

# Newtown Linford Magazine

**ISSUE NUMBER 187**

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**September 2021**

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# The Bradgate

Group Parish



I've written before that September, even for those of us with little direct contact with schools and education these days, still often feels like the start of a new year. A chance to reset, to start again. And this year, more than most, it feels like we need a fresh start, to move on from the difficulty and frustration of the last 18 months (while, of course, realising that the pandemic is still with us).

Therefore a new pattern of Services is beginning on 5<sup>th</sup> September at All Saints'. After having a year of Services at a time and in parts a style deliberately different from the usual, we are re-launching with a new Service at 10am every Sunday.

This weekly Service, with an alternating pattern of Holy Communion and Morning Prayer, with regular Services which will involve the Brownies and will be particularly appropriate for families. They will be supplemented by a monthly midweek Holy Communion Service on the first Thursday of each month, starting on 7<sup>th</sup> October, and the ongoing weekly Morning Prayer on Tuesdays at 8.30am.

The Sunday Services will also be live-streamed on Facebook, replacing the pre-recorded services that have been our fare over the last year. I can't promise that no technological glitches will hit us – live streaming is more challenging than uploading videos in advance – but we have had several successful trials, not least with Michael and Marilyn's wedding back in June, so are hopeful that this will work well.

The eagle-eyed will have noted that there will no longer be an 8am Holy Communion every other week. The Book of Common Prayer will continue in use at All Saints – at the monthly midweek service as well as occasionally on Sundays – and there will be a Holy Communion service at our partner Church in Glenfield on those weeks when there isn't one in the village.

One thing we're working on is finding organists and pianists– during lockdown and just before, we have sadly had to say goodbye to some of those who have served the Church in this way previously. Some have taken other roles elsewhere, some are no longer able to continue because of their health. If you know one do let me know!.

**Richard Trethewey, Rector of St Peter's, Glenfield and All Saints'  
Newtown Linford. 0116 2871604**

## Coffee & Cake News & September dates

The summer has been very kind to us enabling us to get together on various villagers lawns in person at last. I think meeting up with our friends outdoors sharing a cup of coffee and news has helped everyone feel much more confident as lock down has eased. Thank you to all the people who have loaned their lawns and facilities and those who have baked even when they couldn't attend. We have one more outdoor event kindly hosted by Margaret Bloor at 3 Bailey View, off Newtown Linford Lane, Groby on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 11am.



The last Zoom meeting will be on 16<sup>th</sup> September. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Joe Costello who has run this every week from the start of lock down - a major commitment. This has been enjoyed by so many people who could have been isolated otherwise and have made many new friends.



We are back in the Village Hall on a weekly basis starting Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 11am. The new duty rota will be sent to all our regular helpers but if you would like to join us and help please call me on 01530 24344. Duty is once every 3 months

The morning will run as before apart from the chairs will not have to be put away due to the choir will follow us in the evening.

### September Rota

#### September

|                  |                                    |                               |
|------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> | Carol Ann, June Hallam, Sue Howard | 243433/Lei 2304808/<br>245373 |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> | Lesley Cook/Chris A/Gay Redstone   | 242214/242432/<br>Lei2351625  |

#### October

|                  |   |               |
|------------------|---|---------------|
| 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Casey Pearson/Jenny Cole/Mandy J/Marie Wilday | 249259/244375 |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> | Jo & Claire Costello                          | 249613        |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> | Janet & David Brunton                         | 242662        |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> | School  | 242370        |



## Coffee & Cake on the Lawn Memories

### Jenny and Alan Cole's - August



### Gable Cottage - June



Cont  
on  
next  
page

**Coffee & Cake  
at the  
Upstones in  
July**





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**New Autumn Menu coming soon**



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# **Footpaths: Community Carbon Reduction**

**Do you want to reduce your carbon footprint?  
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A community of like-minded people to work and have fun with.

## **What we'd like you to commit to:**

Trying to reduce your carbon footprint

Come to 7 meetings and complete carbon footprint calculations.

Do some homework between each meeting.

Meetings will be held in All Saints' Church and are open to any one in the village and nearby. The course will start at the beginning of October, and will run once a week, the day and time will be decided when we know what would suit participants best. The cost will be a voluntary donation.

If interested please contact Jane Woolmer - [ejwoolmer@gmail.com](mailto:ejwoolmer@gmail.com) 0116 2355237





## All Saints' Wild Flower Garden

In January 2021 All Saint' Churchyard had an area under the old beech tree that was looking like the photo on the left. It had been very kindly cleared of bramble, thistle and nettle by Scott and Graham.



Cornflower



At the end of July the area was filled with wild flowers and had good evidence of lots of insects.

Claire Costello, myself, and occasionally others have been pulling up thistles most weeks so that we could clear the area and enable the wild



flowers to germinate. The task has not ended as the thistles continue to arrive. However it has been very rewarding to work



there and have people stop to admire the flowers and have a chat. We have only worked on a small corner but would like to extend it next year. Anyone who would like to help is welcome to join us.



Yarrow



**Jane Woolmer**





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## Reptiles and Amphibians in Newtown Linford

*Toby Manning, of the Newtown Linford Biodiversity group, writes on reptiles and amphibians in the Parish.*

The UK is home to 12 species of reptile and amphibians, and we are fortunate enough to have 9 of these living in our Parish.

Of the UK's 3 snakes, both grass snakes and adders can be found in Bradgate Park, and they sometimes wander into the neighbouring land. The adder is shorter (generally about 70 cm), greyish with a black zigzag down its back. The grass snake is longer - about 1 – 1.5m, greenish with markings, less distinct than the adder's, on its side but not on its back.



Adder (photo courtesy of NatureSpot)

As a child I learned that “adders are poisonous”; this is an urban myth. An adder bite is not pleasant, but will not kill you. However, adders will only bite if they are threatened; their usual response to being disturbed is to escape and hide.

We also have 2 lizards in the Parish. The common lizard has been seen in Bradgate Park, but like the snakes is rare and difficult to find. The slow worm has no legs, and looks like a snake; it is shorter than an adder (40 cm), unpatterned and without an obvious head, which instead looks like part of its body. Of our



Grass Snake (photo courtesy of the Wildlife Trusts)



Slow Worm (photo courtesy of Natural History Museum)

reptiles it is probably the one most likely to be found in your garden; it tends to skulk in compost heaps and underneath sheds.

Of the amphibians, the frog and the toad need no introduction. The toad is duller, “warty” and tends to crawl, whereas the frog is bright and hops. Their spawn is also differ-



ent; frogspawn is laid in clumps in water, while toadspawn is laid in long strings wrapped round waterweed; each string is typically 1 cm in diameter.

Three newts are found in the UK. The Smooth Newt is widespread across the Parish, while the rarer Palmate and Great Crested Newts have been reported from Bradgate Park. Newts again produce tadpoles; their eggs are laid singly underwater against plants.

All of these species like areas of “untidiness”. They need places to hibernate in the winter – ideally dry places where they will not be disturbed. The reptiles need places to lay their eggs – compost heaps are ideal, provided it is undisturbed and amphibians need a pond in which to lay their eggs.

And the three species not found in the Parish? The smooth snake and the sand lizard are only found on heathland in southern England, while the Natterjack Toad is rare and found occasionally in mature sand dunes



Great Crested Newt (photo courtesy of Wikipedia)



Common or Smooth Newt (photo courtesy of YouTube)



Palmate Newt (photo courtesy of the Wildlife Trusts)

## Brownies News

Week one we had to make ball gowns for our Brownie packs, the ball gowns were made out of newspapers and sellotape. We dressed the youngest member of each pack in the ball gowns and as it was raining Farmer Malcom kindly let us use the barn (thank you).

The next week was sports day at Brownies. We had to scale it down because of Covid but we did an egg race, spoon race, running race and obstacle race. We all had so so so much fun with all of the races.



The final week before the summer holidays was the potato competition. Brown Owl chitted the potatoes for us and we each set 3 in March. The categories were heaviest crop, largest and smallest potato, funniest potato and the 6 best potatoes. Thank you to Mr and Mrs Couling for judging the categories, it was funny looking for the funniest potato and there were lots of great ones! We finish off the night with doughnuts on string which was brilliant.

I can't wait for Brownies to start back again in September and would like to thank Brown Owl and Snowy Owl for all of their hard work, we really do appreciate it. Love Poppy Appleton





## **To Our Village Friends & Neighbours,**

We would like to thank you for all your wonderful messages after we lost such a very special Husband, Dad & Grandad, for all your love and support at this very sad time for us .

**Love Lesley & Family**

(family of Barry Cook)

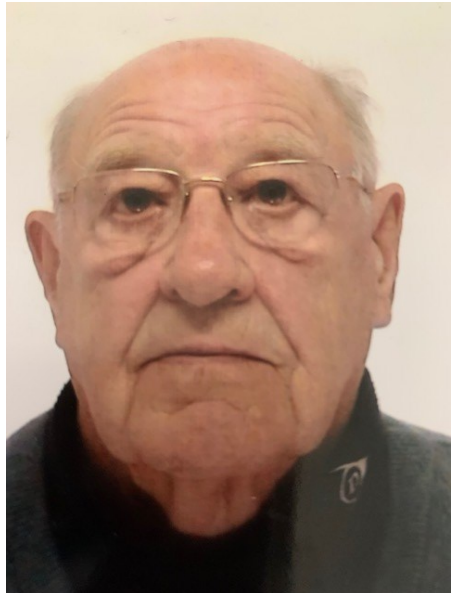
## **Gordon Howkins**

Gordon from Grey Crescent passed away suddenly on 7th August 2021 aged 92 years. Gordon moved into the village with his wife Joan (who predeceased him) in 1997. He leaves behind 2 sons David and Doug along with Grandchildren and great grandchildren.

His funeral was on Wednesday 25th August at Loughborough Crematorium with donations to Leicester and Leicestershire Animal Aid Association (Huncote). Gordon loved his dogs having several rescue dogs and was always happy to walk neighbours dogs as well.

Gordon was a great golfer and only gave up the game recently. His son remembers fondly how his dad's Saturday and Sunday morning was spent playing golf, coning back to Sunday Lunch at 1pm and then out with the family walking round Bradgate Park and Swithland

Woods in the afternoon. Gordon was always active - even just a few months ago he was busy changing a tyre on his drive.



**Newtown Linford Tennis Club  
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## Newtown Linford Choral Society

The Choral Society is excited at the prospect of recommencing in-person rehearsals in the Village Hall, after so many months of rehearsing online and looking at one another on our computer screens.

Our director Sue Ford has selected a variety of choral music ranging from pieces by contemporary composers John Rutter and Bob Chilcott, to giants of the past such as Handel, Mendelssohn and Mozart. Initially our rehearsals will run from 7.30 pm until 9 pm on Thursday evenings, starting on 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

We will of course be doing what we can to minimise the risks of Covid by measures such as extra spacing and ventilation. If you think that you might be interested in singing with the Choral Society please contact me for further details on 01530 243822 - if you are able to sing the tenor part you would be particularly welcome! There are no auditions to pass, and learning tracks are provided to help you with the notes.

**Peter Sayer**



## Newtown Linford Gardening Club



We finally had our first meeting since lockdown seventeen months ago, when around 100 members and friends gathered at the home of our Chairman for our annual Summer Garden Party.

Having our first meeting outdoors seemed an excellent way of starting to return to some sort of normality and we were delighted that so many members took the opportunity to renew friendships which had been on hold for so long. To make the occasion somewhat special, the centre piece of the evening was a hog roast, which was enjoyed by all. The bar was well attended with many jugs of pimms consumed along with wine, beer and soft drinks.

In addition we held our traditional raffle when everybody brings a prize and then we have over 80 prizes available to distribute. This is a very popular event which draws the evening to a close.

Sadly, the weather was not fully kind to us as a couple of sharp showers forced everybody indoors or under the shelter of the gazebos.

We expect now to resume our regular meetings in the Village Hall. In August the Newtown Linford Biodiversity Group will be outlining their activities so far and their ambitions for the future. In September, Steve Budding, formerly of Brookside Nurseries, Anstey will be regaling us with tales of his time there. With his retirement, Brookside Nurseries closed and it is sorely missed.

The centrepiece of our programme is our annual Celebrity Evening on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October, when we welcome the gardening journalist Helen Yemm as our speaker. Readers of the Daily Telegraph will know her well as a highly knowledgeable and experienced horticulturalist. This is, actually, the third time we have invited her to the village. The first occasion was lost when she had to go into hospital and the second visit was cancelled because of covid. We hope for third time lucky.

As is customary, we offer non-members the opportunity to join us on these occasions. Tickets to hear Helen speak will be £12 and can be obtained from the Secretary. There will be a limited number of guest tickets available, so we recommend an early response.

Happy gardening.

Anyone interested in our activities can contact the Secretary (tel.01530 242452) or e-mail us at [32couling@gmail.com](mailto:32couling@gmail.com) .

**Anne and David Couling**

## Home Starter Boxes

In the June issue of this Magazine I wrote about Home Starter Boxes. This is a joint venture between Rotary and Inner Wheel clubs of Loughborough for homeless individuals, or families, who are provided with new accommodation. As a result of that article I would like to thank those of you who have given me surplus bed linen, duvets, towels, curtains and other small household items as Starter Box extras. You will be pleased to know that everything I have received has now found a new home.

Our initiative in providing new basic household necessities is only for the borough of Charnwood and demand is in excess of one box per week and cost £100 each. Our team of volunteers have now packed 211 Starter Boxes. I am often asked why we pack an odd number. Quite a simple answer - we packed one trial box which was successful, and then packed sets of ten as this was a convenient number for purchasing the contents.

So thank you all for your support.

**Dick Howard**



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# SUNDAY SERVICES September 2021



| DATE  | GLENFIELD               | NEWTOWN                           |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 5th<br>September<br><br><b>Fourteenth Sunday<br/>of Trinity</b>   | 8.30am Holy Communion   |                                   |
|   | 10.00am Morning Worship | <b>10.00am Holy<br/>Communion</b> |
| 12th<br>September<br><br><b>Fifteenth Sunday<br/>of Trinity</b>   |                         |                                   |
|   | 10.00am Holy Communion  | <b>10.00am Morning<br/>Prayer</b> |
|   | 6.00pm Compline         |                                   |
| 19th<br>September<br><br><b>Sixteenth Sunday<br/>of Trinity</b>   |                         |                                   |
|   | 10.00am Morning Worship | <b>10.00am Holy<br/>Communion</b> |
|   | 3.00pm All Age Worship  |                                   |
| 26th<br>September<br><br><b>Seventeenth Sunday<br/>of Trinity</b> |                         |                                   |
|   | 10.00am Holy Communion  | <b>10.00am Morning<br/>Prayer</b> |
|   |                         | 3.00pm Baptism                    |



**SERVICE  
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Services will be streamed live for those unable to attend the physical service.

### COVID

Appropriate measures will be taken to help keep social distance for those who wish to.

# CHURCH REGISTERS

## FUNERALS

6th July ~ Barry Cook

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.



### 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 (cancelled)

**Website:** [www.allsaintsnewtownlinford.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsnewtownlinford.org.uk)



## Services will now be onsite and streamed online

**From 5th September**

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

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

### Online Courses

A *Bereavement Journey*, particularly for those who have lost someone in the last year will begin soon. We need more people to sign up for this to make it viable, so do let people know who you think would find it helpful. Sign up on the Wellbeing page.

<https://www.allsaintsnewtownlinford.org.uk/wellbeing>

A course to explore and encourage an eco-sustainable lifestyle as one of the five marks of mission will be run later in the year.

## **Information from David Snartt.**

### **Charnwood Draft Local Plan 2021-37.**

Due to the Parish Magazine not being published for the month of August, I was sorry I was unable to give you this information whilst the public consultation for the Draft Local Plan was open. Charnwood Borough Council launched a six week consultation about its' new plan and vision for the area over the next 16 years. The consultation was for residents, businesses and other interested parties to submit comments about the 'soundness' of the Draft Local Plan, ahead of its planned submission to Government. That said, I did manage to have the detail printed in another locally distributed magazine and through the Parish Council.

The Council states 'the local plan is a key strategic framework for supporting future growth and developing healthy communities and environmental safeguards. It guides development and identifies locations for housing and employment land. The Local Plan also considers the impacts of climate change, infrastructure needs and protection of green spaces'.

At the Full Council meeting where Councillors agreed that the Local Plan 2021-37 should go out for public consultation, I spoke of my concerns and asked for further information about two areas of the Local Plan. Therefore, I abstained when the vote was taken. In my view, one of the sites for 600 dwellings to be developed in Anstey will have consequences for Newtown Linford Parish. I need to understand more fully the impact this will have. Anstey has already seen a large amount of development, with this extra proposal it will impact on the highway network and local services.

I will be submitting my comments to the consultation process, which I will share through the Parish Magazine. I am hopeful residents did manage to see the detail about the Draft Local Plan and respond to the Council before the closing date of 23<sup>rd</sup> August.

### **Plaque to Mark 800 Years.**

A Charnwood Heritage Plaque has been unveiled to mark the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Royal Charters for Loughborough Markets and Fairs. The Plaque was unveiled during a ceremony at Loughborough Town Hall exactly 800 years to the day when the first fair was held in the town under the Charter.

In 1221 a young King Henry III granted a Royal Charter to Hugh le Despenser, the Lord of the Manor, to hold a weekly Thursday market and an annual fair in Loughborough. The fair is held in November, I know that residents from my Council Ward have enjoyed the fun of the fair over the

years. It was disappointing that the annual fair was cancelled last year due to the pandemic. This year's fair is planned for 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> November .

### **Electoral Register.**

Make sure you are on the electoral register. Thousands of forms are being delivered across Charnwood Borough to ensure the electoral register is up to date. Every year the Council must check its electoral register is up to date , and letters are sent to all households asking people to confirm the details or inform the Council of any changes. The aim is to make sure that everyone who is eligible to vote is registered and can have their say in future elections and referendums. The Electoral Registration Officer needs the information to be able to publish a complete and accurate electoral register on 1<sup>st</sup> December each year.

Full details of how residents can complete the form on line, by telephone, via text or by post are all contained in the document sent to them. Any residents who have questions can visit [www.charnwood.gov.uk/electoralservices](http://www.charnwood.gov.uk/electoralservices) or contact the helpline on 01509 634546.

### **Village Hall News**

Following the last 18 months of lock-down, the only users of the Village Hall have been the Pre-School which has been able to continue to operate under Government guidelines.

With the end of lock-down we are pleased to see that things are slowly coming back to normal: Village organisations are starting to re-start using the Hall, and we have a number of bookings for children's parties and the like.

However there are still opportunities for other groups to use the Hall, so if you are interested please contact our Bookings Secretary (242251).

### **Village Hall Committee**

The Village Hall is managed by a Committee, currently consisting of 10 people (plus Hannah, our Parish Clerk, who is invited to attend) which meets 4 times each year with the objective of keeping the Hall as a valuable asset. However, John Nixon will be standing down from the Committee at the end of the year, and at the same time Pat Wood will be relinquishing her role as Booking Secretary (although she will remain on the Committee). We will therefore be looking for replacements; we need residents who are prepared to join the Committee in order to best meet the community's needs. If anyone is interested please speak to me (245298) or to any other Committee Member.

**Toby Manning, Chairman, Village Hall Committee.**

## Computers and grass cutting

Recent hardware problems have left my “man-cave” library strewn with hard drives; CPU fans; RAM; bits of cases; SATA leads; Manuals; DVDs and all the paraphernalia associated with computer building. This is untidy because all these bits have homes, they’re just not there. They’re occupying space rightly reserved for my tea, cake, and sometimes feet.

On the other hand, grass growing in the ground is at home. It is in exactly the right place showing the richness and beauty of life. Theologically one could say it is a ubiquitous expression of God’s love; philosophically it is an affirmation of Essence over Existence.

To regard uncut grass burgeoning with life as untidy is perhaps to betray an addiction to the notions of tidiness of a long dead French King who decided he wanted the outside to be as organized as inside his palaces.

Few people regard trees as untidy yet they rarely grow in neat tidy lines. Some even lean, have branches missing and conform to their photo-dendritic growth pattern in only the most rudimentary way.

If a tennis court, picnic area, pathway is required, fine - cut the grass to enable these features. Similarly road safety considerations should not be overlooked and appropriate action taken. It is with the notion that life expressing itself through growth is in some way “scruffy” that I take issue.

No-one who reaches the age of grand parentage can have any doubt that life is beautiful and good but that it is our messy and untidy living of it that creates unhappiness. To project our notions of disordered messiness onto the infinite variety of nature is, I contend, a mistake.

Please give life a chance.

Joe Costello  
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## **Biodiversity Group: Results of Garden Wildlife Survey**

Readers may remember that the April issue of the Magazine included a questionnaire on wildlife in the Parish. We had an excellent 73 responses, a response rate of approximately 30%, and we express our appreciation to all those who took the trouble to respond.



Like any survey where the responders are self-selected, we need to be careful about drawing any definite conclusion, but it is possible to identify some interesting trends.

Unsurprisingly, gardens tended to be large (70% were larger than a tennis court) although the figure of 44% having a pond or stream is more than might have been expected. 93% of gardens included trees or hedges – important as potential bird-nesting sites – and 60% had a compost heap, also important as it provides a refuge for hibernating animals such as hedgehogs and reptiles. 66% had a woodpile (a valuable wildlife resource for insects and other invertebrates) and 64% included a “wild area”.

The village has a healthy population of mammals, although some of these are considered a nuisance (badgers, rats, etc.). Fully a third of respondents reported seeing muntjac deer in their gardens, 30% hedgehogs and 22% badgers. Two respondents claimed that badgers had resulted in the elimination of snakes and hedgehogs. We look forward to the regular reporting of otters!

The proximity to Bradgate Park, a known hotspot of both adders and grass snakes, meant that 11% of respondents reported snakes while a further 8% reported slow worms. Amphibians were numerous, as might be expected considering how many respondents reported water features: 58% reported frogs, 45% toads and 33% newts.

We were pleased at the very enthusiastic response to the part of the survey dealing with birds. A large range of birds were reported nesting in village gardens, including robins, wrens, house sparrows, blackbirds, magpies, wood pigeons, blue tits, great tits, coal tits, long tail tits, starlings, swallows, pied wagtails and dunnocks. Although robins, wood pigeons, magpies, blue tits and blackbirds were almost universal (reported in over 90% of gardens), house sparrows were only reported by 79% of respondents.

Gardens are a very valuable resource for nature, and we are pleased to say that Newtown Linford is no exception to this rule.

**Toby Manning and Clare Tewson**



## The Village Archive.

During the hot weather in June we received timely warnings against swimming in Cropston Reservoir. By coincidence I came across an article, dated 1965 and possibly from the Leicester Mercury, concerning the draining of the Reservoir. The draining was required for the purposes of a very big clean up and after being submerged for 90 years the ruins of the head gamekeepers house began to emerge. Before being demolished in 1870 when the Reservoir was constructed it was quite a magnificent building with stabling and kennels and where the shoots of the Earl of Stamford and Warrington were organised. Mr Joseph Reeves was the last head keeper to live in the house.

A card from the early shoots by the Earl, with a party of 11, related that in one day 838 rabbits and 234 hares were killed. During the next few days 1600 pheasants were shot.

There was also a warning that during the draining of the reservoir quicksand had been found around the edges and the public were advised to stay away.

The photograph is rather poor quality but it shows the house in Victorian days. **Iris Sayer**





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## Open Gardens

Bank cottage, 90 Main St, Newtown Linford, has an open garden from now until end of Oct as part of the National Garden Scheme.

Admission is £3 per person but for local people this will be a 'season ticket' If on return they bring another person/s, their guests will have to pay.



**Contact Jan Croft 01530 244865** (answering machine so leave your details and Jan will contact you back) **to book a mutually convenient date and time.**

## Boules

Probably, like me, you watched many of the different sports, and some of the new ones such as skateboarding and climbing, that now make up the modern Olympics.

I think there is a good case to be made for including Pétanque, or Boules. One set of boules can last you a lifetime. It can be played on almost any flat waste ground or path, you have no need for a team manager, team physiotherapist, team psychologist or even lottery funding, and all your training can be done in the bar before a game. Well just a dream, but every Olympics games since 1984 has received an application.

So back to reality. We didn't play at all last year, the whole season lost through lockdowns and pub closures. By June this year the pubs were open but could we play boules safely outdoors? Golf and tennis yes, boules no. Regulations on Landlords prohibited standing up and drinking on the premises that included the boules terrain.



Ten of us managed to visit the Blue Bell, Hoby, for a meal and a drink, and renew friendships.

And so to July. No rules and regulations, no face masks, and a forecast of dry weather. The evening started well but as we were finishing our evening in the traditional way, by playing a knockout for the Cup, there was a heavy downpour that sent us in early for our meal.

In August everything went to plan and the weather just about stayed dry. It was, as usual, a slightly competitive and social evening for the twelve players. I am delighted to congratulate Stuart Wardle who won the Chell Cup at his first attempt. I must say I was pleased to hand it over after 23 months of keeping it polished.

Our last game of the season will be on Tuesday 14th September and we will leave the Village Hall at the earlier time of 5.30pm. Everyone welcome, no previous experience necessary, it is just a fun evening so give me a call if you are interested.

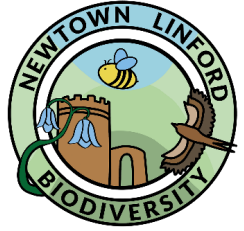
**Dick Howard**  
**01530 245373**





## Nature Walks

We've enjoyed several nature walks over the last few months, including a ramble through the Bradgate Park Trust fields, next to the public footpath leading from Main Street to the Park. These meadows are managed



with nature and wildlife in mind, with the diversity of meadow flowers and grasses supporting a profusion of insects.

Another ramble was along the footpath past the old mill and along Ulverscroft Valley to Lea Meadows, a Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust reserve and Site of Special Scientific Interest (S.S.S.I.); a mixture of lowland meadow and pasture, grassland and wetland.



In July we visited Herbert's Meadow, another S.S.S.I. in Ulverscroft managed by the Wildlife Trust, and one of the best places in the county to see orchids.



Our walks are usually led by Toby and Felicity Manning.

Nature Walk  
Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September  
3pm starting from the village.

You are warmly invited to join us on this walk. For more details, contact Sue Dobby Tel. 01530 245 366

**Claire Costello**



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**Newtown Linford Neighbourhood Watch -  
A member of the Parish Council**



This month's update starts with a warning sent in by resident, Pam McMorran, regarding a very convincing telephone banking scam. Pam says:

"This was so realistic I wanted to tell you about it.

Last week I received a call on my mobile phone whilst away on holiday. My mobile phone said this may be a fraudulent call in red on the screen before I answered it. They said they were my bank and they had picked up fraudulent entries on my debit account. The lady sounded English, just like the banking ladies on line normally do. She spoke clearly and concisely and Maurice was convinced she was genuine. I was very wary and asked about the entries. She listed three or four quite large amounts and asked if I had made them and I said no, I had not used that card for weeks and seldom did. She said they had stopped the entries but needed to send me something to my phone. She asked me for my date of birth and I refused to give it. A link to an Apple app arrived immediately and she asked if I had received it and said she wanted me to fill it in and make contact. When I refused to answer the questions, she kept going on hold supposedly to ask her senior person. Eventually, she abruptly cut off inferring it was because I was mistrusting.

I am now home and have telephoned my bank and have been told they did not make that call and my fears had been realised. Apparently, the scammers send this app to get your full information. I'm not sure if it is part of the scam but they accidentally sent me the Apple app when I am on the Android system. She did not ask me which one I would need.

My bank have confirmed the scam takes this form, the scammers make the purchases contactless and then try and get the details to complete the transaction via the app.

It was very convincing.

Best wishes  
Pam"

Well done, Pam for being cautious. If ever you are in doubt regarding the credibility of a caller, please check the caller is who they say they are, by telephoning the company they represent but please remember not to use contact details they give you. A genuine caller won't mind you checking!

Cont on next page

Neighbourhood Link have recently sent out the following information on

### **Cryptocurrency Investment and Trading Scams:**

“We have seen an alarming rise in the number of people investing in ‘get rich quick’ schemes, investing thousands of pounds which they will never get back.

Cryptocurrency is a digital or virtual currency designed to work as a medium of exchange.

How does this scam work?

Fraudsters will cold call victims and use social media platforms to advertise ‘get rich quick’ investments in mining and online trading in cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin.

Posts often use fake endorsements from celebrities/TV shows such as Dragons Den and images of luxury items like expensive watches and cars. These then link to professional-looking websites where consumers are persuaded to invest. They will often have a prestigious City of London address but are more often than not based outside of the UK.

Fraudsters will convince victims to sign up to cryptocurrency investment websites and to part with their personal details such as credit card details and driving licences to open a trading account. The victim will then make an initial minimum deposit, investors will then often be led to believe that their first investment has successfully made a profit.

The fraudster will then contact the victim to invest more money or introduce friends and family with the false promise of greater profits. However, eventually the returns stop, the customer account is closed and the scammer disappears with no further contact.

It is really important to know that certain cryptoassets, like Bitcoin and Ether are not regulated in the UK.

This means that buying, selling or transferring these cryptoassets falls outside the remit of the Financial Conduct Authority. The same is true for the operation of a cryptocurrency exchange.

Most firms advertising and selling investments in cryptoassets are NOT authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority. This means that if you invest in certain cryptoassets you will not have access to the Financial Ombudsman Service or the Financial Services Compensation Scheme if things go wrong.

If you’ve invested in unregulated cryptoassets, you may not have access to the Financial Ombudsman Service or the Financial Services Compensation Scheme and you’re unlikely to get your money back.

If you have already invested in a scam, fraudsters are likely to target you again or sell your details to other criminals.

The follow-up scam may be completely separate or related to the previous fraud, such as an offer to get your money back or to buy back the investment after you pay a fee.

How to protect yourself

- Don't assume it's real, be wary – professional-looking websites, adverts or social media posts don't always mean that an investment opportunity is genuine. Criminals can use the names of well-known brands or individuals to make their scams appear legitimate. A firm must be authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority to advertise or sell these products in the UK – check the FCA register to make sure the firm is authorised. You can also check the FCA Warning List of firms to avoid, [www.fca.org.uk/scamsmart](http://www.fca.org.uk/scamsmart)
- Don't be rushed or pressured into making a decision – a genuine bank or financial organisation won't force you to part with your money on the spot. Always be wary if you're pressured to invest quickly or promised returns that sound too good to be true.
- Stay in control – avoid uninvited investment offers, especially those over cold calls. If you're thinking about making an investment, get independent advice and thoroughly research the company first.
- Do further research on the product you are considering and the firm you are considering investing with. Check with Companies House to see if the firm is registered as a UK company and for directors' names. To see if others have posted any concerns, search online for the firm's name, directors' names and the product you are considering."

If you think you have been the victim of a scam, report this to Action Fraud [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or call 0300 123 2040

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](mailto:clerk@newtownlinford.org.uk)**

## News from Newtown Linford Parish Council



**Have you looked at the website recently?**  
**[www.newtownlinford.org.uk](http://www.newtownlinford.org.uk)**

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Greetings!

Well, in the blink of an eye, we are in September and schools have reopened following the Summer holiday. I hope you have all had an enjoyable break.

Great news! Our application for a SHIRE Environment Grant has been successful and Newtown Linford Parish Council in partnership with Newtown Linford Biodiversity, have been awarded £591 towards the cost of supply and installation of bat, owl and bird boxes, hedgehog and insect hotels at the three Parish Council maintained sites. This is 75% of the total cost and NLPC will match fund the remaining amount.

We are very grateful for the support we have received from the Leicestershire and Rutland Ornithological Society and the Leicestershire and Rutland Bat Group, who will be installing the bat, bird and owl boxes for us.

Following on from the completion of the Traffic Management Scheme, LCC are carrying out a further informal consultation with residents of Upper Main Street with regards to identifying a possible solution for those properties with limited off road parking. All residents in this area have been given the opportunity to respond and the results of this will determine what happens next. We await to hear.

Thank you to those who have submitted entries to our Newtown Linford in Bloom 2021 competition. We have seen some wonderful floral displays throughout the Parish. It's not too late to get your entry in by emailing an image of your Summer floral display to [clerk@newtownlinford.org.uk](mailto:clerk@newtownlinford.org.uk). I have extended the deadline slightly to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

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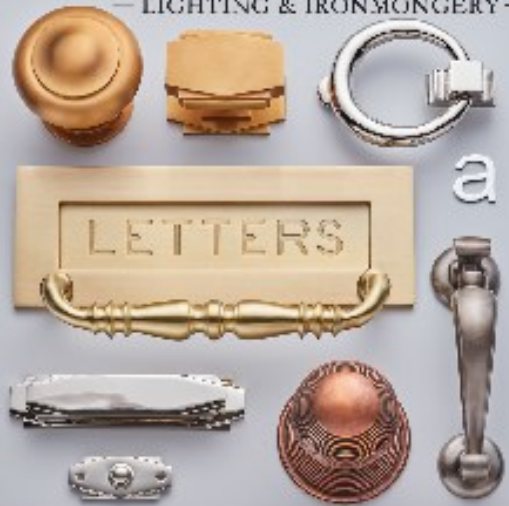
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Anonymised entries will be judged by Gardening Club Chairman, Mike Newcombe and the winner will receive a £20 National Garden Gift Voucher.

On with more news....

### **Bob Bown Memorial Field**

Just in time for the school holiday, the infant modular play unit and the basket swing have been installed at the Bob Bown Memorial Field Play Park. Yay! I hope the children are enjoying the new equipment which has been funded by the National Lottery Community Fund: Awards for All.

General maintenance works are required to tidy other areas of the park and this work is ongoing.

We have had some issues with the bins on the park of late. Serco have been attending as usual, however, on a number of occasions, they have found the bins locked and have been unable to empty them. I have now issued Serco with a key in the hope that may resolve the problem. How the bins became locked in the first place, remains a mystery!

### **Cemetery and Churchyard**

The three Sycamore trees have now been felled at the Churchyard to enable the rebuild of the stone wall which collapsed in December 2020. Bradgate Park Rangers have very kindly offered to rebuild the wall for us as a good neighbourly gesture, for which we are very grateful and work will commence soon. A bid has been submitted to LCC for replacement native trees through the Local Authority Treescape Fund. If successful, these trees will be planted further along the river on Bradgate Park land.

I have received many enquiries over recent weeks regarding plot availability at the Cemetery. If you wish to purchase a plot, please contact me via the usual channels.

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Stay well, stay safe.  
Best wishes,

**Hannah Shaw**  
**Parish Council Clerk**  
**Tel: 01530 249945**  
**Email: [clerk@newtownlinford.org.uk](mailto:clerk@newtownlinford.org.uk)**



## **How to contact the Police**

All incidents are to be reported to the Police by  
**calling 101**

They will then assess the situation and deal with the situation as they see fit. This may involve a vehicle from another area. If you wish, also advise our NHW coordinator who will circulate if appropriate.

### **Contributions to Village Magazine**

Can we have your contributions for the **October 2021** issue by **15th September 2021** please. **Send to the Editor, Carole Heubeck, 5 Grey Crescent, Newtown Linford (01530 244790).**  
E-mail **[newtownvillagemagazine@outlook.com](mailto:newtownvillagemagazine@outlook.com) & [heubecks@gmail.com](mailto:heubecks@gmail.com)**

**Please could you send any emails to the above email addresses. If you do not receive an acknowledgement of your email within 3/4 days - please contact Carole, the Editor direct on the above number to check we have received it.**

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