

Open Field

£1

September 2026



Villagers viewing the eclipse from Laxton Castle - taken by K Singleton

The monthly publication of the
parish of Laxton & Moorhouse

www.openfield.org.uk



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Open Field

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

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

Contributions for the next edition to be with the Editor by **NOON ON 16th SEPTEMBER PLEASE. Earlier preferred.** You can send in your contributions at any time.

Church Services

Services are usually held 1st Sunday of the month at St Michael the Archangel in Laxton

Sun 06 Sept **Laxton** - No Service due to Harvest Festival
Wellow - 4pm - Evening Prayer

Sun 13 Sept **Kirton** - 10.30am Holy Communion

Fri 18 Sept **Laxton** - 7pm Harvest Festival This will be followed by a Harvest Supper in the Village Hall (8pm)

Sat 19 Sept **Laxton** - 2pm to 4pm The church will be open for harvest competition entries

Sun 20 Sept **Wellow** - 10.30am Morning Service
Walesby - 10.30am Holy Communion
Laxton - 4pm service followed by auction of harvest produce

Fri 02 Oct **Moorhouse** - 7pm Harvest Festival followed by refreshments

Sun 04 Oct **Laxton** - 10.30am Morning Service

Sun 01 Nov **Laxton** - 10.30am Holy Communion

05/06 Dec **Laxton** - Christmas Tree Festival
(Sat/Sun)

Fri 11 Dec **Laxton** - 7pm to 9pm Christmas Concert with Sherwood Forest Brass Band

From the Registers - Anne Dutton

The funeral of Anne Margaret Dutton took place at St Michael the Archangel Church, Laxton on 6th August 2026 and was followed by a private family cremation ceremony. Anne leaves her daughter Pam, her granddaughter Caitlin and husband, and her great grandchildren. Her nephew Nic gave the eulogy at the service.

Anne was married to the late Keith Dutton and they lived in Laxton for over 40 years. Friends and family gathered after the service at the Dovecote to remember and celebrate her life.

In Memoriam - Geoff Rose

Anne-Marie and family wanted to provide a replacement to the trestle table used for church services, in memory of the late Geoff Rose.

This is the lovely table they bought. I'm sure you will agree that it is a fitting tribute to a lovely man and looks just right in its new setting in church.



Get Well Soon

We send very best wishes to Heather Storton, who is unwell at present and currently undergoing treatment. We wish her well and hope everything will go as planned and she will soon be back to

Lammas service

The Lammas service was held Sunday 2nd August and was well attended.

Traditionally this service is held to celebrate the beginning of harvest with a loaf baked from the flour from newly harvested corn.

In actual fact this year's weather has been so dry that harvest was already over for most farmers!

Stuart Rose provided the sheaf for the service and Janet Cooke the loaf.



During the service other offerings were brought forward by various members of the congregation – the communion wine and money collected.



Rev Alison Jones took the Lammas service and made it very relevant by using the loaf of bread during communion.

The service was followed by bacon baps and lots of conversation. Thanks to Simon Hill and family for arranging the food and all participants and attendees of the service.



Laxton Harvest Weekend

We would like volunteers to help decorate the church from Tuesday 15th - Thursday 17th September ready for the Harvest Festival on Friday 18th September. The church has seven windows and the porch as well as other areas which look fabulous when decorated. We are looking for families/groups of friends who would like to take ownership of one of these areas. This could be a basket of harvest produce – fruits and vegetables or a floral design. The church has vases, some containers and oasis available. **If you would like to help, please contact Sarah 07870 394125.**

Harvest Festival

Friday 18th September 7pm St Michael the Archangel Church
This will be followed by supper in the Village Hall at 8pm with pies, peas and puddings - £10 per person (all profits to church funds). Names in please for catering purposes by Monday 14th September.

Contact Helen 07905 161392 or Jean 01777 870276

Harvest Competition

Saturday 19th September. Please bring your entries for the competition into church between 2-4pm ready for them to be judged.

They will be auctioned after the service on Sunday. There is no charge for entries.

Harvest Service and Auction

Sunday 20th September 4pm St Michael the Archangel church, Laxton.

This will be followed by refreshments and then the auction.

Congratulations - Lilly & Jake



On a bright sunny day on August 1st this year Corner Cottage glowed with pink and gold balloons and festoons of colourful decorations. Teddy bears galore were reflected in the writing on the bright mirrors which urged guests to enjoy the wonderful food and drink on offer.

It was Lilly Bird and Jake Sawdon's baby shower, hosted by Sally and Kevin Pevler, soon to be great grandparents, and Emma, (their daughter), soon to be a grandmother. Lilly, Mum-to-be, looked elegantly beautiful as she greeted her friends, family and Jake's family. Laughter echoed round the garden as guests mingled and chatted together, whilst admiring the wonderful display. It was a superb afternoon thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

The family would like to thank the guests for their generous gifts and the guests would like to thank the family for a wonderful baby shower.



Moorhouse

Harvest Festival

Friday 2nd October 2026, 7pm

Moorhouse Church

Everyone is welcome refreshments will be available afterwards

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Garden Fete



Amazingly, after such a prolonged period of glorious weather, it didn't do what it has done so often previously and start to rain just as proceedings began. It remained calm and dry for the 2026 fête, kindly hosted once again by Roy and Jean Hennell in their garden.

The event was very well supported by villagers, friends and visitors alike. They were not disappointed as the stalls were groaning under the weight of goodies to be had from the delicious home-made cakes to the tombola and a staggering 49 raffle prizes.

The usual garden games were out and both the bean bags and the ladder resulted in a draw. The bean bag went to the wire, with Neil Hennell emerging a narrow winner over Keith Morton. Jo Godson was defending her title as the winner of the ladder, but Neil was obviously on form and he once again secured a narrow victory. Keith was not denied a win though as he managed to come out on top in the skittles with a score of 9. The junior prize went to Aria, who tried really hard, having several goes and was leading with her score of 8, achieved twice, until Keith came along.

Dave has made his name as the village chef and having been given a break from Chop & Chat, he was keeping his hand in and the visitors fed producing the hot dogs. Nearby Sarah was kept busy topping scones with jam and cream, which were going down very well with the drinks served by Margaret.

On the other side of the garden the cake stall was



doing brisk business along with the pluck a duck, while Rachel and Joy could scarcely keep up with demand at the Tombola. There were some great prizes and some people bought large numbers of tickets. Most were rewarded with several of the prizes. For some of the smallest visitors it was an opportunity to show off their number and counting skills.

The final event of the night was the raffle draw. This took quite a while despite each prize being allocated a number in advance so that not all the best ones went first. They seemed to go in clusters and some people were weighed down with prizes for both themselves and friends or neighbours.

A thoroughly enjoyable evening was had by all and £938.85 was made for the church in the process, which was a big increase on the £732 of last year. A big thank you to everyone who supported the fête in any way and in particular to Roy, Jean and their family who had worked so hard preparing their garden and all the facilities needed to give everyone a good time.



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Solar Eclipse 2026

Wednesday, 12th August 7.10pm saw the start of the latest eclipse of the sun by the moon. This occurred because the moon was passing in between the earth and the sun.

According to news reports we would see 95% coverage of the sun, from the East Midlands.

A like-minded group of villagers all decided to climb to the top of the castle mound to get a good view. We also met a couple of Laxton visitors up there who had had the same idea! Huge thanks go to Graham who was organised and had brought the only pair of eclipse glasses for looking directly at the sun safely. Mike also came prepared with a homemade pinhole viewing box he had created.

Much merriment was had in trying to get a decent photograph of the eclipse with the realisation that the remaining 5% visible was actually a lot of light so it was impossible to take a photo without using the solar filters on the glasses. There were many exclamations as the glasses were passed around and we realised that the eclipse was already well on the way even though we had not realised it standing and chatting in the evening sun.



By 8pm the moon had completed it's journey from right to left to cover 95% of the sun and we could see the smallest sliver of sun - via the glasses of course. The moon then carried on its journey exiting stage left.

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A Garden Party – with Alpacas

Laxton WI have been on our annual outing. This time our intrepid group set off to Oak Tree Farm in Woodborough to meet a herd of alpacas and their devoted carers.

Winding through a housing estate to reach the farm felt odd. But once inside the gates the magic was soon felt - it is an oasis. Beside the two large fields there is a thriving and lovely herb garden, a large number of native trees surround a walkway and shade a small number of huts and outbuildings.

Chairs were loosely grouped in the shade under a beautiful oak tree and we got to know our hostesses and hosts. Jane, whose inspiration this all was, told us about the alpacas, and her two human compatriots added lots of details. They really did know their stuff and obviously loved the alpacas, who were now giving in to their curiosity about us and were relaxed enough to start to 'mingle'.

Alpacas are beautiful. They do not like to be touched, as they are very aware of where their vulnerable parts are, but will come and stand close to you and gaze into your eyes. The finely drawn head with its top knot sits atop a long sinuous neck. Their limbs are fine and long and their gait is 'model girl', except when they break into play and look like any other bunch of naughty boys.

For all the ones we met that day were males. Jane only has four females now for breeding. There is a stud male who is entire, but all



the others are castrated. They provide the fabulous wool that is so justifiably popular. The colours of the fleeces vary, but Jane's are mainly a soft warm grey or brown, with a few very smart all black and the odd frivolous top knots in contrasting colours.



By now the garden party was well under way as we sat under the lovely shade of the oak tree. The alpacas moved quite happily in between the chairs and passed the time of day.

Things really got moving when we were given scoops of grain from the feed bucket and the alpacas set about emptying them – we were very popular!

Jane and her team were terrifically helpful, answering all our queries. They showed us the small merchandise corner, and there was a surprising selection of fresh veg, herbs, jams and jellies, as well as alpaca products – the woven material is exquisite.

But the stars of the show were the alpacas, and we were enthralled as we sat at ease underneath the tree, Jane contentedly spinning alpaca wool and telling us a bit about the mating and raising the babies called 'cria'. We were fascinated to learn that their well known role as protectors of livestock is wrong. They do not physically fight, but will form a line and march towards the intruder, making a heck of a racket. This upsets the intruder and alerts the owner – they are an alarm system.

We had been served a smashing snack as we sat and listened to Jane, then had iced water drinks and home made lemon tea and mint tea accompanied a home made cake of fruits from the garden.

All this time as we lingered the alpacas went about their day, some playing, some coming over to us for a chat, and one very naughty chap got into the herb garden and had to be ejected. They were gentle, graceful and a delight to just sit and watch. We learned lots and enjoyed even more.



Jane and her companions will be moving over the Winter. Tenure of the farm became uncertain and Jane made the bold move to buy her own fields and move the whole shooting match to make the future secure for the alpacas.

So before the exodus and until Jane can get things going again, give yourselves a real treat get along to Woodborough and Oak Tree Alpacas.

Visit www.oaktreealpacas.co.uk for more information. Once again we must thank Sandra whose organisation of our outings is nothing short of inspired..



Upcoming events at Laxton Village Hall

Visitors welcome - £5 per event. Please let Marg Palmer know for catering

Wed 9th Sep

Craft, Indian Block painting

Fri 11th Sep

Talk/presentation by Claire Syrenne,
Runner up Masterchef 2025

Wed 14th Oct

Autumnal flower arranging,
demonstration by Wild Jasmine

The poster has a blue background. On the left, there is a white line-art illustration of a chef's hat, a fork, and a spoon. In the center, there is a large, stylized illustration of a piece of meat, possibly a roast, with a red sauce being poured over it. On the right, the text 'LAXTON WI FUNDRAISER' is written in large, white, sans-serif capital letters. Below this, 'MASTERCHEF MASTERCLASS' is written in white, sans-serif capital letters, with a small circular logo to its right. Further down, a paragraph of text in white, sans-serif font reads: 'Laxton WI invite you to meet Claire Syrenne, runner-up of Masterchef UK 2025 and hear about her experience of being on Masterchef.' At the bottom left, a white box contains the text 'DETAILS:' followed by three bullet points: 'Friday 11th September 2026', '7.30 pm Laxton Village Hall.', and 'Tickets £10 including cheese and wine.' At the bottom right, the text 'GET TICKETS FROM: Marg Palmer - 07826429987' is written in white, sans-serif font. In the bottom right corner, there is a small illustration of a hand wearing a white glove, holding a knife.

Laxton Coffee Morning

On Saturday 20th June the Laxton Community Coffee Morning team held a fundraiser for the village hall. The usual menu of tea, coffee and cake was on offer together with a sale of homewares. Thank you to Joy R for organising the array of items on sale, some of which she sewed herself. Thank you also to Rosie O for donating stock from her online business. Thank



you to the team and to everyone who donated cake. And of course thank you to everyone who attended the coffee morning and whose generosity raised £301 for the village hall.



The September coffee morning will be on Saturday the 12th at 10 - 12 noon in the village hall. This is a week earlier than usual so as not to clash with our harvest festival. The coffee morning will be in aid of mental health charities in recognition of the challenges so many face daily. Raffle prizes and donations of cake would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Let's Get Quizzical!

Why not sit and do this quiz while you are having your coffee or test your friends (answers at the back of the magazine)

1. **What is the colour at the top of a rainbow?**
2. **What is the smallest country in the world?**

3. In what year did the Berlin Wall fall?
4. Which country has the longest coastline in the world?
5. Which two cities feature in A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens?
6. What do adult Mayflies eat?
7. When was Buckingham Palace originally built?
8. What is the name of Del Boy's local?
9. What is the only word in the English language which ends with the letters 'mt'?
10. What colour feathers do newly hatched flamingos have?

Thanks to Quizmaster Heidi

How many Chukars can you find?



Chukar partridges are well camouflaged when they are not moving. It's a great defence mechanism. This photo was taken early evening and is a great example of the camouflage at work. See if you can spot any.

Clue - there's more than one

Answers at the back of the magazine



Laxton History Group



The July meeting saw 17 members and friends gathering in the café at the International Bomber Command Centre at Lincoln for lunch and a tour. The food was served promptly and was eagerly consumed ready for the start of the tour at 2pm. Our guide, Steve, was very well informed and had a good voice which made him easy to hear. He was mindful that some people might need to sit for the longer explanations and so spoke close to the plentiful seating.



The tour took place outside and the slightly cooler temperature was welcome. We learned that the centre is a memorial to the many men and women who gave their lives in the service of Bomber Command or who were on their aircraft when they were killed. Central to the area immediately outside the centre is a large sculpture of a Lancaster bomber dropping food over Holland as part of Operation Manna at the very end of the war.

Steve emphasised the international nature of the Bomber Command personnel with some 62 countries being represented. To the side of the building is a garden area with separate sections to represent the five continents these people came from. They are planted with species from those continents, and Steve suggested visiting in Spring to see them at their best.

To the same side at the front of the building is a sculpture dedicated to Remembrance, Recognition and Reconciliation. This was created by the stonemasons from Lincoln Cathedral, with which Bomber Command has close ties. At the end of the war, lights were installed on top of the cathedral to guide the planes home. The lights are still kept locally.



The main area behind the centre is quite open with an allotment to one side to represent the former use of the site. The majority is under grass,

The next meeting in the Hall will be on **16th September**. Our speaker will be Nigel Amos speaking about Knight William Marshall. Everyone is welcome. Please feel free to just come along.



This month we received another enquiry about a former Laxton resident. It came from Wiltshire and read: *'I discovered yesterday that an ancestor called Daniel Pick born in Gloucestershire was listed in Laxton as a teacher on the 1871 census. At 18 he was a pupil teacher in Frampton on Severn Glos. He moved to Yorkshire after that but I would be fascinated to find out more about his time in Laxton. If there are any drawings of the school house he taught at I would be delighted to see them. If I lived nearer would gladly visit but am way down in Wiltshire.'*

Turning to John Beckett's book, 'A History of Laxton', a short reference to him appeared. Speaking about the financing of schools after the introduction of compulsory education, he writes 'The first schoolmaster to operate under this new dispensation was Daniel Pick, who came from Wiltshire in 1868 with his wife Ellen and four children.' Pick left Laxton in 1873.

The item then goes on to refer to the difficulty the schoolmasters had in getting the children into school as their labour was required by their families in the fields. "On 17 July 1871 Daniel Pick noted in the school log book that various children had failed to attend: 'I find many are weeding the corn' and when school resumed in October four pupils were potato picking and 'a great many boys were absent plough driving.'"

The item continues: 'After the wet summer of 1872 Pick opened the school on 23 September but was obliged to close it for a further week to allow the children to continue working.'



Laxton Senior School (now the Village Hall)

By 1887 Frank Willis had begun his long period as Laxton's School master and his observation about the summer of that year was recorded in the same couple of paragraphs of the book. This stood out as an interesting comparison with this year. On 29th July Willis wrote in the school log book that: 'although the hay harvest has finished the attendance does not improve as the corn has ripened so very rapidly owing to the hot, dry weather that some of the farmers have commenced harvest.'

This summer has been exceptionally hot and remarkably dry. None of the current Laxton farmers spoken to could recall a totally dry harvest, nor one where no corn had been flattened by storms or high winds. In contrast to 1887, by the end of July 2026 many had finished their harvest.

In a normal year farmers delivering to the grain merchant have to ensure it is below maximum moisture levels or pay a drying fee. This year that has not been the case, and a penalty new last year has once again come to the fore - a charge for cooling the crop! Some farmers took to stopping work in the middle of the day to avoid taking in corn that was going to incur this penalty.

It seems there is no disputing the impact of climate change as recorded in these events.



Laxton History Group

Craft Fayre

Saturday 14th November, 11.00am – 2.00pm

Laxton Village Hall, £1 admission inc. cup of tea / coffee

- ★ Traditional home made cakes plus soup for lunch
- ★ Lots of local crafts for those tricky Christmas gifts
- ★ Start your Christmas shopping at the stalls
- ★ All sorts of cakes to take home
- ★ Raffle, tombola, games etc.

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Annual Village Barbeque

With panoramic views looking back towards Laxton, fifty plus villagers were welcomed for the second year running, to the garden of Alan and Anna M at Saywood Cottages. Saturday the 25th of July was our fourth consecutive village BBQ.

Forecasts of rain showers earlier in the preceding week proved erroneous. Instead the marquee offered welcome shade from the sun, together with a breeze.

Once again we enjoyed a delicious array of salads to accompany tasty ribs, burgers, sausage and chicken breast supplied by Maloney's. Garden games helped to distract the younger members of the party.

These events would not be possible without all the organisers and contributors and I extend our thanks to: Anna and Alan our hosts, to John and Carol S whose help erecting and dismantling the marquee is invaluable. To Dan S for sourcing the meat, to Dave

S for the 'big Tesco shop' and with Alan for manning the BBQ, to Sarah S, Anna, Lynne H, Jean H, and Helen S for preparing the salads and puddings etc. And finally, thank you everyone for joining in. Next year we are back in the village, so no excuses for not walking down to us



Bird Art

The annual Festival of Bird Art held by the British Decoy and Wildfowl Carvers Association (BDWCA) is both a display of an unusual craft where tremendous skill is obvious and the British Bird Carving Championship.

There are youth, novice, intermediate and advanced classes. Even the novices produce some amazing work. One reason why the entries are so impressive is that they must be exactly the same size as the real bird with different feathers in the right places, numbers and colours. To ensure they meet the strict criteria, one of the judges is an ornithologist.

One class is for decoy waterfowl, which have to float in the river just like the real thing. To make sure they do, one hardy member of the organising committee goes for a paddle with them in the nearby river while the judges (and usually plenty of interested bystanders) observe.

There are also plenty of classes for different interpretations of the bird form, which include smooth but painted models and also sleek carvings which retain their original wood finish. There is a class for miniatures and another for innovative carving. This was founded in memory of David Rose who was born and brought up in Laxton and who was an advanced carver.



In the advanced class the carvers must make everything in their entry, including any rocks, plant material or water. The way they achieve this can be stunning and is well worth the trip to Bakewell. Alongside the competitive entries are demonstrations of wildfowl carving and painting, walking sticks, and assorted decorative techniques.

Winner of the David Rose Trophy for Innovative Bird Sculpture 2025



For the practically minded, there are stockists of carving supplies, equipment, paint and wood for carving alongside displays of wildlife art.

The event takes place in the Agricultural Hall in the centre of Bakewell. **This year it will be held on Saturday 12th (11am-5pm) and 13th (10am - 3.30pm) September. £2.50 admission, seniors £2, U16s free.**

See www.bdwca.org.uk

*British Champion Bird 2025
Richard Rossiter's Ring Ouzel*

Chop & Chat On Tour



Chop & Chat have had a very successful summer tour and it will continue into September after the short break in August. Our next venue is the Old Courtyard Tea Rooms, a quaint family run venue in the courtyard of Hall Farm, Newton-on-Trent just next to the A57. It is just

the other side of Dunham bridge at the junction with Collingham Road, which takes you to Newark. If you have not crossed the bridge recently, please be prepared for the recent price rise to 70p per crossing for cars.

We will be there on Wednesday 2nd September, meeting at 12 noon for 12.30 service. Their kitchen is small, so we have been told that hot meals will arrive in groups, but that has worked well elsewhere, so we do not foresee any problems.

Members who have already signed up for this one will receive the menu via the Whats'App group and are asked to respond promptly – and ideally to remember what they have ordered! It all helps service go smoothly. Everyone pays for what they have and the venue accepts credit cards if required.

"Chop and Chat" our monthly lunch time get together will return to the village hall on Monday 5th of October. We are present from 11am to prepare the meal. Participation is optional. We eat around 12.45 and there is a fee of £5 to cover costs. Please message Helen S. for further details.

Change to Harvest Competition



The classes in the annual competition, which take place as part of the Harvest weekend celebrations, have been the same for a number of years. This year a few changes have been made.

There are two additions to Class 1 for home grown produce. Eggs and a cucumber have been added.

The bigger change has been to the children's' classes. It seemed unfair that the really young children should be competing against those aged 6, so the children's entries have been split into three classes, with ages up to 5 years (Class 8), 6 - 8 years (Class 9) and 9 - 11 years (Class 10).

The full, revised schedule appears opposite.

Please start planning your entries. There are prize cards for the children, but most of all it is a chance for everyone to get involved, have a bit of fun and enjoy coming together to meet friends and neighbours while looking at the colourful display at the front of the church over the weekend.

Everyone is welcome to enter, whether from Laxton or not, and no matter how long you have been here. More entries can always be fitted in and the more the merrier for a lovely display.

Copy Date for October 2026 edition:
12 noon, 16th September 2026

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.



St Michael the Archangel, Laxton
Harvest Produce Show and Competition
September 19th 2026



Classes

Class 1

- A 3 potatoes
- B 3 onions
- C 3 beetroot
- D 3 leeks
- E 3 carrots
- F 1 marrow
- G 1 pumpkin
- H 3 tomatoes
- I 3 runner beans
- J 1 Cucumber
- K 6 Eggs
- J Any other produce

Class 2

- A 3 eating apples
- B 3 cooking apples
- C 3 pears

Class 3

- A Jar of chutney
- E Jar of jam
- F Jar of jelly
- H Jar of lemon curd*

Class 4

- A Victoria sandwich cake (no cream)
- B Decorated sandwich cake (any flavour)

C Fruit cake

- D Plate fruit pie
- E 4 small cakes (buns)
- F 4 small sweet pastries
- G 4 fruit scones
- H 4 cheese scones
- I 4 tray bakes

Class 5 - Photograph

- A A Country Scene
- B It's Spring Time
- C A wild creature
- E Picture suitable for the cover of 'Open Field'

Class 6

Flower Arrangement

- A Hydrangea head in a vase
- B Single stem rose in a vase
- C Bowl of floating flowers
- D One bloom, one veg
- E Autumn Arrangement

CRAFT

Class 7

- Craft item, any medium, made in the last year

CHILDREN'S

COMPETITIONS:

Class 8 (up to 5 years)

- A Painted Flower Pot
- B Vegetable or fruit sculpture
- C Harvest Collage

Class 9 (6 to 8 years)

- A Painting of harvest
- B Vegetable or fruit sculpture
- C Miniature garden

Class 10 (9-11 years)

- A A painting of harvest
- B Veg or fruit sculpture
- C Hand made greetings card

NB

No fresh cream or sausage rolls

Jams /Preserves to be from the current season

Lemon curd to be under 1 month old

All jars to be labelled with date made

We welcome additional donations of produce, preserves or home baking for auction, which is held in church after the service. These can be left in church on the **Saturday, or Sunday of Harvest Weekend from 3:30pm** when the winning entries may also be viewed.

We will also be collecting non-perishable gifts for a local Food Bank.

This event will support general Church funds and a local Food Bank

Sports Field

The football season is upon us. Please remember that the recreation field is exclusively for villagers, or with the permission of the committee. It is not a dog exercise facility. The public footpath runs parallel to the field boundary and dogs should be kept on the lead. Please clean up after your pet. Failure to do so presents a significant health hazard to players. Please put poo bags in the poo bin at the main gate and take your litter home. Thank you.

We know that it is a minority of individuals who show scant regard and thank you to those who remain responsible dog owners.

HS Committee secretary

Sports Field Bonus Ball Weekly Draw

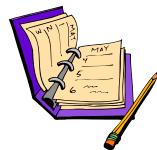
Date	Bonus Ball No.
18/07/26	10
25/07/26	50
01/08/26	29
08/08/26	43

There are currently 10 numbers spare. If anyone would like to invest £1 a week to try and win £25 please get in touch. The winning Bonus Ball (BB) is the number which matches the National Lottery Bonus Ball drawn on a Saturday. All money goes towards supporting the Sports and Recreation Field.

*Helen Pick
High Street Farm*



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



SEPTEMBER

- Wed 9th** *WI, Indian Block painting, Laxton Village Hall*
- Fri 11th** *7.30pm, Masterchef Talk, Laxton Village Hall*
- Sat 12th** *10am Coffee Morning Laxton Village Hall*
- Fri 18th** *7pm Harvest Festival, Laxton Church, followed by harvest supper in the Village Hall*
- Wed 16th** *History Group Meeting, Laxton Village Hall*
- Sat 19th** *2-4pm Harvest competition, church open for entries*
- Sun 20th** *4pm Service, Laxton Church, followed by auction of produce*
- Sat 26th** *Southwell Ploughing Match, Farnsfield*

OCTOBER

- Mon 5th** *Chop & Chat, Laxton Village Hall*
- Wed 14th** *WI, Autumnal flower arranging*

NOVEMBER

- Fri 27th** *Village Hall Christmas Quiz*

DECEMBER

- Sat 5th & Sun 6th** *Christmas Tree Festival in church*
- Fri 11th** *Band Concert in church*

Regular Events:

- Parish Council** *4th Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November. Please note meetings now take place in the Village Hall.*

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*Congratulations to everyone
celebrating a special event this
month. We wish you all a wonderful
day*

BIRTHDAYS

*Mel Voce, Paula Doyle, Jo Godson,
Diane Wood, Christopher Hill,
Amelie Beckitt, Neil Randall,
Graham Laughton, Keith Morton,
John Chambers, Chloe Hennell
and Neville Sayer.*

ANNIVERSARIES

*Congratulations to everyone on the
anniversary roll call for this month:
Neil & Rachel Hennell, Roger &
Alison Beckitt, Dave & Helen Sheard*

*If you would like your special event
recognised here, please let us know
the details.*

Jean



Village Hall News

It's YOUR Hall for YOUR events

A reminder to everyone of the facilities that Laxton Village Hall has to offer, and which can be hired to host any form of event. All details can be found on the LVH website www.laxtonvh.org.uk.



On the website, there is a Facilities tab which sets out what is available. The Bookings tab has the details of rates, discounted for village residents as well as a booking calendar. Also on that page is a booking enquiry form for you to complete with the details of your event.

The Hall has been used in recent months for birthdays, christenings as well as wakes and other family events. We have a number of regular corporate bookings for locally based organisations, and we very much value their patronage.

The Laxton Village Hall Quiz is being held Friday 27th November, with a start time of 7pm for 7.30pm. Do please start conferring with your neighbours and friends to work out who will be in your teams, and then submit team numbers to Ian Robinson. Cost will be £10 per head, to include the food (Maloney's pie, jacket potatoes and peas, along with a choice of dessert). It is Bring your Own in terms of drinks (& glasses) and there will be a raffle on the night. It is always a good night, so we look forward to seeing you there.

The **"Pilates"** class is run by our experienced fitness teacher, Rachel priced at £28 for a 4-week block or £8.50 for an individual session. It is held at the Laxton Village Hall on Thursday evenings running from 6.30pm to 7.30pm. Please contact Helen Sheard if you are interested.

An easy way to support YOUR Hall is to sign up to the Newark & Sherwood Community Lottery, starting at £1 per week. For each ticket sold, our Village Hall gets 60p. Check for details using the QR code here.

As ever, thank you all for your continued support. We have a great community asset and we encourage you all to make use of it.



A reminder of our goal as trustees which is *“Managing and maintaining Laxton Village Hall for the benefit of the community of Laxton, Nottinghamshire and the surrounding villages”*

For information, a list of the current Village Hall trustees is as follows: Ian Robinson, Lesley Booth, Stuart Rose, Charlotte Gregory, Margaret Palmer, Helen Pick, Linda Malloy, Karen Singleton and Heidi Keay.

We do have space for a couple more trustees. If anyone would like to get involved, then please do speak with one of the trustees to register your interest. Ideally we could do with some assistance on the maintenance / DIY front, with it now being almost 10 years from the start of the refurbishment project, funded by the National Lottery grant. As you can imagine, that means that parts of the Hall are starting to be in need of some attention!

Birds at Crosshill Farm

The number of birds on the farm have been falling over the last 28 years based on the annual count in May each year.

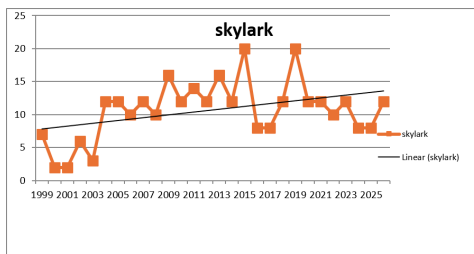
However, there are one or two success stories and the skylark is one of these. Numbers have roughly doubled over the period.

The main reason for the increase in numbers is probably the amount of fallow land in the village. This is land left for a season with no crop growing but lots of weed seeds produced as well as cover for ground nesting birds.

With 200 to 300 acres of fallows in most years, it is difficult for predators to destroy all of the nests. Ground nesting birds have to survive predation from crows, magpies, foxes, badgers, buzzards and now red kites as well.

It is also very important that dogs are kept under control during the breeding season for birds.

Mike Jackson



Group Oil Order

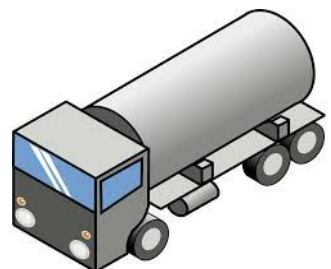
The recent order was probably the most difficult since I started the group over 20 years ago. Just trying to decide when to order with the price yo-yoing all over the place was hard enough, but it had become apparent that several members were reaching the point of needing to order.

Understandably those with bigger tanks decided to take a chance on the market coming back down. No doubt the November edition will reveal if this was a good move. Even the suppliers said it was chaotic when I phoned them. One had had two price rises that morning. This just underlines how helpful it is to have names and indicative volumes so that I can order very quickly if we happen to find a brief opportunity of lower prices.

The conversations with suppliers were not easy. One promised to phone back 'after speaking to a manager' and didn't. The next person I spoke to there, an hour later, implied he had forgotten! I gave feedback that a long delay is not acceptable. Quotes last 24 hours at most and the one we accepted held only until 5pm that day.

Certas, one of those I have called regularly and which we have occasionally used, has changed to an automated phone system which proved impossible to navigate to speak to a person to discuss a group rather than an individual order. They are in the process of being bought by a private investment company, so maybe this 'improvement' is permanent.

Eventually I was able to speak to three companies and the best price was from Peak



Oil, who have now decided that they do not require individual details to be input every time – the reason for not using them previously. They did ask for payment in advance, as opposed to the 7-day terms we normally get, but as they assured me that they refund rather than helpfully holding any excess payment for the next order, I decided to try them.

The best price was a painful 84.99p, well up from the indicative 81p I had been offered four days before. The delay in ordering was the time it took to get orders in. That said it was less painful than Chandlers' best offer of 85.46p/litre and Watson's eye-watering 93.95p

Those who have not ordered this time may need to do so before the normal end of November date, so I am considering one roughly mid-October, or earlier if there is a sudden drop in prices. If you want to be included in a quick order to take advantage of any opportunity, please let me know, giving an approximate volume. You will get a chance to change it, but possibly a very short window in which to do so.

The ordering group enables different households to order together and benefit from a discount reflecting volume ordered and potential for efficient delivery. The more we order, the better the price for everyone.

There is no need to order each time. To join a particular order you send in your contact details to join the group the first time and then notify your requirements by the date given each time. If you have plenty, or change your mind you simply don't order. New members are always welcome in and around Laxton and Egmanton.

If you want to be part of the next order, please contact me on my personal email if you have it or [**oil@openfield.org.uk**](mailto:oil@openfield.org.uk) is a general address you can use if you don't have mine.

Joy

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News From The Museums of Tuxford

Museum of the Horse

Sunday 13th September 2-5 pm the **Society of Equestrian Artists annual exhibition** opens and runs to 26th September. Come and see the work of artists from all over the country in the gallery below the museum.

The side saddle exhibition has had visitors from all over the world, all lovely to see. The most exciting was the President of the British Horse Society, the actor Martin Clunes, and the Chair, James Hicks. Martin was lovely and several coffee drinkers in the courtyard had their photos taken with him.



The first of a series of one day conferences was held 2nd September. The conference is just one of many money raising activities. Sally, who has built the museum, is now 80 and working hard to raise funds for the museum to continue when she is not around. Sally's son is near retirement age, and while extremely helpful, it is not one of his interests. If the money cannot be found for the museum to eventually take over the building, it will be lost. The building is the centre of the town it would be shame for it to become flats or worse, derelict again. We do hope you will support the museum's events.

Anyone who is interested in becoming a volunteer at the museum please contact Sally curator@musuemofthehorse.co.uk

The Walks of Life Museum will be open every day in Heritage Open Week

11th - 20th September 11am - 4 pm. The theme this year is everyday histories. There will be events throughout the week, for example the history of shoe shining - bring your shoes to have them polished. Look out for the cart of the day out in the town before the museum opens at 11am.



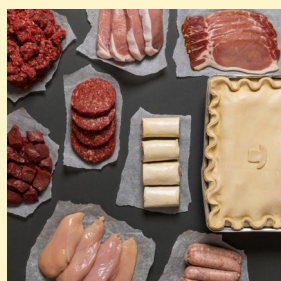
15th September tours of historic farm house every hour from 11am, with Alan Walders, Nottinghamshire Building Preservation Trust, and

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Jason Mordan, senior conservation officer.

19th September 2pm From Trieste to Tuxford. People from Tuxford's story of survival in prison of war camps in WWII

24th September Willow Weaving Workshop with Sid.
2 sessions 10am - 1pm or 1pm – 3pm make a willow object such as a dragon fly. Cost is £20.00. Please book in advance as spaces are limited.

Contact Diane 01777872776 (leave a message)
dianehunt08@btinternet.com



Museum of the Horse: 01777 838234
curator@museumofthehorse.co.uk

Walks of Life Museum: 01777 872776
dianehunt08@btinternet.com

Coffee Morning Corner

Coffee Mornings return in September after the August break.

2nd Saturdays Egmonton Village Hall	10 - 12	12th Sept
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3rd Saturdays Laxton Village Hall	10 - 12	10th 12th Sept this month due to the Harvest Festival
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4th Saturdays Ossington Hut	11 - 1	26th Sept
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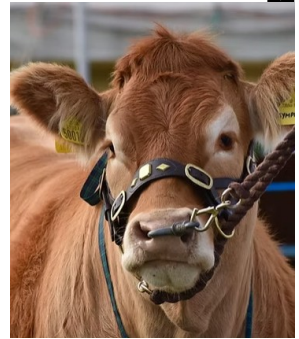
If you are local and have no room for visitors to stay, we can accommodate them, or maybe if you are looking for a base to explore this interesting and beautiful area, we offer a quiet location in the centre of the village. There are all amenities, gift and coffee shops, museums and galleries, buses to Lincoln, Newark and Retford.

2 nights in our double room: £150 including full English breakfast or alternatives.

Phone Richard on 07836 699911

Southwell Ploughing Match & Show

This annual show is a staple of the calendar and this year's event takes place 26th September. It is one of the largest agricultural shows in the area dating back to 1855. The show is hosted by local farmers at different venues. This year's event is being held in Farnsfield, NG22 8HW.



The show represents all the really important aspects of agriculture from preparing the land to cooking and eating locally produced food. Exhibits and competitions include ploughing, using the original horse power as well as vintage and modern tractors, to livestock judging and farm management displays, a dog show, horticultural and home produce competitions and home crafts. There is plenty to see for all the family. Firm favourites that will be returning for this year's show include The JCB Dancing Diggers and The Scarecrow Gathering.

E-tickets are available online until midnight Monday 21st September at a discounted price of £15

On the gate tickets are £17.50, children (under 14) go free

Disabled Parking is available for blue badge holders

Further information can be found at:

www.southwellploughingmatch.co.uk





Dukeries Singers

A Warm Welcome Awaits: Introducing Our New Choir Handbook

The Dukeries Singers are delighted to announce the launch of our brand-new **Choir Handbook**. Created with both

new and existing members in mind, the handbook has been designed to answer questions, explain how our choir works, and most importantly, offer a very warm welcome to anyone thinking of joining us.

The handbook, featured on our new cover design, introduces the history of The Dukeries Singers, information about rehearsals and performances, guidance on voice parts, musical terminology, and practical advice to help new singers settle in quickly. It also reflects the values that have helped our choir thrive since 1978: friendship, inclusivity, encouragement, and a shared love of music.

One of the questions we are asked most often is: *"Do I need to be able to read music?"* The answer is a resounding 'No'. Many of our members joined with little or no musical experience. There are no auditions, no tests, and no pressure. We firmly believe that everyone can sing and that confidence grows naturally when people are supported by others.

The Dukeries Singers are much more than a choir. We are a community of people who enjoy singing together, making friends, supporting one another, and bringing music to local audiences. Whether performing at concerts, community events, charity fundraisers, schools, churches, or seasonal celebrations, we take great pride in sharing the joy of singing throughout the area.

If you have ever considered joining a choir, now is the perfect time to come along and see what we do. Rehearsals take place every Wednesday evening at the Methodist Church, Forest Road, New Ollerton, and visitors are welcome to try a few rehearsals before

deciding whether membership is right for them.

We would be delighted to send a free copy of our new **Choir Handbook** to anyone interested in learning more about The Dukeries Singers. The handbook offers a glimpse of the friendly atmosphere that new members experience from their very first rehearsal and demonstrates our commitment to helping everyone feel part of the family.

If you would like a copy of the handbook or simply want to find out more about joining us, please get in touch. We are always happy to welcome new faces and new voices.

Request a copy of the Choir Handbook today and see why so many people describe The Dukeries Singers as "more than just a choir". Contact John; john@asherwood.co.uk; or Tel: 07759 086132.



Quiz Answers

1. Red. Starting from the top the colours are red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet
2. Vatican City. Its area is only 0.17 square miles and a population of around 800
3. 1989. It was 9th November 1989. On that night, crowds of people from both East and West Berlin began to breach the wall after the East German government announced relaxed travel rules
4. Canada. 125,567 miles to 151,019 miles, depending on the measurement method
5. London (represents safety, order, and the home where Dr. Manette and his daughter Lucie rebuild their lives) and Paris (represents turmoil, danger and revolution during the late 18th century French Revolution)
6. Nothing. Adults lack working mouths and cannot eat
7. 1703. It was built as a large townhouse and called Buckingham House
8. The Nag's Head
9. Dreamt. According to the Oxford Dictionary, 'dreamt' is the only English word that ends with 'mt'. The word's derivatives, including undreamt, daydreamt, and redreamt, are the only other words that end with the same letters

Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council.

Minutes of the Meeting Held on 26/05/26

Present: Councillors: S.Hill (Chair), J. Hill, S. Rose, A. Moorhouse, R. Allarton, M. Hennell, R. Creighton (from 7.55 pm)

In attendance at parish council meeting

C. Wilson (Clerk)

Member of the public (x2)

1. **Election of Officers:** The following were **elected**:
 - (a) Chair – Mr S Hill (unanimous having been proposed and seconded)
 - (b) Vice-Chair – Mr J Hill (unanimous having been proposed and seconded).
 - (c) Accounts scrutineer –Ms A Moorhouse (unanimous)
 - (d) Defibrillator inspection councillor - Ms A Moorhouse (unanimous)
 - (e) Flood contact – Mr M Hennell (unanimous)
 - (f) Authorised to post on council Facebook page - Mr J Hill, Mrs R Creighton (unanimous).
2. **Apologies for absence:** Mrs Creighton had been delayed. Mrs Michael and Mr Clark were absent. Councillors reiterated their disappointment at the councillors' non-attendance and late apologies as discussed at the preceding Annual Parsh Meeting.
3. **Declarations of interest:** There were no declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda.
4. **Dispensations:** None required.
5. **10 Minutes public speaking:** Nothing raised.
6. **Thoresby Estate report (if any):** No report.
7. **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 31 March 2026:**

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 31 March 2026 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair subject to the amendment of minutes LMPC/24/26 and LMPC/38/26 (5 *minutes public speaking time*) to state, "Nothing raised" instead of,

“No public present” since a member of the public had been in attendance.

8. **Matters arising:** There were no matters arising.
9. **Reports from district and county councillors:** None present.
10. **Reports from councillors:** Mr Rose reported that:
 - a. He had attended a Visitor Centre meeting
 - b. The Visitor Centre Trust was in the process of being wound up
 - c. Mr Pierrepont had confirmed that the Visitor Centre building would not close until a new centre had been opened
 - d. It had been decided that, when wound up, the Visitor Centre reserves would be passed to the Village Hall subject to a restriction that all expenditure would be for Laxton’s benefit.

The clerk confirmed that the toilets did not belong to the parish council. Mrs Creighton arrived at 7.55 pm during this discussion. It was also reported that the Church is planning another Christmas event on the weekend of 5 and 6 December 2026. The view was expressed that, this year, the council could support rather than drive the weekend.

Mr S Hill had attended the April SNG meeting. Very little new had been raised but issues discussed included the attempted theft of oil from churches and Laxton and quadbikes racing on footpaths in Muskham and Sutton on Trent.

11. **Property matters:**
 - a. **Sports field, lease, pavilion (including maintenance update) and new litter bin:** Mr S Hill, reported that:
 - i. The rounders team had agreed to apply preservative to the pavilion building.
 - ii. The Sports Field Committee would purchase the maintenance materials on the parish council’s behalf to a cost of £300.
 - iii. The Committee would submit receipts to the parish council for reimbursement.
 - iv. A new gatepost has been erected at the field entrance which had also been tidied up.Councillors were grateful to the Committee.
A confidential commercially sensitive matter was discussed which is minuted separately.
 - b. **Glebe Field:** Mr Hennell reported that he had arranged for

someone to look at the tree and had been advised that the oak trees were fine but the lime tree should be inspected. Councillors asked the clerk to contact Katie Stretton at the Estate to enquire if the Estate would support with a goodwill inspection.

12. **Planning matters:**

- a. **Applications:** None
- b. **To note planning decisions by NSDC:** None
- c. **Great North Road Solar Park – Planning Inspectorate process - Update and any required decisions:** Councillors noted that the Inspectorate's recommendation was due in late July 2026.
- d. **EN0610001 - H2East Pipeline: Humber to Nottinghamshire - Developments including offer of virtual meeting with H2East Pipeline: Humber to Nottinghamshire team representatives:** Councillors were disappointed that representatives had declined to come to Laxton. The feasibility of a hydrogen pipeline under the open fields was discussed, including the implications of the numerous applicable SSSIs. After discussion, councillors agreed to accept the offer of a Teams meeting as a substitute for an in person meeting. The clerk will request three proposed dates. Councillors decided to form a working party to explore the implications of the proposal with all councillors as working party members.
- e. **Compliance: No issues raised.**

13. **Defibrillator:**

- a. **Inspection report:** Mr Hennell reported that there were no issues.
- b. **Replacement – Approve purchase of new defibrillator for Laxton phone box:** The clerk took councillors through the British Heart Foundation on line "Choose A Defibrillator" recommendation process. In line with the consequent recommendations, councillors approved the purchase of either the Phillips Headstart FR or Zoll defibrillator with outdoor unlockable cabinet, whichever the clerk was able to source most cheaply subject to a maximum of £1,727.82 and authorised her to make the purchase.
- c. **Defibrillator for Moorhouse telephone kiosk – Discuss and decide:** Councillors agreed to explore acquiring a defibrillator for the kiosk in Moorhouse. Mr S Hill will inspect the kiosk. The clerk will apply for any available funding.

- d. **Health emergency planning – Working group report:**
To continue to be carried over until the new defibrillator is fitted.

14. **Parish environment and appearance, including:**

- a. **Parish benches including new memorial bench request:** The clerk had shared the details of the Moorhouse bench to be passed on to the parishioner with two other suitable alternatives for a memorial bench. This was resent to Mr Rose.
- b. **Parish roads and pavements including new 40 mph speed limit in Laxton and 30 mph in Moorhouse – Developments:** The clerk read Mr Clark's email sent that evening regarding Main Street which advised that it had now been added to the list for repair, that it was in the queue and he hoped for a resurface. The clerk will request an update on the petition for a 30 mph speed limit in Moorhouse.
- c. **Village remembrance display:** Councillors reviewed the council's lamppost poppy needs and other display resources. They agreed that these were adequate for this year.
- d. **Flood resilience – Working party report and associated decisions:** The clerk had made enquiries of Mrs Michael regarding new flood equipment cabinets but had yet to hear.

15. **Financial matters:**

- a. **Financial position as at 31 March 2026:** Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position as at 31 March 2026 (incorporating the 2025-26 budget figures). The chair verified the stated balances against bank statements. At a councillor's request for clarification of the figure stated in the miscellaneous expenditure section, the clerk provided a breakdown. The clerk will check the position in relation to the uncleared cheque for £1 to BT in respect of the purchase of the Laxton telephone kiosk.
- b. **Financial position as at 30 April 2026:** Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position as at 30 April 2026 (incorporating the 2026 -27 budget figures). The chair verified the stated balances against bank statements.

- c. **Accounts for payment:** Councillors unanimously **approved** five payments totalling £570.26.
16. **Service faults:** None reported. **Correspondence:** Item d – Notts Wildlife Trust's– Nature Recovery Network in farmed landscapes – Councillors **agreed** that the initiative should be shared with the Thoresby Estate and, subject to the approval, on the parish council's Facebook page.
All other items of correspondence noted.
17. **Agenda items for next meeting:** See above
18. **Date of next meeting:**
- a. **Annual financial matters:** 7.00 pm Tuesday 23 June 2026 at the Village Hall
 - b. **Date for July 2026 meeting** 7.00 pm Tuesday 14 July 2026 at Moorhouse Church



*Congratulations to
Ivan and Christine
Rayner on the
success of the
Charity Tractor Run
held back in June in
aid of Diabetes UK.
They raised
£1,754.04*

Laxton Sports - Ladies Rounders

Laxton boasts a thriving Ladies Rounders club that welcomes all ages 14 years to 60+. We train on a Monday evening 6:30 pm at Laxton Sports Field and play matches on a Tuesday evening in the Sherwood Ladies League between May to August. We have two teams: Laxton Rockets and Laxton Spirits. As well as league matches there is a



Cup and Plate knock out competition. As Open Field goes to press, Rockets are 2nd in the league. Rockets beat All Blacks (Walesby) in the cup final. Although Spirits are bottom of the league, they were in the Plate final losing marginally to Leverton.

♡♡ Thank You ♡♡
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Your support helps our club grow and makes every season possible! ♡



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P2F K9 TRAINING
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DLR TRANSPORT

Supporting local. Supporting our club. ♡

Grass roots sports can only continue with the support of local sponsorship. Laxton Ladies Rounders Team are sponsored locally. The whole team would like to thank them for their continued support.



Find the Chukars answer - 4

There were 4 chukars visible in the photo - 3 youngsters who were sunning themselves on a log pile. You can see the heads of two and the tail/breast feathers of another with Mum keeping watch from the top of the gate.

There were actually 4 youngsters on the logs, the fourth was completely hidden behind the gate bars.

Eventually Mum decided it was time to move on and they trotted off (bottom picture)



The Partridge Family

Many of you will have seen the Chukar partridges who have been wandering around the village throughout the summer and decided to set up home in Laxton and why not, it's a great place to live!

One particular family have based themselves in and around the Twitchill, visiting various gardens, rooftops, sheds and have often been seen in the churchyard or on the church wall. They have



successfully reared 4 chicks, called chukarlings. They are most often seen with Mum but are occasionally joined by other adults, possibly Dad or neighbours.

They have grown rapidly from the little fluffy bundles that were running around a couple of months ago and are nearly the size of their parents although they have not yet developed the distinctive chukar markings, remaining neutral and speckled to help with camouflage.

The selection of photos show the various visitations over the summer months



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Milton Mausoleum



September is the last month of the season for Sunday openings, and you have the following dates left to visit us - 6, 13, 20 and 27th Sept. Open from 2pm – 4pm. Free Entry. Please come along and

our volunteers will tell you about our historic Milton Mausoleum, you can view the monument and get an insight into the family of the 4th Duke and Duchess of Newcastle who resided nearby at Clumber Park. Who sat in the pews? Why was it built at Milton? What was the Golden Hill?



Are you free on Sunday 13th September to celebrate Heritage Day? This year we will be holding an event in the Mausoleum where you can view stands full of information on Milton and surrounding villages. Where is Markham Clinton? There will be a variety of documents, maps, artefacts, sales brochures, names, faces, and memorabilia, well worth a visit! Open 10am – 4pm. Free Entry. Homemade Refreshments available.

Saturday 5th December 3pm Doors open 2.30pm **Carols by Candlelight** is our extremely popular event which is always booked to capacity. Please book your places early to avoid being disappointed as many were last year. The event is free and we will serve mulled wine and mince pies. We are grateful for any donations, and a donation plate will be situated on the refreshments table.



AUTUMN GIFTS & CRAFT FAYRE

SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2026



10am – 4pm FREE ENTRY

Wide variety of quality and unique gift ideas from local traders.

RAFFLE, TOURS OF THE MONUMENT ROOM & SO MUCH MORE!

Hot & cold refreshments in a covered seating area

enquiries please contact us by email on

**milton.mausoleum@outlook.com or by phoning
01777 811219, 01777 811358 or 01777 870300**

Egmanton Village Hall

www.egmantonvillagehall.org.uk / 01777 871171

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

- ♦ **Yoga** – with Karen Baker Mondays, 7pm - 8.15pm.
Email karenbaker321@outlook.com mobile **07399 669380**
- ♦ **Egmanton WI** - Third Thursdays in the Hall
- ♦ **Coffee Morning:** these resume in September on **September 12th**
They continue to be held on the second Saturday of the month from 10am - 12 noon. The October one will be Saturday 10th. All are welcome.

All events appear on the web site - see above

Reporting Potholes



A reminder about the pothole reporting contact details are:

www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/potholes/report-a-pothole

Or ring Customer Services on 0300 500 8080

Laxton Defibrillator

The defibrillator in the Visitor Centre, is always accessible as neither the Visitor Centre door nor the cabinet housing is locked. Please do remember that the defibrillator must only be used once authorised by a call to 999.

Booking Laxton Village Hall

The Hall is available for anyone to book and bookings are taken through the web site. Please visit:

<https://www.laxtonvh.org.uk/>

Useful Contact Details

Defibrillator Contacts:

Neil Randall	01777 871229 & 07710 398745, evenings & weekends
Mark Hennell	07812 908316, evenings
Stuart Rose	07939 228353, as required
Jeanette Geldard	07956 959135, daytime in Kneesall, evenings / weekends

Police

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

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

Cardiac Arrest? Say "Alexa Activate Emergency CPR" to an Alexa device

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



Laxton Harvest in full swing working late into the evenings. Photographs courtesy of Mary N.