either ring FREE an 0800 number or it can be done very simply "on line".

We have done it and are saving approx £30 per month, so have several members of our family. It is NOT restricted to Nottinghamshire residents.

The contact details are as below. Good luck.

Ring FREE **0800 030 4567** or

www.robinhoodenergy.co.uk.

Michael Manning

The Dovecote Inn at Laxton

Your Local Village Pub



Monday 29th February
Steak Night between 6pm and 9pm

Sunday March 6th 12 noon until 7.00pm
MOTHERING SUNDAY
2 courses of the finest home cooked food for £17.95
or 3 courses for £19.95.
(Children's portions and menu also available)

Tuesday 8th March 5.30pm to 9.00pm
Pie Tuesday
A choice of chef's lovely homemade pies served with an
inclusive glass of best cask beer or a glass of wine to suit
£13.00 per person

Sunday March 27th 12.30 until 7.30pm
EASTER SUNDAY
A delightful Easter Sunday traditional lunch.
2 courses of the finest home cooked food for £17.95
or 3 courses for £19.95.
(Children's portions and menu also available)

Bookings now being taken on all these events. For further information of our events or to book a table, please call us on 01777 871586, visit the Website www.dovecoteinn.co.uk or find us on Facebook.

**Look forward to seeing you all soon at your local pub,
The Dovecote Inn at Laxton**

A Look Behind the Archive Doors - Building in Laxton



Continuing our look into the Manvers Collection's uncatalogued correspondence at the University of Nottingham, this edition looks at the people involved in the building works in the village.

The small jobs were simply delegated to the bricklayer, but the Clerk of Works was involved in more complex or expensive works to determine what was needed and to prepare estimates.

Unfortunately the Manvers Collection does not have the correspondence received by the Estate in the first quarter of the period we have studied, so our only picture for that time is drawn from their outgoing letters.

The Clerk of Works is a Mr Hill and two bricklayers are mentioned by name. We read that Mr J Mee, bricklayer, will possibly be leaving his cottage at Laxton in a letter of 8th June 1909 when B Moody is asked if he would like refusal of it. By 2nd September the same year S Sampson is asked if his son wants the cottage 'lately occupied by J Mee at Laxton.' Prior to this bricklayers are referred to by either their name or role, but not both in the same letter.

The first mention of a bricklayer in our period is in July 1903 when the school drains are the subject of the correspondence with Rev. Collinson, whom Mr Wordsworth addresses as 'My Dear Collinson'. He concludes the letter with the first reference we have to the 'new church gates', which become cause of much correspondence for a considerable time, and which will feature in another edition.

Mr Barnes was in demand for work on the church in 1915. On 16th June Mr Argles tells Rev. Collinson '*Barnes can certainly do church roof as you propose and I will send slates and copper strap as requested.*'

In a further note about this work, we get an insight into the expectations for delivery of correspondence. Mr Argles writes again to Rev. Collinson '*Many thanks for your letter received his morning. I am glad to hear that Barnes can cut the slates at Laxton Church and make them satisfactory. You shall have an account at the end of the month.*'

Owing to the stupidity of a messenger, I find that a letter which I wrote to you on Saturday morning was not delivered at Laxton the same day, and the same messenger neglected to post it till Monday evening. I much regret this.'

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Most of the correspondence regarding works seems to date from the war years, when the bricklayer himself was the subject of much of it. Mrs Bagshaw required work done in 1915, when Mr Argles wrote *'Referring to my call at your house a few days ago, I will endeavour to arrange something with you as soon as possible about moving the kitchen range from the front kitchen. When the days are short, and the weather bad, I want some indoor work for the bricklayers, and perhaps it can be done then. At present there is great pressure of outside work and shortage of men owing to the war.'*

Matters could have become worse when Barnes was passed fit for service. The Estate felt forced to intervene and Mr Spink wrote to the Officer Commanding 45th Recruiting Area, Derby: *'I am desired by Lord Manvers to communicate with you with reference to a bricklayer named Barnes, W3291 Class C.11, No 4648.*

I understand this man has now been passed as medically fit. As he is the only bricklayer able to attend to work necessary over a wide area, comprising the villages of Laxton, Kneesall, Kersall, Eakring, Fledborough and Weston, can you release him or will an appeal have to be made to the Southwell Tribunal for the purpose of asking for his exemption?'

He then writes to Capt. J Murray, the Recruiting Officer at Retford on the subject: *'Barnes, our bricklayer, of Laxton has been to see me this morning re your circular inviting him to offer himself for work of National importance. I understand this man has been passed fit for work, Class C.*

I was instructed by Lord Manvers to write to Derby asking if he could be retained in his present occupation, and was informed that as the man had not been called up I had better appeal to the Southwell Tribunal. The appeal has not yet been heard.

I am sure you will understand how necessary it is to retain this man as a bricklayer, when it is next to impossible to get small repairs done in the country by tradesmen living so far away. Barnes is responsible for really all roof and other repairs to farm houses, granaries, stables, cottages and other premises covering a wide area belonging to his Lordship.

Lord Manvers is anxious that every man that can be spared should join up, and more than half his staff have already gone. Would you kindly tell me whether Barnes has any option in this matter?'

It is a further nine months before the matter is resolved and Mr Spink writes to Barnes in June 1917 *'I enclose certificate of exemption which you should sign and put in safe keeping. It will be required by the local Tribunal when it ceases to be in force.'*



Supported by

The National Lottery[®]
through the Heritage Lottery Fund





Hot Cross Bun Service

**Friday March 25th, 10.30am
Laxton Church**



**Everyone welcome for the service which will
be led by the Rev. Chris Levy and followed
by a hot cross bun.**



Coffee Morning

This month will be on **10th March**
at The Old Vicarage, opposite the
former shop on High Street.

Everyone is welcome to this
informal group. You don't have to
commit to monthly attendance and are welcome to
pop in to enjoy some friendly, cheerful
company.

Plenty of tea, cakes, chatter and
warm welcomes for newcomers



Egmanton Church
invite you to
a Recital featuring
ARKangel

In the church at 4pm on
Saturday 23rd April

ARKangel are a highly regarded duo whose recital repertoire places a special emphasis on the music of South America and Spain. They have

played previously in their home town of Southwell. For a taste of their music and to read more see www.arkangel.uk.com

The duo play guitar and violin and include vocal works.

The event will include refreshments and more details will appear next month.



Laxton History Group

The February meeting took place too late for us to include it in the March magazine, so there will be a chance to catch up next month.

Members are going to the Queen's Royal Yeomanry Museum at Thoresby Courtyard for a talk and guided tour by the Curator, Mick Holtby.

This year's AGM and Historical Supper will be held on **Friday April 22nd**. We will follow the usual format of a short business meeting following a supper prepared on an historical theme. The cooks are still scouring the recipe books to decide what to serve this year. We have decided to change the day of the meeting to a Friday this year because it is easier for people who have to get up to go to work the next day if that day is a weekend.

We hope all our members will be able to come and offer a warm welcome to anyone who doesn't come to our monthly meetings or who is new to the village since last year. It is usually a very entertaining night and a chance to try something unusual - especially for the cooks!

See next month's magazine for full details.



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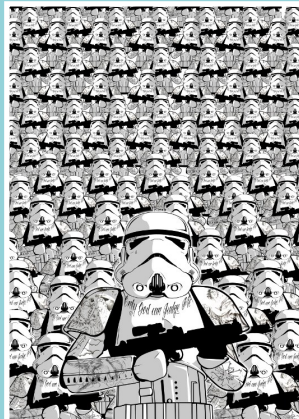
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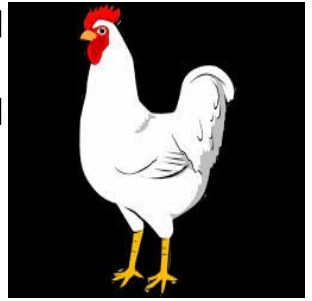
www.goshgallery.com

www.gosh-online.com

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Can You Help?



I am a volunteer co-ordinator for the British Hen Welfare trust, which needs your help.

We recently lost our rehoming centre at Swinderby due to our volunteer host moving house. We are now looking for a new host site to enable us to continue saving hen lives in the North Lincs / Notts area.

We ideally need a farm / small holding / stable block with good road access all year and parking / turning space for around 20 vehicles over a 4 hour period.

Hen collections are held roughly each six weeks and always at weekends. We also need storage for the poultry crates and an outside water supply to allow us to hose the crates.

I have a team of volunteers who will arrive for the day laden with cakes and nibbles. All we ask for is a cuppa or two.

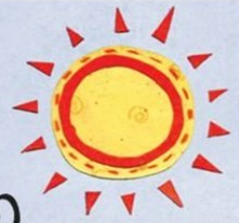
If you have any suggestions about local venues, I could approach, I would be very grateful. If you are interested and would like to know more, without obligation, please call me on 0786 141 8842.

Many thanks

Sam Wortley

Things to Do this Month

- Feb 29th** Mothers' Union talk. Call Tessa for details
- Mar 4th** Village Hall Quiz Night - See advert p12
- Mar 9th** WI 'The Oxo Story', Village Hall, 7.30pm
- Mar 10th** Coffee Morning - all welcome
- Mar 16th** History Group - learn how the HLF project is going and see some WWII memorabilia
- Mar 18th** Church Dance - see advert on back page
- Mar 21st** MU
- Mar 23rd** Parish Council



Laxton Kindergarden

Ofsted Registered Childminder

Currently has limited full and part time places available, including before and after school care and pick up from Local Schools.

Call Now for further details:

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DARLTON LAUREL HEDGES

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| 10 LT RPOTS | 3 YEARS OLD –BUSHY | HT 3' | + £6.00 |
| 10LTR POTS | 3½ YEARS OLD - VERY BUSHY | HT 4' | + £8.00 |
| 30LTR POTS | 4 YEARS OLD – BIG PLANTS | HT 5' | +£10.00 |
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| 7½ LTR POT | 2½ YEAR OLD | BUSHY | £4.00 |
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DARLTON HALL NURSERIES

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Village Hall News - An Apology

The Committee is very sorry that recently the gas heaters have not been working. We check the gas regularly but this time the cut-out on the gas regulator "tripped" and the gas supply stopped.

We arranged a plumber ASAP and he was able, not only reset it, but show us what to do if it happens again!!!

I add to our woes, both convector heaters in the foyer also stopped working within a couple of days of each other and these have now been replaced with one ones.

We are sorry for the people who hired the Hall who had a rather chilly evening and we will try and ensure it doesn't happen again.

Michael Manning

A quick reminder that the March Quiz will be on 4th March 2016

Mothers' Union

On Monday February 29th there will be a talk by the Revd Zoe Burton from Ollerton, meeting at the Old Vicarage at 7.30pm. On Monday March 21st, there will be a church service at 7.30pm.

A Look Behind the Archive Doors.

This month's look into the Manvers Collection at the University of Nottingham's manuscripts and Special Collections looks at the village's bricklayers. The correspondence is only catalogued at the folder or book level, with no alternative but to look at every page to find anything relevant to Laxton. Literally thousands of documents have been found and copied, providing far more information than our booklet authors are able to use in the size of volume we are producing. The magazine gives us a chance to learn more about what was happening in the village during the period 1900 - 1920.

If you have any information from your own family about how they lived, training they received, things they did for leisure, employment, just to make ends meet, or anything else / photographs / objects from the period it is still not too late to get in touch and tell us. Please contact Roger or Joan Cottee on 871137.

A Very Busy Summer Ahead

We have been receiving notices this month of events being planned during the summer months. As there are so many things going on it seems like a good idea to let readers know what is proposed so that you can get the dates in your diaries and also take these events into account when you are planning anything you may have in mind involving villagers.

Monday May 30th Wellow Maypole Celebrations

The traditional late May Bank Holiday crowning of the new May Queen on the Green at Wellow followed by traditional maypole dancing. The entertainment begins at noon and includes Morris dancing, stalls, games and fun for the children. A wonderful country day out.

Her Majesty The Queen's 90th Birthday

Her Majesty actually celebrates her birthday on 21st April, when she becomes the first reigning monarch to reach the age of 90. The main national weekend of celebration has been set for June 10th, 11th and 12th.

June 18th Laxton WI Celebration Tea.

Laxton WI are planning to hold an afternoon tea in the Village Hall to celebrate this very special birthday. Tickets will be available and everyone will be invited. This will be an opportunity for the whole village and friends to come together to mark the occasion. Details are still in planning, so look for further information in *Open Field* nearer the time.

June 24th and 25th Laxton History Group Booklet Launch and Exhibition

These dates are provisional as we can't launch the booklets without having them to show. The dates will be confirmed later, when the booklets have been sent off to the printer and we are sure of timescales. On Friday 24th there will be a formal launch with invited guests who have been involved in the project. On Saturday 25th the event will welcome villagers, friends and members of other history groups to see the booklets and look at the exhibition.

Friday July 1st Laxton Church Fete

This is a couple of weeks later than usual this year, so be sure not to miss it. All the usual fun and games. Details in a while

Sunday July 3rd Michael Ducksbury Memorial Vintage Tractor Road Run

This popular annual event will set off from Tuxford as usual, involving around 100 vintage tractors. It follows a secret route which changes every year, but being so close to Tuxford they normally visit Laxton at some part of the day. Be sure not to miss them and the local drivers taking part.

Friday July 8th The Dovecote Summer Ball

A ticket only event with champagne reception and live entertainment and a hog roast. A fantastic evening of live music and dancing in the marquee.

Saturday July 9th Laxton Charity Gymkhana and Dog Show

This popular annual event will feature the usual mix of classes for people with horses and ponies and owners with their companion dogs. Lots of stalls and other attractions for a full day of entertainment taking part or just watching.

Sunday July 17th Strawberry Tea for Helipads

This summer event is becoming another Laxton tradition. Tickets will be on sale in advance for the tea at Corner Farm. The proceeds go to support the fund which raises money to install helipads at hospitals to avoid critically ill patients being delayed in their arrival by a final journey in a land ambulance from the nearest landing spot. Ham and salmon salad followed by strawberries and cream and cake. Raffle, tombola, cake stall etc.

Summer Barn Dance at Bar Farm - Date to be announced

A couple of years ago Ivan and Christine hosted a very successful barn dance in the barn at the back of Bar farm—even if the weather was not at its summer best. Let's hope for better weather this time, but the entertainment and dancing will be just as good. See the item on page 6 inviting you to join the committee organising the event.

Many of these events will be grateful for raffle prizes or tombola prizes. If you have anything suitable please keep it and offer it to the organisers nearer the time.

UNITED BENEFICE OF KNEESALL, LAXTON with MOORHOUSE, WELLOW with RUFFORD

| MARCH 2016 | Holy Communion | Family services | Other Services |
|---|--|--|--|
| <p>March 6th Mothing Sunday</p> | <p>8.00 am Walesby 9.00 am Kirton</p> | <p>10.30 am - Kneesall Mothing Sunday Family Service</p> | <p>4.00 pm Walesby – Evensong 4.00 pm St Paulinus – Messy Church</p> |
| <p>March 13th <i>Lent 5</i></p> | <p>9.00 am Walesby 10.30 am LAXTON 4.00 pm Wellow</p> | | <p>6.00 pm Egmontan – <i>Evening Prayer</i></p> |
| <p>March 20th Palm Sunday</p> | <p>8.00 am Walesby 9.00 am Egmontan 10.30 am Boughton</p> | | <p>6.00 pm Wellow – <i>Evening Prayer</i></p> |
| <p>March 21/22/23</p> | <p>10.00 am Walesby</p> | <p>March 22nd 7.00pm St Paulinus Compline</p> | <p>March 21st 7.00pm Kirton Stations of the Cross</p> |
| <p>March 24th Mauudy Thursday</p> | <p>7.00pm Walesby (HC+Wach)</p> | | |
| <p>March 25th Good Friday</p> | <p>12.00 noon Kirton (Liturgy)</p> | <p>10.30 am LAXTON Hot Cross Bun Service</p> | <p>7.00 pm Kneesall – Service of the Cross</p> |
| <p>March 27th EASTER DAY</p> | <p>8.00 am Egmontan 9.00 am Wellow 9.00.am Walesby 10.30 am Kneesall 10.30 am Kirton</p> | <p>3.00 pm MOORHOUSE Family Holy Communion</p> | |
| <p>April 3rd <i>Easter 2</i></p> | <p>8.00 am Walesby 9.00 am Kirton 9.00 am MOORHOUSE 10.30 am Kneesall</p> | <p>4.00 pm St Paulinus – <i>Messy Church</i></p> | <p>6.00 pm Walesby – <i>Evensong</i></p> |



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2016

Feb 29th

MU

Mar 4th

Quiz Night

Mar 9th

WI

Mar 10th

Coffee Morning

Mar 16th

History Group

Mar 18th

Church Dance

Mar 21st

MU

March 23rd

Parish Council



Forward Planning

June 18th

WI Queen's 90th Birthday Tea

June 24th & 25th

Provisionally LHG Booklet launch

July 1st

Laxton Church Fete

July 3rd

Michael Ducksbury Memorial Tractor Run

July 8th

Dovecote Summer Ball

July 9th

Laxton Charity Gymkhana and Dog Show

July 17th

Strawberry Tea for Helipads for Hospitals

Sept 24th

Southwell Ploughing Match, Farnsfield

Nov 18th

Church Dance

NB New entries appear in ***bold italics*** for the first month.

If you know the date of a meeting or an event, please pass it on so

Copy Date for April: 16th March.

We cannot guarantee to include items received after this date.

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The February meeting started with the presentation from our speaker, Kath Hobart, one of the founders of the Tuxford Mine of Information. She gave us a history of how the organisation came into being from an original idea in 1995 to the organisation we know today.

The idea was born from the difficulties of local miners put out of work with the closure of the mines. Some who were non drivers, were having difficulty getting to Worksop or Newark to find the information and help they needed.

At the outset there were three people involved and they rented premises and involved the police and welfare rights services. They soon also involved North Notts College to provide training opportunities. They brought in computers and trained people to use the then new technologies of the Internet and email.

When the A1 was built through the middle of Tuxford, it created an artificial divide whereby the two halves either side of it did not know what was going on in the other. From this was born the Tuxfordian, the newsletter for Tuxford and surrounding villages, which is now 18 years old. Our magazine, 'Open Field' was established long before this and liaises with them over items of interest to readers.

After a while the Mine moved into the old Nat West Bank in Tuxford when the efforts of residents to save it finally failed. They were offered the premises rent free until the bank decided to sell at auction. This occurred as the Board were going through the process of trying to get funding to buy the premises and caused considerable stress as the Board members tried to raise the money quickly. Eventually they were successful, bidding by phone for the property and securing it for just less than their maximum of £45,000. Bassetlaw Council were persuaded to give them the deposit of £4,500 which made it possible to proceed with the purchase. They were lucky to be allowed two months rather than the normal one month.

Kath stood back from the management when funds were secured to employ some staff as she wanted to apply for the centre manager's job. There was an independent interview process and Kath was appointed to the post.

The services and staff expanded, with eight employees at the maximum. Much time was spent in bureaucracy monitoring usage for the funders and to justify future applications, preparing applications developing new services and mangling the premises. They discovered that it is easy to get start up funding, but very much more difficult to get

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funding to keep going. Staffing and projects have had to be adjusted as sources of funding have diminished and changed.

Kath explained that they are able to help people with renewing driving licences and passports as well as securing blue badges. This they do by means of video conferencing with Worksop so that the applicant can speak to the right person without the need to travel and can ensure their forms are correctly completed. This service was introduced very early on and was innovative.

They run the Forget Me Nots twice weekly for people with memory issues. This involves collecting and returning the members, trying to retain consistent contact so that members are familiar with their driver.

They have a new initiative called the Tuxford Friends Network which is bringing people together to set up their own groups to share their skills and interests such as floristry and sewing.

They have taken over Dial-a-Trip which provides essential car journeys for people without transport by linking them with volunteers who use their own cars. This service earns some money by providing contract services for children with special needs and after school clubs. Their volunteers do the driving for these trips and also one off journeys as the need arises. There is a charge for this service to individuals to enable them to meet the drivers' expenses. Some journeys are long and may involve long periods of daily trips to hospitals for people undergoing radiotherapy. For these users they subsidise the mileage rate to help people cover the considerable cost of so many long trips.

The Mine of Information always welcomes new volunteers and is there to provide help to people in Laxton and Moorhouse who may need it. As Kath said - just ask.

Following this fascinating insight into a service we are fortunate to have on our doorstep Brenda went through the business. We welcomed Jeanette Tate as our newest member. As always there was a wealth of opportunities on offer. Members could learn pottery, make friends with their sewing machines, go clay pigeon shooting (Joyce thought she might learn how to shoot her sewing machine, which is not quite the idea), join our teams for the county and village hall quizzes, choose their menu for our party or sign up to go to East Markham's party among others.

Members agreed to organise an event, probably an afternoon tea, to celebrate the 90th birthday of HM the Queen. This will be held on 18th June and details will be agreed next month.

Next month's meeting takes place on Weds. 9th March, when Lesley Bensley will be telling us 'The Oxo Story'. The competition will be for a piece of memorabilia - Oxo related or otherwise. Everyone is welcome.

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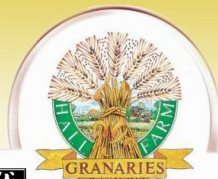
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Local people invited to take part in research project led by Citizens Advice

With recent suggested changes to Tax Credits and changes to Universal Credit making the headlines, Sherwood and Newark Citizens Advice are researching the potential impact that changes might have on working families in the local area.

The research aims to find out how welfare reform might affect the incomes of working people. Local people are being invited to fill in a short survey to help Citizens Advice carry out the research.

The survey will consider factors such as employment, age and childcare costs. Participants will be asked how they might cope with a £100 reduction in income and how this might affect household spending, debt/borrowing and employment. There will also be an opportunity to take part in an in-depth interview for anyone who wishes to provide Citizens Advice with more information.

Lesley Barrick, Advice Service Manager at Sherwood and Newark Citizens Advice said:

'By understanding more about how working people might be affected by welfare reform, Citizens Advice will be able to campaign and influence government welfare policies – national and local – to respond to the needs of working people and families.'

Anyone can take part in the survey by visiting your local Citizens Advice office or fill it in online at: <http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/G9DSRTB>

Free, confidential, independent and impartial advice is available from Citizens Advice on a wide range of issues, including: benefits, debt, money, housing, consumer and more.

For information on the above or advice on any subject, visit your local Citizens Advice at:

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Recent Bonus Ball Winners

| Date | No | Name |
|---------|----|----------------|
| 23/1/16 | 24 | Derek (Dovey) |
| 30/1/16 | 42 | Johnny Godson |
| 6/2/16 | 50 | Ian and Jackie |

Thank you all for your continuing support for our Sports Field. The National Lottery has increased the number of balls to 59 from 49. We have allocated numbers 50, 51 and 53 but the other are still available for anyone wishing to join or have an additional ball.

If so please contact either Ken Shep on 870605 or myself on 870844. Thank you.

Michael Manning

Puns to Make You Think

- ◆ I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.
- ◆ Jokes about German sausages are the wurst.
- ◆ I know a guy who's addicted to brake fluid, but he says he can stop any time.
- ◆ I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.
- ◆ This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore.
- ◆ When chemists die, apparently they barium.
- ◆ I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.
- ◆ I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.
- ◆ I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.
- ◆ Did you hear about the cross-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?
- ◆ When you get a bladder infection you know urine trouble.
- ◆ Broken pencils are pretty much pointless.

Health Matters - Styes

This month we look at a very common but painful condition – Styes. This is a condition that affects the eyelid, and can usually be managed at home without medical intervention. We will outline what it is and how it can be treated.

What is a Stye?

A stye (or hordeolum to give it its proper medical name) is an infection in the eyelid – there are two types.

- External stye is the commonest – this is an infection in the root (or follicle) of an eyelash. It often starts out as a small tender red lump, but can become larger and more yellow if it fills with pus.
- Internal stye (or meibomian stye) is an infection of the meibomian gland on the part of the eyelid that is in contact with the eyeball – this causes the eyelid to feel like it has a small lump within in.

Styes often develop quickly over a few days and are usually unilateral affecting one eye.

What causes Styes?

Styes usually occur for no apparent reason, and the bacteria that usually affects them is one that is often found on healthy skin – Staphylococcus aureus. Styes can be more common in people with blepharitis, a chronic inflammatory condition of the eyelid.

What is the treatment for Styes?

- No treatment – often styes will resolve on their own within a week or two. Once a yellow head forms, the majority will burst within 3-4 days and the pus released drains away without consequence
- Hot compresses – ringing out a clean hot flannel and pressing it against the eyelid can ease the soreness and draw the pus to a head. This can be done for 5-10minutes, four times a day
- Plucking out the offending eyelash (external stye only) – this will be uncomfortable at the time, but will allow the hair follicle to drain more freely.

- Incision & drainage – if a stye persists then a medical professional can open up the stye aseptically so that the pus can drain freely

ANTIBIOTIC OINTMENTS OR DROPS ARE NOT RECOMMENDED FOR THE TREATMENT OF SIMPLE STYES

How can the chance of infection spreading be reduced?

Do not share flannels or towels with anyone if you have a stye
Always wash your hands after touching the affected eyelid

Are there any complications of styes?

Most styes will resolve without treatment or long term problems, and do not affect vision.

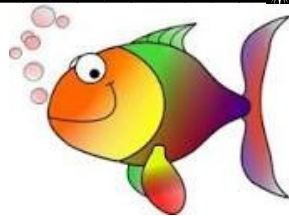
A chronic stye can turn into a cyst called a chalazion – a non tender lump on the eyelid – this may require surgical removal. Very occasionally the infection may spread to the surface of the eye causing conjunctivitis (red or pink inflammation of the white of the eye). This may require antibiotic drops or ointment. Very rarely (fortunately) the whole eyelid can become swollen, making it difficult to open the eye – you should seek prompt medical attention should this happen as it may have developed into orbital cellulitis, a condition that usually requires hospital admission and intravenous antibiotics.

Thanks to Dr Chris Shearstone Walker of Tuxford Surgery for providing this item.

Neighbourhood Watch in Action

There was a small scale alert in Laxton and Egmonton when residents and Neighbourhood Watch members smelled something fishy about the three men in a van apparently selling fish. Not wanting to be caught, people both reported the whiting and asked the men what they were trawling for, but it turned out to be a red herring.

They had a good reason to be in this plaice, although people still thought it was cod that men selling fish were nowhere near their van. On a serious note - well done to everyone who was on the alert when something unusual happened.



Dukeries Singers



Here we are in March and it's Spring in gardening circles. It is said that if you can sit on the bare soil with a similarly attired bottom, then it's warm enough to begin planting! I just have a guess at the temperature before committing my potatoes and radishes to the elements.

The Dukeries Singers are rehearsing new items for their upcoming performances as well as keeping up with some older favourites. We still welcome new members, especially more men. We are a very friendly group and you are very welcome to come and give us a try and see whether this an activity for you. Singing is a most uplifting experience.

As a group you are working together to produce a beautiful sound which gives enormous pleasure to a lot of people. You can see us on our website thedukeriessingers.com where you will find all our details. We also have some YouTube sites where you can hear us in performance.

We meet every Wednesday from 7-30pm to 9-30pm in the foyer above the Concert Hall at The Dukeries Academy in Ollerton. This is best accessed from the Leisure Centre entrance and car park.

We have concerts planned for spring and summer; a joint concert with Newstead Abbey Singers and another with The Dukeries Concert Band and with a French Choir who will be visiting later in the summer. I will keep you posted with firm dates and details in future updates. We have lots of dates available if you are planning a fund raising or celebratory event and would like us to perform for you. Our Concert Secretary Phil on **01623 822070** would be delighted to hear from you.

A happy Spring to you all

Jan

More Puns to Make You Think

- ◆ How does Moses make his tea? Hebrews it.
- ◆ Venison for dinner again? Oh deer!
- ◆ A cartoonist was found dead in his home. Details are sketchy.
- ◆ I used to be a banker, but then I lost interest.
- ◆ Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.
- ◆ England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool .
- ◆ I tried to catch some fog, but I mist.
- ◆ They told me I had type-A blood, but it was a Type-O.



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Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council - Meeting on 27th January 2016

A meeting of Laxton and Moorhouse Parish Council was held in Laxton Visitors Centre on Wednesday 27th January 2016 at 7.30pm.

Attendees

Mr J V Godson(Chairman), Mr M Manning (Vice-Chairman), Mr K Shepherd (Clerk), Mr R Hennell, Mr J Hill, Mr S Hill, Mr M Hennell. Also Present County Councillor B Laughton and District Councillor Mrs S Michaels. Mr D Brown was absent.

Parishioners Time (10 Minutes Set Aside Prior To The Meeting For Parishioners to Raise Any Items)

No items were raised at this point

Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 25th November 2015 were read and signed as correct.

Matters arising from the previous minutes

It was confirmed that the clerk was paid two and a half hours per week. To assess if this is a true reflection of the hours worked by the Clerk it was requested that the Clerk should keep a log of the hours actually worked over a four week period for review at the next meeting.

Accounts

The Clerk confirmed the following accounts had been paid. The painting of the Moorhouse phone box Mr Cuddy £119.40, Parish Council insurance Zurich Insurance £244.88, Severn Trent Water for the Sports Field £333.13

Accounts to be paid. SLCC £65, Severn Trent for the Visitors Centre Toilets £64.11, which will be the last payment for the toilets by the Parish Council as these have now been taken over by the Visitors Centre.

Moorhouse Notice Board

It has been reported that the perspex in the doors of Moorhouse notice board had become scratched and needed to be replaced. The clerk was asked to arrange for the perspex to be replaced.

Planning

It was reported to the meeting that there are some builder's works being carried out at Sunnyside Cottage, Moorhouse and Dist. Cllr S Michaels was to ask if this needed planning permission and if so why had the parish council not been informed. Dist. Cllr S Michaels will look into this and report back at the next meeting

District and County Councils

The emergency winter stores were to be moved from Holme Farm, Laxton to Moorhouse, Mr S Hill & Mr J Hill have agreed to arrange this. The parish Council would like to thank Mrs K Critchley for storing these supplies. No further information about the proposed bus service has yet been received to date.

County Councillor B Laughton confirmed there will be boundary changes made by the County Council by May 2017, Laxton & Moorhouse will now be joined to Ollerton. The Parish Council had objected to this proposal but their objections were overruled.

All residents should by now have received letters informing them about the new garden waste collection being introduced and how they can apply for this if they would like to use the service. Notices regarding this have been placed in the notice boards in Laxton & Moorhouse.

County Councillor B Laughton reported talks are being carried out for the amalgamation of the three local police authorities. Residents will be informed when any decisions are made.

It was reported that the 30mph sign on Moorhouse Road, Laxton had been knocked over. The Clerk confirmed he would report this to NCC.

The Clerk tabled a copy of the Council News which is issued by NALC, a copy of this is to be distributed to the Parish Council.

There have been several reports of people not keeping to footpaths, if anyone sees this please report it to County Council, District Council or the Parish Council.

Toilets

The Parish Council will make the final payment to Severn Trent and as previously stated the toilets are now managed by the Visitors Centre.

Village Seats & Moorhouse Phone Box

The phone box at Moorhouse has now been painted and the seats have been stained.

Matters for Future Discussion

No items were raised at this point.

There being no further matters Mr J V Godson closed the meeting at 8.45pm and thanked everyone for their attendance.

Next Meeting

Next meeting is arranged for 23rd March 2016 at 7.30pm in the Visitors Centre subject to no urgent matters arising sooner.

Parish Council Clerks Email address - laxtonpc@aol.com
Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council Web Site -
www.laxtonandmoorhouseparishcouncil.co.uk



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The Age of Stupid

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It's the year 2055 and the last man alive (Peter Postlethwaite) is recording a farewell message from an Arctic archive. This drama-documentary filmed in six countries over 3 years looks at footage of real people from now and asks: why didn't we stop climate change when we had the chance?

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- ◆ Tuxford Young Farmers - Wed 9th March
- ◆ Yoga with Greg – Tuesdays at 7:30pm
- ◆ WI - Thursday 17th
- ◆ **Computer Problems?** - Call 01777 871171.
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Useful Contact Details

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PCSO 4741 Keith Crowhurst

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Web, showing other contacts: www.nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk

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| 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

Parish Council website: www.laxtonandmoorhouseparishcouncil.co.uk



The planting team of Pat and Jeff Naylor and Jean and Keith Morton admiring the WI crocus blooms round the seats on the green which they planted to celebrate 100 years of the WI in 2015.



To quote Amanda Hennell 'That's not quite what I meant when I said keep him warm and comfy..Emily!!!!'



Two lambs born to Neil Hennell's ewe, born hot on the heels of brother Mark's