

Signpost



Issue 75 June 2023

Your Local Community News



This magazine is distributed free by your Parish Council to over 400 homes and businesses in the Langar and Barnstone Parish Council area. If you know anyone who would like to receive a copy via email or print please contact langarbarnstoneclerk@gmail.com

The Latest from your Parish Council

Publicising our Community Field

As most of you will know, the Parish Council manages the field on Works Lane for the benefit of the local community, having leased the site from Tarmac at a nominal rent (Thank you, Tarmac).

The field has space for a football pitch, a multi-user games area (the MUGA) in which basketball, tennis and other court games can be played, a skate bowl, as well as a community orchard in which a variety of apple trees have been planted.

There are plans to develop the skateboarding area further with the siting of a half pipe adjacent to the skate bowl, whilst the crop from the orchard is used to make juice at the annual Apple Day.

The field is used on a regular basis by Belvoir Archers, the rent from which helps to pay for the upkeep of the field. The regular posts from Belvoir Archers in Signpost highlight the many tournaments and successes achieved on the field.

If you wish to book the field and its facilities, head over to the page on the Parish Council website in the first instance at

<https://langarbarnstone.co.uk/village-information/event-calendar/>

Annual Parish Meeting

Twenty or so residents and representatives of local groups, together with the Mayor of Rushcliffe, Councillor Tina Combellack, attended the Annual

Parish Meeting at Langar Primary School on Saturday, 15 April, hosted by the Parish Council.

The Mayor presented a replica of the Proclamation of the Accession of His Majesty King Charles III to the Parish Council, which will be framed and hung in the new hall.

The Chair of the Parish Council reported on its activities during the year and reports were presented from various local groups. Residents were invited to address comments to the meeting, and the parlous state of the local roads, speeding on the roads through the villages, progress on the proposed footpath along the C28 and the poor internet connectivity in Langar were brought to our attention.

These comments have been subsequently forwarded on to the relevant borough and county council representatives.

Finally, the Mayor congratulated the parish on the excellent turnout and organisation at the meeting and wished to promote this to other local councils.

Could YOU be a Parish Councillor?

The Parish Council has vacancies for three councillors. Could you be one of these?

If you feel you can help to inform and guide the issues of interest to our local community, please get in touch, initially with the Parish Clerk (see below). No experience is necessary, and training is available.

It is important that the Parish Council has its full complement of councillors to

maintain a continuity of experience for the future. Should the Parish Council fall to less than three members, there would be no local voice at the Borough and County Council levels, and it would be very difficult to maintain proper diligence in the management of the Village Hall charity.

Go on, you know you want to!

For any matters relating to items mentioned here, or to raise any other issue with the Parish Council, please contact Sharon Ellis, our Parish Clerk, in the first instance

T: 07984 075016

E: langarbarstoneclerk@gmail.com)

Langar cum Barnstone Village Hall Update

Time Capsule

The placing of our time capsule in the wall of the new hall generated a lot of publicity in the local newspapers and on Notts TV. This attracted wider interest and so the time capsule is now registered with The International Time Capsule Society, one of those organisations you never think may exist but which makes a lot of sense when you are aware of it.

Progress with the Rebuild

The rebuild is coming on apace, with the roof starting to go on and the kitchen plan finalised. We have recently been awarded a £10,000 grant from Nottingham Energy Partnership (Thank you!) towards the cost of installing solar panels to the new hall and we are discussing with Bloodworth & Sons Ltd how this may be achieved within the remaining rebuild time.

Proposed New Name for the Hall

We are keen for the new hall to be a focal point for the life of our community and so we are proposing that it be titled “Langar cum Barnstone Community Hall” on the building itself and on related publicity material.

We Can Do This! Campaign

Details on this crowd funding campaign to generate funds for the final aspects of the fit-out of the new hall can be found elsewhere in this issue. Please help if you can. Thank you.

Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council Corporate Sole Trustee of Langar- cum-Barnstone Village Hall

*Langar-cum-Barnstone Village Hall
(Registered Charity, No. 522237)*

**Acceptance of advertising does not imply endorsements
by Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council**

What is a Parish/Town Council?

A Parish Council is a statutory local authority established under the Local Government Act 1972. It operates in the area of a defined civil parish or group of parishes. A Town Council is a Parish Council which has resolved to call itself a Town Council. The term “Parish Council” is therefore used throughout this site to refer to both Parish and Town Councils.

Who is on the council?

The council is made up of councillors elected by the electors of the parish. Every year the council elects one councillor to be the Chairman of the council (The Mayor if a Town Council). The council has a paid officer who organises meetings and helps to carry out the council’s decisions – this officer is known as the Clerk.

What powers do Parish Councils have?

Parish Councils have a wide range of legal powers and duties which essentially relate to local matters, such as looking after community buildings, open space, allotments, play areas, some street lighting, bus shelters, car parks and much more. They also have the power to raise money through the council tax.

To whom are they accountable?

The council is accountable to the electors of the parish. Elections to parish councils are held every four years. The council’s accounts are subject to scrutiny by the external auditor.

Any alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct by individual councillors can be discussed initially with the Chairman of

the Council to see if a resolution can be found, if not then the District or Borough Monitoring officers can be consulted.

Can I attend meetings of the council?

Yes, all meetings of the council and its committees must be open to the general public and the press, except in very exceptional circumstances. The time and place of meetings must be advertised beforehand – usually on the parish noticeboard and website. The notice must be posted at least three days before the meeting.

Can I speak at the meeting?

You cannot speak whilst normal business (standing orders) is being conducted. However, nearly all councils allow some time at the meeting when standing orders are suspended, at which point the public are invited to address the council on an issue that concerns them.

Can I see the minutes of council meetings and other papers?

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2010 you may see and have a copy of the ‘recorded’ information held by the council (unless it is classed as exempt information in the Act). This includes reports, minutes, correspondence and emails. The information has to be provided within 20 working days. There may be a photocopying charge.

How do I find out who the councillors are?

From the Parish Clerk. There is often a list on the parish noticeboard and on their website.

How do people get elected to the council?

Elections are held every four years and will usually coincide with a District Council election. A Public Notice of a forthcoming election will be placed on noticeboards and websites.

There are occasions when the number of people who put their names forward for election is less than the required number of seats on the council. In these circumstances an election is not required and those who stood for election are deemed elected. In order to fill the vacancies, the council is required to co-opt other residents.

If a seat on the council becomes vacant between normal elections then a special procedure has to be followed which can lead to an election or, more usually, the co-option of a new councillor. It is good practice for a council to advertise widely in the parish if it is seeking to make a co-option.

What powers do Parish Councils have with respect to planning applications?

Parish Councils are consulted by the relevant Planning Authority (which could be either the District/Borough Council, the National Park Authority or the County Council) on all planning applications. Any views expressed by the Parish Council will be taken into account by the Planning Authority before a decision is made, providing the points made are relevant to the determination of a planning application. However, the final decision is made by the Planning Authority, not the Parish Council.

Are councillors required to declare any financial or other personal interests?

Yes, all councillors have to abide by a Code of Conduct. They also have to enter relevant financial and other interests in a special Register that is open to inspection by the public.

Please Clean Up After Your Dog

Recently we have noticed a vast increase in the amount of dog mess in our two villages, particularly around the telephone box area in Barnstone. Besides being unsightly and smelly, animal waste can be hazardous to the health of our children who play in the community and to other pets.

Therefore, it is important to immediately clean up after your dog. Please take a bag with you to pick up waste and dispose of it properly – there are plenty of dog waste bins in the areas and it is an offence not to do so.

Please note that the community field on Works Lane is a no dog area, so please don't allow your dogs to foul the grass there.

By taking a few simple steps to clean up after your pet, you can contribute not only to the beauty of our villages but also towards the elimination of one of the most irritating nuisances in our community.

Please help to make the place cleaner and safer for everyone - **THANK YOU.**

Langar Church of England Primary School

They say every cloud has a silver lining and we have weathered many storms this year but have found the saying to be true.

Within the space of six months (July and March) we had been inspected by OFSTED twice! These were two contrasting experiences, which may not surprise you having read recent articles in the national newspapers about the inspectorate body, with two contrasting outcomes. Doubtless to say you will have also read about the impact a negative OFSTED can have on the mental health of a head teacher, and I



can safely say it challenged me more than I could ever have imagined. But what doesn't kill you makes you stronger and the school, the staff and I are definitely stronger as a result of the experience and the feedback given.

If you would like to read the latest OFSTED report, which captures our school so beautifully, you can find it on our website - www.langar.notts.sch.uk but I am going to share with you some of the views of our children in class 2 (year 1 and 2).

Eleanor - I like Langar Primary School because I like making new friends. I like playing with my friends and playing outside with them. I like playing in the home corner and with the garage. At playtime, I like running round the track.

Kara - Langar school is kind and loving to people. I like school because you get PE. I like the nice dinners.

Emily - I like Langar Primary School because of the good toys and one of these is the home corner and the play dough. I like school dinners, especially the pizza and the pasta. I like our school values.



We have had to implement and navigate many changes this year but the culture and community, the values and ethos, dedication and commitment to serve our children and community remains exactly the same.



We welcome new starters and have some spaces in most year groups. If you would like to come for a visit, please ring the office (01949860056) as we would love to show you our amazing school.

Mrs E J Brown
Head Teacher



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Langar Church of England Primary School, Barnstone Road, Langar, Nottinghamshire, NG13 9HH
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The works has been at the heart of the Barnstone community for over 150 years. We are a self-contained specialised grinding and packing plant, employing people from the vale and beyond and supplying a range of products both in the UK and exporting all over the world.

Barnstone works has a tradition of innovation and development both past and present. We work with local schools and colleges and in June and July look forward to welcoming students to the site on work experience. If you are interested in a career at Tarmac then check out our website for all our current vacancies across all of the tarmac sites.



The plant is very much part of the local community having contributed to many local projects, schemes and initiatives. Most recently by replacing the community bench which was vandalised and the new

bench now occupies a space near the trees.

We have also opened our doors to the Vale Arts Group who are using our conference room every Tuesday until the village hall is completed.

We operate a Landfill Community Fund and the company works closely with the Derbyshire Environmental Trust who administer the scheme on Tarmac's behalf. Since the landfill fund was established, Tarmac has donated almost £16 million to local communities and projects throughout the UK.

So if you think this could benefit a community project and you want to know more about the scheme, visit www.entrust.org.uk or contact Derbyshire Environmental Trust on 01629 539182 or by email at det@derbyshire.gov.uk for an application pack and guidance on the eligibility of your project.

The team at Barnstone hope you enjoy the summer and hopefully some sunshine and as always please come and see us if you have any concerns or queries.

The Barnstone Team



Bingham Library

Opening Hours

01623 677200

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Tuesday	0930 - 1700
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VALE ARTS GROUP

The Art Group has been very lucky in having Tarmac supply us with a very cosy conference room to use as our group meeting place.

We have been there since the Langar cum Barnstone Village Hall was demolished and that is now growing at a fair pace as can be seen from the road.

The best thing about the Tarmac Conference Room was the heating during Winter, something that was not so good in the old Hall, and then there is air conditioning for the coming Summer! Our sincerest thanks to Tarmac!

So, what has been going on in our Group? Well things have not changed too much at all in that our members still come

along on Tuesday afternoons and paint, stitch and draw to their heart's content. I think I can safely say that some afternoons there is more chatter than artwork done, but we gather because we share the same interest in one form or another.

We have some new members and we have lost some due to commitments that clashed, but we hope that we will continue to grow as a Group.

Sadly Ruth Holmes, a relatively new member, passed away in May. She was a very quiet lady but she seemed to be getting used to us and was joining in the banter. Goodbye Ruth, Rest in Peace.

If you would like to join a Group of artistic people who dabble in all sorts of media and want to know more, please contact me:

Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust Protecting Wildlife Today

Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust has a number of Nature Reserves across the county, creating a rich tapestry of wildlife habitats to be enjoyed and protected for years to come. These reserves encompass over 2,000 hectares of land, all of which needs managing.

This is carried out with help from not only teams of dedicated volunteers and staff but also from the Trust's own flock of Hebridean sheep (the largest flock of pedigree Hebrideans worldwide) which carries out conservation grazing across Nature Reserves, assisted by other sheep breeds and the Trust's cattle.

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“Houses let to Outsiders”

A newspaper headline, which could be contemporary, but is actually from the *Nottingham Journal* of Friday, 16 July 1948 reporting on the feelings of two councillors expressed at a meeting of Bingham Rural District Council.

Councillors Morley and Davy were angry that newly built council houses were being let to families who were not residents of a local parish rather than meeting the needs of “our own people”. The cause of all this anger – the newly built Earl Howe Crescent! This was not the first time that the provision of these houses was to appear in the local newspapers.

In 1937 Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council first raised the need for the provision of good quality housing for residents, particularly in Barnstone, with the district council.

The suggestion was for there to be eight houses in Barnstone and four in Langar. Local landowners offered possible sites – Mr Plowright a site in Barnstone, Mr Harwood two sites in Langar and The Barnstone Cement Company one site, reported as being in Langar, but probably in Barnstone.

These offers were not taken up by the District Council, although a site in Langar was earmarked, and in March 1945 it was this decision, the compulsory purchase of land at Chestnut Farm, Langar, that would cause outrage in the parish and result in a number of protests.

Chestnut Farm was the home of William and Mary Howarth from where

they ran a dairy providing milk for the local villages. The loss of land would mean the Howarths would have to dispose of their animals and close the dairy. The first sign of dissent was a letter to the editor of the *Nottingham Evening Post* printed in the issue of Friday, 2 March 1945.

In this the author styling themselves as “Ratepayer” questioned the reasons for choosing the Langar site ahead of a Barnstone one and remarked that “*we do not want a solid and squalid block of houses at Langar village!*”

At the March 1945 meeting of Parish Council the Chairman, Mr J T Roberts, referred to Bingham Rural District Council’s decision to build 20 houses at Langar, which, he suggested, neglected the needs and wishes of the parishioners of Barnstone. After a long discussion it was resolved to send a letter of protest to the Ministry of Health. Sadly, John Roberts would not see the outcome of this as he died, aged 58, a few weeks later.

By October 1945 a petition had been organised against the proposal with 253 voters from the parish recording their opposition. This was sent to Lieutenant Colonel S Shephard MP for forwarding to the Ministry of Health. The objection was not against the houses themselves but to the grouping and siting of them as outlined below:

1. *The purchase of the site would cause much hardship on and cause grave injustice to a small-holder, who in no way is prepared to part with his only holding.*

2. *That it would destroy valuable agricultural land.*
3. *That in selecting the site in question, the consideration due to wishes of the inhabitants was not given.*
4. *That better, or equally suitable sites are available.*

The petition continued in mentioning the potential use of land on Langar airfield, which had already been lost to agriculture.

Central to the organisation of the protest was the Rector of Langar, the Reverend H A Dane. Henry Arthur Dane was appointed to the benefice of Langar cum Barnstone in 1943 having been Curate at St Stephen's, Clapham Park, London, and took an active interest in the needs of his parishioners.

Judging from the newspaper articles relating to the dispute he was not afraid to challenge the establishment and was impatient of bureaucracy for bureaucracy's sake.

He was particularly offended by the District Council's insistence of describing the parish as Langar in all official documents even though Barnstone was then the larger of the two villages and he believed "*that the Council is our servant, not our master, our representatives to execute our will rather than our overlords to assert their will*".

Needless to say his attitude did not endear him to the District Council with Councillor F Thorpe Perry being

particularly condescending to Reverend Dane's views and those of the Parish Council as reported in the *Grantham Journal* of Friday, 19 October 1945 under the headline "*Stage Three in Langar's Housing Fight: Rector And Rural Councillor Debate RDC's Attitude*".

Several editions of the local newspapers carried reports on the dispute with point scoring and verbal one-upmanship shown by both sides. Another headline in the *Grantham Journal* was "*Straight Talking from Langar Rector: Charge of Hypocrisy in Evading Parishioners' Protest*".

The former Rector of Granby, Reverend H W Jenkins wrote to the *Grantham Journal* from Yelvertoft Rectory, Rugby in support of the Reverend Dane and the parishioners. In his letter he wrote of his experiences of dealings with the District Council during an ultimately successful attempt to provide council housing in Granby and Sutton. He described his path as being "*beset with briars and thorns*".

Despite the objections raised, the District Council took the decision to continue and proposed six houses be built on the Chestnut Farm site. By March 1946 the number had increased to ten but building could not start due to another dispute involving the District Council.

This time it was Nottingham Corporation in the firing line for failing to agree to install a water supply to Langar under the terms of the Water Act 1945. The Corporation wished to carry out the work under the

Nottingham Corporation Water Bill of 1945, which gave them more favourable returns. The dispute was eventually resolved and a water supply provided.

The controversy had apparently raised interest in local politics as the Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council meeting for March 1946 was well attended for the balloting for a new parish council. A total of fourteen nomination papers were handed in and, under the chairmanship of Mr J Ward, the nominees were questioned on various topics including housing, water and sanitation. The nominees also promised, if elected, to deal with meals and transport for school children.

The houses were completed by early 1948. The development ended up consisting of sixteen houses, fourteen on Earl Howe Crescent and two on Church Lane. Compared to the majority of houses in the district these had “luxuries” such as electricity, a piped water supply, bathrooms and indoor toilets. Some of the houses were defined as being available for specific needs such as agricultural workers.

The selection of the first tenants was the cause of the controversy mentioned in the opening paragraph. The district councillors objected to one house being occupied by a family from Nottingham and another to a West Bridgford family. A third house became the home of an agricultural worker who “*already occupied a perfectly good house*”. In total, of the sixteen houses, ten were allocated to employees of the Associated Portland

Cement Manufacturers Limited, Barnstone.

Councillor Morley hoped that “*we are not pandering to the whims and fancies of the Portland Cement Company. We should consider primarily the interests of our own people*”. There the controversy seemed to rest as there appear to be no further references to it in the local newspapers.

Over the last 75 years Earl Howe Crescent and Church Lane have been the homes to a large number of families who were most definitely “our people” and long may they continue to do so.

As a footnote to the story, the Reverend Dane resigned as rector because he was unable to afford the upkeep for the large rectory and moved to become Vicar of Worthington, Leicestershire in 1949, a position he held until 1971.

Mary Howarth of Chestnut Farm died in 1952 and, in 1955, William Howarth died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Many locals believed that he had never got over losing his land and dairy herd and without Mary, he had little to live for.



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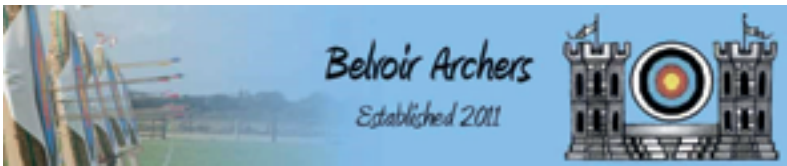
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There has been a lot of archery taking place on the Club nights of Tuesday and Thursday and on Saturday afternoons.

The Club has started to have target days when the club will shoot rounds towards our new classification system (as issued by our governing body Archery GB).



The competition season is well underway with Nottinghamshire Archery holding two out of three competitions for county archers. Several Belvoir Archers took part. The placement of archers will be known at the end of the three competitions which will be in August.

On Saturday 3 June 2023, we held the 2nd and 3rd Shoot with 36 archers from across the Midlands in attendance. This is a competition for novice archers who wish to get into competitions. The shoot

means that the archer competes against other archers at their own level.

It was a lovely sunny afternoon with very little wind. Several Belvoir Archers took part. David Worth tried his hand at Longbow and Debbie Mason came second in the 2nd Class Ladies' Recurve category. Cliff Archer was narrowly beaten by Scott Waldron who came first in the Gentlemen's 2nd Class Longbow.

We will hold our Founders' Shoot on 1st July and our Summer and Winter competitions in August and October.

We will be at Dove Cottage on 9th July for their rescheduled Fete. So if you fancy having a go at Archery, please come down and see us.

If you are interested in trying archery or wish to have a go, please contact us it is very addictive.

More information can be found on our web page

www.belvoirarchers.co.uk

or email us on

coaching@belvoirarchers.co.uk

Post Office Opening Times



LANGAR HALL Tuesdays 1100 - 1230

Please note the new location of the Post Office during the rebuild of the Village Hall



GRANBY, BARNSTONE AND DISTRICT BRANCH

On Saturday 13th May, we were honoured to take part in an event to commemorate the 80th anniversary of



the loss, over Germany, of a Lancaster bomber from 207 Squadron based at Langar Airfield.

The event, organised by Mike Weston, one of the members of the committee that set up the memorial to the Squadron at the entrance to the airfield, was



extremely well attended by members of the Branch, including our Standard Bearer, Ken Kirk as

well as local parishioners and spectators from further afield.

There was a short Remembrance Service, led by Reverend McConnell, with the Last Post and Reveille, played by Felix Paine from Barnstone. The event culminated



in a magnificent flypast of a Lancaster from the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, based at RAF Coningsby.

The site of the Memorial is well maintained by Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council and its Lengthsman, Luke Mazers, from Langar.

Recently the information board and bench on the site required replacement. We were gratified to find that the Parish Council would take care of this, with some funding provided by our local Borough Councillors.



Special thanks need to be given to Parish Councillor James Brown of Belvoir Rail Ltd for his help in reinstating the information board.



The Memorial site is now something we as a community can be justly proud of.

Andrew Charlett
Royal British Legion

Photographs of the event, taken by Alan Fletcher of A Shot in the Dark Studios

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1st Barnstone Brownies

Time flies when you're having fun! Unbelievably we have been meeting in St Andrew's Church for nine months already and have adapted well to our new 'home'.

At the time of writing the weather is hot, hot, hot so the church is a welcome cool spot, a reversal of fortunes from last winter when we wore so many layers we looked like the yeti!

We currently have eighteen Brownies, the four eldest of whom will soon be paying a visit to a Guide Unit in Radcliffe with a view to moving up in the next few months. So, we'd love to increase our numbers and are doing a recruitment drive, raising our profile by having stalls at both Cropwell Bishop and Langar School Fetes and attending a school assembly at Langar to include a presentation by some of the older Brownies.

If you know any girls aged 7-10 who would be interested in joining us on a Tuesday evening between 6.00- 7.30pm, we would love to hear from you.

Here are a few photos showing examples of what we get up to!

We did the Mindfulness badge. Several girls were so relaxed they actually nodded off! Or was it the sound of my voice!



This photo shows Brownies having fun serving their families at the Coronation Tea Party.



On the 28th April we took part in a District event at Sherbrook Campsite in Calverton entitled 'Too Cool for School'. Much fun was had by all.



Our Leaders

Dot is our Brown Owl, assisted by Claire (Tawny Owl) and Unit Helper Vicki (Barn Owl) and Young Leader Ellie (Fluffy Owl).

Thanks to all for your commitment. If you could spare an hour or two to help out, perhaps once per month or half term, we would be very grateful.

Brownies is a lot of fun and it's rewarding to see the girls make friends and develop confidence and skills for their future.

For more information or to get in touch, please contact Dot by email at: dotclayton47@gmail.com

The Owls

Mayor's Roundup

Well, what a year I have had. Obvious highlights were the Queen's Jubilee, Accession, Proclamation and Coronation and the visit of The Princess Royal. All of which involved historical and ceremonial events.

I have also enjoyed sporting events and musical entertainment, given certificates, and prizes and awards at sports days, exhibitions, and competitions and to Scouts and Brownies.

The Rushcliffe Awards ceremony, which celebrates the inspiring people within Rushcliffe was a very exciting and rewarding event. Proms in the Park was a free event in Bridgford Park and was as good as Glastonbury.

However, the most enlightening events have been those involving the many charities and fund-raising occasions I have attended. In particular:

Rainbows Children's Hospice, which is a total inspiration and provides not just end-of-life care but guidance to patients and families, for those with life limiting illness but who still have a life to live.

Maggie's the Cancer Care and support charity.

Mencap Gardens, where people can go and find peace in nature, gardening, harvesting and eating the produce they grow.

Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust who celebrated their 60th anniversary recently, who look after the most amazing wildlife areas, Skylarks of

course at Holme Pierrepont the only wheelchair accessible wildlife reserve in the UK.

Ruddington Pantry – an organisation after my heart, who do not want food to go to waste – they give it away rather than it be wasted.

Rushcliffe Food Bank – what an amazingly well organised operation this is, delivering to needy families all over Rushcliffe. I asked the people of Rushcliffe to knit Easter chicks for me to contain cream eggs donated by Morrisons, which were then given to the families using the food bank. Ruddington Yarn Ninjas also made knitted chicks for me.

The Blood Bikers who transport blood, organs and plasma and lifesaving medicines and equipment quickly between hospitals.

Riding for the Disabled – as a horse rider I know the bond you establish with a horse and the sense of freedom it can give. You can see the thrill on the faces of those who were riding, on this particular occasion, in front of Princess Anne who visited on an extremely wet day last Summer.

Ukraine – a charity which of necessity will continue to be supported. The response has been overwhelming

RosieMay Foundation and their pink Tuk Tuk which delivers help and aid to communities here locally and out in Sri Lanka. Read their story:

www.rosie-may.com

Grantham Canal Water Restoration Group – which is already showing its value in the increased flow of water in the Nottingham to Grantham Canal – but there is a lot more work to be done, in fact there will always be work to maintain the water.

The Lincs/Notts Air Ambulance which along with the Grantham Canal Water Restoration Group was one of my elected charities for which I have been raising money. As I am sure you know, even jumping off the Kings Mill Viaduct and abseiling down. My Just Giving Page remains open until July, so it is not too late to donate. I would like to raise enough for two Air Ambulance flights at £4000 each. Just go to:

www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/mayor-of-rushcliffe

Volunteering

All those charities, village and community groups and many others, too many to mention, that I have visited,

need volunteers – it was obvious from my visits the satisfaction and friendship there is to be gained - so many people having fun and finding friends through volunteering.

Moment of Reflection

I held a Moment of Reflection before each of our Council Meetings. It was a time for Councillors to reflect upon the work in which they are involved and the decisions they may make. I am particularly concerned with how we communicate. We don't all think, speak, read or understand in the same way and so I invited people from the Dyslexia association, **Deaf Society**, foreign language speakers (in this case Ukraine) and Literacy Volunteers to explain the difficulties experienced in communicating with authority representatives and community leaders, to hopefully improve our understanding.

Thanks to everyone for my wonderful year.

Cllr Tina Combellack
Mayor of Rushcliffe 2022/2023

Councillor's News and Update

For Langar, Barnstone, Colston Bassett, Upper Broughton, Kinoulton, Hickling and Hickling Pastures, Colston Bassett

All change - We are now in a new Carolean era under a new King following the coronation on 6th May 2023. We are also in a new Borough Council term with a new Council, members and portfolio holders. I hope to be able to give you more information in my next newsletter.

Having gone through the recent election and period of purdah, where decisions are all on hold, there is little councillor's news to report at this time. The Annual Council meeting will take place on 25th May and committees will be formed.

Thank you, I have been re-elected and hope to be able to continue to keep you up to date with council and community news on a regular basis.

I DID IT!

Now to reach my target. I want to raise enough for at least 2 Air Ambulance flights

Every flight costs £4000 and I am a quarter of the way there. There is still time.

Come on the 'Just Giving' page will remain open till July – click on the QR code to make a donation



**CHARITY
ABSEIL**

In support of
Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance
and Grantham Canal Water
Restoration Group

On Sunday, 14 May 2023, 2pm
the Mayor of Rushcliffe,
Councillor Tina Combellack
will abseil off Kings Mill Viaduct
to raise money for her two
charities!

PLEASE VISIT:
[www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/
mayor-abseiling-challenge](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/mayor-abseiling-challenge)

TO DONATE

This is our Community Let's Come Together

The Langar and Barnstone Community Resilience and Wellbeing Group has launched! Although in need of a catchier name, we have met twice to discuss and progress activities across the community which support everyone's Health and Wellbeing, whilst addressing environmental issues like biodiversity, renewable energy and food sustainability. As a community we already have a lot of active groups and events which address these issues, and we want the group to act as an umbrella under which all these different ideas sit. Giving us a way of promoting all the wonderful things that are already happening and to share all the great ideas that the community would like to get on board with.

Communication

The group is for the whole community, and we would love for all residents to feel they can engage in some way. Everyone is welcome to come along to meetings. We hope to set up an online Discord Channel Forum, which would give a platform to each area, enabling people to interact with topics and events that are of interest to them. This would be more accessible than current social media platforms which not everyone uses.

The group will utilise community notice boards more proactively to promote community events but also encourage people to use them as bulletin boards where people can advertise items they have to swap, sell, share or need. We want to ensure that those who do not use the internet, can still access information about the community in addition to Signpost Magazine, which is already a great resource. In addition, we are keen to grow the Parish email contact list and the

Langar and Barnstone volunteer community WhatsApp Group.

Events

As a group we are working on an annual events calendar, which hopes to recognise the changing seasons. One of the first events is being organised by residents who are interested in improving the biodiversity of where we live. They are looking at organising a wildlife safari day, an opportunity to come together to help maintain wildlife areas in Langar and Barnstone. The CRW group will also be at the school's Summer Fair on the 1st of July, where we are keen to hear what ideas, you would like to get on board with.

Surplus fruit and vegetables

Going forward we are keen to utilise surplus fruit and vegetables from across the villages to fuel community cook-up events where everyone can come together to share food and socialise in a relaxed environment. We would also like to map fruit and nut trees across the area, where people are happy to share their gluts. Please get in touch if you have a tree which you would like to get added to the map.

Let's engage!

We want the community to come together to help make where we live even better. Villages are small and mighty places. Together we can not only look after our environment but also each other.

Contact:

If you would like to be included on the distribution list for communications or would like to be added to the Langar and Barnstone Volunteer WhatsApp group please contact Jodi at Chestnut Farmhouse on Main Street in Langar on 869794 / 07905167919 or you can email jcarterdavies@gmail.com

Highways Reporting Hub

If you have any concerns on the following did you know they can all be reported online at the NCC Highways Reporting hub using the link below?

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/highways-hub> This will then generate an enquiry on their system and will be forwarded directly to the relevant Officer

- Potholes
- Faulty streetlights
- Grass cutting schedules
- Problematic trees & hedges
- Road or pavement concerns
- Street signs
- Surface dressing
- Road markings
- Signposts
- Highways obstruction

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For emergencies please phone: 0300 500 8080

Walking in Nottinghamshire

Time to get walking again! At this time of year we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Nottinghamshire has hundreds of walks to download and print, free. It also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (the custodian of the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Nottinghamshire (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'. With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy. So home or **away, check out the websites and get walking!**

John Harris

www.walkinginengland.co.uk

john@walkinginengland.co.uk

Nottinghamshire County Council

Report a Pothole

If you have spotted a pothole on a Nottinghamshire road, please report it online to fix the problem.

You will need to take a photo and follow the link below:

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/potholes/report-a-pothole>

Alternative ways to do this

If you prefer to phone, you can contact the customer service team via 0300 500 8080 - Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm.

After you've reported a pothole, a member of the team will go out to inspect it within 10 working days and either fix it immediately or, if this isn't possible, make the necessary arrangements to do so.

The pothole can only be fixed if it matches our [pre-set requirements](#).

For a pothole to be considered a safety defect it must be at least 40mm deep in the road surface or 20mm deep in a footway for us to fix it.

Providing it meets these requirements, a pothole will be prioritised for repair depending on its size, depth and road location. All potholes are inspected and put into one of these four categories:

- **Emergency work: repaired within 2 hours**
- **Category 1: repaired by the end of the next working day (Monday-Friday)**
- **Category 2: repaired within 28 days**
- **Category 3: repaired within 90 days**

Summer Quiz

1. Due to the iron expanding, which world famous landmark grows about 6 inches every summer?
2. Which month is national ice cream month?
3. The month of June is named after which Roman goddess married to Jupiter, the king of the gods?
4. The “dog days of summer” refer to the dates from July 3rd to August 11th. They are named so after which Star located in the constellation of Canis Major?
5. Which Roman general named the month of July after Julius Caesar?
6. What did Francis Epperson create in 1905 at the age of 11, when he accidentally left a glass of powdered lemonade and water with a mixing stick in it on his porch during a cold night?
7. In 1816, the planet didn't experience a summer due to a massive eruption of which volcano in Indonesia that produced enough dust, ash, and sulphur dioxide to partially cloud the Earth's atmosphere?
8. Which William Shakespeare sonnet begins with the line 'Shall I compare thee to a summer's day'?
 - A. Sonnet 15.
 - B. Sonnet 16.
 - C. Sonnet 17.
 - D. Sonnet 18.
9. Which popular rock song was recorded by the Canadian musician Bryan Adams from his fourth album, Reckless?
10. What name is given to a period of unseasonably warm, dry weather that sometimes occurs in autumn in temperate regions of the northern hemisphere?
11. What is the name of the fictional seaside town in the Australian sitcom, Home and Away?

Answers on page 35

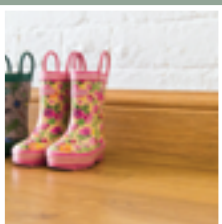
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We also have a satellite branch in Bottesford which enhances coverage within the village and surrounding areas.



If you are thinking of selling or letting your property and would like some expert advice on the current market conditions, call us today for a free, up-to-date market appraisal.

If you have already instructed an agent on a sole agency basis, please check the terms and conditions in order to avoid potential liability of having to pay two fees.

SCAN ME TO
FIND OUT MORE



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Langar Public Wetland Area

The Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council with help from Langar Wild Flower Farm are working together to restore the public wetland area to a wild flower area.

Over the years, since it was developed as a pond, it was found that it would not hold water but had become a marsh. The area has also become overgrown with weeds, nettles and thistles and the walkway has also disappeared.

Following a survey it was found that there are a great number of wild flower plants in the area although overgrown with weeds. We are now working slowly to clear up the area

to make it accessible again and to make it an asset to the village.

On completion of the restoration work the Parish Council will continue to maintain the area for public use.



The Parish Council and the Parish Linesman, Luke Mazers, would welcome anyone who wishes to help with the ongoing maintenance of the wetland area. In the first instance contact the Parish Clerk for access to the Langar Wetland WhatsApp link.

Speeding Vehicles

At the recent Annual Parish Meeting a number of people approached members of the parish council unhappy at the speed of vehicles travelling through the two villages of Langar and Barnstone.

At a recent meeting with the region's police officers it was announced that the Crime Commissioner had decided to put the local community speed watch back in place.

The Parish Council has decided to invest in the new speed watch equipment to help combat the number of vehicles speeding through the villages. The operation of the system requires local volunteers to help in running the system.

The involvement requires volunteers to attend a short training course which will be arranged at a convenient date and time and then to give up about two hours once a month to help operate the system in groups of three; all equipment and safety clothing will be provided.

Anyone wishing to volunteer to help should firstly contact the Parish Clerk.

langarbarnstoneclerk@gmail.com

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Quiz Answers

- Q1 The Eiffel Tower
- Q2 July
- Q3 Juno
- Q4 Sirius, the Dog Star
- Q5 Marc Antony
- Q6 Ice Lolly
- Q7 Mount Tambora
- Q8 D Sonnet No 18
- Q9 Summer of '69
- Q10 Indian summer
- Q11 Summer Bay
- Q12 The Popes

Langar-cum-Barnstone Village Hall (Registered Charity No 522237)

'We Can Do This!' Campaign

We thank those residents and businesses that have already donated to our 'We Can Do This!' campaign to raise funds to support the re-build of the hall.

The build programme is progressing well and is reported elsewhere in this issue. We are now at the stage of finalising our ideas for the fit-out of the interior of the hall. We have exciting plans for a demountable stage and associated lighting, plus storage shelving, noticeboards, local history display area, etc. These elements fall outside the build plan and need separate funding. Which is where our 'We Can Do This!' campaign comes in.



Through our JustGiving appeal which can be accessed at

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/langar-cum-barnstone-village-hall>

or by scanning the QR-code:



By online banking, cheque, or cash. Please contact our Parish Clerk for details.

Please direct any queries about the items in this report to the Parish Clerk in the first instance:

(E: langarbarnstoneclerk@gmail.com or T: 07984075016)

Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council
Corporate Sole Trustee of Langar-cum-Barnstone Village Hall