

The

Hickling Standard

Village Newsletter for Hickling and Hickling Pastures

3rd e-issue October - November 2020





Pea Pod Day Nursery is a small, family run 29 place day nursery at Hickling Pastures, on the A606 between Melton and Nottingham, only a few yards from the A46 roundabout. The nursery is split into 3
separate rooms which enables us
to promote a home from home
experience with a very friendly,
warm environment and in our rural
setting the children have the
opportunity to explore open fields
and have access to a number of
different animals.

Our 11 place pre-school room is led by Amy who is a qualified Early Years Teacher.

We plan our daily activities around the EYFS and foster children's interests. Amy builds and challenges children's learning to ensure all children have the qualities to become good listeners, are friendly, happy, independent learners who have the confidence to have a try at everything! We ensure all children have the foundations in place for them to have the qualities to succeed with love for learning, ensuring the children have a smooth transition when starting school.

Call in to have a look around for more information, or ring Louise on 01949 81522





- Cancer
- Frailty
- · Heart failure
- · A respiratory disorder
- A progressive neurological disorder

(This list is not exhaustive - please call to enquire)

Perhaps we can help?

- Nursing advice and support
- Friendship
- · Activities & crafts
- Relaxation
- Complementary therapies



DEMENTIA SUPPORT

We have a home sitting service for dementia carers, and run friendly and informative online Dementia Support Groups.

Call one of our nurses to talk about our free care services on 01949 860303 or office@dovecottage.org

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1057941

A Lockdown Timeline

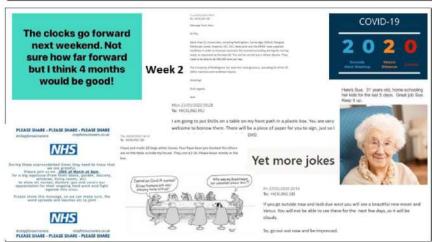
through the medium of Tim & Barbara's village emails

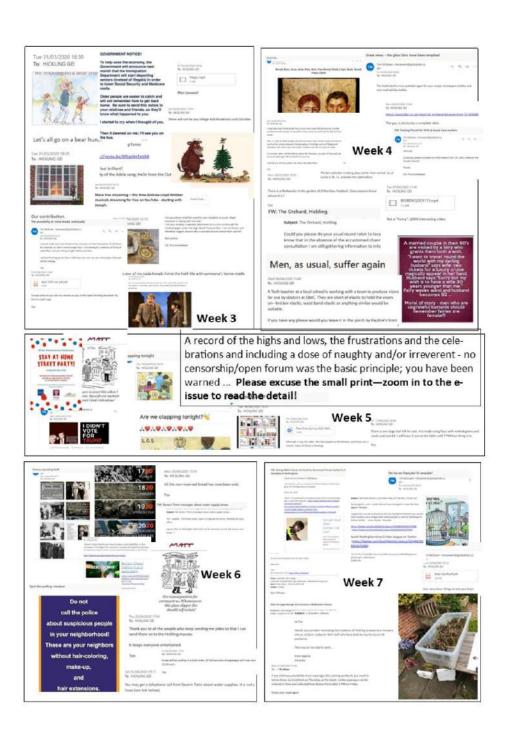
As we brace ourselves for a second wave and, perhaps, a very long winter, it is a good time to reflect on how lucky we are to live in the community that we do; so many lockdown heroes and heroines offering regular support and help, random acts of kindness, respecting the difficulties each of us is facing, just offering a smile - thank you!

So, this is a brief record of the remarkable contribution that Tim & Barbara McEwen have made to our village during the strange times that have been the first six months of Covid; humour, comment, appeals and the more serious when it was needed.

Each box represents a sample of one week of lockdown Hickling-style (there's more on the local history website but apologies that we can't share the videos):







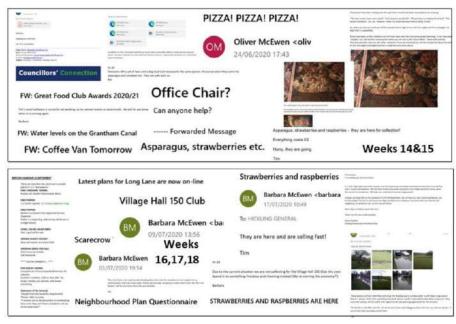








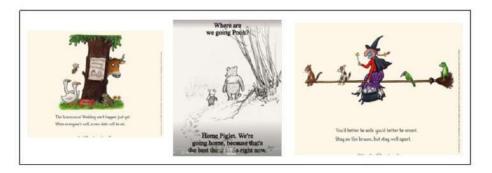












Thank you, Tim and Barbara,

For everything that you do for us all!

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# The Battle of Britain 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

This year marks the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Britain. During the summer of 1940 Britain stood alone against Nazi Germany. Over a 4-month period of almost daily attacks, the RAF defended our skies. Germany's Luftwaffe conducted thousands of bombing runs, attacking military and civilian targets across the United Kingdom. With German forces occupying northern France, Belgium and the Netherlands, coupled with the withdrawal of British Forces from France by 18th June, Hitler turned his attention to the land invasion of Britain in a campaign coded 'Operation Sea Lion'.

The first objective was the destruction of Britain's air defences. But despite all the previous losses on both sides, by the beginning of July the RAF had rebuilt its strength to 640 fighters while the Luftwaffe had 2600 bombers and fighters. The stage was set. Prime Minister Winston Churchill's words at the time, extracted from one of his speeches were: '...the Battle of France is over, the Battle of Britain is about to begin'. The first of the nightly German bombing raids took place on 10th July 1940. At first the Luftwaffe bombed ships in the English Channel and coastal defences. Then their next objective was to destroy the RAF, before turning their attention to the destruction of London.

In what has now become known as **The Hardest Day**, an estimated 700 enemy aircraft invaded our skies on 18th August 1940. The Luftwaffe made an all-out effort to severely damage Fighter Command. Massive attacks were directed at the south eastern counties and another on Portsmouth/Southampton. Both sides lost more aircraft combined than at any point in the campaign. In a speech to the House of Commons on 20th August 1940, Churchill, who had been deeply moved by the courage of the airmen, said these now famous words which so eloquently expressed the nation's thanks: 'Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few'.

On 4th September Hitler changed tactics again and threatened to '...raze our cities to the ground', launching the biggest air raid against London thus far. Around 4pm it started with a formation of 348 bombers and over 600 fighters filling 800 square miles of sky. These massive bombing raids continued day and night, until another key

event, known as **Battle of Britain Day**, occurred on 15th September 1940 when RAF Fighter Command claimed a decisive victory. German intelligence thought the RAF was close to collapse and remaining operational aircraft and could be destroyed with a final massive assault. This proved to be a critical error, for the RAF actually had 660 aircraft, 1,500 pilots and 30,000 spotters ready for operations that day and British radar was still highly effective. Germany had 620 fighters and 500 bombers. Throughout the day Germany sent waves of bombers and fighters, hundreds at a time, in massive assaults against London, Kent and the Solent, specifically against docklands, railway infrastructure and military targets. The RAF, using every available aircraft, defended with 115 patrols covering 705 sorties (flights). The British planes successfully scattered the bombers and defended London, although about 100 enemy aircraft reached the Capital. The Luftwaffe lost 56 planes and the RAF 28. Germany continued to bomb Britain after 15th September, but the RAF had clearly demonstrated that it wasn't close to being defeated.

During the twelve-week battle, 1,733 German aircraft had been destroyed, compared with 915 British fighters. On 17th September, Hitler finally recognised the growing futility of the campaign. The land invasion of Britain, planned for 21st September, was indefinitely postponed. It was a hugely significant moment which turned the tide of the war. The Battle of Britain must surely stand on a par with those of Trafalgar and Waterloo in terms of historical importance. However, this did not mean an end to the bombing terror. German tactics changed again, and the Luftwaffe resorted to the blitzing of most major cities, including London, Plymouth and Coventry. Approximately 23,000 British civilians were killed between July and December 1940 alone. Small air raids by the Luftwaffe and flying bombs continued until late March 1945.

I have memories of being huddled in a damp underground bomb shelter at night times and will never forget the distinctive sound of the air raid sirens and unsynchronised engines of Dornier bombers on the way to bomb industrial targets in the West Midlands.

Michael Chapman Vale of Belvoir Branch

# Heidi Burns Massage Therapy

For a happier, healthier, pain free you!



# Treatments:

Sports Massage
Fascia Release Therapy
Rossiter Stretching System
De-stress head, neck and shoulders
Assisted Stretching
Yoga

Website: heidiburnsmassagetherapy.com

General Enquiries: enquiries@heidiburnsmassagetherapy.com

Contact: 07757 707725

Facebook: HeidiBurnsMassageTherapy

# Locations

Main Street
Hickling
Melton Mowbray
LE14 3AQ

Units 21/22
Trent South Industrial Park
Little Tennis Street
Nottingham
NG2 4EQ



# Remembrance and Poppy Appeal

The Remembrance Sunday commemoration this year would normally be held at St Luke's Church, Kinoulton. Unfortunately, we will be unable to hold our usual church service due to current social distancing rules which are likely to apply at that time. As an alternative, we plan to conduct a simple Remembrance and Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Kinoulton Memorial at 10.45 a.m. on Sunday 8th November.

The annual Poppy Appeal will also be affected. This will be the Legion's 99th Poppy Appeal and there are huge challenges because of the impact the Covid-19 pandemic has had across society. The impact of Covid-19 has left some in the Armed Forces community, as in many others, in dire need of urgent help and support.

Regrettably it will not be possible for us to organise the traditional doorstep sale of poppies in our villages, but we will do everything possible to make poppies available locally, including -

Static poppy sales boxes at public locations: The Nevile Arms, The Plough, The Wharf, Sarsfields Tearoom and possibly more, to be confirmed.

'Outside' poppy sales box at 26 Newbold Way and 2 Brook Drive from 8.00 am to 6.00 pm from Friday 30th October to Friday 6th November.

By contacting an RBL member or your usual collector.

The Legion has also made innovative arrangements with Sainsbury's and other corporate partners to enable donations while shopping. Online donations can be made at <a href="https://www.britishlegion.co.uk/donate">www.britishlegion.co.uk/donate</a>.

All arrangements are subject to revision in the light of changing circumstances prior to the event. We will do our best to keep you informed of any changes.

Michael Chapman Vale of Belvoir Branch

# Squirrel Stores

# The biggest "little" shop in the Vale of Belvoir



- Greeting cards and gifts
- Artisan jams, chutneys, honey etc
- Newspapers and magazines
- Wines, beers, local ales and ciders
- Freshly baked Hambleton bread and produce delivered daily
- Selection of butcher's meat produce and Melton Mowbray pork pies
- Local cheeses
- Large variety of fresh fruit and vegetables (personal weekly fruit delivery and veg boxes available)
- · Dry cleaning service
- Fresh sandwiches, sausage rolls, samosas etc
- · Hand tied bouquets

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday 7am to 7pm Saturday 7am to 5pm Sunday and Bank Holiday 8am to 1pm 01664 822315

The Sands, Long Clawson



# A History of Hickling to 1860 and of all its Clergy, by Chris Granger

We are delighted to have completed the first stages of making Chris Granger's extraordinary research into the village of Hickling available to a wider readership. There is still a great deal of editing to be done and we think there is more to be added as work continues. Unfortunately, Chris wasn't able to finish this work himself before he died and it is difficult to do him full justice—we hope that we will have come close, by the time we complete this project!

https://www.hicklingnottslocalhistory.com/chris-granger-a-history-of-hickling/

# Scarecrows.

Sadly, Scarecrow weekend didn't happen this year, although Donkey & the Clangers did put in an appearance. Photographs of Scarecrows from years gone by are now on the website: https://

www.hicklingnottslocalhistory.com/ scarecrow-weekend/

Please get in touch if you have anything that you would like us to add to these pages - all contributions welcome.



# Oral History - please get involved!

Many of us have smart phones and ipads these days and they are great recording devices. We are looking for memories of Hickling - old, new; silly, serious; facts and anecdotes. Please sit down with friends and family and start recording your conversations about life in Hickling - we can transcribe them for you.

Please contact any member of the Local History Group or email us at: info@hicklingnottslocalhistory.com

# Samarpan Ashram Yog Meditation Centre - Long Acre Long Acre, Melton Road, Hickling Pastures, Melton Mowbray. LE14 3QG (HMRC Charity No: EW19886)

website: www.samarpanmeditationuk.org

# FREE taught classes on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Wednesday 10.30am - 12.00pm (please check the website for uptodate information)

# **Hanwell Wine Estate**

Melton Road, Hickling Pastures, LE14 3QG

Contact number: 01949 81393

Please bookonline:www.hanwellwine.co.uk

Every Thursday and Saturday

1.00pm - 3.00pm ongoing 5 week or individual courses

Samarpan Ashram Yog Meditation Centre - Long Acre

### Contact details:

Please ring Jaya Pisavadia (Centre Manager) to book meditation class at the centre.

If you would like us to visit your group and teach meditation then please contact

Hansa Heena Thoban (Education Manager)

Contact Number: 0194981103

# **Mobile Foot Health Practictioner**

Safe and effective treatment in the comfort of your own home

- Routine Nails Trimming
- Thick Nails & Ingrown Toe Nails
- Fungal Skin & Nails
- Hard Skin, Callous & Corns
- Cracked Heels
- Diabetic Foot Treatment
- Verrucae.



www.tanyacomfyfeet.co.uk





# DipCFHP, MPSPract







# **Kinoulton Post Office**

has re-opened

Every Wednesday 9.30-12.30

St Luke's Church, Kinoulton

Wide range of products and services

Use it or lose it

Regret everything cancelled until further notice.



# LADY FRIDAY Are you short of TIME?

I could support you when you're working or on holiday

Regular or occasional dog walking & pet care at your home

# **CHILDREN & ELDERLY RELATIVES**

Meet children from school or take them to their recreational activities\* Accompany elderly relatives to appointments or shopping, or whatever

# HOME

Water plants, take mail in & generally check all is well

Do not hesitate to ask - I am mature and versatile! References available on request, Inc DBS\*

Angela Sallis, 6 Melton Road, Long Clawson, LE14 4NR 01664 822597 angela\_sallis@btinternet.com



# **AEROBICS AND TONE**

Low impact.
Fun and friendly.
All ages and abilities welcome.

Great way to get active.

Every Wednesday 9.15am. Free drink at the Old Wharf after the class.

# KETTLEBELLS

Fat burn and conditioning Full body toning.

For those looking to improve fitness levels.

Every Thursday 7pm

For information and class locations call James on 07849 329221



### Places available!

Do you need childcare? We have a wonderful team of qualified and enthusiastic staff and are based in the village hall in Hickling.

We are open Monday to Friday 09:15 - 15:15 for children aged 2-5 years and our fees are only £4.30 an hour.

We accept 30 or 15 hours of government funding, childcare vouchers, and are also registered for the government's Tax-Free Childcare program.

We have close links with Kinoulton Primary School and offer termly visits up to school to help prepare the children for the transition to 'big school'.

For children aged 3+, wrap around care is available from The Village Hideout at Kinoulton Village Hall during term time (7.15am – 6pm). They provide transportation to and from the Pre-School, so ideal for working parents!

We can offer free 'taster' sessions for all new starters, please **call the pre-school on 07950558608** or email hicklingpreschool@gmail.com for more information.

Visit us at www.hicklingpreschool.co.uk to have a browsel

### Facebook

Did you know we have a Facebook page? Search for Hickling Pre-School then you can follow us to keep up to date with all the children's activities! We regularly post pictures of what the children have been doing, and the phonic letter of the week!

Thank you to all our parents, family and friends for your continued support of Hickling Pre-School.

# The Highs and Lows of Local History

or: when the story seems to be everything that you could wish for but you end up with more questions than answers and a hint of disappointment ...

Sometimes an enquiry comes through to the local history group and it is immediately exciting; so when I opened up an email from a lady in New Zealand

explaining that her ancestor had once owned The Plough but had sold it in 1848 to buy passage to New Zealand for himself and his family I was immediately interested. Then she wrote that when Sam Woolley (a good, familiar local name) arrived in New Zealand he built a new hotel near Dunedin in NZ which he also called



The Plough Inn and that he wrote a journal of his emigration—well, now I am positively excited.

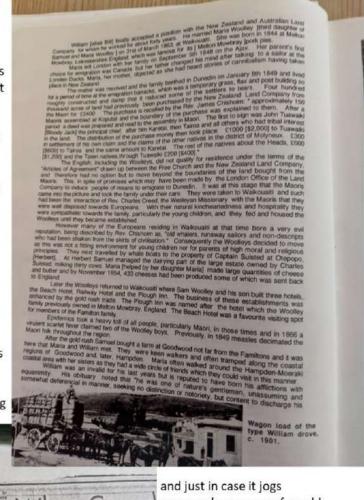
We don't know very much about the early years of the Plough (although we do have the Hives family listed there at this time), we know the Woolley family are local in those years, we know that many from this area did emigrate to the New World at this time, too. Can we find the Deeds to The Plough? Can we trace this part of the Woolley family? What does his Journal say about his life in England? Is the Plough in Dunedin still open—could we twin our Ploughs?!

These are the highs!

Then come the lows ...

We have no trace of a Sam Woolley in Hickling at the time but there is mention of one witnessing a Will in Stathern—and Stathern also has a Plough Inn. Then a copy of the journal is found in the Hocken Library in New Zealand and there is no mention of any village (in fact nothing from before the voyage at all), just mention of the general area of Melton Mowbray. There's no Plough Inn in Melton now—but it's certainly likely there used to be ...

It's a really great story but sadly, unless we can positively link the family to Hickling before 1848, it looks as if the links are local but not Hickling-local. We are still working with this lovely lady and, at the moment, we are waiting for more names and dates from New Zealand or new finds at this end. Even if the links don't turn out for us, it is fascinating to be involved in a family's search and it all helps in a broader sense, after all. I'm including some bits taken from Sam Woolley's story—just because it is interesting





and just in case it jogs someone's memory of an old family story!!

Please email; info@hicklingnottslocalhistory.com for more information or if you can add to this story.

# Lengthsman's Hut: restoration complete

The Canal & River Trust have now completed the restoration of the Hickling Lengthsman's Hut; it has been a bit of a saga over lots of years but it is great to see it looking so good again. The C&RT are assembling a detailed record of the restoration project; including photographs, filmed interviews and accounts of some of the fascinating objects and artefacts.

We hope to include some of this on the local history website but, in the meantime, here are some photographs of it in glorious September sunshine. <a href="https://www.hicklingnottslocalhistory.com/lengthmans-hut/">https://www.hicklingnottslocalhistory.com/lengthmans-hut/</a>











Do you have photographs of the Lengthsman's Hut? old, not so old or new? please email; info@hicklingnottslocalhistory.com or contact any

please email; info@hicklingnottslocalhistory.com or contact any members of the group.



22 23

# Women's Land Army - another chapter

In the last newsletter we wrote about the story of Paul Miller's mother who was a land girl in the area during WWII and was based in the hostel in

Kinoulton.

Following this article, we received the following message:



"My mum came from Carlton, Nottingham and joined the Land Army when she must have been around 18 or 19 and previously worked at the John Player cigarette factory in Nottingham. This must have been quite a shock to the system having lived in the city. She was sent to Kinoulton and was billeted at Hall Lane, Kinoulton. I don't think she was in the Land Army for long as she met my dad who lived and was working on a farm in Owthorpe. I know they had to get married and had a daughter who unfortunately died aged 7 weeks. They were married for 55 years and lived at Owthorpe until my dad retired. Unlike a friend

of mum's who was in the Land Army with her, who also 'got in the family way' and she had to give her baby up when she met a man who wouldn't accept the baby ... I think it must have been terrible for women in the past, the awful stigma of unmarried mothers. My mum never referred to her having to get married but I know that is why my dad was so strict with me and my sister when we were teenagers!

"She never said much about being in the Land Army, although she did make lifelong friends and as you can see in the last photo, they had a reunion at The Neville Arms, Kinoulton. The only other thing I can remember is that she said that some of the farmers were unkind and used to get the girls to do horrible jobs on the farm. It is unfortunate that I didn't ask more about her time there. In the

group photo it is my mum in the middle in a white blouse, I presume she must have left the Land Army at the time the photo was taken.

"I hope that this little bit of information is of some use; I have included the bits about my mum and dad because I think it demonstrates how things were at that time, one can imagine all the young men in the area cycling to Kinoulton to meet the girls. We tend to romanticise the time, but I imagine it was anything but."

(Maureen Cockayne 2020)

Thank you so much, Maureen!







|                                       | 202     | 2020 CHURCH SERVICES (Sundays unless stated)                    | ICES (§ | undays unless state                      | <del>•</del> |                                                       |
|---------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
|                                       |         | Kinoulton                                                       |         | Hickling                                 | Uppe         | Upper Broughton                                       |
| Date                                  | Time    | Service                                                         | Time    | Service                                  | Time         | Service                                               |
| Oct 4                                 | 9.00am  | Morning Prayer                                                  | 6.30pm  | <b>Evening Prayer</b>                    | 11.00am      | Holy Communion                                        |
| Oct II                                | 11.00am | Morning Prayer                                                  | 9.00am  | Holy Communion                           | 10.00am      | Morning Prayer                                        |
| Oct 18 St Luke's<br>Patronal Festival |         | (no service)                                                    | 10.00am | Holy Communion<br>Benefice Group Service |              | (no service)                                          |
| Oct 25<br>docks go back               | 11.00am | Morning Prayer                                                  | 6.30pm  | Holy Communion                           | 9.00am       | Holy Communion                                        |
| Nov I All Saints<br>All Souls         | 10.00am | Holy Communion<br>Benefice Group Service                        | 6.30pm  | All Souls Benefice<br>Group Service      |              | (no service)                                          |
| Nov 8<br>Remembrance<br>Sunday        | 10.50am | Service of Remebrance at<br>War Memorial at the<br>Village Hall |         | (no service)                             | 10.30 am     | Service of<br>Remebrance at War<br>Memorial at church |
| Nov 15                                | 9.00am  | Holy Communion                                                  | 10.00am | Morning Prayer                           | 11.00am      | Morning Prayer                                        |
| Nov 22<br>Christ the King             | 11.00am | Morning Prayer                                                  | 6.30рт  | Holy Communion                           | 9.00am       | Holy Communion                                        |
| Nov 29<br>Advent Sunday               |         | (no ser-                                                        |         | (no service)                             | 10.00am      | Holy Communion<br>Benefice Group<br>Service           |

# St Luke's Churches.

You are most warmly invited to the following services at our three churches:

All our churches have social distancing measures in place and hand sanitizers available for all to use. At the current time face masks must also be worn.

Our Patronal Festival of St Luke at Hickling on 18th October at 10.00am.

A Service for All Souls Day at Hickling on 1st November at 6.30pm, where we will remember all those who are no longer with us and light candles in their memory. This is an opportunity for those who have experienced bereavement to come together with others who are sharing the same experience, to draw strength from the presence of God and from one another. If you would like a loved one's name read out at the service, please contact Noël at The Rectory: 01949 81183 or by email noel.woodward902@btinternet.com

A Service of Remembrance in conjunction with The Royal Brutish Legion will be held on Remembrance Sunday at the War Memorial at the Village Hall car park in Kinoulton on 8th November at 10.50am There will also be a Service of Remembrance at 10.30am at the War Memorial in the churchyard at Upper Broughton.

It is with deep sadness that we are unable to hold our Harvest Festival Services this year due to the social distancing measures currently in place to keep us all safe from the Corona Virus. The proceeds from our services are usually donated to the "Emmanuel House" charity which is a day and night shelter for the homeless in Nottingham and we are considering some form of monetary collection. Should you wish to make a donation to this charity details may be found on their website or via facebook.

> Rev Maggie Woodward The Rectory, Kinoulton

# St Luke's Church at Kinoulton is very pleased to announce the return of the

outreach Post Office.

It will be held every Wednesday from 9.30am until 12.30pm Full social distancing procedures are in place (even if it is raining!) Banking, money withdrawals, postal facilities etc etc. Please use this facility as if we don't, it may well have to close. Thank you.

# Reader's Reflection

As I write this article, the sky is a cloudless blue and it is almost too warm to sit out in the sun. We seem to be in a lingering summer and yet the trees are beginning to shed their leaves, we've collected our first conkers and the pear tree in the back garden, heavily laden with large fruits this year, will almost certainly give up its yield later this week. By the time you get to read this, I'm sure all that will have changed!

This would be the time to turn our thoughts to the celebration of Harvest and other autumn activities across our three villages but this year that, too, will all have changed. Nature will continue its course as usual but we cannot respond in our normal way. Events have already been cancelled, and even services in our churches will either not happen or be modified in order to follow the most stringent safety regulations. Even Hallowe'en hit the headlines in my Sunday newspaper last week where it was reported that new restrictions seem to have brought an end to Trick or Treat house visits. That appears to be something many parents are not relishing. "Kids have already had Easter taken away, it's not fair for Hallowe'en not to happen, either", sighed one parent on Mumsnet. "Gosh", I thought, maybe cynically, "two opportunities lost to receive treats".

And yet, if we look to the ancient origins of the word Harvest, we find that it has its roots in Latin and Greek, and it means 'to pluck fruit'. If we take that in its widest sense and apply it to the period of the pandemic we have already come through, I think we could find endless examples of where we have already 'harvested'. Acts of kindness to friends and neighbours, attempts to reach out to those who are isolated or who need help to manage their daily needs, even the chat across the street with someone to whom you have never spoken before - all are examples we may have seen or experienced in the last few months. Not only does this action give all parties a warm feeling, it helps to bring our community closer together. It reminds me of an old Sunday School story.

'When harvest-time came, my grandfather, Bill, used to help an elderly neighbour harvest a few ribbons of corn he had planted on his land. Bill had a little tractor with a wagon on the back. It was ancient and very noisy... but it worked, at least until the season it stopped because it had broken down and the part needed wasn't obtainable. That autumn, while harvest time was running out, Bill sat with my grandma trying to figure out a way to help someone who needed him. "There's nothing you can do," said Grandma. "You'll just have to tell him that you can't help with the corn this year." "No, my friend is depending on me. I could do it the way we used to do it. I could harvest it by hand." "And when do you think you'd have time to do it?" came the reply. "With the overtime you've been working you'd be up all night...and it'd be too dark."

"I know one night that I could do it!" said Bill. He grabbed the Farmer's Almanac and started flipping through the pages until he found what he was looking for. "Aha! There's still one more full moon in October. And it's the harvest moon — that will give me more light. If the Lord gives us clear weather, I think I can do it." And so a few days later, after a long shift at the factory, when the weather was cold but clear and the moon was brilliant, Bill worked through the night to keep his word.

Sometimes, I think of Bill with his scythe cutting corn in the light of the harvest moon. I see him in the chill autumn morning darkness, his work finally done, slowly making his way home. Behind him in the pale moonlight, row after row of corn shocks stand at attention as if to acknowledge his kindness and generosity.'

### Sheila Hill

# Christingle, Christmas 2020

We are hoping to organise a 'virtual' Christingle service this year.

The plan is to video a short service from the church which can be viewed in your homes via a church website.

We would also aim to deliver to every child in our benefice who wished to take part a bag containing everything which is needed to make a Christingle orange – a sort of Blue Peter approach!

If you wish to participate, please get in touch – you've got loads of time but please make it before the end of November – with Sheila Hill (<u>sahill18@btinternet.com</u>) giving details of your address, and how many kits you would wish to receive. Let's hope it works!

Sheila Hill

# St. Luke's Church Open as a Quiet Space

Do you sometimes need to get away from it all and take some time to think or pray?

From now until 31<sup>st</sup> October the church will be open for anyone to use in this way every Wednesday from midday until 4.00 pm.

You will need to leave your name and a contact number and address for "Test and Trace" purposes. The sheet is on the large table to the right of the main door as you go in.

Sunday services will continue every week as advertised, to which all are welcome.

PCC of St. Luke's Hickling

# Low Water Levels

# **Hickling & Kinoulton Stretches of the Canal**

The low water levels are still a big problem and getting worse. Can you help?

Our local history group is, of course,

a history group but we are also interested in tomorrow's historywe would like the canal to be here to be enjoyed in the future, too. So, this is a more serious message from us; over recent months we have been posting on our Facebook page about the low water levels on the canal which are seriously affecting the Hickling and Kinoulton sections.



This is not just about strange weather patterns; we do need to find out what is going on.

Thank you to everyone who has been contacting the Canal & River Trust about this; things are beginning to happen but pressure needs to be kept up - please write again to say that there is still a problem!

enquiries.emidlands@canalrivertrust.org.uk

If you have already messaged them, please keep chasing them for an update, too.

The good news is that Kinoulton Parish Council and Cllr Tina Combellack are forming an Action Group - please contact them or Hickling Parish Council if you have any information or if you can help in any way.

The main purpose of this message is to show you some of our photographs that show what is happening:

- The first section of photos are from June and July this summer the water levels were too low for the cygnets to get out of the water on the slipway (its base is usually below the waterline and the birds just walk up it) and the echoing sound of the geese walking through the tunnels under the road just felt wrong. There is now a completely dry patch on this bit, west of the bridge.
- The next photos are archival pics of the canal at its proper levels over the years.
- The final two are from October 2019; they show the water up to the top of the road tunnels - there is a long way to go to match this in the next few weeks (and my apologies if I provoke the rain gods with such a challenge!).

Thank you!

# https://www.facebook.com/HicklingNottsLocalHistory/

(not swim-

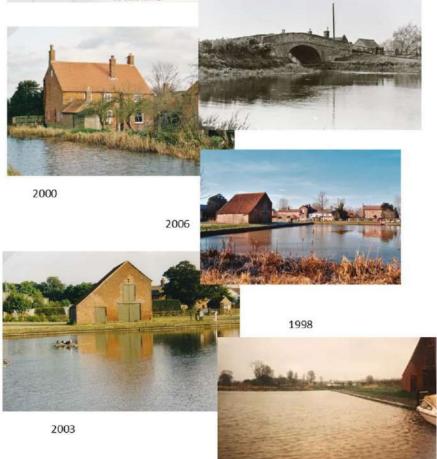
the road

ming)under





Early 1900s





October 2019; showing the water up to the top of the road tunnels -



# CONKERS!

We are lucky to have some magnificent conker trees in Hickling and whether you like just looking at them, holding them in your hand, playing conkers or piling them high around the house to stave off the autumn spider invasion, they are the first sure sign that the seasons are changing.



The Woodland Trust fact check some of the myths; https:// www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2019/08/conkers-spiders-and-facts - & they do help in the treatment of bruises & sprains; early use on horses could be the origin of the name, Horse Chestnut tree.

1.

From all around the mourners came The day that Summer died From hill and valley, field and wood And lake and mountainside

They did not come in funeral black But every mourner chose Gorgeous colours or soft shades Of russet, yellow, rose

Horse chestnut, oak and sycamore Wore robes of gold and red; The rowan sported scarlet beads; No bitter tears were shed;

Although at dusk the mourners heard, As a small wind softly sighed A touch of sadness in the air The day that summer died

(Vernon Scannell)

You know the old saying? When is the best time to plant a tree? 20 years ago. When is the second best time to plant a tree? TODAY.

So, how about collecting a few conkers (& acorns?) and nurturing a few seedlings for the spring.



Waterlane Farm

# Conkers

Autumn treasures from the horsechestnut tree

Lying roly poly among their split green casings

Shiny and hard like pops of polished mahogany

An English schoolboy picking them up -

The same compulsive fickle avidity -

As I picked up orange-coloured cockles

Way back then from a tropical childhood tree

Hand about to close in .... then spotting another even better

Now, waiting on our bus we grown-ups watch him

Not knowing how or why we've lost our instinct

For gathering the magic shed of trees

Though in partyful mood in wineful spirits

We dance around crying, 'Give me back my conker.'

(Grace Nichols)

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# Nevile Ward Councillor's News

September 2020

COVID – Is still with us. We must remain vigilant, wash hands, wear masks keep our distance and above all keep smiling.

### TIPPING GOOD NEWS

A new bring site/household waste recycling centre project is on the agenda and should shortly be agreed for a site in Cotgrave. Should it pass planning permission it would be operational by the end of 2021 meaning local residents would have an alternative to the restrictive site at Rugby Road.

### FREE COMMUNITY TREE SCHEME

This is the third year of the scheme. Rushcliffe are offering residents and Parish Councils the opportunity to make Rushcliffe a Greener place.

The free trees available are Crab Apple, which has flowers in the spring and fruit in the autumn. Also a Hazel, but it can be controlled by pruning and has catkins resembling lambs tails, in the spring and nuts in the autumn, so the children love it. It is shade tolerant. Apply by the Rushcliffe online application form or Contact <a href="mailto:Environmentalissues@rushcliffe.gov.uk">Environmentalissues@rushcliffe.gov.uk</a> and provide an e-mail address for response.

I have also included below, the Rushcliffe information page on Trees

# Trees in Rushcliffe

Rushcliffe has seven ancient woodlands that have existed since at least 1600 AD but woodland covers only 5.75sq km (1.04%) of Rushcliffe, so all the trees we have are important.

The reason for the low woodland cover in Rushcliffe is partly due to its fertile soils and its high value for agriculture, having often been cleared 1000's of years ago. The historic land use has led to the development of important ecological resources being more concentrated on wetland, grassland, hedgerow and agricultural habitats, these resources can be valuable in their own right and it would be inappropriate to replace them with woodland. Rushcliffe is typically regarded as a 'green' borough, but this is largely due to habitats other than woodland. Within Rushcliffe woodland and trees are more common within the Nottinghamshire Wolds area, on ridge lines e.g. between Kingston on Soar, Gotham and Bunny and East Bridgford to Flintham, and the area between Radcliffe on Trent to Cotgrave Forest.

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In other areas of the borough, large scale tree planting could be detrimental to local landscape character and due to the lower density of existing woodland provide lower ecological gain. Outside of these areas, tree planting would be best limited to trees within hedgerows, field corners, along riparian and highway corridors and around the periphery of settlements, if important ecological habitats do not already exist.

Trees benefit both people and the environment - they provide homes for wildlife, help to absorb pollution and reduce breathing-related health problems and produce fuel and wood products. Trees also play an important role in counteracting climate change by providing a barrier to strong winds, helping to reduce flooding and preventing soil erosion.

# Sources of Funding

If you are looking to carry out tree management or planting, you may find these sources of funding of help.

The Woodland Trust provides free tree packs for community groups and schools. They also operate MORE woods, a UK-wide scheme which provides financial and practical woodland creation support. Please see the Woodland Trust website for more details.

The Forestry Commission operate the woodland elements of the Countryside Stewardship grant scheme for larger farm based woodlands. Please see the Forestry Commission Countryside Stewardship webpage for more details. The Tree Council also provides grants and advice; see their webpages for details. The Rushcliffe Biodiversity Support grant may also be able to help, small schemes that benefit wildlife and are not eligible for other support. Our Nature funding handout 2015 (PDF - 298KB) may also be of help

# What Rushcliffe is doing

Rushcliffe Borough Council has decided to prioritise tree planting and protection The council established a free tree scheme in 2018; this is running again in 2020. Applications for the residents free tree scheme 2020 can be made on our online application form.

We are also supplying (and if required) planting up to 10 trees on land with owner permission identified by Parish Councils in the Autumn / Winter 2012/21. A Tree Warden Network is also being established (see the Tree Council's tree war-

den web page). Wardens will be nominated by Parish Councils. See also our Trees across Rushcliffe Facebook page

Further information will be forthcoming as the schemes are developed.

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# Discounts for group bookings

Please call Nicola MCFHP on 07391 316998, if unavailable please leave a message

# What you can do

# You can help promote and protect trees in your community

You can plant a tree on your own land (see Sources of Funding section above and our <u>Landscaping and tree planting</u> pages for help).

You can apply for up to two free trees to plant in Rushcliffe. Applications for the residents free tree scheme 2020 can be made on our <u>online application form</u>.

You can become a Tree Warden - talk to you parish council.

You can talk to your County or Borough Councillor about where trees should be planted or to report tees at risk (see <u>Your representatives</u>).

You can join a group that helps protect trees (see Community involvement).

You can see where the oldest and most important trees are found and record any missing at the <u>ancient tree hunt website.</u>

# LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

For Rushcliffe



The Borough Council's Development Plan Core Strategy dates back to 2014 and needs reviewing to make it relevant until 2038. Many new issues such as climate change, flood risk, carbon neutrality, Covid 19, changes to the economy and employment, increased home working and changes to housing needs, retail shopping and transport all need to be re-

viewed. There has been a public consultation period during which I have made comments. The target date for the adoption of the new Core Strategy is late 2022.

# DOG FOULING in fields and across farmland.

One of the plus sides of lock down has been a greater amount of time spent out in the fresh air walking the foot paths, enjoying the countryside. However I have had several farmers and landowners complain about behaviour. There would appear to be people who are not obeying the country code and straying off footpaths into crops. Grass and pasture are crops.

In addition they are either allowing their dogs to randomly defecate in the crops or leaving their poo bags amongst the crops, in the stubble or fields for the 'poo fairy' to collect. I am sorry for having to give this reminder, as most people understand the country code, however please pass the message on.

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### FREE SMOKE ALARMS



Nottinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service are offering free smoke alarms, fitted into your home. I recently had a visit from Bingham fire fighters who were really friendly and helpful and did a free home fire safety check at the same time as fitting smoke alarms. They attended on duty in a fire engine, so great for the kids. Contact them on 0800 022 3235 0r www.notts-fire.gov.u

# **GRANTHAM CANAL & BASIN**

We have a serious problem -

1998

September 2020





we are losing water rapidly from the Canal and Hickling basin. An action group is being formed in Kinoulton by Cllr. Peter Cadwalleder together with quite a raft of concerned residents, both from Hickling and Kinoulton. So far we have lobbied both the Canal and Rivers Trust and Grantham Canal Society. I am meeting with the local MP Ruth Edwards to bring the issue to the attention of DEFRA. BBC East Midlands Today reported the problem at Kinoulton and are willing to do a follow up at Hickling - so watch this space.

This is an important matter for the whole of the Vale of Belvoir. The canal is such an important leisure and wildlife corridor and has been vital for mental health and wellbeing during the recent social restrictions.

If you have any information regarding leaks or blocked culverts that could be contributing to the problem please let me know. If you would be interested in volunteering for the group who will be taking remedial action, again please let

me know

43

# Annual grape harvest

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- Rural skills workshops
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- Yoga morning retreat 11th October 2020



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Kuksa carving

Animal portraits
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Owl carving
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Lino printing

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Snowman & Santa carving

\*Date tbc and weather dependent - please check website.

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# REACH RUSHCLIFFE - reaching out to tackle loneliness

Loneliness and social isolation is fast becoming one of the greatest social challenges of the modern age, and it is not just the elderly, but young people are feeling alone. The Coronavirus has increased loneliness for many.

Rushcliffe has launched 'Reach Rushcliffe' offering funding to support local initiatives to tackle the issue. It is now inviting the parish councils, and local groups to make proposals for projects to help by e mailing <a href="mailto:communitydevelop-">communitydevelop-</a>

ment@rushcliffe.gov.uk Projects are already underway with the help of the additional funding, such as Rushcliffe Ramblers who are encouraging more people to join their healthy walks to ease social isolation.

# COMMUNITY GRANTS

Don't forget I have a small pot of money, which is available for good causes and projects in The Ward. E-mail <u>Cllr.tcombellack@rushcliffe.gov.uk</u> if you have a project that needs funding.

COMMUNITY AWARDS – this year the focus will naturally be on projects and people who have gone the extra mile during this unwelcome crisis. If you have a group or individual you would like to be considered for an award please let me know.

Cllr. Tina Combellack

protecting, and caring for our vibrant villages.

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44

45

# Sarah Woodhouse Fitness in the Vale

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# A Dog's Tail

Dogs communicate through their tail movements and if we can interpret these it helps us to understand how our dog is really feeling.

Nerve impulses are sent from the dog's central nervous system giving an instruction to the muscles in the tail. So, the tail expresses many emotions, not just the 'happy to see you' wag.

Have you ever been walking your dog and another dog comes rushing up – if you can 'read' the others dogs tail signals you have a much better idea as to their intention. Watch your dog signaling in return to see if the encounter will go well or not.

Here are some guidelines to start with:

**Happy, relaxed** —tail level with your dogs' body, gently swishing with the whole rear end.

**Excited:** the faster a tail is moving the more excited a dog is. You may even see a full circle resembling a windmill wag is which is total joy.

Raised like a flag: the higher a dog's tail, the more adrenaline is coursing through the body. If it is upright, stiff take that as a warning sign.

Between the legs: the lower the tail goes the more worried your dog is.

Waving mostly right - happy; mostly left - anxious.

If your dog has a short or curled tail other dogs can misinterpret their intentions. Instead focus on body stiffness, eyes and ear position for clues.

A dog's tail can wag no matter what state of mind it is in. Understanding these subtle changes will I hope, help you to develop a better understanding of your dog.

Lynne Marshall, Dog Trainer and Behaviourist, Love Your Dog Training www.lovevourdog.org.uk



# Paws 4 Thought



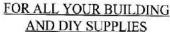
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Maggie Woodward

101 822866

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see back inside cover

Nick

Dorothy Chahal Carol Beadle

Kay Hand 822612 Alison Popplewell 01949 81604

or 07805 407

Hickling Local History Group

Gill & John Bloor

# Diary

All events subject to the Coronavirus situation

15 October 7.30 Village Hall WI - Spirits of Gin Lane

19 November 7.30 Village Hall WI - Work of Vale First Responders

17 December 7.30 Village Hall WI - Christmas Craft Evening

Beaver Scouts 6-8 years, Tuesday 6.15-7.15pm; Cub Scouts 8-10.5 years, Monday 6.30-8.00pm; Scouts 10.5-14 years, Monday 7.30-9.00pm All at Kinoulton Village Hall

Contact for ALL the sections is through Susanne Youngson 0788 413 6890 gslkinoulton@gmail.com



# **Hickling Village Newsletter - Committee**

Chair; Tim McEwen - Tel. 822834 or tmcewen@globalnet.co.uk)

Treasurer/Advertising; Andrew Terry } Tel. 822088 or

Copy & Secretary; Maggy Jordan } a.terry125@btinternet.com

Copy Collection; Jane Fraser - Tel. 822845

Please get in touch with any of us if you have any comments or suggestions. We would welcome any contributions for future issues - articles, opinions, reports, recipes, poems, brain-teasers - whatever you would like to see in print!

# 2020/2021 Copy Dates;

December/January 15.11.20 February/March 15.1.21 Copy must be received <u>before</u> these dates to guarantee its appearance. Please note that the committee reserve the right to edit or omit any material submitted. Opinions expressed in published articles remain the responsibility of the author. Articles may be published anonymously but the committee does need to have details of authorship before publication.

If you are submitting articles ready for publication - (either typed or in computer format) we would be grateful if you could send it in A5 size.

# COPY IN ANY FORM WILL BE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED e-mail address - a.terry125@btinternet.com

 please make sure that attachments are sent in Microsoft Word or Publisher compatible formats.

# Handwritten Contributions.

If you have handwritten contributions please pass them for typing to:

Jane Mill Lane Cottages

Otherwise please continue to pass any contributions or ideas to any of the other committee members. Thank You!

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