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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

The Parish Council did not meet in August and so there are fewer items to report in this issue.

Caring for Our Green Spaces

Considerable work has been undertaken to improve the public spaces in our villages.

Luke Mazers, our village handyman, has worked long and hard to improve the Langar Public Wetlands Area, removing a large mass of weeds and defining the paths around the site. There are plans to improve the site further with additional plantings.

In addition, residents in Barnstone have re-stocked the planters in the children's play area and around the bus shelter to create eye-catching displays for our enjoyment.

Finally, the Parish Council has applied to the Community Tree Scheme run by Rushcliffe Borough Council to plant new trees at the orchard on Works Lane Community Field.

Overgrown Vegetation

Throughout the summer months the Parish Clerk has sent out letters to residents reminding them of their responsibility to ensure that vegetation around their properties be cut back to allow pedestrian access along the pavements. Similar letters were also sent to landowners.

Could YOU be a Parish Councillor?

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

Elsewhere in this issue, Councillor James Brown, our latest recruit, writes about why he became a parish councillor. It is a good read and hopefully will encourage other residents to come forward. 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 07984 075016
langarbarnstoneclerk@gmail.com

Signpost

If you have an advertisement or an article which you would like to appear in the Signpost magazine, please contact our Parish Clerk for details: **Sharon Ellis, Parish Clerk 07984 075016**
langarbarnstoneclerk@gmail.com

Deadline for articles in 2024

12 January 2024

10 April 2024

11 July 2024

11 October

Period covered by magazine

February, March April

May, June, July

August, September, October

November, December, January 2025

The New Village Hall

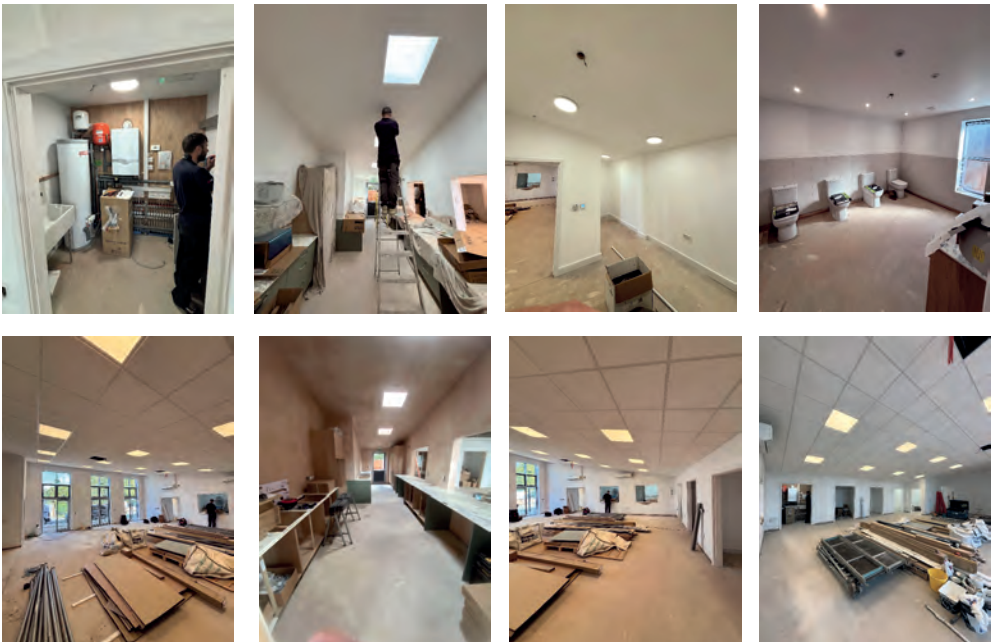
The construction of the new village hall is well underway. The external cladding is almost complete and the surrounding boundary fence work is ongoing. It has been decided to rename the new hall as follows:

Langar cum Barnstone Community Hall Main Road, Barnstone, NG13 9JP

The internal fitting out is also well underway and as you can see from the photographs, the internal main hall ceiling tiles have been installed. The electrical installation is going well and lighting is being installed and powered up and the toilets and the main kitchen are being installed. There is a target for all of the installation work to be completed by the end of October 2024.

The user groups and the trustees will then set about ensuring all the certification work is done and then the furniture and fittings work will commence. It is hoped that some introductory events may take place in December with the official opening in the new year. The trustees will endeavour to keep everyone informed.

Cllr John Crosby





Granby, Barnstone & District Branch

Our next event is a talk by our Branch President, Sir Andy Pulford, in association with Colston Bassett, Owthorpe & Cotgrave Branch. It is entitled **'Military Drones- Master or Servant?'** The talk will take place in Colston Bassett Village Hall on Saturday 28 October 2023, commencing at 7.30 pm.

Tickets are £10 each and available from me (pre-payment required please) to include a Ploughman's Supper and Dessert (please bring your own drinks). For further details please see the advert in this magazine.

This event will mark the commencement of the Poppy Appeal for our Branch. We will be providing a table in Cropwell Bishop Co-op during the Poppy Appeal period, displaying various items that you may wish to obtain for a donation.

Remembrance Sunday will be on Sunday 12 November. We are hoping to be able to provide two remembrance services, one at the 207 Squadron Memorial at Langar Airfield, commencing at 10 am and the main service at St Andrew's Church, Langar, commencing at 10.50 am. All parishioners are most welcome to attend either or both services.

**Andrew Charlett
Branch Chairman**



The Vale Market Cafe

Hoping to re-open on Saturday 9th Dec 2023

LcB Community Hall 10am - 12noon

Eat and drink with friends & neighbours

**Browse the stalls & purchase locally made
or sourced produce and exchange books**

Wanted – Volunteers to help run the Cafe



GRANBY, BARNSTONE & DISTRICT BRANCH

in association with

COLSTON BASSETT, OWTORPE & COTGRAVE BRANCH

A talk by Sir Andrew Pulford GCB CBE DL

MILITARY DRONES – MASTER OR SERVANT?



Colston Bassett Village Hall NG12 3FD

Saturday 28 October 2023 commencing at 7.30 pm

Tickets £10 each to include a Ploughman's Supper & Dessert

Pre-payment required please

**Andrew Charlett email acharlett289@btinternet.com
or phone 01949 861446**

**Josie McGuirk email josiemcguirk@btinternet.com
or phone 01949 81369**

Please bring your own drinks

Proceeds to the Poppy Appeal



Why I Chose to Become a Parish Councillor – Perhaps You Should Consider It Too!



Upon my move to the charming village of Barnstone in April 2023, I felt a strong desire to immerse myself in the fabric of village life. It all began with delightful visits to the Vale Market Café, where I had the pleasure of getting to know some of the wonderful residents.

However, I couldn't shake the feeling that there was more I could contribute.

One day, while strolling past the historic Village Hall and perusing its notice board, I chanced upon a notice about the Parish Council seeking new councillors. It made me ponder: What did I have to lose? With this in mind, I decided to attend the next Parish Council Meeting in June, initially as a member of the public (as it turns out, I was the only one). I was pleasantly surprised to discover that members of the public were welcome to attend these meetings, something I was unaware of until then.

At that meeting, I expressed my interest in becoming a councillor and posed questions to the council members present. They kindly suggested that I take some time to consider it, and so I did. In July, I attended the subsequent

meeting, and before I knew it, I found myself seated at the council table, actively participating in discussions about local council business.

Since joining this vibrant community in the early summer of 2022, I've found immense satisfaction in my role. What I hadn't initially realized was that, as a Langer Cum Barnstone Parish Councillor, I would also become a Village Hall Trustee. Consequently, I've been deeply involved in the ongoing Village Hall reconstruction project.

Contrary to what one might see on the news or television, our experience in the Parish Council is far from contentious. I can genuinely attest that our village councillors and the parish clerk are a cohesive and dedicated group whose sole focus is the well-being of our parish.

If you are thinking of becoming a Village Councillor, it can be a fulfilling and impactful role for several reasons. Here are some potential motivations for pursuing this position:

1. **Community Service**

Serving as a Village Councillor allows you to give back to your community. You can work to address the needs and concerns of your fellow residents, making a positive impact on their lives

2. **Local Governance**

Village Councils play a vital role in local governance. By becoming a Councillor, you can help shape policies and decisions that directly affect your village, including issues like infrastructure, public services, and land use

3. **Advocacy**

If you are passionate about specific causes or issues within your community,

being a Village Councillor provides you with a platform to advocate for change and influence decisions that align with your values.

4. Networking

You'll have the opportunity to network with other local leaders, government officials, and community organizations, which can be beneficial for both personal and professional development.

5. Problem Solving

If you enjoy problem-solving and finding practical solutions to local challenges, being a Councillor offers you a chance to work on issues such as infrastructure maintenance, public safety, and community development.

7. Community Engagement

Sometimes being a Village Councillor lets you engaging with your community, listening to their concerns, and building relationships. This can be personally rewarding and help create a sense of unity in your village.

8. Local Representation

Councillors serve as the voice of their constituents, ensuring that their concerns and interests are heard and addressed at the local government level.

9. Learning Opportunity

It's an opportunity to learn about local government processes, budgets, and

decision-making, which can be both educational and eye-opening.

10. Sense of Responsibility

If you feel a sense of responsibility towards your community and want to contribute to its well-being and growth, serving as a Village Councillor is a meaningful way to do so.

Remember that taking on the role of a Village Councillor entails certain responsibilities, including a time commitment typically averaging a few hours per month. It's crucial to thoroughly contemplate your motivations before making this commitment.

If you're interested in exploring the possibility of becoming a Parish Councillor or would like to gain more insights, consider attending our next Parish Council meeting. Alternatively, you can contact the Parish Clerk at langarbarnstoneclerk@gmail.com

Additionally, should you encounter me while I'm out and about in our wonderful village (I'm still relatively new here) don't hesitate to stop and say hello. I'm more than willing to engage in a discussion about the role of a Parish Councillor.

Cllr James Brown
cllrbrownlbpc@gmail.com



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**



Langar Pilot Celebrates 11,000 Hours of Flying, Receives Certificate of Merit for Services to Skydiving

A local pilot is celebrating 11,000 hours of flying and has been awarded a certificate of merit for services to skydiving.



Angela Hickling, of Waltham, started her flying career in 1975 in Sydney, Australia. Together with her husband Dave, she has been running local skydive centre Skydive Langar since 1977 where she also

held the role of Chief Pilot for much of that time.

Over the years, Angela has flown nearly 12,000 hours in aircraft including an Islander, Cessna 206 and, most recently, the centre's own Grand Caravans. She has also taught up-and-coming pilots.

Outside of her commercial flying, Angela enjoys flying for fun and has travelled around the world to do so, including flying sea planes in the USA. She will continue to enjoy her passion by flying smaller planes including a Cessna 206 known as 'Oliver'.



Angela and Dave were joined by the current management team at Skydive Langar in February 2020 and they have since grown the centre to be a home of skydiving excellence. She has played a pivotal role in developing not just the sport of skydiving but also aviation, laying the way for other female pilots to develop their craft.



Her work has been recognised by the governing body for skydiving, British Skydiving, with a certificate of merit and was celebrated with a party at Skydive Langar just before her 75th birthday.

* * * * *

Skydivers Set New British Women's Record

Female skydivers have set a new British record for the largest number of women to participate in a successful head-down formation jump.

The skydive required the women to jump out of an aircraft at 14,000 feet and then fly together in a 'head-down' position -

meaning their heads were the lowest part of their body, in an 'upside down' manner - to build a shape by holding onto one another's arms.

Travelling at speeds exceeding 130mph, 12 female skydivers completed the formation - making it the largest all female head-down formation ever completed in the UK.

In both cases, they dispersed at around 5,000 feet to deploy their parachutes and fly back down to earth.

The record was organised by world record holders Hannah Parker and Elise Sharp and was conducted at Skydive Langar in Nottinghamshire. It took a total of 5 jumps to achieve the records, with some small group practice over 3 days spread across the 2023 summer skydiving season.

Speaking of their achievement, Hannah Parker said: "It's been an incredible experience and we're very proud to have achieved a new British record. Ours is a sport where female participation is on the rise, but we've still got a way to go. It's our pleasure to host female events like this one and our hope that our efforts will inspire other women in skydiving to get involved, and for more females generally to come and have a go. The jumps went well and we were thrilled with the calibre of the skydivers who attended, making it easy and good fun for us all."

Gareth Thomas is the managing director at Skydive Langar. He said:

"We're very proud to have hosted this new record and thank Hannah, Elise and their team for giving us the opportunity to do so. Skydiving is such a huge passion for all of us and it's fantastic to see boundaries being pushed and new achievements being made right here at our drop zone. Congratulations to everyone involved."

The event was overseen by British Skydiving, the governing body for skydiving in the UK which confirmed the new record. It was judged and verified

by an all female judging team, led by Lucy Westgarth.

She said: "Not only were the records a demonstration of flying skill, but also the commitment to coaching and helping each other as women in the sport. The organisers worked with the judges from the beginning to ensure a successful event. It was a pleasure to confirm they succeeded in both record attempts."

Participants:

Elise Sharp
Hannah Parker
Elizabeth Ashley
Lorene Latour
Karen Whitehouse
Ellie Marshall
Eve Mason
Sophie Smithells
Becky Stevens
Antonia Lock
Reka Szots
Kim Van De Horst
Melanie Oldham



Laura Hampton | Skydive Langar

**The Control Tower, Langar Airfield,
Nottinghamshire, NG13 9HY |
Tel: +44 (0) 1949 860 878**

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Your Councillor's Newsletter

For the Nevile & Langar Ward
Hickling, Upper Broughton, Langar &
Barnstone, Colston Basset,
Kinoulton and Hickling Pastures

This might be a brief newsletter – as I have been very tied up with Planning Applications just recently not to mention the Scarecrow meetings in my home village of Hickling. However, first I must put in a plea for new Parish Councillors.

Some of the Parishes are running without the required number of Councillors and having to cancel meetings when not quorate. You **need** your Parish Council and they **need** you!



**"Your Parish
Council Needs
YOU"**

Rewards

We love our villages and want to see them well run and looked after so please, please, step forward and help. It can be a very rewarding role, especially when you see things being built or put in place that you have helped facilitate – like the new village hall at Barnstone, or a new bench or commemorative garden, complete with Coronation Plaques as at Upper Broughton.

Researching funding is obviously a rewarding task, getting someone to give your village money for a worthy project wow! ! For example, a new play area, a history group, a website or environmental project, traffic calming

scheme or planting trees, even an orchard, just use your imagination, anything is possible. Come on – let's take pride in our villages

Please answer the call by ringing the local Parish Clerk or coming along to a meeting.

Free Trees Campaign Dont Miss out this Year!

Once again Rushcliffe is distributing free trees to residents and Parishes to help combat climate change.

What you can do to keep Rushcliffe green?

You can plant a tree on your own land. Over 10,000 trees have been distributed since the start of the campaign in 2018 and now a further 1,000 hazel, crab apple, wild cherry and rowan or mountain ash are available without charge for those who live in the Borough.

Parishes Can Plant Free Trees

The Borough Council will provide free, up to six native trees per parish /community; a further four trees will be made available to Tree Wardens.

Rushcliffe residents can apply for free trees now, for delivery in winter. You can always become a Tree Warden - talk to your Parish Council. They can have more than one warden. I am sure the more wardens in the Parish the better. You can also volunteer to look after a tree planted by the Parish Council.



Some new trees have died through lack of water and attention, but one tree wouldn't take much time to nurture. Take a bottle of water with you to water your tree every time you walk past. We all need the trees to clean the air we breathe without them we too might die through lack of clean air, water and attention.

20,000 newly planted trees died last year in Gloucester through lack of water and attention. Don't let it happen in Rushcliffe!

UKSPF & REPF

Levelling up Funding

Parish Councils and rural businesses should apply now. It's now or never for this year.

There is still £55,000 to be allocated this year so get your applications in now. It's not an onerous task and there is helpful advice at the end of a phone from Rushcliffe. They are targeting rural projects and businesses so just what the Nevile & Langar Ward need.



The Martin's Arms at Colston Bassett has already received some of this funding as has the Canal and Rivers Trust. Projects large and small from Parishes, Charities, those working from home and Churches - are all considered.

Welcome Break

(a bit of a misnomer!)

I'm sad to report that the application for the Motorway-style service station at Widmerpool Island, Hickling Pastures, was approved despite very strong

opposition, lobbying, councillor intervention and presentations.

A great shame when there are already sites operating within the vicinity that could cater for this apparent need without destroying virgin green field and damaging the environment.

Thank you to everyone who took time to respond to the consultation and attend the Planning Committee meeting. Despite this result, your engagement does make a difference. You have influenced decisions in the past and will again in the future.

If you have any planning queries please get in touch.

Scarecrows

I can't finish without saying what a brilliant Scarecrow event this year. So much effort went into this one. It was for such a worthy cause - Rainbow Children's Hospice.



It was so well received we are still getting organisations asking us to accept further donations for the charity.

So, thank you to all the organisers and volunteers, cake

makers, stall holders, traffic management team, entertainers, scarecrow makers, visitors and many more - Hope to see you again next year.

Cllr Tina Combella

Cllr.t.combellack@rushcliffe.gov.uk

Community Speed Watch

There have been a number of complaints about speeding vehicles in both Langar and Barnstone villages.

After discussions with the local authority and the Nottinghamshire Police Force for our area, the Parish Council were given some funds to invest in the community speed watch programme which is running throughout Nottinghamshire.

We purchased equipment and clothing to commence carrying out speed checks at various places around the two villages.

On Thursday 21st of September the local police held a training course for a number of volunteers to become approved to use the equipment and to carry out health and safety training for using the equipment.

The course was held in the local cement works conference room in Barnstone

and we thank Tarmac for the use of their room and equipment.

The course was well attended and we now have a number of trained volunteers who will commence carrying out speed checks over the next few weeks.

Anyone who is found to be travelling through the villages in excess of the speed limits will be recorded and they will be sent a warning letter from the police advising them of the situation.

The Parish Council hopes this will reduce the speed of vehicles in the area and therefore improve the safety of everyone in the area.

We still have a need for further volunteers who can now be trained by the local team so anyone who would like to help is asked to email the parish council.

Cllr John Crosby
langarbarnstoneclerk@gmail.com

Please pick 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 football 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.



1st Barnstone Brownies

The new Village Hall is tantalisingly close! We can hardly wait to be back in, despite the hospitality shown to us by St. Andrew's Church.

This term we have lost 3 Brownies to football and 1 to karate, whilst 1 has gone on to Guides in Radcliffe.



Three girls have newly joined us and we're expecting 3 more before Christmas. We still have more spaces for Brownies and Adult Helpers.

Congratulations to Claire (Tawny Owl) for gaining her Leadership Award and

also to Freya, Cecily and (almost) Isla for achieving the Gold Award.

This term we are continuing with the Brownie programme and trying out new badges. Brown Owl has the 'Dancing' one in mind!



Events will include the Elton Elf Extravaganza in November and another Christmas Sleepover in December.

Thanks to all Leaders, Brownies and Parents for your commitment and support.

For more information contact dotclayton47@gmail.com
The Owls



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*How far would you go
to support local families?*



www.dovecottage.org/firewalk



Nottinghamshire
Carers
Association

01773 833 833
info@nottinghamshirecarers.co.uk
www.nottinghamshirecarers.co.uk

Change to Services

Notification for Carers Champions (Community and Employment)

Dear Colleagues,

Due to the recommissioning of Carers Services across Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County, there will be changes to the service delivered by Nottinghamshire Carers Association from the 1st October 2023.

Nottinghamshire Carers Association will continue to provide the Carers Engagement, Employment and Carers Space contract for Nottinghamshire County Council. This means that our community engagement work, work with employers building Carer-Friendly workplaces and consultation and co-production work with carers as part of the Carers Space project will continue and develop.

Support with information, guidance and training for community organisations will continue to be delivered, and our Carer Friendly Quality Mark will continue to be awarded. We will also be working closely with carers on co-production and consultation projects and will be able to feed in our links with community organisations to that work.

The Carers in Employment work will also continue in a similar way to its current model. We will be linking with employers, offering training and longer term support to develop Carer Friendly working practices and our Carer Friendly Employer Quality Mark.

The Carers Space network will also continue, working co-productively with the planning group to grow and develop this project, and offer face to face opportunities to speak to carers and gather their views.

I am happy to answer any questions you might have about the changes to our services and any further opportunities to continue working with Nottinghamshire Carers Association. We value your engagement and support. Further information about our services for Health and Education Professionals and Quality Marks will follow in due course.

With kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Yates', on a white rectangular background.

Helen Yates
Service Lead Nottinghamshire Carers Association
Helen.yates@nottinghamshirecarers.co.uk
07773 173708

Carer Awareness Training

We have two dates this year, Wednesday 15th November at 10am and Monday 4th December at 2pm. Booking is via Eventbrite, using the following links:

15th November - <https://bit.ly/3sWBya8>

4th December - <https://bit.ly/44POQCf>



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GRANTHAM CANAL WATER RESTORATION GROUP

Working hard to maintain the water in our Canal

We have facilitated work on the canal to restore and maintain the water in this valuable amenity. We very much feared that this year would see us losing water in the Hickling basin and Kinoulton running dry yet again. However, works that we have managed to get done are proving a success.

- Through negotiation, the Grantham Canal Society (GCS) and the Canal and River Trust (CRT) have repaired the serious leak at culvert 39 near Irish Jack's Bridge.
- There has been remedial action at culvert 42 near Devil's Elbow to reduce water leaks on this largely porous stretch of canal.
- The dredging of reeds to create a channel for water and wildlife in a long stretch of canal. This work, carried out by CRT, was funded by RBC from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Although naturally the reeds appear to be growing back the dredged channel remains and is effective in getting wildlife and water along the canal this is where we need volunteers to help maintain the channel of water.
- The clearance, by GCS of the Smite feeder, a vital but seasonal source of water and requiring constant monitoring and management.
- The rebuilding, by CRT of the Knipton feeder – our primary source of water – and the clearance of the 5km channel/tunnels bringing the water from the reservoir to the canal.

Much remains to be done, however, including three major pieces of work:

- The completion of the repair at culvert 42 and fixing the hole in the 200-year-old culvert. CRT have drawn up a plan that includes relining a 30-metre stretch of the canal at that point and, with our support, are currently seeking funding.

- There is a serious leak at culvert 12 by the Knipton feeder exit that means that, if switched on, most of the water from the feeder would be lost almost immediately. Plans coming together for a repair by GCS and CRT.
- There are dense areas of reed and weed downstream from the Knipton feeder which would reduce the amount of water flowing down to Hickling and beyond.
- A silt solution for the Smite feeder.

Meanwhile GCWRG is pulling together a local volunteer group equipped with a boat, tools and equipment for day-to-day maintenance on the Hickling/Kinoulton part of the canal. The objective is to keep the reeds at bay, clear any other obstructions and detritus and keep the local stretch neat, tidy and working as a canal. With local volunteer help other groups can be set up along the canal. Lady Bay already has a very active group.



one flock, one shepherd, six pastures



The Churchwardens of Wiverton in the Vale
invite you to

The Institution of The Reverend David Rowe

By the Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham,

The Right Reverend Paul Williams

and the

Induction and Installation by the Archdeacon of Nottingham,

The Venerable Phil Williams

as Rector of the Parish of Wiverton in the Vale

on ***Wednesday 8th November 2023 at 7.00pm***

at ***St Andrew's Church, Langar, NG13 9HG***

Followed by light refreshments.

Clergy and Licensed Lay Ministers are invited to robe in the south transept prior to the service.

Clergy and Licensed Lay Ministers vesture is choir dress (with black or blue scarf)

RSVP by 23rd October 2023 to Jane Travis admin@wivertoninthevale.co.uk, 07708 631623

Autumn Traditions

Lammas

Lammas is a festival that symbolically opens the autumn season. Also known as Loaf Mass, it's marked on or around the 1st August and heralds the start of the cereal harvest, which is some of the most risky, back-breaking and important agricultural work of the year. Around this time, the first ears of the cereal crop would be ceremonially reaped and baked into the first bread to be made from the new crop of the autumn and offered up in a temple and, later on, a church.

For those who herd livestock instead of growing corn, Lammas falls halfway through the time of the summer pastures. This meant it was a great time for a meeting up of clans, tribes and families. It also became an opportunity for religious services, feasting, match-making young singles, games and lawsuits.

The health of a harvest was vital for the well being of the community. Until the 17th century, every time the local harvest failed, and the harvest would fail often for a few years in succession in bad decades, people would die of hunger. The number of burials in the local churchyard would more than double.

Harvest itself was laborious and anxiety-inducing. It was very nerve-wracking to be a cereal grower around about July and August because crops, when they've grown tall and high and ripe, are incredibly vulnerable. It just takes one serious storm and the harvest could be destroyed. It can also catch disease from spores blown on the wind or be burned by raiding enemies. And even if none of those things happen, if the harvest is bountiful and the conditions perfect, just the effort of getting it in is back-breaking daily labour. How long depended on the size of the farm but it usually took days to bring it in and with outside assistance.

It depends on the size of the land but the average-sized traditional farm would need help to bring it in. In other words, the family alone wouldn't have been enough to reap it. Later on, farms would usually hire in extra hands for money or for a slap-up meal at the end in order to thank them, or both.

Lammas, of some kind, is celebrated throughout Northern Europe. While known as 'lammas' in English, it's known by other names throughout the continent. For example the Irish call it 'Lughnasadh' and the Welsh 'Gwyl Awst'. The concept of celebrating a beginning of autumn festival is pre-Christian, but Lammas is the Christianised version most commonly recognised today.

Harvest Home

If Lammas is about opening the harvest, Harvest Home is about celebrating the end. It's the conclusion to the year's efforts and sees communities coming together to thank and or pay, those involved. This festival would usually include music, dancing and other entertainment as well as a substantial meal, which was a particular highlight for the poor who would be able to feast to capacity.

The festivities for Home Harvest take place at varying times around the end of the season, depending on the local trade. For example, those communities dependent

on cereal crops might celebrate in August, while those who work predominantly with fruit or vegetable growing experience later harvests so their celebrations often took place in September. Likewise fishing communities, who harvest at sea, would welcome home fleets at the end of September as the weather worsens so their events would take place then. And finally, those involved in herding livestock would have gathered in October.

It stands to reason that the term 'Home Harvest' may have also been referred to by alternative terms, but essentially a gathering, or reunion, of communities to celebrate the end of harvest was historically experienced by all sorts of harvesting communities.

While Home Harvest doesn't traditionally align with the autumn equinox, in the 20th century it's become a widely observed festival for those interested in nature-related or nature-based spirituality or religion, such as modern Paganism. This is because people have largely broken away from personal involvement in the farming or fishing cycle. Home Harvests are less common too, mostly because the mechanisation of agriculture means farmers generally need less input from others. Instead it's been replaced by Harvest Festivals held in churches and Harvest Home celebrations for entire communities like villages, rather than working groups. For this reason the celebrations are observed on different weekends during August and early September so different villages can attend each others celebrations.

Halloween

Perhaps the most well-known of the autumn festivals is Halloween. But its traditional origins do not reflect the spooky costuming or sweet exchanges we see today. Essentially Halloween, celebrated today on 31st October, is the ancient Northern European festival to mark the opening of winter and the end of autumn. At the same time communities traditionally prepare for the bleakness of winter so the festivities tended to have a darker approach to celebrating.

Typically this is the time of year where people in an ancient medieval community who have been away for the summer herding, fighting, trading or on pilgrimage would be returning to settle for the winter. The harvest would be in, the beer brewed and the animals that couldn't be fed through the winter had been slaughtered so fresh meat is readily available. On the other hand, everyone was facing the most terrifying season of all, winter.

Not dissimilar to today, even the best winters will provide dirt, isolation, claustrophobia, cold, dark, a lack of greenery and an immense potential for boredom and depression. In a bad year, and of particular concern to our ancestors, winter will also bring famine, epidemic disease and hypothermia.

Mocking the spirits of dark and cold and fear has always been a part of these earliest Halloween festivities. One such tradition is the carving of faces in vegetables and the creation of glowing lanterns. We see this continue today but the widespread popularity of pumpkin carving is actually an American practice. Here in England we carved turnips or mangel-wurzels, which are larger versions of turnips. Still, this practice wasn't associated with Halloween until the 19th and 20th centuries so it's relatively new compared to the historic roots of Halloween.



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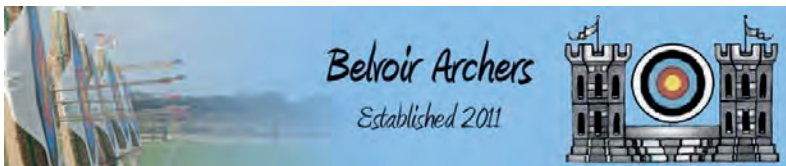
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The Summer months have seen a lot of Archery competitions taking place for Belvoir Archers, as well as our normal Club nights of Tuesday and Thursday and Saturday afternoon.

We had several competitions and our attendance at Dove Cottage Summer Fete was suspended due to the bad weather.



On 30 July 2023 we hosted the National Crossbow Federation World Record Status shoot. Twelve arbalists attended from across the UK as well as five members of Belvoir Archers. Belvoir Archers took 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th place.



Our WA720 was scheduled to take place on 15 July 2023 but it took place on the 29 July 2023. We had 42 archers taking part at this rearranged event from as far as Bridlington, and Burnham. This included including 5 crossbows.

We attended 'Have a go for Dove Cottage' at their rearranged Fete on 9 July. We welcomed over 107 people to try archery and we donated half of the money we raised to Dove Cottage.

Our Founders' Shoot had to be abandoned after two hours due to a lightning storm. Prize giving and our AGM took place in Langar School. We are very grateful to Tom from the Village Hall Users Committee for assisting with a venue for us.

Congratulations to Clare Brown who won the Founders' Trophy.

August saw the Last of the Nottinghamshire Archery Society's Competition. Congratulations to Scott Watton and Cliff Archer who won the Men's Longbow County League trophy on pure score.

Scott Watton attended the Derbyshire Archery Championship in September. Against strong competition Scott came away with the Visitors' Winning trophy. We will be holding our Winter competition on 7 October 2023.

Belvoir Archers will continue to shoot on the Community field over the winter months. We have our Boxing Day competition to look forward to as well as the new Village Hall.

If you are interested in trying archery, 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



We already use 100% renewable electricity, each site has an energy efficiency target, and we are looking at ways to optimise and reduce energy and improve performance.

We have had a steady summer down at the works, safety remains top of our agenda and it is a positive aspect of our business and does not interfere with the efficient running of the plant.

We launched our Step In Campaign this year. This is all about protecting ourselves and others to keep everyone safe. It's part of our Safety golden thread, one of our three shared business priorities along with Sustainability and Inclusion and Diversity.

Step In' is all about encouraging everyone to challenge a colleague or someone (no matter who they are) when something doesn't feel safe at work. By doing so you are potentially protecting people and their families from harm.

Over July and August we launched our Net Zero Roadmap and set out our plan to achieve net zero by 2050.

We are committed to transiting 100% of our company cars and van fleet to electric by 2030, we are reducing the amount of CO₂ used and we are looking at ways to optimise our product design. Full details of our road map can be found on the Tarmac website.

www.tarmac.com

As we come in to autumn and winter and with safety in mind please be vigilant when walking through the works as the evenings draw in, we have plenty of lighting round the Wiggly Waggly Way and would encourage use of the foot path, our gardening team will continue to work through the autumn and winter months to keep the pathways clear and tidy.

As always our door is always open if you have any concerns, please come and see us.

The Barnstone Team



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Just over a year ago we moved into Tarmac premises as our old hall came tumbling down. The staff at Tarmac have been very good to us and have put up with all sorts coming and going, staying and leaving. We will be sad to leave, but we must return to the Community Hall.

Well, the time for moving into the new Hall is drawing closer and I think that we can safely say we are looking forward to being able to utilise the new building to our best advantage. You only have to see the lovely big windows at the front of the new hall to see that we will have light! Wonderful thing for artists.

We have also discovered that if we move the hall chairs and tables around a bit on our return we can be more social. Not that we aren't, but the configuration will change from the Covid 2 metres apart, to something a bit cosier.

We will be looking out for some artists to come and give us demonstrations and to teach us how they paint, draw, sketch, embroider – whatever they can to widen our horizons artistically in the future. That said I have had communication with Julie Powell and she has offered to give us a workshop on how to draw faces! When I asked the Group it was a resounding 'YES!!!' Date yet to be set, but as she is tied up for November/December and then

Christmas, I suggested a Tuesday from mid January 2024. Watch this space!

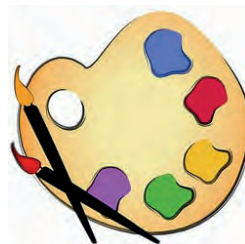
I have just noticed that perhaps we will need to renew our logo moving into the new hall. Luke what about it, similar, but with the venue details corrected?

I am delighted to say that we have the return of two members after a break for them both. Welcome back Jane Morris and Pat Allen, great to have you back in the Group.

We will also be on the lookout for new members - as always. Our annual subscription is a mere £1! You pay £2 per session attended. So, anyone out there interested in giving it a go and joining a group of like minded artistic people, please contact me for further information.

Gillian Clarke

philigansgc@gmail.com or telephone me on 01949748288.



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corn	apple	cider	acorn	hay	November
October	September	leaf	haystack	football	cornucopia
brown	yellow	ripe	red	rake	orange
moon	changing	colorful	chilly	turkey	pilgrim
harvest	farm	scarecrow	feast	gourd	pumpkin
deciduous	fall	autumn			

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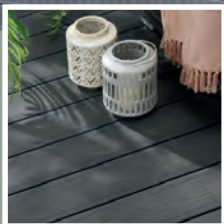
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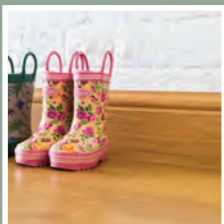
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Support to Promote our new Community Hall

Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire (RCAN) is looking forward to working with Langar and Barnstone Parish Council and the Community Hall Users' Committee to help relaunch and promote your new Community Hall.

The collaboration is Supported by Rushcliffe Borough Council's Shared Prosperity Funding. This is a great opportunity for us to help you shout about your fabulous new facility.

We want to help encourage new user groups and other potential hirers as well as welcoming back previous groups and organisations who have been well looked after by Tarmac, St. Andrew's Church and Langar Primary School, whilst the new hall has been built.

The new hall is a versatile space, with a well equipped kitchen and additional meeting room. It is available to hire seven days a week.

If you are interested in setting up a new interest group or would like to host a children's party or family celebration, perhaps your business could use the space for training or holding an external

meeting, or maybe you know a small business that wants to bring its services the people of Langar and Barnstone.

Whatever your enquiry, the booking manager would love to hear from you. RCAN are available to support any residents who are interested in starting a new interest group, whether it's a gaming club, gardening club or lunch club that you feel might benefit from utilising the facility we would love to hear from you.

The new community hall is a fabulous asset and RCAN want to help ensure it remains the community hub at the heart of the two villages, offering a variety of activities and events that cater for all residents.

For booking information please contact:
Tom McHarg -
him@thomasmcharg.plus.com
0115 860384

To start a new user group please contact: enquiries@rcan.org.uk
0115 6975800



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‘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