

Newtown Linford Magazine

ISSUE NUMBER 201

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February 2023

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The Bradgate

Group Parish



Some of you will know that before Christmas our third child, a daughter, Abigail, was born. She's now something over two months old and doing well. But her birth forced me to deal again with one of my least favourite tasks. Not changing nappies, that's a walk in the park. No, choosing godparents.

When I was growing up, I saw my godparents all the time. But then we moved house, lost touch somewhat. Cards still came, but the last time I saw any of them was at my ordination in 2002. By then I had become a godparent myself – the awesome responsibility of helping parents raise their child to know and love Jesus was now mine. My oldest godchild is now 23 (nearly a doctor!), the youngest recently turned 7. I think there are 6 of them, I lose track.

And then I had my own children. To be honest, the first selection of godparents was quite easy – there was significant overlap with the bridal party from our wedding just a couple of years previously. Then along came our son, and while it wasn't hard, it required a bit more thought. Whose own faith would provide a good example? Who would be able to give good advice in years to come? The baptism came and went and I breathed a sigh of relief.

And then along came Abigail. Who was left? Who might say yes if asked? I exaggerate a little – we are delighted in the set of godparents who are lined up.

The qualities of a good godparent are straightforward. Remember birthdays! Try to be present in their life, so that they know they can turn to you and trust you perhaps with conversations and things they find hard to open up over with their parents. But also remember to pray for your godchild, remember that the promise you made at baptism was a promise to help them discover and own Christian faith for themselves.

My best memory as a godparent is when my oldest godchild, fresh at university, let me know that she had decided, after some teenage hesitation, to follow Jesus. I hope Abigail's godparents get to have the same conversation one day.

Richard Trethewey, Rector of All Saints' Newtown Linford

VILLAGE DIARY

February

10th Wine Tasting Village Hall
28th Gardening Club—Growing Hostas

March

4th Rummage Sale, Village Hall

Regular events

Mondays

9.30 Slimming & Fitness, The Linford
1.30 Dance Fitness for 50+ Linford
5.30 Brownies at “The Linford”
Bell Ringing 8pm at the Church

4th Tuesday of the month

Gardening Club

4th Wednesday of the month

Art Club in Church
Gentleman's Club Bradgate PH

Wednesdays

10.30 and 6.30 Bodyblast Classes The Linford
Quiz nights at The Linford 8pm start

Thursdays

11.15 Coffee Mornings Village Hall
6.15 Slimming & Fitness, The Linford

Fridays

9:30 Jolly Tots, The Church

Saturday



Jolly Tots Playgroup



Friday Mornings

All Saints Church, Newtown Linford

9:30am - 11am

We are a friendly group of parents, grandparents, carers of babies and children up to reception age (4years).

We have lots of fun with toys, crafts, stories and Singalong.

There will be hot drinks for Adults
and Cold drinks and snacks for Children.

All Welcome.

For more information or if you would like to help in any way -
please contact Ann 07925 919 618 or Carolyn 07896 960 676

COFFEE & CAKE ROTA FEBRUARY 2023 to March 2023

February

- 2nd Maria Simms, Vicki Kerr & Friend 07974 085434: 07904 123603
9th Lesley Cook, Chris A, Ann Scrine 245208: 242432: 481928
16th Carol Ann, June Hallam, Fiona Bradley, Elspeth 243433:
Lei 2304808
23rd Jenny C, Sue Howard, Charlotte T, Gilly 245373: 07896 349977: 242959

*Coffee Morning
Everyone Welcome*



March

- 2nd Janet & David Brunton Angela & Adrian McNamee
242662
9th Sue Morran, Sarah Brown, Teresa Calvert 07810 116641:
07811 166161: 07469 719018
16th Joe & Claire Costello with Bakers help 249613
23rd Margaret Bloor, Sue Clarke, Sue Birkett 07713 457414: 242000:
244317
30th Bev Griffiths, Sue Dobby 01509 890264: 245366

Thank you to Sue & Alan Birkett for their efforts making Turkey Sandwiches for the Xmas gathering

Please swap with someone else if you are unable to do your duty. Pass on the hall key to the next people on duty.

An opportunity for everyone to catch up on Village news and activities and to meet your fellow neighbours

Rota Volunteers - If you are struggling with putting the tables and chairs out for your duty Joe Costello 249613 has offered to help if around and will ask someone else to help him as well.. **Carol Ann**

Christmas Greetings for Charity

Thank you to all the villagers who supported once again this year. We raised £200 with a kind donation of £20 from an anonymous villager.

Village Good News Stories

Many Congratulations to Dr Alicia (formerly Newtown Linford Primary School & Loughborough Girls Grammar) on your recent successes. Well done on attaining your recent Paediatric fellowship (MRCPCH) and your position as Paediatric Registrar in the Manchester Children's Hospital.

Also extended warmest wishes on your engagement to Dr Alex Parker last year.

We are all looking forward to 2023 & the upcoming celebrations.

Love Mum & Dad, Naomi, Aaron and Nathan.



NEWTOWN LINFORD VILLAGE RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday 4th March 2023

1.30pm in the Village Hall

Admission 50p

Tea and Home Made Cakes



Are you Spring Cleaning?


If so and you are outting unwanted clothes and bric-a-brac - please will you remember we are having a rummage sale and would be very grateful for any donations.



The Village hall will be open to drop off any of your rummage on Friday 3rd March and again on Saturday morning the day of the sale from 9am!

If anyone is able to make a cake for the event or have any unwanted Xmas tombola or raffle prizes also pickles, chutneys or conserves they would be received with thanks

The event is being organised and run by the following village organisations

Brownies 

Coffee & Cake

Jolly tots

Village Hall Committee

Pre school

**For further information please contact Hannah Shaw
01530 249945 E mail: clerk@newtownlinford.org.uk**



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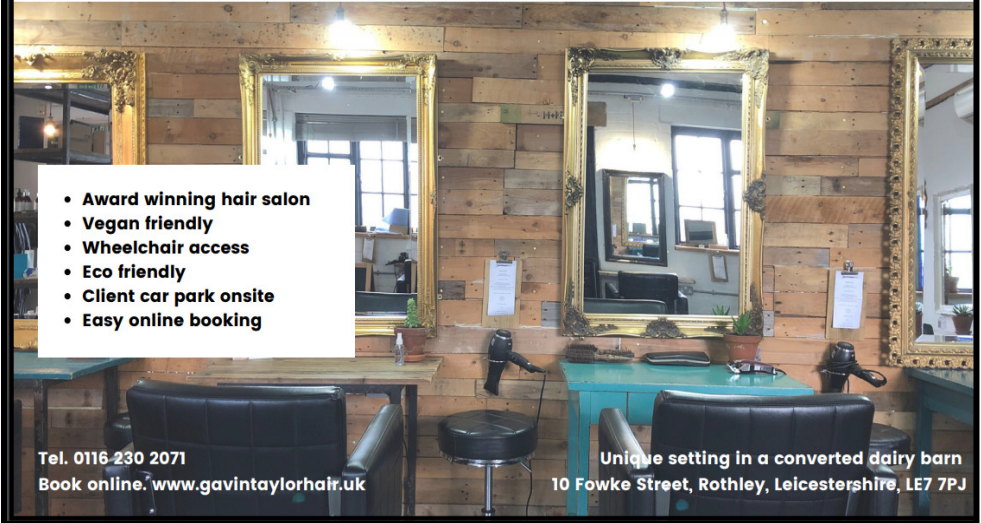
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Brownies

An exciting month for Christmas activities, starting with us decorating the tree at the Linford, we made decorations representing brownies from around the world and hung them on the tree, we made stockings and played brownie games.

We also decorated a 3ft tree for the church for their mini Christmas tree festival.

On the 5th of December we had our brownies Christmas party, we all took food and drink to share, dressed up in our Christmas outfits and played games like musical chairs, snowball fight and 'the hat game'

On Thursday 15th of December





we joined the Newtown Linford Choral Society, we sang Christmas songs, Rudolf the red-nosed reindeer, jingle bell rock, and Santa Claus is coming town. It was very scary singing to lots of people! We listened to the brass quintet and other carols, followed by a drink and a snack.

By Amelia Winter Age 9



PICCOLLA



**THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE
ANNOUNCE A**

WINE TASTING EVENING

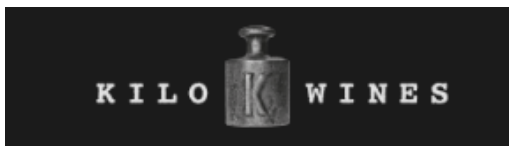
**Friday 10th February 2023
at 19:30 in the Village Hall**

- ✓ A tutored tasting featuring 9 wines from Italy
- ✓ A range of family produced sparkling, white, rose and red wines
- ✓ Tips for choosing a good wine
- ✓ Find out about how wines are made, and a little about the trade
- ✓ Get your questions answered, eliminate some myths or simply try something different
- ✓ A fun evening for all (sorry, over 18's only)
- ✓ Retail cost of wines varying from around £8 to £30
- ✓ Includes some deli-board style food

**Tickets from Toby Manning, 245298,
wine@tobymanning.co.uk or from any Committee Member**

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Village Ramblers - Pre-Christmas Meet

On a very cold but beautiful morning a small group of us plus one dog, set out from the Village Hall and walked up to Hunts Hill car park via the outside of the park wall. We then crossed into Shephed Lane and took the Leicester-shire Round footpath which eventually leads down to the Lingdale Golf Course. Conditions underfoot were hard if a little slippery in places.

After pausing for a photograph, most of the group stayed for lunch in the clubhouse and were joined by

Glenis and John.
After a good lunch
and excellent ser-
vice from staff at
the Golf Club,
some of us re-
turned by car,
whilst a few of the
group walked
back through the
park.

Village Ramblers - January 2023 Walk

After a very wet
morning, condi-
tions improved in
time for our first walk of the new year and gave us a bright, fresh after-
noon. Having met at Lesley's house, 10 walkers plus 2 dogs crossed
Roecliffe Road and entered the park to do a pleasant circuit, keeping fairly
high to avoid the worst of the mud before returning down the same track
and gathering at Lesley's for tea and cake .

If anyone is interested in joining one of the walks - which normally take
place on the second Saturday of each month, please drop me an email-
foggo1@virginmedia.com. Everyone is welcome, including well-behaved
dogs!

Sarah Fane- Forester



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Newtown Linford Gardening Club

www.newtownlinford.org.uk/gardening-club.html

We begin our year with a speaker who has attracted a lot of attention in her short career as a garden designer. Four years ago, Nicola Oakey was the only female finalist in the RHS Young Gardener of the Year competition. She completed her diploma in garden design nine years ago and yet, two years later, won her first gold medal at Gardeners' World Live. In 2018 she won the Pro Landscapers '30 under 30' award recognising her as one of the UK's up and coming garden designers.



After working with Adam Frost for three years she has now set up her own garden design studio in Rutland.

We are fortunate to be able to welcome her before she becomes really famous.

In April we have secured the services of Jim Buttress who has national recognition for his work with the Royal Parks and Gardens including Hyde Park, St James's Park, Kensington Palace, Greenwich Park and Buckingham Palace. He has also featured on some television programmes including 'The Big Allotment Challenge'. He was due to come to us last year, but an accident prevented him from travelling. We are, however, delighted to be able to invite him back this year and, with a coronation due later this year, it is very appropriate to hear about the Royal Gardens.

These are but two of the exciting events we have scheduled for this year, and we have several interesting events still to look forward to.

Fertiliser and Compost.

We are again offering to members a chance to obtain Vitax Fertiliser at a discount rate to be delivered in early February. This has proved very popular over the year. The price this year will be £6.40 for a large bag. It is to be used sparingly so it will go a long way. You may place your order at the January meeting or by responding to this newsletter with an email or telephone call.

We are also offering, at a discount price, 50 litre bags of Sylvagrow which is a peat-free compost. This product has been recommended by some of our members as being much better than the Westland product we tried last year. These bags will be ordered for early April and will cost £5.40.

More details of our Club can be found on the internet or by contacting us on 01530 242452.

Anne and David Couling

Markfield Lane and Groby Lane roadside verges

End of season conservation work has been completed on the wildlife sections of the verges - cutting the grass, waiting a few days for the wildflower seeds to drop on to the ground, and then raking up and removing the cuttings, or 'arisings,' which helps improve the conditions for wildflowers. We also decided to sow Yellow Rattle seeds in sec-



tions of both verges, and in the wildlife area on the fringe of the Bob Bown Field. Yellow Rattle is an annual which is semi-parasitic and 'feeds' on grasses, thus weakening them and giving other wildflowers a chance to get established.

Not mowing during most of the growing season isn't just about wildflowers and helping bees, butterflies and other pollinators. As NatureSpot (<https://www.naturespot.org.uk/>) says: "The taller vegetation means lots of insects and other invertebrates can now find a home in the moist and protected interior - providing vital food for hedgehogs, birds, frogs, small mammals and other creatures."

Land at the bottom of Markfield Lane

As you may know, the Parish Council is exploring the possibility of adopting a small area by the River Lin, next to the bridge at the bottom of Markfield Lane. This land isn't registered with HM Land Registry and they hold no records of its ownership. The Parish Council is interested to learn if anyone knows of any maintenance or management work that has previously been carried out there. If the P.C. does adopt this land, Newtown Linford Biodiversity has offered to manage it and would invite ideas from local residents on how best to look after the area, and improve it for people and wildlife.

Nest boxes

As previously reported, last year blue tits were seen going in and out of three out of the five nest boxes purchased by the Parish Council following the successful Shire Environment Grant application. When the box-



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es were taken down for cleaning – another task for the autumn - we discovered that all five had been used!

Nests of most birds harbour fleas and other parasites, which can remain and infest young birds that hatch the following year. The R.S.P.B. recommend that old nests are removed in the autumn, after the birds have stopped using the

nests. They advise using boiling water to kill any parasites, and letting the box dry out thoroughly before replacing the lid. Insecticides and flea powders must not be used.

Claire Costello cecostello25@gmail.com

SUNDAY SERVICES February 2023



DATE	NEWTOWN	GLENFIELD
5 th February Third Sunday before Lent		8.30am Holy Communion
	10am Brownie Thinking Day Service John Woolmer	9.30am Breakfast Church
12 th February Second Sunday before Lent	10am Holy Communion John Woolmer	10am Holy Communion
		4.30pm Holy Communion
19 th February Sunday before Lent	10am Holy Communion Richard Trethewey	10am Morning Worship
		3pm All Age Worship
22 nd February Ash Wednesday		10.30am Holy Communion
	7.30pm Holy Communion Richard Trethewey	
26 th February First Sunday of Lent	10am Morning Prayer Richard Trethewey	10am Holy Communion

Midweek Holy Communion

Newtown Linford 10.15am, Thursday 2nd February

Glenfield 10.30am, Wednesday 1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd February

CHURCH REGISTERS

WEDDINGS

- None



BAPTISMS

23 October - Viola Hatton
27 November - Reuben Eaton

We welcome them in to the Church Family

FUNERALS

24 November - Gillian Cooper
15 December - Dennis Davey
3 January - Roy Hand



We extend our sympathy and prayers to the family and friends, and pray that they may find peace through faith in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Online Services

<https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsnewtownlinford/live>

<https://www.facebook.com/stpetersglenfield/live>

Church Contact Details

Revd Richard Trethewey
(Rector) 0116 287 1604
richard@allsaintsnewtownlinford.org.uk

Hayley Moore (Church Administrator)
0116 239 3768

office@bradgatechurches.org.uk
www.allsaintsnewtownlinford.org.uk

Church Wardens: Michele Petty, m.petty@ulverscroft.co.uk,
Jane Woolmer, ejwoolmer@gmail.com.

Regular Events - Bell ringer's practice: Monday 8pm

Website: www.allsaintsnewtownlinford.org.uk



Gillian Cooper (Gilly) June 28th 1934 - November 5th 2022

Gilly passed away aged 88 years peacefully after spending her last few years at Cedar Mews Care Home. She was the life and soul of the family and will be greatly missed. A True Yorkshire Celebration of her life was held in the Church with a hint of Quakerism. She had been part of many religious communities through her life, supporting the villages she lived in, but her faith was really Quakerism.

Gilly had lived in her beloved Yorkshire in Malhamdale most of her life and came to Newtown Linford Leicester for the last 20 years to live near her daughter when more support was needed. She had led a very full life running a Hotel in the Dales making everything for her guests. She was fully immersed in the village at the same time supporting the Women's institute, Young Farmers, Church, the local farming community and the local Annual Show to name just a few.

The family would like to thank everyone for their kindness welcoming her and Alan her husband to the village and their kind words of support on her passing



Newtown Linford Primary School

The children had a wonderful time making memories at Christmas and took part in several events, including the Christmas Fayre, Christmas plays and nativities at the Church. Our window looked fantastic thanks to our resident artist Miss Botterill and the tree that was kindly donated by Cook's Farm was stunning.



The children loved the opportunity to showcase their musical talent at 'Coffee and Cake' where our hand bell band played and our choir sang. We are so impressed with how far how children have come in just a few weeks.

We have a lot more still to look forward to this year. This term we are going to The Curve to see 'Room on the Broom' and will be visiting 'Think Tank' which is a science museum in Birmingham.

We do still have some places available for children in KS2. If you would like to look round our school then please contact the school office:

office@newtown.bepschools.org

Mrs Proudman and Mrs Kennedy (Co-Headteachers)

Village Archive. Life in 1965

Looking through the archive, I came across the Newtown Linford, Women's Institute, Jubilee Scrapbook, 1965. The scrapbook which was compiled with great care, and with many photographs, is absolutely fascinating. Sadly the authors are unknown but it must have taken many hours. There is great deal of information about all of the organisations in the Village at that time. The following is just a snapshot.

Church services on Sundays were attended on an average by between 70 and 80 people. Weekdays activities were well supported and included a Women's Fellowship Group supporting a hospital in Nigeria. There were 21 in the Church Choir, and more tenors were required (as today!)

The Brownie pack had restarted in May that year and the numbers in the scouts and cubs had grown steadily. The Sunday School was attended by 36 children and the noise is described as *"being terrific!"* The author goes on to say that all is quiet for the opening service taken by Mr J Ayling, and then the children are divided into four classes. Painting, crayoning, cutting up pictures and modelmaking were enjoyed while they learned a hymn or prayer.

"At harvest festival the children bring baskets of produce and harvest gifts to form a procession to the church and the service is popular with parents and children. One thing never fails to amuse on these occasions. The smallest child carries the largest basket! Tiny tots stagger, along with huge marrows and trugs of outsize onions, but the teenagers nonchalantly turn up with half a dozen eggs in a small basket or a bunch of flowers. However, woe betide any teacher foolish enough to try and share the load."

Property, sales and auctions are included, and record *"how great interest was raised as soon as one of the old cottages became vacant or put up for sale. One large house (Heyday Hayes) was purchased with the intention of it becoming a hotel for older people. The scheme was approved but found unfeasible. Incidentally there was a public enquiry in June 1965 when the Parish Council supported the County Council in their refusal to allow building development on a large scale behind Markfield Lane.*

The scrapbook also records *"remarkable changes having been made involved in turning the old sheep dip into a bungalow (Stone Cottage) and a single storey cowshed, 33 Main St, into an attractive house"*

Butcher, Baker, Candlestick maker:-

"One butcher came to the village daily and another twice a week. 2 bakers brought bread etc on three days a week and a candlestick maker rang his bell to announce his arrival on a Tuesday and sold polish,

paraffin powders and paints. Two milkmen and one milkmaid serve the village every day. Three laundries called for washing and a fishman came twice a week. A greengrocer called three times a week and the newsagent met the buses coming from Leicester sorting the newspapers in the living room of the cottage."

The grocers van came twice a week and the shop at 15 Main Street had recently been converted into a self service store.

A magazine for children was produced by Roger Gimson, aged 14, three times a year for the "*amusement of friends and relatives*, "Stoneywell Magazine" price 3d (about 9p) A copy is included in the scrapbook.

There is even a weather report and it seems to have been a gloomy summer. The hottest day was on 14th May - 26c. Rainfall was 33.65 inches (annual average 24.2 inches), Sunshine 1150 hours (annual average 1289 hours). The most snowy day was 20th March, when 4 inches was recorded. (all pre-metric).

There is so much more contained in this book and I would be delighted to share it with anyone who has an interest in the history of the village. Please give me a call and come and have a coffee with me (there may even be cake).

Iris Sayer 01530 243822



Stone Cottage, Groby Lane.

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VILLAGE HALL NEWS
November 2022

Toby Manning,
Village Hall Committee Chairman

AGM. On 16th January we held our AGM in the Village Hall.

As the Drama Society is in the throes of closure (see page 42), Peter Upton, their nominee, has stood down from the Committee as also has Margaret Bloor, and we thank them both for their service. I am pleased to say that we have two excellent replacements: Jonny Appleton and Jason Hall. We welcome them both to the Committee.

The existing officers (myself, Peter Rose and Janet Brunton) were re-elected respectively as Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary.

During the 3 months to 31st December we had a net surplus of income over expenditure of £658. This included £548 from the successful Advent Christmas Fayre and £270 from the Choral Society's "Come and Sing". It was also unseasonably warm. Despite this, we remain concerned about

the cost of fuel, both gas and electricity, and we are looking at further ways of reducing our expenditure without adversely affecting users. This may include replacing existing fluorescent tubes with led lights.

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Wine Tasting

Elsewhere in the Magazine (pg. 10) is an advert for the Wine Tasting evening that we are holding on 10th February. As I write tickets (price £25) are still available from myself at 245298 or wine@tobymanning.co.uk .

To book the Village Hall, please email clerk@newtownlinford.org.uk or call 01530 249945 during office hours.

Toby Manning

Information from David Snartt.

Planning update Markfield Lane.

I am pleased to see the latest submissions to the consultation process for the planning application P/22/1031/2 for up to 150 dwellings, on land south of Markfield Lane.

I note National Highways have now responded. They recommend that the application is not determined for a period of three months from the date of their notice (21st December 2022). It seems one of the reasons for this delay is to assess the cumulative impact of the other planning applications in the bigger area (which includes Anstey) on the Strategic Road Network.

You may recall this was one of my concerns, especially as there are proposals to develop a further 1,000 plus dwellings within Anstey. In my view, if all of these planning applications were successful it would certainly see extra traffic through the village to access the M1 and other locations to the north of the village.

I also note Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council object to this application. In their submission they say, Markfield has a Neighbourhood Plan which allocates a substantial and sufficient amount of housing in the village. The Neighbourhood Plan meeting all the criteria of paragraph 14 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

Again, I alluded to the Markfield Neighbourhood Plan when I attended the appeal hearing for the other adjacent application for up to 93 dwellings adjacent to Ashby Road. I am still waiting for the decision notice from the Inspector.

If you would like to see the all the submissions to the consultation process please visit Charnwood Borough Council website, Planning Portal. The information is under planning application number P/22/1031/2.

Draft Budget For 2023/24

Charnwood Borough Council has produced a draft budget for 2023/24 which was considered by the Council's Cabinet on the 15th December. The Cabinet resolved to endorse the draft budget for consultation. This budget looks to spend around £20 million on services for the Borough. This does include a proposal to increase the Charnwood element of Council Tax by £5 across the year, or about 9p a week for a band D property. The Council does not want to raise even the small element of Council Tax, but the Council feels this is necessary to help protect front-line services as they continue to look for ways to operate more efficiently. Historically, Charnwood Borough Council has one of the lowest rates of Council Tax in the country.

The Council is responsible for a wide range of services including; col-

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lecting recycling and refuse from more than 70,000 homes in the Borough; supporting homeless people; managing open spaces including the Outwoods; emptying dog bins, litter bins; street cleaning; food safety inspections; licensing of pubs, clubs and taxis; operating Loughborough markets; operating three leisure centres; handling planning applications and strategic planning and operating 24/7 CCTV system.

More information about the draft budget can be found on the Council's website www.charnwood.gov.uk/budgetsummary.

Charnwood Local Plan 2021 to 2037

Hearing sessions will resume at 9.30am on Tuesday 7th February 2023, Victoria Room, Town Hall, Loughborough. Matters, issues and questions have been produced by the Inspectors. These include any questions which have not been addressed during the hearing sessions which have taken place thus far and any supplementary questions stemming from the Inspector's consideration of the Leicester and Leicestershire housing and employment unmet needs. The updated programme and guidance note have also been produced for the resumed hearings.

The Inspectors have been appointed by the Secretary of State to examine the soundness of the Local Plan. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) makes it clear that, to be sound, a local plan should be positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with the NPPF.

There are three possible outcomes to the examination: The submitted plan is sound: The submitted plan is not sound but could be made sound by changes (known as main modifications), if necessary following additional work: The submitted plan is not sound and could not be made sound by changes.

As previously stated, I have sent my written submissions to the Inspectors, especially my concerns about the proposed developments within Anstey and the proposal to develop land close to Woodthorpe, which encroaches into the Woodhouse Parish.

All the details with key dates about the future hearings starting in February can be found on the Charnwood Borough Council's website, Charnwood Local Plan 2021-37 Examination.

Stay in the Loop.

Charnwood residents are being urged to stay in the loop with news from Charnwood Borough Council by signing up to e-mail alerts. There are now over 16,000 subscribers to a range of topics to help keep people informed about Council services and news.

The e-mail alerts are particularly useful for any changes to services, community events which involve the Council and to find out where support and advice may be available, either from the Council or a range of its partners.

To sign up to the Council's e-mail alerts, please visit www.charnwood.gov.uk/alerts. I understand not everyone uses e-mail, therefore I am grateful to the Parish Magazine for allowing me to keep residents up to date with relevant news items.

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Hannah Shaw, Parish
Council Clerk

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 2022



On behalf of all associated with the Operation Christmas Child project and All Saints Church, I would like to thank everyone who so generously donated a shoe box to the appeal. My thanks also to the team at Ulverscroft Limited in Anstey who added to our contribution.

A total of 23 shoe boxes were taken to the drop off point (St Theodore's Church, Rushey Mead).

It was absolutely amazing to talk to the team at St Theodore's as they gathered together and packed individual shoe boxes into larger boxes for onward transportation, and ultimately, delivery to a child somewhere in the world. Our contribution became part of more than 600 of those larger boxes, and what is even better is the realisation that the number of children who will have had smiles on their faces this Christmas, will have been helped by the part we have played.



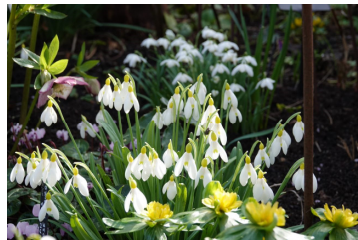
Sincere thanks,

Michele Petty
Church Warden, All
Saints Church



National Garden Scheme Snowdrop Festival Leicestershire open gardens February 2023

We start the gardening year in 2023 with our Snowdrop Festival. These gardens are opened in February by our Snowdrop enthusiasts and we can see beautiful and rare varieties on display. Besides snowdrops, there are also many early flowers such as Aconites, Hellebores, and Cyclamen together with our favourite winter shrubs including the lovely scented Hamamelis. There is something irresistible about snowdrops. With their delicate nodding flowers, they lift our spirits and tell us spring is coming.



Leicestershire National Garden scheme has 3 gardens which are part of the nationwide Snowdrop festival, starting with The Acers at 10 The Rills, Hinckley, LE10 1NA. This garden opens on Sunday 19th Feb from 10.30-4pm. The garden owner is a keen collector, having amassed over 200 varieties of snowdrops for visitors to see. There will be homemade tea and cakes and free admission for children.

On the other side of the County there are two gardens opening both Saturday and Sunday of the weekend of 25th and 26th February, from 11-4 on both days and with fabulous displays of snowdrops. Hedgehog Hall Loddington Road, Tilton on the Hill LE7 9DE opens a small garden full of snowdrops and early flowers, all carefully displayed on terraces, a great way to view snowdrops.

The second garden opening over that weekend is in Great Glen, at Westview 1 St Thomas's Road LE8 9EH. In addition to 300 varieties of snowdrops, there will be winter colour provided by cyclamen, hellebores, winter aconites, ranunculus ficaria, iris reticulata and early narcissus complimented by evergreen ferns, box and yew hedging

For this opening late in February the owners also expect there to be crocus, and the scented shrubs, Hamamelis, Sarcococca and Daphne, to be in flower providing colour and scent. Teas and cakes will be on sale, and the garden owners are also providing homemade soup and bread rolls to fend off any winter chill.

Visiting one of our lovely snowdrop gardens helps nursing and cancer charities. Thanks to the generosity of garden owners, our volunteers and garden visitors, in 2022 The National Garden Scheme donated over £3.11 million to our best loved charities, including Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie, Hospice UK and The Queen's Nursing Institute.

For further details of our open gardens, accessibility, directions and admission fees and details, visit www.ngs.org.uk

All Saints Christmas Tree Festival, 2022. (Can you find all the trees in the magazine)

Thanks to Hannah Shaw, our Parish Clerk, a Christmas Advent Fayre was arranged in the late afternoon of Thursday 1st December to coincide with the first of the Advent Windows created round the Village. Venues for entertainment, refreshments, gift shopping etc included the Primary School and the Village Hall, while All Saints Church opened its doors to a Christmas Tree Festival. We could not match the number or size of trees at St Mary's, Melton Mowbray, for example, but our trees were limited to 3 feet in height and using battery lights only, which meant that many could be placed on window sills and so be seen through the church windows.



Choir Tree

Village organisations put a lot of thought and effort into trees representing their activities, as can be seen in the photographs. These included the Primary School, Caroline and Claire's Preschool, Village Hall, Coffee and Cake, Friends of Charnwood Forest, Brownies, Biodiversity, Choral Society, Cricket Club, Gardening Club, Tennis Club and the Parish Council. The overhead fairy lights and our large Christmas Tree (courtesy of Viv Brown) added to the festive atmosphere and, best of



Biodiversity Tree



Cricket Tree



Coffee and cake tree



Friends of Charnwood Forest tree

of all, we were able to retain the trees for the whole of December, including all our Christmas services. A dedicated group of volunteers already open the church daily and so we had a great many visitors, to judge by the appreciative comments in our Visitors Book.



Village Hall Tree



Pre School Tree



School Tree



Tennis Tree

Many thanks to Hannah for her organisation of the whole event and to all the volunteers who created the tree display. **Marilyn Upstone**



Newtown Linford Neighbourhood Watch - A member of the Parish Council



The NL56 Police Beat Team reported the following crimes in Newtown Linford during January:

x1 Criminal Damage – Damage to a gate at Bradgate Park. There are no suspects at this time.

I was pleased to welcome Craig Dawes, Neighbourhood Watch Multi Scheme Administrator & Development Lead for Leicestershire, to Coffee and Cake on Thursday 12th January. Many of those in attendance spoke to Craig and were given free, useful goodies such as personal attack alarms, number plate security kits, shed alarms and signage. Craig has promised to return and has sent the following update:

Leicestershire Neighbourhood Watch

“Welcome to you all, first off let me start by introducing myself. My name is Craig, I work for Neighbourhood Watch and I am the MSA (Multi Scheme Administrator) & Development lead for the whole of Leicestershire, which includes all the districts associated (Blaby, Central Leicester, Charnwood, Harborough, East Leicester, Hinckley & Bosworth, Melton, North West Leicestershire South Leicester, West Leicester & Rutland). My role is to provide support for all coordinators for each scheme, as well as other members that are part of NWN (Neighbourhood Watch Network). I manage the database of all members of neighbourhood watch, whether you are a coordinator or a member of a scheme. I also approve any new schemes that are registered on the system.

I started this role in the middle of November, so I am still working things out with the different areas, as well as other meetings. I am a family man and have 4 children of my own at the age of 33. I have undertaken numerous jobs in different sectors but my main interest is in computers. Friends and family describe me as approachable, so please do feel free to contact me about anything using the details further down.

I will be liaising with the Fire Service & local Police Beat Officers, as well as Community Safety Teams and Police Inspectors to see what support Neighbourhood Watch can provide, additional to what is currently in place. During these meetings, I hope to gain more information on the sort of jobs that the Police and Fire attend and to see if there is a pattern which then ourselves as Neighbourhood Watch can keep an eye out for and report them accordingly.

I am in the process of having area coordinators who can target more local areas and can provide more of a local newsletter, which I hope will be more useful to people.

Join the community today!

If you know neighbours, friends or family that haven't joined up to Neighbourhood Watch, then why not get them to join today. Join the growing number of people who are signing up everyday. It takes just a few minutes of your time, from here you can join your neighbours in looking out for each other by joining a local scheme or if one isn't available, why not create your own scheme? You can do this by visiting www.ourwatchmember.org.uk to sign up.

What's next?

Over the coming weeks and months, I plan to meet with as many Parish Councils as I can, as well as arranging monthly meetings with the local Fire departments and local Police Beat Officers, to gain reports as to the types of crimes and fires that have happened over the previous month. I will then distribute this information to all of the coordinators that have signed up to the Neighbourhood Watch system. I will create a report for the whole of Leicestershire which I can then distribute to all members of Neighbourhood Watch in Leicestershire, so that all the crime figures for the whole year are compiled into one report. Don't forget you can always find us on Facebook by visiting www.facebook.com/leicsNHW

Don't forget you can get a free home safety check from the Fire Service where they will come and test your smoke alarms and give you advice on home safety from a fire perspective. Just email me and I can pass your details over to the Fire Service to get in touch.

Craig Dawes Development Lead Neighbourhood Watch leicestershirenwa@outlook.com

Crime Prevention Advice

We are continuing to experience residential burglaries across Charnwood where the back door/patio doors are being targeted. Leicestershire Police are providing the following advice:

Keep them locked & the key in a safe place, rather than left in the lock.

Don't leave attractive items on view through your patio doors.

A range of devices are available to improve patio door security, including window vibration alarms.

Wishing you all a safe and crime free month ahead.

Keep 'em peeled.

Best wishes,

Hannah Shaw, Parish Council Clerk, Tel: 01530 249945

Email: clerk@newtownlinford.org.uk

News from Newtown Linford Parish Council

Have you looked at the website recently?

www.newtownlinford.org.uk



Greetings! Happy New Year to you all. I hope 2023 has got off to a good start for you and your families.

Firstly, I'd like to thank everyone involved in organising the Village Advent Event and to everyone who attended this wonderful occasion, which was held on Thursday 1st December. A good time was had by all and a whopping £549 was raised for the Village Hall to help towards the increased energy costs, which is amazing. Thank you to everyone for your support and due to the success of the 2022 Advent Fayre, it is definitely an event we wish to repeat. Special thanks go to Caroline Brewster, Janet Brunton and Margaret Bloor of the Village Hall Committee; the Preschool Team; Reverend Richard Trethewey, Marilyn Upstone, Ann Scrine and Judy Rowe for their help in coordinating the Christmas Tree Festival held at All Saints' Church; the Church Bellringers; Gary and Team at The Bradgate for serving delicious hot cobs; Newtown Linford Choral Society; Newtown Linford Primary School PTA; Malcolm and Sam Brewin for our wonderful Village Christmas Tree; Ruth Brutnall for doing a superb job again in coordinating the Village Advent Windows and of course, Santa and his Elves! Please accept my apologies if I have missed anyone!

Land at Markfield Lane

At a meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 30th November, Councillors resolved to investigate the possibility of adopting the land by the bridge at the bottom of Markfield Lane. Following a land search through HM Land Registry, we know the land is unregistered and the opportunity has arisen for NLPC to apply for Adverse Possession if possible. Part of the process includes obtaining statements of truth from residents who have a knowledge of how this land has been maintained in the last 12 years. We are told residents over many years have, at times, cleared debris or trimmed trees and vegetation back and we would like you to get in touch please to see if you can help by making a statement to support any future application. There are a number of trees on this land which need attention and if possible, the Parish Council would like to create a new village amenity in liaison with Newtown Linford Biodiversity who have expressed an interest in the management of this land. Watch this space for future updates!

Speeding

Councillors continue to be concerned by the speeding problems experi-

enced around the Parish. Chairman, Sue Pritchard and Vice-Chairman Tim Porte, regularly download and analyse the VAS data, which has been previously shared through the Village Magazine.

To date, Leicestershire Police have conducted a number of speeding operations at various locations in the village, both high visibility and covertly and a speeding operation carried out on upper Main Street, found 18% of vehicles were exceeding the National Police Chief Council enforcement threshold of 10% +2mph.

This represents poor compliance with the limit and as such the Police Traffic Management Department were asked to coordinate some enforcement utilising Officers from the Local Beat Team and/or the Safer Roads Team. These are ongoing as and when Police operational constraints allow.

We also signed up to the Leicestershire Police Bin Sticker Initiative (you may have seen some residents bins labelled with 30mph/40mph signs, as a reminder to motorists to slow down). If you missed previous advertisements and would like a supply of bin stickers, please contact me via the details below.

Main Street, between the junctions with Markfield Lane and Ulverscroft Lane, is also registered with the LCC Community Speed Management Initiative upon the Parish Council's request and NLPC also enquired about having 30mph repeater signs along the highway. However, Direction 11 of the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002 (TSRGD 2002), as amended, defines the requirements for the placing of speed-limit repeater signs, which states that speed-limit repeater signs cannot be placed along a road on which there is carriageway lighting not more than 183 metres apart and which is subject to a 30 mph speed limit.

Lastly, there have been previous attempts to get the Community Speed-watch initiative restarted but adverts in both the Magazine and on our Facebook page asking for volunteers, generated no response.

With that in mind, the Parish Council feels they have done everything within their power to try and resolve the speeding issues and the matter now lies with Leicestershire Police and enforcement operations. However, our longer term plan is to look at obtaining funding, perhaps Section 106 funding, to have average speed cameras installed along the length of Bradgate Road and Main Street, similar to those installed in recent years in Woodhouse. The cost of these is £100,000 and is not something the Parish Council can budget for without external funding. We also hope to purchase a mobile VAS unit which can be used in other locations of concern, such as the 30 and 40 mile per hour limits on Mark-

field Lane.

On with more news....

Bob Bown Memorial Field

Exciting news!! We have received final costings for the Bob Bown Memorial Field Play Park improvement works, which have now been ordered and will be installed late March/early April time. Here is a sneaky peek at the plans if you missed them last time....

Various new pieces of play equipment including a see-saw, climbing wall



and streetboard springie and improved surfacing to replace the existing wetpour, will be installed and the park will need to be closed to members of the public for a period of 3 weeks. Unfortunately, this mean the park maybe closed over

the Easter holiday.

The timber framed trail will be removed in its entirety to make way for the new equipment and a staggered approach to the improvement works will mean gaps in play facilities in the short term. This financial year, the Council has committed £18,500 for these initial installations. During the following financial period in 2024/25 (or before where possible), further new equipment will be purchased to fill the remaining gaps. It is hoped we might be eligible for some further external funding to help with the cost of replacing the old timber trail, which was first installed in 2004! Any new equipment which is not timber, will be painted in the similar colours to the infant modular play unit installed in 2021, which will be more in keeping with the surrounding area.

Cemetery and Churchyard

The self-set yew bush at the Churchyard has now been removed and we will be looking into the possibility of a new seating area in the same location once the weather improves.

The grass cutting schedule for 2023/2024 will commence mid-March and now includes a fortnightly cut of mown pathways through the wildflower verge on Markfield Lane, to encourage people to walk through and look at the wildflowers and wildlife. We hope to continue progressing this ar-

ea as it develops under the management of Newtown Linford Biodiversity. It is hoped information boards could be installed sometime in the future.

Parish Precept

Councillors approved and set the precept for the Parish at the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11th January 2023. The precept has been set to £59,618 which is an increase of 4.6%. This equates to a 9p increase per week, per Band D property. Inflationary pressures across the board, an increase of almost 72% to the Village Hall rent and increases to energy prices affecting street lighting etc, are all factors in needing to raise the precept. However, NLPC will also need to use some reserves this financial year.

This year, Councillors will be considering LED conversion for 39 streetlights which remain fitted with traditional lanterns, to try and reduce the energy costs associated with them, particularly as the payback time has reduced from 5 years to a 3 year period. Again, watch this space!

Stay well, stay safe.
Best wishes,

Hannah Shaw, Parish Council Clerk

Tel: 01530 249945 Email: clerk@newtownlinford.org.uk

Council Meetings

Wed, 15 Feb 2023 19:15—**Parish Council Meeting**

Wed, 29 Mar 2023 19:15—**Parish Council Meeting**



Parish Council Christmas Tree

Bradgate Drama Society

After being part of village life for over 70 years the drama society has sadly had to bring down its final curtain.

An aging and declining membership exacerbated by the rigours of Covid have meant that we can no longer continue to provide the mixture of drama, tragedy, comedy and pantomime (not always intended!) that we've presented over more years than many of us have been around.

The final demise of the Society will be confirmed at a Special General Meeting of the membership on Wednesday 15th February at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall where the disposal of any remaining assets will be agreed.

Thank you to all those in the Village and the surrounding area who have supported us. We hope that, though the Society will be no more, you will retain happy memories of our efforts over the years.

Peter Upton
Secretary, Bradgate Drama Society

Contributions to Village Magazine

Can we have your contributions for the **March 2023** issue by **15th February 2023** please.

Send to the Editor, Carole Heubeck,
5 Grey Crescent, Newtown Linford (01530 244790).
E-mail newtownvillagemagazine@outlook.com &
heubecks@gmail.com

Please could you send any emails to the above email addresses. If you do not receive an acknowledgement of your email from the gmail account within 3/4 days - please contact Carole, the Editor direct on the above number to check we have received it. The village email is not checked so frequently but I don't lose articles from there!

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