

Clarborough & Welham

Newsletter

Quarterly: Winter 2021

Primary School Admissions
closing soon!

Vehicle Log Book Replacement



Remembrance Sunday
14th November – local
church service

Community Footpaths updates

Start Careers Guidance young!

Retford Heritage Open Day Report

American Indians in Retford!

Clarborough School - being the best you can be!

Thanksgiving and Illuminate Festival events

Nuclear Fusion – the future?

Retford Town Centre Plan

Nottingham Festival of Science and Curiosity 2022

Retford's Theatres are back in action!

Chesterfield Canal Santa Cruises

Community Website – Fabulously Informative!

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Retford Christmas Market & Christmas Lights Switch-On Sunday 21st November 2021

The Retford Business Forum's plans for this year's Retford Christmas Market and Lights Switch-On to be held on Sunday 21st November, from 10:00 to 18:00, in and around the Market Square in Retford (some locations may vary). As well as the usual star guest – Santa - brought to us by Retford Lions, there will be a range of Christmas stalls, crafts, on-stage entertainment, and fireworks, plus the spectacular Retford Christmas Lights. There will be some new attractions and some old favourites this year - here are some of the attractions:

1. On stage, there will be the open air service at 11:00, followed by entertainment from the Elizabethan Academy, Majestic Theatre School, Makaton Choir, Louise Clarkson Dancers, The Performance Hub, Jo Jingles, and Jessica Mary Brett. (subject to confirmation)
2. Bassetlaw Museum will be providing activities to entertain the children and the Pilgrims Gallery will be open – if you haven't already seen it, now's your chance!
3. Grove St Methodist Church will have an even bigger Star Festival...and refreshments.
4. St Swithun's Parish Church will be holding its famous Christmas Tree Festival - let's beat that 100 trees target again this year! - and refreshments.
5. A Fairground organ will provide the atmosphere, and the usual range of excellent food stalls, cafes and restaurants will provide the sustenance.

This will be the sixth year that Retford Business Forum (RBF) has delivered the Christmas Market and Lights Switch-on (cancelled because of Covid in 2020). The Forum is delighted to be working in partnership again with North Notts BID, which is not only providing financial support but is also helping with the organisation and delivery of the event this year.

Sally Gillborn, Chief Executive of North Notts BID, said "We are delighted to be supporting Retford Business Forum with this year's Retford Christmas Market and Lights Switch-on – it's great to be able to stage this event again - it will really launch Christmas in the town centre"

The Forum also welcomes the continuing support of Bassetlaw District Council, Retford Lions and other local businesses and societies. It is a community event run for the people of Retford and the surrounding villages, and

visitors have been welcomed from all over Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire..... and beyond!



Retford Business Forum is run by volunteers from Retford's businesses, community-interest enterprises and local individuals. The Forum is not regularly funded by any organisation and relies on its members and sponsors for support. It is passionate and committed to ensuring that Retford and its surrounding villages prosper economically and through improved social wellbeing.

The support of local individuals and businesses is vital to the success of the events such as this and the team is always looking for supporters - please get in touch – we would be delighted to hear from you - please contact chair@retfordbusinessforum.org.uk. To become a member of Retford Business Forum please contact membership@retfordbusinessforum.org.uk or see www.retfordbusinessforum.org.uk

For further information please contact Rick Brand at rickbrand@hotmail.com or 01427 891 376.

For an introduction to the full RBF Team see page 17.

Late-night shopping is back in the run-up to Christmas

Retford Arts Hub, along with many other outlets, will be providing late-night shopping on Thursdays through November and December as well as at the Lights Switch on described above.

This will involve many of Retford's outlets remaining open until 20:00 on at least 9th, 15th and 23rd December.

Do you require any landbased training?

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Nottinghamshire Director of Public Health reminds people to be cautious about Covid-19



Jonathan Gribbin, Director of Public Health for Nottinghamshire is reminding residents that Covid-19 hasn't gone away, and is urging people to do whatever it takes to reduce the spread of the virus.

Jonathan said: "The rate of new Covid-19 infections across much of Nottinghamshire is running at high levels. This has serious implications for local people. This is because some people will go on to experience symptoms which disrupt plans and impact their wellbeing for months, not days. Today, many dozens of people across the county are experiencing complications which has required hospital treatment. For some, the severity of the disease requires critical care. Our vaccination programme has already massively reduced the number of people hospitalised or dying as a result of Covid-19 and most people who are eligible have already taken advantage of the protection it gives. But we are concerned that some people remain unprotected."

"These high rates of new infection also have serious implications for the work our local NHS is doing to manage waiting lists and other pressures. We don't know what the Autumn will hold, but it is likely that the return of cooler weather and more indoor mixing will increase transmission leading to further illness due to Covid-19 and increased activity in our health and social care system. To ensure we can live safely with Covid-19 in the months ahead, I am once again asking for everyone's help.

Firstly, vaccination sites across the county are offering walk-in appointments without booking. If you have questions, staff at the vaccination site will be able to help. Getting vaccinated protectings you and your community.

Secondly, it remains essential for anyone with symptoms to isolate immediately and book a PCR test straight away.

Thirdly, with Covid-19 circulating so widely, I'd like to remind people who do not have symptoms that they can still get a rapid Covid-19 lateral flow test twice a week – Retford Town Hall is our closest centre. If your LFT result is positive, you must self-isolate and get a PCR test to confirm the result. This will also help reduce further transmission.

Finally, we can reduce the spread of Covid-19 and a range of other infections through frequent hand washing with soap, by using face coverings in crowded indoor settings, and by socialising outdoors wherever possible or in rooms with plenty of fresh air circulating.

"The virus has not gone away but following these measures will allow people across Nottinghamshire to live safely with Covid-19 while we get back to the things we enjoy. Let's get back safely."

Covid evolution and risks

We are now, hopefully, all aware of the need to get vaccinated against Covid-19 – and, with the coming 'winter' season – also to get jabbed against 'flu. We have also heard quite a bit about virus 'variants' but what exactly are these and how do they come about?

Well, 'variants' are a bit like members of a family – they all have lots of features in common but also a few differences. However viruses are not like us in that they do not reproduce from a combination of genetic material from mother and father but simply by *viral replication* which is a process that takes place in host cells in infected bodies.

Viruses must first get into the cell before viral replication can occur. Once in the 'host' cell the virus uses the host cell's normal processes to copy it's own genetic material and package it in structural material exactly like the original invading virus. The duplicated, many of them, viruses are then released to infect other cells. These can also infect other individuals if these viruses get passed on.

The viral replication process occasionally results in slight 'errors' in copying the original virus's genetic material which means that the duplicated copies will be 'variants' of the original. A vast majority of these errors yield viruses that are ineffective at carrying out infections but very occasionally a variant is produced which does infect. Even more rarely this variant is more dangerous than the original. What this means is that individuals can be 'breeding grounds' for new variants, so getting vaccinated is vital for everyone's safety.

Editor

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Thanksgiving/Illuminate event supporting Bassetlaw Food Bank

On Thursday 18th November 2021, Bassetlaw Christian Heritage will be working with Bassetlaw Foodbank to deliver an opportunity for people to provide gifts of food to help those less fortunate. This will be a way for people to give thanks for their own lives whilst helping others to survive in modern hardship. We think this would be a good way to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the first Thanksgiving Meal held between the Mashpee Wampanoag native American people and the Mayflower Pilgrims in North America.

Donors will also have the opportunity to leave messages of hope on postcards which will be forwarded via Bassetlaw Foodbank to people receiving their parcels. To receive a positive message like this from other people, especially in the run up to Christmas, can make all the difference.

From 12 noon on Thursday 18th November at St Swithun's Church Retford, there will be a programme of performances and talks where everyone is invited to call in with their donations for Bassetlaw Foodbank (normal rules – cans, sealed packs etc). Donors are welcome to stay throughout or pop in for a few minutes – whatever works for them. Let's make this a great event for Bassetlaw Foodbank and the people it serves – no-one should go hungry in Bassetlaw!

We will be giving donors battery tealight candles to display in their windows on 25th November (Thanksgiving Day in 2021) and will be inviting them to take photographs of these to reflect the theme of Illuminate and share them on social media with the hashtag #OneSmallCandle, or send by email to info@pilgrimroots.org. We will also support schools in creating their own Illuminate features and will invite them to send photographs for our online display. The Illuminate activity is inspired by a quote from William Bradford, one of the Mayflower Pilgrim leaders who became the second and longest-serving Governor of Plymouth Colony: *'As one small candle may light a thousand, so the light here kindled hath shone unto many.'*

Background

On 25th November 2021, the 400th anniversary of the first Thanksgiving meal will be commemorated. This was shared between the newly arrived settlers to North America – the Mayflower Pilgrims – and the local population who had formed an alliance with them – the Mashpee Wampanoag.

In the first year, half of the passengers from the Mayflower had died, having arrived at the start of winter, ill-prepared for what was to come. Members of the native population showed them which crops to grow, and how to go about it. A year on from their arrival a celebration meal took place with the settlers and the leader of the local Wampanoag people and one hundred of his warriors.

However the anniversary is not celebrated by the Wampanoag people today. The successful establishment of the Separatists was followed by large scale incursion by Europeans across the continent. Thanksgiving has been marked, since 1970, among many Native Americans as a National Day of Mourning.

Millions of Americans today mark Thanksgiving as a celebration of family and an opportunity to give thanks for

what they have. People travel across the country to enjoy a meal together, usually featuring turkey. The original meal would probably have consisted of shellfish and cereals. Heritage Engagement Officer, Isabelle Richards, said: 'I am delighted that we are working together to ensure the momentum of previous Illuminate events is not lost in this 400th Thanksgiving anniversary year. The Thanksgiving/Illuminate project is a great opportunity for people to share hope and solidarity safely, and personally give thanks for whatever reason.'

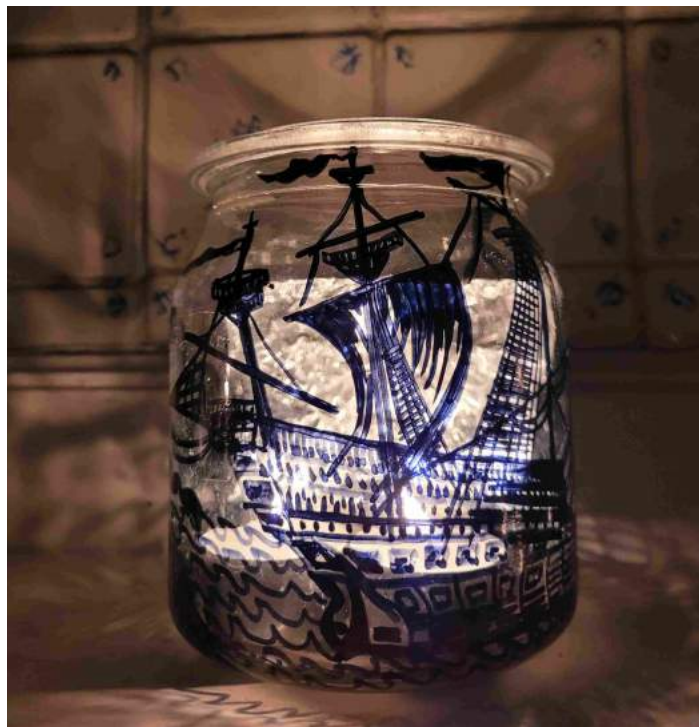
For further information see websites:

www.pilgrimroots.co.uk

www.bassetlawchristianheritage.com

The Thanksgiving/Illuminate activity in Bassetlaw, North Nottinghamshire has been organised by Bassetlaw District Council Pilgrims Gallery at Bassetlaw Museum, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and BCH (Bassetlaw Christian Heritage).

Pilgrim Roots is a regional partnership including Bassetlaw District Council, West Lindsey District Council, Bassetlaw Christian Heritage and other organisations in the Lincolnshire, Bassetlaw, North Nottinghamshire and South Yorkshire areas.



Illuminate lantern jar by Stephanie Baines

Editor's footnote: For Babworth's Thanksgiving/Illuminate 2021 Art Exhibition see page 10 and for the native American Wampanoag visit to Retford see page 16.

Purity of race does not exist. Europe is a continent of energetic mongrels.

H.A.L. Fisher (1856-1940) English Historian

Newsletter 2022 editorial deadlines

17th January, 2022 (Spring issue)

25th April, 2022 (Summer issue)

Clarborough Primitive Methodist Chapel and Clarborough Institute

Searching recently for information about Clarborough Institute your editor 'tripped over' the Primitive Methodists website (www.myprimativemethodists.org.uk) which had a short article about Clarborough Primitive Methodist chapel. The chapel apparently opened in mid-1855 on what is now Chapel Close on Clarborough's Main Street, a little south of the junction with Little Lane.

The article stated that the chapel was still in existence in 1956 but had disappeared by 1972.

Does any reader have any further information about the chapel or – very importantly – does anyone have a photo of the chapel that we could publish?

Another little mystery – to me at least – is Clarborough's Institute. I tripped over reference to the Institute when transcribing Clarborough School's Log Books in which the following reference appeared:

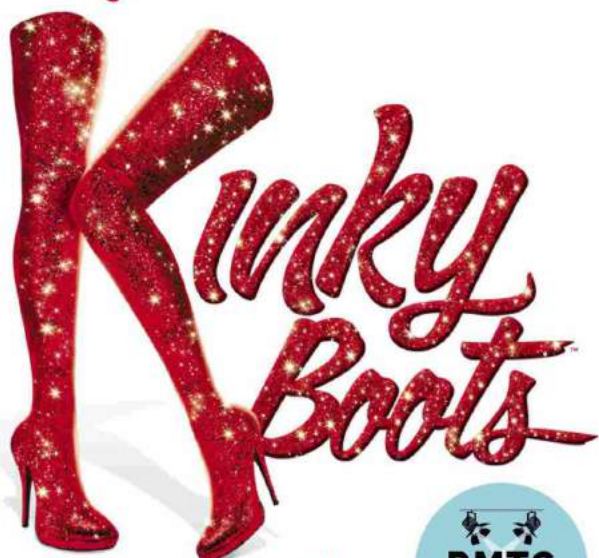
16 November 1908: A day's holiday was given by the Managers on the occasion of the New Institute in the Village.

Was this the old building that I dimly recall seeing at the entrance to Church Lane when my family moved into Clarborough in the mid-1970s? Again, any information including photos that we could share with readers would be much appreciated.

Editor

If you're going through hell, keep going.
Winston Churchill (1874-1965)

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Supporting our learners to be the best they can be!

Clarborough Primary School is in the heart of Clarborough village, just outside Retford. Our modern and spacious building and beautiful grounds provides a fantastic space for our engaging and exciting learning every day.



The school has a dedicated team of teachers, teaching assistants, midday supervisors, office staff and governors who work together to ensure our learning environments are safe, calm and purposeful.

Our curriculum has been specifically designed to ensure that our learners know about the changing world around



them and grow as respectful people. Integral to this is our Golden Rule, 'we look after ourselves, others, our school and our planet.'



Clarborough Primary School's popular nursery is a wonderful environment for our youngest pupils to learn through play. Their knowledge of the world around them is developed through carefully planned and structured activities using inside and outside spaces every morning. We also offer 30-hour childcare provision each afternoon and spaces are available.

Our well-attended breakfast club and wraparound care provides fun, friendly and safe childcare daily from 07:45 until 17:30 to support our school community.



Visits are warmly welcomed and school tours are provided by our House Captains and our Headteacher, Mrs Cowell-Clark.

To arrange an appointment, please call the school office on 01777 708 065 or email office@clarborough.notts.sch.uk

BCVS has organised Covid-19 Vaccination Marshals to help out at Larwood and Retford Primary Care Networks. As a thankyou BCVS organised an event at Retford Town Hall on 8th October to which all of these volunteers were invited. Bassetlaw District Council donated use of the Town Hall and bar facilities; a local DJ donated his disco services; Greencore, Samworth Brothers and Tesco all donated catering; Premier Foods donated goody bag items; local businesses donated raffle prizes. Retford and Larwood PCNs donated towards volunteer gifts and decorations etc.

[Right] BCVS C.E.O. Andria Birch (left) helped colleagues lay out the huge food spreads – with due hygiene care!



Bassetlaw Community & Voluntary Service

Community Footpaths

The last couple of months has seen Clarborough & Welham Parish Council undertaking work on small sections of footpaths around the Parish.

Whilst this work is, strictly speaking, the work of Nottinghamshire County Council Rights of Way Department, the Parish Council is concerned that issues have been neglected due to the problems of the Covid 19 Pandemic. It has, therefore, completed some minor works for which concern had been expressed by Parish residents.



The first of these was generated in May with all the heavy rain. Ground through a number of the 'kissing gates' had become water-logged, slippery and dangerous. These have been filled with limestone and compacted to produce a firm, safe surface through the gates.



A more long-standing concern was the stile on the footpath between Bone Mill Lane and Big Lane – officially Clarborough Footpath No. 5. This stile was unusually high on one side, making it difficult to use for many people. Our former Footpaths Officer, Howard Oates, spent several years trying to have the stile replaced by a gate. Thanks to his efforts, this eventually happened at the end of July when NCC supplied a new gate and it was put in place by the Parish Council and is now in use.

All of this work has been organised by the Chairman of the Parish Council, Phil Gibson, and completed with the help of residents Dave MacDonald, Ray, Chris Boothby and Parish Councillor Paul Willcock.

The Parish Council is very grateful for the efforts of the members of the public.

Please remember – 'No one person can do everything, but every person can do something' (Max Lucado 2010).

If you could spend just a little time occasionally to help with work in the Parish then please email : clarandwelpc@yahoo.com or telephone the Parish Council Chairman Phil Gibson on 07956 771 956.

Paul Willcock

Celebrations

10th December: Human Rights' Day

In 1948 The United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: 'All human beings are born with equal and inalienable rights and fundamental freedoms.'

'Daylight robbery' – where does this phrase come from?

Have you noticed old buildings with what look like window spaced in their outside walls that have been bricked-up for ages?

In 1696, William III of England introduced a property tax which required those living in houses with more than six windows to pay a levy. In order to avoid the tax, house owners would brick up all windows except six.. As the bricked-up windows prevented some rooms from receiving any sunlight, the tax was retrospectively referred to as **daylight robbery**. That this is actually true is impossible to confirm since documentary evidence, including parliamentary records, fail to link the phrase and the Window Tax during that period. The phrases origins have alternatively been linked to the brazen, daylight, armed robbery practices of 'highwaymen' on the open roads. Whichever is true, the phrase has been around for a long time!



Although the initial windows limit of six windows might have been intended to protect the poor, in urban areas this didn't work. In these areas poorer families tended to live in tenement blocks which were owned by a single landlord. Even though the tenement might be internally sub-divided into separate 'homes', from a taxation point of view the whole tenement was considered a single house and was taxed accordingly. With so many windows in the whole block, the taxation was considerable, but of course, the landlord simply passed the tax burden onto his tenants in the form of raised rent.

Window Tax lasted until around 1851 after a long campaign based on much medical research proving how much the poor were suffering from the lack of light and ventilation due to windows being bricked up – or not created at all in new developments. Windows Tax was also applied in France until 1926 but the major effect internationally was that it was applied across the British empire.

Editor



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Retford Town Centre Neighbourhood Plan



This article is part of Retford Town Centre Neighbourhood Planning Group (RTCNPG) communications plan to engage with members of the public. A photograph of the RTCNPG stall at Retford Market on Saturday 18th September is shown below.



RTCNPG vision is that by 2037 Retford will be a safe, healthy, accessible and sustainable town centre, supporting people of all ages, which is proud of its heritage buildings and attractive to businesses as a place to grow and prosper, providing a range of employment sites and premises.

Retford town centre is future facing, the home of people and businesses looking to reduce their carbon footprint. The value of natural assets will be enhanced and extended and investment will create a rich mix of shopping, leisure, sports, health, cultural and social facilities making Retford town centre appealing as a place to live, learn, develop, work and spend quality leisure time.

RTCNPG will be at some of the Retford markets over the next two months ensuring that at least one Thursday, Friday, and Saturday is included. RTCNPG will also be at the Retford Christmas Market on 21st November 2021.

There will also be discussions with local community groups about the best way to engage with their members and a research programme will follow to assess the effectiveness of the communications.

An RTCNPG website will be developed in the coming months where information can be presented, and until this is in place, Retford Business Forum will be including a page on their website www.retfordbusinessforum.org.uk

This may take a couple of weeks to put in place, however it was felt important to start the face-to-face communications as soon as possible.

For further information please contact rickbrand@hotmail.com or 01427 891 376

Editor's footnote: For much more on this crucial topic please see the link near the top of our community website's home page.

Fabulously informative! Your community website

Clarbrough & Welham community website can be easily found by just typing **clarbrough** into your web browser. Do check that the website is actually:

www.clarbrough-welham.org.uk

Latest news or information became ever more important through the recent Covid crisis which made our community website increasingly important. With (currently) nearly 240 pages providing visitors access to the widest range of local, regional and even national sources it isn't difficult to see why an average of some 450 pages of the site have been accessed every day by an average of 250+ visitors every day for many months.

So, why should you check our website frequently? Well, your editor always starts by checking the local weather forecast which is accessed from the website's home page by clicking on the sun: **Want your local weather forecast? Click the Sun!**



This is quickly followed by a check of the latest news headlines from the BBC's news – again, a link at the foot of our homepage.

Many recent inputs to our website have focused on the very wide range of local organisations that are seeking to help those seeking employment – many of these organisations seek to support folks with disabilities, financial pressures as well as providing opportunities for employers to recruit or upskill their own work force.

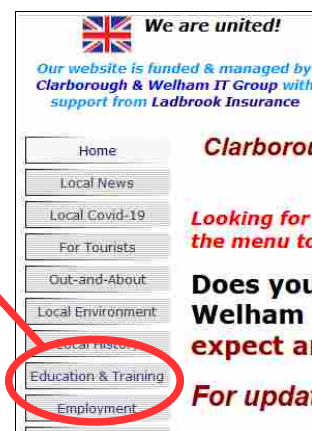
These two sections, **Education & Training** and **Employment** from our website's home page contain such vital information as Nottinghamshire's school places applications as well as forthcoming employment

support events. Within each section are further menu links to separate pages covering Clarbrough Primary School, Primary School's History, Local Academies, Bassetlaw Youth Council. Apprenticeships, Enable, Local Courses, Science Latest, North Notts College (all under Education and Training) with links to Building Better Opportunities (BBO), Good Work, Towards Work and Way2Work from the Employment section.

Law and Order is another key section – whether it's to read your local PCSO Dave Airey's full monthly report or to access the Home Office's latest news along with links to Nottinghamshire's Police & Crime Commissioner, Neighbourhood Alert, Action Fraud or advice on home security and basic UK Law facts.

Finally, if you want to read back issues of this Newsletter, go to the **Newsletter** section of our website where you will find pdf copies of all of our Newsletters back to the Spring 2010 issue laid out before you – happy reading!

Editor





Chesterfield Canal Santa Special cruises

Chesterfield Canal Trust will, once again, be providing their Santa Special cruises in the run-up to Christmas. All our tripboats will be running Santa Special cruises in December as shown below. All children get a present; all adults get a seasonal drink and a mince pie or similar. All fares are £8. Booking is essential.

Our 'local' cruiser, **Seth Ellis**, will be running Santa cruises from the **Chequers Inn at Ranby** on Saturdays and Sundays, 4th/5th, 11th/12th and 18th/19th December plus Wednesday 22nd, Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th December.

To book, please email sethellis@chesterfield-canal-trust.org.uk or ring 07925 851 569.

The Canal Trust's other Santa Special cruises will be:

John Varley II will be running Santa cruises from **Tapton Lock in Chesterfield** on Saturdays and Sundays, 4th/5th, 11th/12th and 18th/19th December plus Wednesday 22nd & Thursday 23rd December.

To book, please ring 01629 533 020.



Madeline will be running Santa cruises from **Hollingwood Hub** on Saturdays and Sundays, 4th/5th, 11th/12th and 18th/19th December.

To book, please ring 07708 050 171.

Hugh Henshall will be running Santa cruises from **Shireoaks** on Saturdays and Sundays, 4th/5th, 11th/12th and 18th/19th December plus Wednesday 22nd & Thursday 23rd December.

To book, please email hughhenshall@chesterfield-canal-trust.org.uk or ring 0114 360 0460 and leave a message.



A woman is like a tea bag; you never know how strong it is until it's in hot water.

Eleanor Roosevelt (1884-1962)



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Thanksgiving/Illuminate 2021 Babworth Art Exhibition

The Babworth Art Exhibition has been a collaboration between Bassetlaw Christian Heritage, All Saints' Church Babworth, and Bassetlaw District Council for over five years commemorating the story of the Separatists and Mayflower Pilgrims. The theme of Thanksgiving which became popular in North America developed from these stories. Today its relevance is perhaps broader and can be seen as an opportunity to give thanks more widely.

This year the **Thanksgiving/Illuminate 2021 Art Exhibition will be online: 15th November – 31st December 2021 and open to the public at Babworth Church: 27th & 28th November 2021.**

We are inviting artists, historians and musicians to produce artworks, and give talks and recitals....whatever would be fitting and suitable to be exhibited or performed in Babworth Church to communicate the theme of *Thanksgiving*, however that is interpreted.



Mayflower by Gerry Fruin

Previously created Mayflower-themed artworks will also be welcomed and, as before, there is no selection process, and all are invited to participate.

In 2020, Covid 19 set us significant challenges, however, technology came to the rescue and we went online – this year we are again asking artists to record and curate their work online.

Active Retford – for one day!

Sports brand **Asics**, in partnership with Mental Health Charity **MIND** and Bassetlaw District Council, had a bold ambition to uplift Retford's mood through the power of movement.

Retford has been identified as one of the most motivated places to experience an uplift by the ASICS State of Mind Index and for one day – Saturday 25th September, town-centre visitors were invited to partake in a series of movement initiatives and measure the collective impact on their mental wellbeing. Dr. Brendon Stubbs - a world leading expert on movement and mental health - oversaw the experiment having helped design the ambitious day of events. Streets were transformed into a movement inspired gym – with the installation of a variety of exercise pop-ups designed to help get the residents of Retford moving and all were linked by foot prints...



[Left & below]
The Bench Press.



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If you have any queries, do not hesitate to contact:

Michael C.Carnall 07836 375 808 / 01427 884 469

michaelcarnall@yahoo.co.uk



Calories or calories – what's the difference?

Food labelling can be confusing, sometimes intentionally! A Calorie (capital 'C') actually represents a kilocalorie – a thousand calories. A calorie is a measure of energy obtainable from foods or used by us in exercise.

Modern science uses the Joule (or kilojoule) in energy measurements but UK food industry - and health and exercise providers – have yet to catch up!

Careers Guidance – start young!

National news for many months has been visiting the employment topic and particularly the needs of several sectors. Most recently this has focused on HGV drivers, but close behind has come the whole construction industry and business-focused IT skills.

September 2020 also saw developments in career-focused education with the launch of T-levels which have a very specific career pathway at the same sorts of levels as more traditional A-level and BTECs.

Your editor has been a member of North Notts Skills & Employment Partnership (NNSEP for short!) for a while now which yielded the *Job opportunities : looking forward* article in our Summer 2021 issue.

However, more recently NNSEP has been discussing and planning a number of career-focused events for young people in the Retford area. These have been traditionally run for pupils in the upper years of secondary education* but this year a Jobs Market took place in Retford market in late September. This aimed to attract not only young people but, crucially, their parents and even grand parents.

So why is this latter point important? Vast amounts of careers guidance research has shown that good career aspirations start at a very young age and although schools now put a lot of effort – and time – into providing such guidance, it is the knowledge and attitudes of parents that remain one of the strongest levers to launch young people into employment.

This early years focus is one that your editor is particularly keen on as Governor of Clarlborough Primary School and which he has been injecting into NNSEP discussions – watch this space!

To find out more about T-levels, go online to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/introduction-of-t-levels/introduction-of-t-levels>

We should also add that gender issues should be consciously avoided – doctors are not all male and neither are all HGV drivers! Get men into nursing and women into engineering.

*The next Careers event at Retford Post-16 Centre is currently scheduled for Wednesday, 9th February, 2022.

Editor

Checking your MP's records

Readers may be interested to visit the *TheyWorkForYou* website (www.theyworkforyou.com/mp) where entering your post code will lead you to a wide summary of your MP's interests and voting history – makes interesting reading!

TheyWorkForYou is run by *mySociety*, a UK charity who build web tools that make democracy a little more accessible. *mySociety* is not politically-aligned, and its projects are for everyone to use.

TheyWorkForYou covers not only UK Parliament and House of Lords but also the devolved assemblies in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Editor

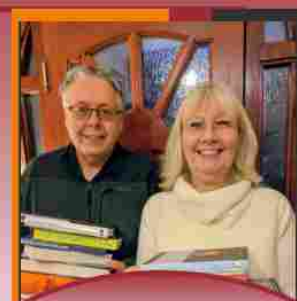
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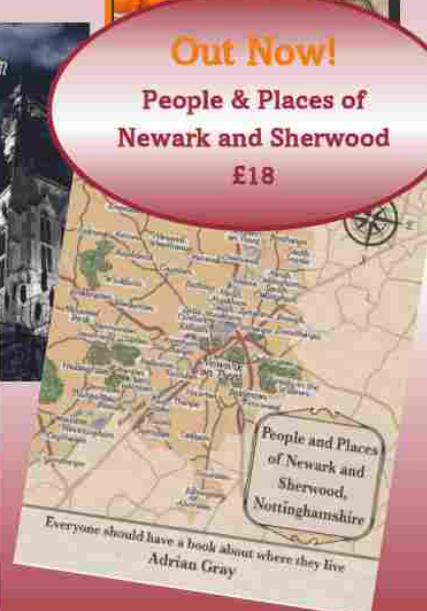
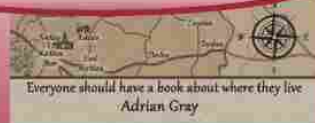
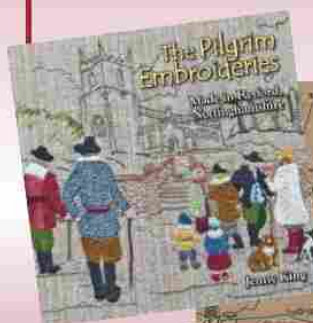
Another Saturday Night



The History and Stories of North and South Wheatley



Many local books in stock



Retford Heritage Open Day – what an event!

Your editor got out early on Saturday 11th September in preparation for visiting just some of Retford's sites and activities. The weather was kind with some sunny spells between thin cloud and a distinctly warm feeling. After an essential stop at Costa for some caffeine the first stop was a chat with Worksop Salvation Army Band who were just wetting their lips...



After a light-hearted chat and a few coins in their bucket we continued to Retford Arts Hub.

Anyone who hasn't been into the Retford Arts Hub on Churchgate is missing a treat! Not only is the ground floor shop a real treasure trove of potential Christmas presents but exploring the upper floors is an experience in itself – the stairway is a listed feature and worth exploring just for itself...



Next, just a short way along Churchgate, we stopped at Retford's Denman Library which had a superb renovation programme in 2019-2020. Again, if you've not seen it – drop in soon!

We then took a relaxing walk back through Kings Park and past the wonderful play park area out onto Hospital Road. Now, when our family moved to Retford way back in the mid-1970s the label 'Hospital' caused a bit of a challenge when we came to look for Retford Hospital – nowhere along the road! It was only later that we discovered that this road gets its name from the Hospital of the Holy and Undivided Trinity, just a short distance from the top of Bridgegate. Why it's called 'hospital' will be explained later!



The present building dates from 1832 onwards; alterations and additions continued through to quite recently. That of around 1872 which added the clock tower seen above is the most obvious.

Our guided tour started in the chapel on the ground floor and then climbed (more stairs!) to the Audit Room. This was originally intended for collection of rents. The Audit Room with its official seat with Darrell's family crest...



The *Hospital* was created by the will of John Darrell (1624-1665) who had been landlord of much of the local area. His will had aimed to create a *Hospital for Poor People* to be based at his own Manor House but by the time the establishment of the Hospital had actually got under way the old Manor House was in such a poor state that it was decided to create the current building using some of the demolition materials – and contents – from the old building.

Following our brief guided tour which included view of the current Brethren's accommodation, we spent a little time with refreshments in the garden behind the Hospital...





The Hospital's garden has a number of features, this one spotted by one young girl with her parents who called your photographing editor to take a look. Note the frog just below the fountain and the Hospital's logo and fountain date.

Next stop – The Masonic Hall at the top of Carolgate...



The Hall was originally a cinema (The Regent then Ritz) before closing in 1957. It subsequently became the centre for Free Masons in Retford. The Hall has been extensively refurbished over recent years and the Heritage Day presentation was extremely interesting.

And so, on to our last stop – Bassetlaw Museum in Grove Street. It has become an accepted routine for Bassetlaw Museum to organise traditional coach or bus tours around the town as part of Heritage Days. Here the bus waits outside the Museum for its next boarding.



Did you know that the invading Roman army between 43 and 47 AD, after successfully defeating the Britons in the south-east of England, sent the 9th Legion, the Spanish *Legio IX Hispana*, north towards Nottinghamshire and Lincoln which were then absorbed into the Roman Empire – a situation that lasted for about another 400 years?

It would appear that recruitment continues to this day...



Heritage Open Day exposed so many aspects of Retford's history that it would take all of the pages of this Newsletter to even dip into them.

We will dip into some of these over coming issues, so watch this space!

However, for a bit more on the word *hospital* and the reason for confusions mentioned opposite see page 21.

West Burton to save the world!

The UK Government recently announced that West Burton, along with 14 other sites, had been identified as possible location for the UK's first, experimental, nuclear fusion power station – by 2040.

Mention nuclear power and for most people that leads to terrible images – mushroom clouds over Japanese cities at the end of World War 2 or mass evacuations after atomic power plant failures or explosions such as Chernobyl (Ukraine in the former Soviet Union) in 1986 or the 2011 Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster in Japan.

Imagine atoms to be made up of two parts – a central *nucleus* made up of heavy protons and neutrons with tiny electrons in layers or 'shells' at distances from the nucleus. The number of positive protons in an atom's nucleus, balanced by an equal number of negatively charged electrons (known as its *atomic number*) determines which element the atoms belong to – and hence their chemistry which is what we experience everyday – whether in what we eat, what everything we see is made up of or even what we are!

However, there are two natural processes that we have discovered that involve the central atomic nuclei. The first to be discovered and then put to human use was nuclear *fission*. This was first identified as *radioactivity* in 1896 by French scientist Henri Becquerel working with uranium compounds. In the late 1930s a team of Germans Otto Hahn and Fritz Strassmann with Austrian-Swedish Lise Meitner and Otto Robert Frisch established what was happening in *nuclear fission*. They showed that this natural process, which releases huge amounts of energy, is caused by the natural break up of atomic nuclei of very 'heavy' elements into smaller atoms – *fission products*.

Nuclear fission research accelerated in the early 1940s when it was realised that it could be triggered by bombarding 'heavy' elements such as uranium or plutonium with neutrons (the other particles in atomic nuclei alongside protons) with release of huge amounts of energy. Concentrating these heavy elements (uranium and plutonium specifically) meant that if fission could be either triggered or managed to produce either a bomb or a sources of nuclear power. History would show how the former led to Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombs at the end of World War 2 or our current range of nuclear power stations.

While nuclear power stations have a huge positive in the current climate change debates in that they produce no greenhouse gases, their environmental impact is still huge since the fission products are usually highly radioactive and, hence, dangerous to living things. These products can take many – even thousands – of years to decay to safe levels.

So, how can nuclear processes 'save the planet'? To answer that we need to consider the sun (or almost any star). How the sun produces the unimaginably huge amount of energy to keep it shining for millions of years was product of another line of research running essentially in parallel with that of nuclear fission. This started in 1920 with Arthur Eddington suggesting that fusion of hydrogen nuclei to form helium was the source of stellar energy.

Hans Bethe, German-American, worked out the main cycle of nuclear fusion as source of solar energy.

With World War 2's pressures, the US/UK/Canada allied *Manhattan Project* incorporated research on the use of nuclear fusion as a weapon. Although the challenges were greater than with nuclear fission, the resulting 'hydrogen bomb' was finally tested in 1952 and ultimately led to the range of nuclear weapons that now exist.

As the nuclear 'arms race' accelerated through the 1950 and 1960s much research continued looking to harness nuclear fusion as a power source. Although demonstration of nuclear fusion had been achieved back in 1932, creation of technology capable of maintaining the sorts of physical conditions necessary to mimic the sun's internal processes has proven 'difficult' – a minor over simplification!

Current research converts the starting materials to a plasma (a gas in which the atoms are stripped back to bare nuclei and electrons) at some 150 million °C and confines it magnetically while fusion occurs. All of this requires huge amounts of energy input but very recent developments have demonstrated net energy production with the hope that larger scale systems have the potential to be commercial-scale energy producers – with no climate changing by-products. Watch this space!

Research for such a project has been going on at UK Atomic Energy Authority's Culham Science Centre near Oxford. The first reactor-scale experiment, ITR (International Thermonuclear Reactor), in France is part of the UK's efforts with first demonstration of economic power generation hopefully scheduled for 2030. West Burton – or one of the other identified sites – would then follow as an industrial-scale prototype generator.

Editor

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Vulcan teaching girls and boys to be engineers

The next generation of engineers and designers have been given a unique opportunity to reinvent an aircraft icon. Year 10 students at Doncaster UTC (University Technical College) will spend six weeks reinventing the wings of the RAF's longest-serving aircraft, the XH558 Vulcan, under a partnership with the Vulcan to the Sky Trust (VTST).

The employer-led engineering project will see students using the original plans and sketches of the XH558, an iconic example of British aeronautical design excellence. They will be tasked with redesigning the wings of the plane using modern materials and manufacturing processes.

Students will present their research, sketches, models and a PowerPoint presentation to VTST at the end of the project.

The latest project comes as VTST continues to fundraise for an inspirational Heritage Hangar at Doncaster Sheffield Airport – *The Vulcan Experience*. The experience will have Vulcan XH558 as its centrepiece and create a brighter future for heritage aircraft preservation, restoration and operation. Michael Trotter, from VTST, said: "One of our key goals is to inspire the next generation to pursue careers in engineering and we're so excited to work with Doncaster UTC to develop this curriculum content.

To read the VTST's full press release for this project, together with a photo of the pupils involved, go to your community website's **Local History ► Vulcan to the Sky** page.

Editor

Clarborough & District Women's Institute



We are pleased to be back in the swing of things again with regular meetings. In September we welcomed Bonnie Baggeley from Bassetlaw Hospice. It was interesting to hear about the wide variety of support that is offered by the hospice and it is encouraging to know that the hospice is not just about end of life care.

There is a varied programme in place to see us through the winter. We are looking forward to a games night in October and learning about jewellery in November perhaps with Christmas presents in mind. December is all about Christmas and a seasonal session with the Clarborough handbell ringers.

Our meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 19:30 in Clarborough village hall. Everyone is welcome, we would be pleased to see you. The £4 visitor fee includes light refreshments and a chance to win a little something in the raffle. To contact us email clarbdiswi@hotmail.com, or phone 01777 949 847.

Lois Chell

Clarborough Church Remembrance

St. John the Baptist Church will be hosting the 2021 Remembrance Day service and wreath laying on Sunday, 14th November starting at 10:45. This will allow time to prepare for the traditional two minutes silence from precisely 11:00.

Parish Council Chairman, Phil Gibson, will then lay a wreath on behalf of our whole community.







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The Wampanoag Perspective

The Wampanoag are one of the native peoples who were impacted by the arrival of the Mayflower Pilgrims in Massachusetts in 1620. Their cultural exchange visit to Bassetlaw in the anniversary of the first 'Thanksgiving' was hosted by Bassetlaw Museum between 21st and 25th September and was a stunning success.

The group met local school children and residents as they built a *wetu* (traditional dwelling) in the Bassetlaw Museum grounds, sharing their history, culture and perspective. The week long visit included a seminar, official reception and cultural showcase of traditional music and dance.

Construction of a traditional Wetu [right] formed the background to exciting school visits during the week; Clarborough Primary School were one such lucky participant!



[Left] The Wampanoag team. (L-r) Hartman, Steven, Troy and Mark.

[Below] The audience waits in the Museum's garden for the team to begin traditional dances – with full audience participation!



We have no space in this short article to explore the history of the Wampanoag people which is thought to go back many thousands of years. What is clear is that when Europeans began to explore the eastern shores of the north American coast, they found many native groups (now known as *nations*). The area of Massachusetts that is home to the Wampanoag suffered massive devastation caused by the diseases introduced by Europeans as they explored the wider area.

European exploration of North America actually began spasmodically during the 10th century when Norse settlers



[Above] Troy leads visitors in a traditional 'circular' dance.

in Greenland took timber from the Newfoundland area. Whether any 'relationships' developed with locals that led to Norse genes in locals is still a matter of investigation.

However, if we fast-forward to the 16th century, we start to see Europeans coming to North America as colonist – initially Spanish in Florida (1565) and then the British to Massachusetts (1587). Thus the Mayflower Pilgrims were not the first 'settlers' that locals had encountered.

In the 1600s, there were as many as 40,000 people in the 67 villages that made up the Wampanoag People, who firstly lived as a nomadic hunting and gathering culture but by 1000 AD were farming such crops as maize, beans and squash.

These Europeans brought with them some deadly infections against which locals had no immunity – the result was widespread population decimations; the Wampanoag call this period 'The Great Dying'.

[Right] Hartman beat out the rhythms of dances on a hand-held drum.



Retford Business Forum introduces its full team

Retford Business Forum (RBF) announces its new leadership line-up and welcomes new treasurer, John Price. John is a trustee of a pension scheme and has recently retired from a career in the energy generation sector.



The new line-up at RBF are pictured at their initial meeting held 'Covid-safely' outside.

From left to right are Marie Walker (social media), Steve Walker (Vice Chair), Sharon Richardson (Secretary), Rick Brand (Chair), John Price (Treasurer) and Alison Leckenby (Membership Secretary).

RBF continues to provide information and updates regularly to individuals and organisations on its mailing list. The website (www.retfordbusinessforum.org.uk) has been improved, including a members area, with further initiatives for members being worked on.

RBF relies entirely on its membership income, donations and grants and is not regularly funded by anyone. Members include both individuals and organisations – all those interested in supporting RBF are welcome.

Retford Christmas Market and Lights Switch-On is planned for 21st November 2021. RBF is very grateful to be working in partnership with North Notts BID with support from Bassetlaw District Council (BDC) to enable the staging of this landmark event – see page 2 for much more!

RBF is also working in partnership with BDC to assist in the development of a Retford Town Centre Neighbourhood Plan and is eager to hear from residents and those working in, or owning, properties in Retford Town Centre.

To join the RBF mailing list, enquire about membership, request a Christmas Market stall booking form, or enquire about the Town Centre Neighbourhood Planning Group, please contact chair@retfordbusinessforum.org.uk

Cut your home's carbon foot print

Your home's energy use is probably one of the biggest parts of your carbon footprint. In fact, according to Energy Saving Trust, around 22% of the country's carbon emissions come from our homes – including heating, lighting and appliances. In order to 'decarbonise' UK homes, the government has laid out plans to ban fossil fuel boilers in newly built homes, and switch more than 23 million households that are currently heated with gas or oil to a low-carbon system. But these changes won't happen overnight. Low-carbon heating systems are not yet suitable for every home, and can be costly and inconvenient to install. If you're keen to reduce your carbon footprint – and your energy bill – there's still plenty you can do now. Five simple and economical ways you can improve your home's energy efficiency now are:

1. Insulate your loft – or increase your loft insulation. Hot air rises, so capping your home helps keep it warm and reduces the energy used to keep it warm. Is your loft entrance hatch properly draught proofed?
2. Cosy furnishings - rugs, curtains, and draught excluders can all help stop heat escaping from your home, and are especially useful options if you rent. Carpet is a better insulating material than wood or tiles and, if you have bare floorboards, it will block draughts from the gaps too. Fitted carpets are most effective, but large rugs also work – the thicker the better. The same is true for curtains; heavy, lined materials can keep the heat in and prevent draughts, with the added benefit of keeping rooms cool in summer by minimising solar gain.
3. Prevent draughts by filling gaps around doors and windows and blocking unused open chimneys. Although controlled ventilation is important to prevent damp and condensation and for good health, uncontrolled draughts waste heat and energy. You can buy off-the-shelf products to seal around doors and windows, and ready-made products to draught proof keyholes and letterboxes.
4. Insulate hot water pipes and tanks. If your hot water tank isn't insulated get a thick (80mm/3 inch) cover – it could pay for itself in a year! Foam tube insulation (usually dark grey) is available from DIY stores and fits easily over all exposed hot water pipes – another no-brainer!
5. Fit secondary glazing. If you aren't getting double-glazing fitted buy a thin film, like cling film, which fits onto the window frame. Acrylic sheet is a more effective and long-lasting option, and only a slightly more difficult job. If you prefer a professional installation, a fully opening secondary glazing unit can be installed in the window recess, though this will be more expensive. In either case, keep ventilation in mind – see below.

Ventilation is important to maintain adequate air movement throughout the building, something that has been emphasised through the Covid-19 pandemic. If you're installing insulation yourself, be careful that you're not covering any ventilation grilles or air bricks. If your windows have trickle vents, make sure they are still accessible and operable.

Editor

Halloween is the beginning of the holiday shopping season. That's for women. The beginning of the holiday shopping season for men is Christmas Eve.

David Letterman (1947-) American humourist

Clarborough & Welham Parish Council's response to Bassetlaw Local Plan

For a number of years Bassetlaw District Council have been working to produce a Local Plan, which deals with how the District Council expects the whole of Bassetlaw to develop up to the year 2037. This includes housing, leisure, business and industry. It is, hopefully, now in its final consultation process before being submitted to the government for approval.

Whilst all of the Plan is of relevance to our lives in the District, most of it is centred around the larger areas of population such as Retford and Worksop.

However, the issue of housing is one which affects all communities, from the large towns down to the smallest villages. Within the Local Plan is a policy (ST 1: Bassetlaw Spatial Strategy) which deals with this issue. The housing requirement across all of Bassetlaw is set by central government on an annual rolling number. The total number to 2037 is being planned in a variety of ways. One of these is that all of the smaller communities, which includes Clarborough & Welham, are expected to absorb an increase in housing of just 5% of the number of houses in the Parish as counted in April 2018. For our Parish this means an increase of just 25 houses in the period up to 2037. This is not per year but in total.

The Broad Gores development, which is included in the Neighbourhood Plan (NP), has a housing allocation of 38 houses. The Parish does, therefore, already have a housing allocation to meet the requirements of the Local Plan to 2037.

The Parish Council have agreed that this is an acceptable figure and has, therefore, supported the Local Plan.

Paul Willcock
Parish Councillor
Clarborough & Welham Parish Council

Editor's footnote: For much more on **Bassetlaw's Local Plan 2020-2037**, go to our community website and click on the link on our home page.



The various lockdowns, combined with weather, which was either too hot or too wet, has meant that the various works planned for the Pasture in 2021 have been abandoned! They will, providing Covid allows, be carried out next year.

We do, however, need more volunteers to help with this work. Currently there are just 4 local residents carrying out all the work. This is not enough to maintain the Pasture and footpath to a good standard. It is highly likely that if we get wet weather in the coming winter the footpath will become un-usable by anyone who is not very surefooted! It is in your hands, ladies and gentlemen of the Parish!!

If you wish to help maintain our Pasture, please contact us on friendsofpp2018@gmail.com (preferred) or 07581 531 595.

The Pasture

All the Pasture has been cut for the autumn and winter. To the east of the footpath, it has been cut and left as has the section between the allotments and the canal. Neither of these areas are being considered for further wildflower development.

The area to the west of the footpath and up to the hedge has been cut and the hay produced has been removed. This is the only cut this area receives each year, just like any hay meadow. The single cut allows wildflower seed to be produced and stay on the ground. Removing the cut vegetation means that the nutrients in the soil are reduced each year. This lowering of nutrients improves the ground for wildflowers.

There is method in our apparent madness!

Please respect the work of those unpaid volunteers who put a lot of time and effort into ensuring that the Parish Pasture is an asset to the Parish and the village. It would not look as good as it does now without their effort!

Parish Councillor Paul Willcock
Chairman FoPP Group

Clarborough & Welham Parish VE Day Celebrations 2022

You may recall that Clarborough & Welham Parish Council and Hayton Parish Council had planned a cooperative celebration of the end of World War 2 with VE 75 from 8 to 10th May 2020. All of our extensive plans were, of course, brought down by the first Covid Lockdown.

It had been hoped to hold a similar celebration this year in May, but this was again 'scuppered' by the second (or was it the third?) Lockdown.

A third attempt to hold a celebration is being planned for June 2022! This, as many of you will know, is to commemorate 70 years since Her Majesty the Queen's Coronation. Again, there have been changes to the pattern of the Bank Holidays to provide time for this celebration.

As Hayton Parish Council have decided to arrange their own celebrations, Clarborough & Welham Parish Council will provide a programme of events.

For reasons around Covid there has (at the time of writing) yet to be a meeting of the group which was organising the original VE Day celebrations. There is, therefore, no news on what the celebrations in Clarborough & Welham will involve. We have even to decide what, now, to call it – obviously not VE75!

We will have a plan by the time of the publication of the next Newsletter.

Paul Willcock
Parish Councillor
Clarborough & Welham Parish Council
Co-ordinator VE75 ClaWeHa 2020



Happiness is not something ready made. It comes from your own actions.

Dalai Lama



New report says planning reform must make access to nature legal and fair

The Wildlife Trusts published a new report in early October that, for the first time, calls for people's access to nature to be set in law. **Planning – a new way forward: how the planning system can help our health, nature and climate**, comes at a critical time for the Government's Planning White Paper and the recently announced "pause" on planning reform.

The newly named Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities has a huge opportunity to ensure the the planning system improves lives by levelling up access to nature.

To read the report and associated press release go to our website's home page and look for the Trust's logo.

Editor

Clarborough & Welham Parish Council Meetings

22nd November, 2021

10th January, 2022

21st February, 2022

Meetings open 19:00 in Clarborough Village Hall

Agendas are always posted at least a week in advance on notice boards and on our community website where you will also find approved Minutes and meeting dates through to January, 2023.



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Local Police Support Officer Dave Airey's latest reports can be read on our community website; here we note one of his key points, so over to Dave!

Please continue to report crime - and incidents - through to our control room on 101, or 999 as appropriate. Even in these most difficult of times, where possible, reported crimes will be dealt with in the same way as they have always been recorded, and dealt with. Please remain aware of any suspicious persons, vehicles and activity in the area and continue to report such instances through to our control room, as normal. From time to time, I am advised about incidents and crimes being shared on social media, which I was not aware of. Might I ask that incidents and crimes of this nature are reported through to our control room, for Police action and recording purposes, in the first instance and then, obviously, share your experiences with whom you desire by other methods?

Please do not contact me on my 'personal' phone number to report crimes, incidents or other law-and-order issues. My personal number should only be used when seeking my advice. Dave's contacts for such 'advice' matters are:

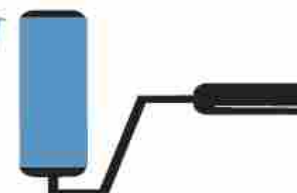
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Science as part of our everyday lives

Over the past year and a half we've all become very used to daily scientific updates and become fluent in terms like 'R-rate', 'spike protein' and 'PCR test', and one of the key things that's become more evident than ever is the role of science and scientists in our everyday lives.

But the role of science extends beyond medicine, and if we look closely, we can see science all around us every day. From the chemical structure of washing up liquid that removes the oil from pots and pans, to the design of new buildings to reduce energy usage, to engineering improvements in our methods of transport, to a greater understanding of diet and nutrition information on food labels.

For the past seven years, this is the kind of thing that the Nottingham Festival of Science and Curiosity has been championing, working with schools and running public events to change the way we think about science for people turned off by impressions that science is hard, geeky, conducted in labs remote from daily life, and not for the likes of them.



A partnership that includes education charity Ignite!, both Nottingham Trent University and University of Nottingham

as well as lots of other cultural organisations, the festival encourages everyone across Nottinghamshire to see science as something that is for them and to have the opportunity to ask questions about the things that make them curious.



The 2021 Festival happened in the midst of this year's lockdown, and included a programme of online workshops and panel discussions, a printed magazine, a TV programme on Notts TV called Wollaton Watch and projects linking pupils with academics to do their own science investigations.

Plans are already underway for the next festival, 7th - 16th February 2022, with a hope that it will be possible to run family friendly events in libraries and community centres across the county, as well as a now ubiquitous online programme. The planning process is very open; the team wants to hear your ideas for the kinds of content that you'd like to see in the programme - ideas for talks, answers to the questions your children are constantly asking about, people and communities you think should be involved and any other thoughts.

To get in touch, contact the Festival Producer Megan Shore: megan@ignitefutures.org.uk

Check out the Festival website: www.nottsfosac.co.uk
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The Open Source Centre!



Fed up with paying an arm-and-a-leg for essential computer apps (applications to non-geeks!) when you either buy a new computer or upgrade your current hardware?

Maybe it's time for you to come into the **open source** world! Interestingly, *Which? Computing's* October 2021 issue recommended the open source apps that our Group has been promoting for years!

Open source is a massive, world-wide, community that believes in making technology freely available – and totally free to end-users. Open source encompasses a mass of different technologies – from the internet, motor cars to pharmaceuticals but for our purposes, we are concerned with open source computer software.

Clarborough & Welham IT Group has been a local focus for essential open source apps for many years so if you'd like to get onboard – and get free apps too – why not get in touch to enrol in our next set of open source-based classes at Clarborough Village Hall. Currently our sources aim at Microsoft Windows but the same apps are available for Apple Macs too.

Our main focus for recent classes have been LibreOffice which is a completely compatible alternative to Microsoft's Office and also Gimp which is a powerful alternative to Adobe's Photoshop (professional version, not the £70-ish version often supplied with new cameras).

For those members interested, we have a range of other open source applications and also free downloads of security applications such as Avira Free antivirus, CCleaner computer tidying application and MalwareBytes Free which does what it says on the tin!

Classes are arranged in 5-week blocks starting on either Tuesday afternoons (13:30-15:00) or Wednesday mornings (10:00-11:30) for just £25 for a full five weeks of either session. Classes start with a 'Gardeners' Question time-like sessions which provides opportunities for members to set the direction of classes. To see a calendar of class dates through to July 2022 go to your community website's *Local Groups* section and then *IT Group* – calendars are provided at the foot of that page. **January-February classes resume in w/c 3rd January, 2022.**

To find out more or to enrol, contact Greg on 01777 700 918 or email clarboroughwelham@gmail.com

You might also like to join us to get up-to-date with Microsoft's Windows 11 news – scheduled for launch in 2022.

Hospital – a changing word!

Our review of Retford's recent Heritage Open Day included some notes about the Trinity Hospital on Hospital Road. As briefly explained in that piece, 'hospital' in earlier times didn't mean what we understand it to be today!

If we consider other words that come from the same roots such as hospitality and hospice we see that early meanings existed until relatively recently. This also explains why older hospitals as we now know them often have the word *infirm* – a fairly logical link to what these places do medically.

Editor

A Godly Inheritance

If you want a good read about the origins and history of Retford's Hospital of the Holy and Undivided Trinity and of the Darrell and Denman families, then Jean Nicholson's book is for you!

This book not only provides a thorough explanation of the origins and development of the Hospital but also many descriptions of the conditions of the 'working classes' in Retford through the 17th to 20th centuries.

The book is currently available from Bookworm (see Bookworm's advert on page 11) :

A Godly Inheritance by Jean M. Nicholson
ISBN 978-0-9566454-0-1 £10

Editor's footnote: To get a full understanding of the Hospital's current estate including the extensive list of properties forming part of the Trinity Estates, visit their website: <https://www.trinityhospitalretford.co.uk/>

Replacing a car log book

DVLA launched an online service to get a replacement V5C (Vehicle Registration Certificate) in September 2020 which is the quickest way to replace this document. Motorists can order a replacement no matter the reason for needing one and since launch the service has been used more than 300,000 times (around 5,800 times a week). The online service to replace a V5C is quick and easy to use and means customers will receive their replacement vehicle registration certificate within the week.

Go online to: <https://www.gov.uk/vehicle-log-book>

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Aviation industry stepping up to Climate Change

Virgin Atlantic has signed a memorandum of understanding to become a customer for a proposed direct air capture (DAC) facility in Scotland.



The UK carrier says the technology – which strips carbon dioxide from air and deposits it underground – could be a “powerful tool” as it seeks to reach net-zero carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions by 2050.

According to the two businesses hoping to develop the facility – Storegga and partner Carbon Engineering – DAC provides a high quality, cost-effective way to permanently eliminate CO₂ emissions from the atmosphere.

“Innovation and sustainability leadership is firmly in our DNA and we’re excited to be the first in the aviation industry to partner with Storegga to progress the development of direct air capture solutions in the UK,” says Virgin Atlantic chief commercial officer Juha Jarvinen. The project is in the preliminary design and engineering phase, but based on current plans could, in due course, remove 1 million tonnes of CO₂ from the atmosphere annually, with first, small scale, operations targeted for 2026. On that basis, it could be the first large-scale DAC facility in Europe, the businesses claim.

Virgin Atlantic’s 2019 sustainability report – the most recent one available on its website – suggests the carrier was responsible for the equivalent of 5.5 million tonnes of CO₂ emissions in 2018.

Opinions on the use of DAC technology are mixed, however, with some people cautioning it remains unproven that it can be rolled out on an industrial scale.

DAC typically used in larger industrial-scale facilities such as those being piloted by Canadian firm Carbon Engineering, uses a solution of potassium hydroxide to capture CO₂. This mixture must then be heated to high temperatures to release the CO₂ again so it can be stored and the hydroxide reused. The process uses existing technology and is currently thought to have the lower cost of the two alternatives.

The second technology uses amine adsorbents in small, modular reactors such as those being developed by Swiss firm Climeworks. Costs are currently higher, but the potential for savings is thought to be greater. This is due to the modular design that could be made on an industrial

production line, along with lower temperatures needed to release CO₂ for storage, meaning waste heat could be used.

Gaseous carbon dioxide can be liquefied under pressure provided its temperature is below 31 °C, this temperature being referred to as its CRITICAL POINT. If compressed and cooled below the critical point, a colourless fluid, approximately the same density as water, is produced.

This is the form in which it would usually be pumped into underground storage sites. These sites could be abandoned oil or gas fields or newly drilled sites chosen for their chemical composition and geological stability. Long term storage then depends on the carbon dioxide fluid either seeping into the natural 'spongy' formation of the rocks, dissolving in natural water within the rock formations or, hopefully more very long-term, reacting with the rocks to form new rocky materials such as carbonates, etc.

DAC is just one – quite high technology – strategy for cutting our increasing pollution of the atmosphere with carbon dioxide – a key contributor to the increasingly apparent climate change. Other solutions are either already in use or are also being developed.

Probably the cheapest and most widespread is planting of trees. This works on the principle that plants grow by using carbon dioxide as their primary supply of carbon used to build their structure. The principle is then that the wood formed would be used as fuel with some form of carbon capture following or remain as a long term store.

The challenge with such strategies, however, is the area needed to effectively cut climate change – some estimates suggest something more than the total area of India!

Further strategies include rock dust – grinding rocks to increase their surface area, spreading them on crop lands to make the weathering process which also absorb carbon dioxide. This might also increase crop yields.

Ecosystem restoration beyond woodlands could also see carbon dioxide absorbed by green vegetation as seagrass bed, salt marshes and peatlands.

Biochar is a carbon-rich charcoal made by heating plant waste in an oxygen free environment (pyrolysis) and then buying this in soil to lock it away. Again some suggest this could increase crop yields.

Iron filings is another research topic – this fertilises the growth of marine phytoplankton which absorb carbon dioxide from the air and eventually locking it away in the ocean. Trials are currently under way to test this approach.

LAWNMOWERS

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Decisionz is excited to announce the release of the autumn 2021 issue of their careers e-zine, their biggest and best issue yet. The new e-zine has 60 pages packed with careers advice, local opportunities and interesting articles providing guidance and support for students on the journey to their future.

The e-zine is packed with post-16 information on apprenticeships, understanding your options, diary dates in 2021 and 2022, and more. The new issue also contains more case studies than ever, so that students can get first-person accounts from the likes of an archaeologist, solicitor, apprentices, and many more inspiring individuals.

Teachers, if you would like to sign up to receive Decisionz magazine for your school, please follow this link to find out more: <https://www.decisionz.co.uk/for-schools>

Read the new Decisionz autumn 2021 e-zine now:

<http://magazine.decisionz.co.uk/books/uzet>

Also, follow @DecisionzNotts or @DecisionzDerbys on Instagram and Twitter for more local opportunities, tips and information.

Ellie Brown

Editor's footnote: For much more on careers advice and opportunities, go to our community website's **Employment** and **Education & Training** sections.

Clarborough Canal-tow path access

Residents of Clarborough and Welham have always enjoyed local access to the Chesterfield Canal tow path via the Gate Inn car park. Unfortunately, since the closure of the Gate Inn, the car park has been fenced off leaving the only other local access via the steep steps next to the canal bridge on Smeath Lane. The steps are not ideal for the less mobile, cyclists or push chair users.

An option would be to submit a claim for a Public Right of Way (PRoW) across the car park. We can do this as the car park access has been used, uninterrupted, for a period of over twenty years, although this has been disputed. The Parish Council would need help from members of the public who can say they have used this route uninterrupted for over twenty years. Claiming a PRoW is controversial and is not the preferred option of the Parish Council. The owner of the Gate Inn is working with the Parish Council to identify other options.

Claiming a PRoW could well be a long process and there is no guarantee that it would be successful. The council is looking into several other options, all of which involve consulting with other land owners in the area, as well as with the Canal & River Trust. These options are less controversial, for example, replacing the Smeath Lane steps with a ramp.

The priority of the Parish Council is to re-establish access to the canal tow path as quickly as possible for all users, including the less mobile, cyclist and push chair users.

If you have any helpful suggestions to solve this problem then please contact Phil Gibson (Parish Council Chairman) on 07956 771 956 or philippilgibson@aol.com.

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I look forward to welcoming you!

Editor's

BREAKING NEWS

Using genetic material to beat cancers

BioNTech is the German pharmaceuticals company based in Mainz that specialises in immunotherapies based on messenger ribonucleic acid (messenger RNA or mRNA). This is the technology used in the Pfizer Covid vaccine.

Messenger RNAs are molecules that help cells make proteins. BioNTech is now testing whether mRNAs can be used to treat cancers by stimulating cells to produce tumour-fighting proteins called cytokines.

To date, trials have shown the technique to be very effective in treating melanomas and also lung cancers in mice which is now leading to testing human patients with advanced melanomas, breast cancer and other solid tumours. To date the treatment does not seem to have any serious side effects.

Editor



Harmless - Self-Harm Services Information for Bassetlaw

Harmless is a passionate organisation who works to address and overcome issues related to self-harm and suicide.

Harmless is a national user led self-harm organization that provides support, information, training and consultancy about self-harm to individuals who self-harm, their friends, families and professionals.

Harmless is run by people with professional and personal experience of self-harm and we hope that our work inspires hope. We believe recovery is possible for all and believe in supporting people with their distress in a variety of ways to enable them to move forward in their lives.

Service users can self-refer or be referred into the service by other health professionals e.g., Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT), GPs or local mental health teams. The team providing this service consists of Therapists and Clinical Support Workers (CSWs), overseen by a Service Manager.

For much more on Harmless, go to : <https://harmless.org.uk/> or click or click on their link on our community website's home page.

The Grove Centre survey



The Grove Methodist Church and Centre is located in Grove Street, Retford, just a short walk from Retford's Market Square. The Grove, combining both the church and centre, has a vision to develop a broad range of activities at The Grove by 2024 including:

1. a varied pattern of worship for all ages;
2. the provision of a hospitable space for many local groups;
3. the development of partnerships with schools, community organisations and businesses;
4. the setting up of a green space;
5. engagement with art, culture and heritage;
6. help for those exploring faith;
7. support for local and national charities;
8. and a commitment to work for climate justice.

To take part in The Grove's community consultation about their exciting proposals, go to our community website (www.clarborough-welham.org.uk) and the Grove's logo (as above) from our website's home page.

Bassetlaw



Centre

See our community website's home page for the Action Centre's 2020-2021 Report.



Nottinghamshire
County Council

Nottinghamshire schools' admissions for September 2022

Nottinghamshire Applications for Primary School places in September, 2022 opened on 8th November, 2021 and closes on 15th January, 2022.

Applications for Secondary school places for September 2022 opened on 9th August and closed on 31st October! For direct contacts with Nottinghamshire regarding any school admissions issues, go to your community website's **Education & Training** page.

Editor

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