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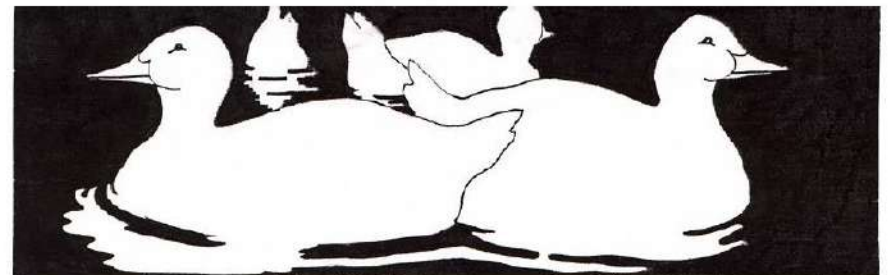
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The

Hickling Standard

Village Newsletter for
Hickling and
Hickling Pastures

4th e-issue December 2020 - January 2021





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



www.peapod-daynursery.co.uk



Pea Pod Day Nursery, Melton Road, Hickling Pastures, LE14 3QG



VIRTUAL SANTA FUN RUN & WALK

DECEMBER 2020




-  Choose your own route and distance - 3, 5 or 10k (or further if you want to!)
-  Put on your Santa suit and run, walk, skip, jump, or jog your way to help raise funds for Dove!

REGISTRATION INFO
 Santa suits and a festive medal are included in your registration fee as usual, along with a free gift for children and a hot drink* for every Adult Santa.
 Register before November 30th to guarantee delivery of your suit by 1st December.

Adults & Children aged 13 years+ =	£10
Children (ages 4 - 12) =	£5
Family (2 Adults and up to 3 Children) =	£25

Visit www.dovecottage.org for more info and to register

All donations received will help more families living with life-limiting illnesses to receive the care and support they deserve.



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WHERE LIFE MATTERS

*Voucher can be exchanged for a hot drink at our Southern tea-room.

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- ◆ Rural skills workshops
- ◆ Christmas workshops - wreath making, fused glass decorations, chocolate truffle making and snowman & Santa carving



❄️ ❄️ Why not shop local this Christmas and buy Nottinghamshire wine, a vineyard experience or a gift voucher for a rural skills workshop. From oil painting to jewellery making and from carving to bentwood chair making. Visit our website for a full list of gift ideas. ❄️ ❄️

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NG2 4EQ

*The Year of
Covid ...*

*Some
familiar gripes
are still with us ...*

*... and 3 questions we hope
will be answered soon ...*

Is He Gone Yet?



WE ARE NOT ALL IN
THE SAME BOAT
BUT WE ARE ALL IN THE SAME STORM



SUPPORT EACH OTHER
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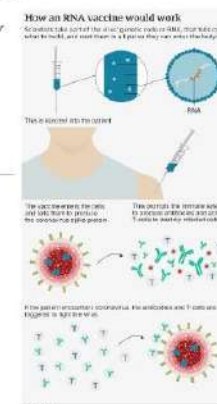
Q2.

Q1.

Q3.

*A light at the
end of the
tunnel?*

MATT



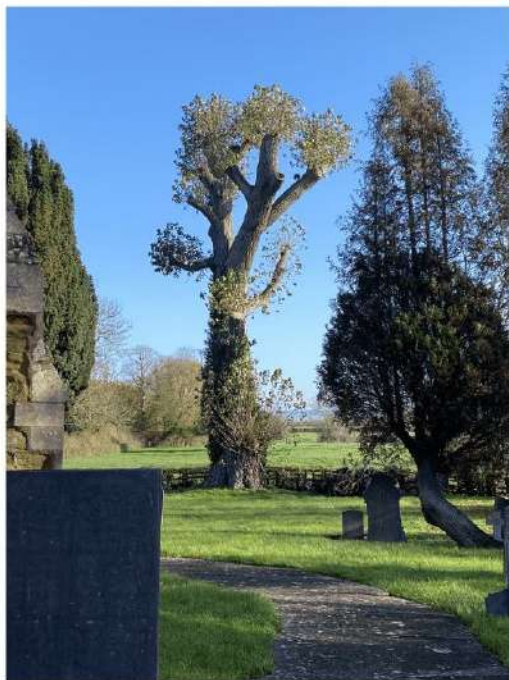
*We've shared our fears, & had our
disagreements but we've also supported
each other, shown a bit of love & even
had a bit of fun
Here's to 2021!*

Is it me or is the black poplar off for a stroll around the churchyard?!

Pollarded earlier this year it is going through a rather human stage ...

(read more about this lovely tree on: <https://www.hicklingnottlocalhistory.com/black-poplar-churchyard-cemetery/>)

Myths, legends and folklore surrounding trees are fascinating; from the Tree of Life and creation myths, to superstitions and into fiction such as Lord of the Rings (and the March of the Ents) and film - Avatar and Groot from Guardians of the Galaxy. The sensation of life in trees and in wood is incredibly powerful.



"Built into the west wall of the tower is a 13th century tree of life sarcophagus or coffin lid. The tree of life derives from the old Christian legend that the cross used in the crucifixion was made from the wood of the tree of knowledge and immortality, from which Adam and Eve are said to have picked the forbidden fruit. "

(from Chris Granger's History of Hickling)

Touch Wood: commonly believed to be an old superstition going back to pagan times when we believed in tree spirits or to early Christian times when invoking Christ's protection by symbolically touching the wood of the cross. However, there is no trace of the superstition being used until the early 1800s when it was generally accepted to link to **the popular children's game Tig-Touch-Wood** which was extremely popular. This is a chasing game and you are 'safe' when touching wood; 'Tiggy, tiggy, touch wood, I've got no wood' was chanted to tease the chaser. These days we say 'touch wood' whenever we feel we have unadvisedly tempted fate in some way! (Penguin Guide to the Superstitions of Britain & Ireland)

Fire at Church Farm

Sadly early on Monday 9th November there was a brutal reminder of the risks and difficulties of farming when a barn of hay and straw went up in flames at Church Farm.

Just before 6.30am the sound of mini-explosions filled the village as the asbestos roof of the barn caught fire; soon afterwards flames made the pre-dawn sky burn orange and fire engines rushed down Bridegate Lane. Straw and hay is well compacted in storage and it smoulders for days; the rest of the day was spent with the roads closed as the fire services doused the flames from the water supply on the street outside and contractors hauled as much of the straw away from the farmstead as possible to spread it outside on fields and to allow it to smoulder and burn itself out over the next few days. By mid-afternoon the fire in the barn was under control but the damage was immense. Fortunately, the fire didn't reach the farmhouse and no animals or people were hurt.



We all send our very best wishes to Eric and Bev and all at Church Farm and hope that things will return to normal for them as soon as possible.



Each Christmas, the author Terry Pratchett would publish a new short story for his young readers; this one is priceless!

Father Christmas's False Beard

From: F.P.Picklins (Personnel manager, Arnco Supersaver Store)

To: J. Chan (Toy Department)

As you are aware, Mr Keg Trumpet, who normally plays Father Christmas in our seasonal Grotto, is currently helping the police with their enquiries into why 150 video recorders were found in his allotment shed. This leaves us very short-handed in the Father Christmas area. Fortunately, we have had a most timely personal application from a Mr Nicholas, who says he is looking for a job to fill in until the holiday. He says he is from the north of Lapland, but I assure him we are an Equal Opportunities Employer, and besides I'm not sure how one would go about discriminating against someone from Lapland, even if one wanted to. He says he's currently homeless because a submarine surfaced under his home, but this may be a joke. I have engaged him to start on Monday. He is providing his own costume, and will not be requiring the false whiskers.

From: F.P.Picklins (Personnel manager, Arnco Supersaver Store)

To: Mr Nicholas (Temporary Sales Assistant, Toy Department)

My brother has been to see me today. He is most upset. May I remind you that in exchange for the 75p admission to the Grotto, children visiting Father Christmas are entitled to:

- 1) One 'ho-ho' and the possibility of a third 'ho' if time permits
- 2) One 'Hello, little girl/boy person', and a discretionary 'Have you been good?'
- 3) One plastic Super Laser Zappercon in the case of young males OR one My Little Maddened Polecat Dressing Table Set in the case of young females.

You are NOT supposed to tell them to help themselves. Not even, and I want to make this absolutely clear, if you add 'ho-ho-ho'. I appreciate your point that the children did indeed ask for different toys, but there are commercial considerations here which I do not think you have fully understood.

From: F.P.Picklins (Personnel manager, Arnco Supersaver Store)

To: Mr Nicholas (Temporary Sales Assistant, Toy Department)

I have to tell you that I have with some difficulty persuaded Mrs Tracy Williams, Sales Assistant, not to give in her notice.

Mrs Williams has been our Santa's Special Helper for three years and has always provided excellent service. However, her duties end with ushering children into the Grotto. She is not expected to make toys at the Arnco Supersaver Store. We sell them, an activity you seem to be unable to understand. Nor are you to refer to her again as a 'gnome'. She was most upset about this. I have checked my facts here, and 4ft 8ins is certainly not a gnome size.

From: J. Chan (Toy Department)

To: F.P.Picklins (Personnel manager, Arnco Supersaver Store)

Dear Mr Picklins,

He is a loony. I found him looking at the Meakill Death Cannon (£17.99) and he asked what it was, and I said, well, in the film *RoboWarden* it's what the hero uses to blow people away if they park their cars on double yellow lines, and he said, 'You mean it's a toy?' and he was very offensive and went on about goodwill to all men.

Also, the cleaners say they are finding reindeer droppings in the Grotto in the morning. Since the reindeer are made of plastic, I call this suspicious.

From: Albert Callaghan (Head of Security)

To: J. Chan (Toy Department)

He is definitely up to no good. You can't trust anyone with a beard like that. There is sawing and hammering coming from the Grotto every night, only when I have a look in there's nothing there. Also, I know we have a lot of temporary assistants in at this time of year, but some of my men say they saw little faces looking out at them. And someone is pinching tools and stuff from the Do-It-Yourself section.

From: J. Chan (Toy Department)

To: Piotr Kowalski (Heating Engineer)

What's gone wrong with the heating in the Toy Department? It's like the North Pole up here!

From: F.P.Picklins (Personnel manager, Arnco Supersaver Store)

To: Mr Nicholas (Temporary Sales Assistant, Toy Department)

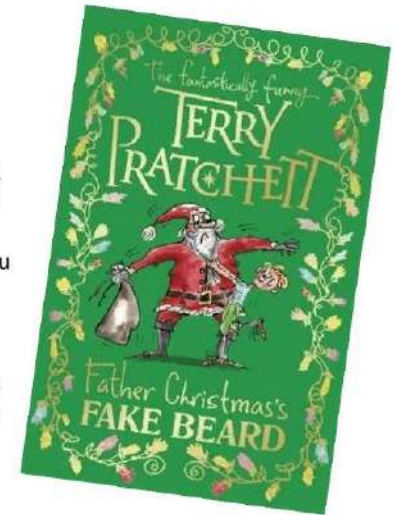
I am sure we would ALL like to leave early on Christmas Eve. However, the store will remain open until 8pm for late shoppers. I am afraid your request to leave early because you have another job to go to is hardly sufficient reason to shut the Grotto. Besides, I cannot imagine what job has to be started on 24th December!

From: F.P.Picklins (Personnel manager, Arnco Supersaver Store)

To: Mrs K Arnold (Managing Director)

... and then the next thing to happen, according to Mr Chan, was that snow apparently fell in the Toy Department, the side of the Grotto fell in, and Mr Nicholas came out on a sledge drawn by eight apparently living reindeer, smashed through the big window by the lifts, and was last picked up by Air Traffic Control over Southampton.

I, of course, agree with you that the whole matter had better be forgotten, since it clearly could not have happened, and anyway Mr Chan now thinks he is a teapot.



<https://www.terrypratchettbooks.com/>



2008: The Beautiful Game

"It is a fair, even-handed, noble adjustment of things, that while there is infection in disease and sorrow, there is nothing in the world so irresistibly contagious as laughter and good humour."



2009: The Grumpy Innkeeper & the year we had snow ...



"God bless us, every one!"



2011



2014: The Best Christmas Present in the World



2013: Grumpy Innkeeper

"I don't know what to do!" cried Scrooge, laughing and crying in the same breath; and making a perfect Laocöon of himself with his stockings. "I am as light as a feather, I am as happy as an angel, I am as merry as a school-boy. I am as giddy as a drunken man. A merry Christmas to every-body! A happy New Year to all the world! Hallo here! Whoop! Hallo!"



2016: Hello, Mouse! The Story of Silent Night

More photos on the website!!
If you have any Hickling Christmas photos that we could share on our website, please contact us via FB or email at: info@hicklingnottslcalhistory.com

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- ♦ Dry cleaning service
- ♦ Fresh sandwiches, sausage rolls, samosas etc
- ♦ Hand tied bouquets

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HICKLING WI

Boris says he is as fit as a 'butcher's dog'. I have not heard that expression before but I get the gist and with several vaccines on the horizon hopefully we will soon be rearing to go.

Our programme of events this year would have been outstanding, but they have mostly been postponed until next year, plus our fabulous coach trips, and various other ideas like 'Ladies Who Lunch or even Supper!

Hickling WI is known to be one of the liveliest in the county, always trying out new ideas but also being part of the community. We meet the third Thursday in the month at 7.30 pm, and all the latest information can be read on our notice board outside the village hall which is where we have our meetings.

(in caps please). If you are new to the village, just retired, or are free on Thursday evenings, want to get involved, and to make new friends the WI is a good place to start. You will find a warm welcome, stimulating talks etc and we are very keen to meet you! Please phone me if you would like more information.

In the meantime, WOOF WOOF!

Dorothy Chahal,
President
Tel 822369.

Samarpan Ashram Yog Meditation Centre - Long Acre
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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

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Hickling school about 1920. On the extreme left in the white blouse is Emma Starbuck. She grew up in a one-bedroom, one downstairs room cottage in Clawson Lane which no longer exists. Also in the household were her illegitimate widowed great-grandmother Mary, her grandmother Emma, her illegitimate mother Nellie and her illegitimate sister Alice (Emma also being illegitimate). One might have thought that prospects for Emma were not good, great financial hardship and a general tut tutting.

Emma's mother and grandmother took in laundry, were caretakers in the school (as had been her great grandmother) and each week collected prescriptions from Colston Bassett surgery, walking over the fields to do so, and then distributing them around the village. The impression one gets from those who wrote about the family is that their industriousness was much respected. Maggie Wadkin remembered Nellie with her stepfather's surname, Carrington, and recalled at length how hard she worked. The report of Nellie's death said that she "was always willing to give a helping hand in village affairs". That for her grandmother Emma noted that she "did a considerable amount of laundry work".

At the time of the photograph Emma was a pupil teacher. After qualifying she took up a post at Ruddington school and then became head teacher at Thrussington. She and her sister Alice, both of whom never married, lived together, Emma dying in 1979 and Alice in 2000.

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A Puppy's Christmas

On the 11th day of Christmas

My puppy gave to me:-

11 unwrapped presents,

10 cards I should have posted,

My wreath in 9 pieces,

8 tiny reindeer fragments,

7 scraps of paper,

6 soggy ribbons,

5 chewed up stockings,

4 broken candles,

3 punctured ornaments,

2 mangled puddings,

And the fairy off the Christmas Tree.

On the 12th day of Christmas

My puppy gave to me:-

A dozen puppy kisses

And I forgot all about the other days!

Have a wonderful festive season with your furry friends.

Lynne Marshall

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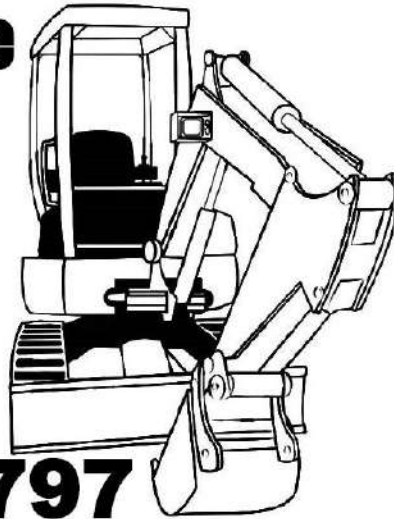
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Coffee with Santa

It is with considerable disappointment that we announce that there will be no Coffee with Santa event this year.

Christingle

We are at the planning stage! This is how it will happen - we hope!

- in conjunction with Cotgrave Church, we are preparing a short video showing you how to make up your Christingle - à la Blue Peter mode;
 - the video will be available on the Cotgrave Church website; it is not a Zoom;
 - you can then watch the video at any time to suit you and your family - there will not be a screened service;
 - Christingle kits, containing everything you need, will be delivered around the village before Christmas to every family which orders them - however many you need for your children;
- you can book your kits by emailing sahill18@btinternet.com. You will be placed on the order list and will be informed when the kits will be delivered by a return email;
- thanks to those who have already booked in - to the rest, don't leave it to the last minute!

2020/21 Service Dates for St Luke's Churches: Sundays unless designated

Please note that due to the Covid19 Pandemic the service times and dates below may be subject to change and alteration in these unpredictable times we are currently living in.

These dates will be kept up to date as far as possible on the Church website, but if you wish to have any of them confirmed please telephone Rev Maggie at The Rectory 01949 81183. Our church websites may be found by following the links under "A Church Near You".

Date	Kinoulton	Hickling	Upper Broughton
December 6	9.00am Holy Communion	6.30pm Evening Service	11.00am Holy Communion
December 13	11.00am Morning Prayer	9.00am Holy Communion	10.00am Morning Prayer
December 20	9.00am Holy Communion	<i>(no service)</i>	10.00am Morning Prayer
Thurs Dec 24 Christmas Eve	4.00pm Christingle online	11.30pm Midnight Mass Places MUST be booked	<i>(no service)</i>
Frid Dec 25 Christmas Day	10.00am Holy Communion Group Service Places MUST be booked	<i>(no service)</i>	10.30am Morning Prayer
December 27	<i>(no service)</i>	10.00am Morning Prayer Group Service	<i>(no service)</i>
January 3 Epiphany	9.00am Holy Communion	6.30pm Evening Service	11.00am Holy Communion
January 10 Baptism of Christ	11.00am Morning Prayer	9.00am Holy Communion	10.00am Morning Prayer
January 17	9.00am Holy Communion	10.00am Morning Prayer	11.00am Morning Prayer
January 24	11.00am Morning Prayer	6.30pm Holy Communion	9.00am Holy Communion
January 31 Presentation of Christ in the Temple	<i>(no service)</i>	<i>(no service)</i>	10.00am Holy Communion 5 th Sunday Benefice Group Service

Ramblings from The Rectory

When I was writing my Christmas message to you last year little did I know how different it would be this year.

Whilst 2020 started as have so many others it soon became apparent this was to be a year like no others. I am of an age to remember two or three flu epidemics such as the Bird Flu, the Asian Flu and the Hong Kong Flu way back in 1968. None of these, bad as they were, properly prepared us for what was to come. Even as I write we are now in the middle of a second National Lockdown set to continue right through until the beginning of December.

I wish I was able to offer you a deep insight into how long this pandemic could last, when we will have a vaccine ready or when this will all end, but regrettably I cannot. What I can offer though is hope. Our history books tells us of many plagues and pandemics that have taken place throughout our world, some worse than others. The Bible also tells stories of plague and horrors visited on the earth.

But in all these stories and history recollections the one thing that does shine through is hope and the knowledge that we will come through and out the other end.

Some of the stories from biblical texts tell of how God was very upset with his people on earth and had to send a message to remind them that their way of life was not what was expected.

I can think of Noah and the Ark (Genesis: Chapters 6 to 9), the 7 plagues of Egypt (Exodus chapter 7) and Jesus' Parable of The Unforgiving Servant (Matthew 18:23-35). Whilst some of these tales seem very horrific in their outcome they are there to remind us that trust in God will always give us what we need.

Not necessarily what we want but what we need.

What we need now, more than ever, is for this pandemic to go away, but it won't, at least not very quickly, and certainly not in time for Christmas! We must all do our bit, isolate when we must, socially distance ourselves and look out for our neighbours, or in Jesus words "Love thy neighbour". It may be a chat over the fence, a wave as you walk past, a bit of shopping for an elderly neighbour, walk a dog, write a letter, email, text or blog whatever that may be! Whatever you can do will help.

Unfortunately our three churches of St Luke will not be able to hold our annual Carol Services, nor will we be able to have our Christingle Service

at Kinoulton, all due to having to ensure social distancing in our buildings. We will be holding our regular Sunday services, Midnight Mass at Hickling and Christmas Morning at Kinoulton, the latter two will be by booking only. The good news is that there will be lots of online services including an online Christingle Service; details elsewhere in the magazine. For up to date information about our services please look at the church websites by following the links under a "Church Near You".

This year more than ever the Ministry Team and everyone at church will be keeping you all in our prayers.

If you are feeling down and in need of a chat then please do contact one of the team whose details may be found below.

May we wish you all a very, very Happy Christmas and a very different 2021!

Yours in Christ
Rev Maggie.

Contacts for St Luke's Benefice

Rev Maggie Woodward: 01949 81183 The Rectory,
41 Main Street, Kinoulton, Nottinghamshire, NG12 3EA
email: maggie.woodward511@btinternet.com

Readers

Sheila Hill (01949 81096
email: sahill18@btinternet.com

Robert Jones ☎ 01664 822916
email: robert.c.jones02@gmail.com



Updates on the Local History website:

Nothing major recently but several bits'n'pieces:

- Protestation Returns 1842: we found a copy of a book which transcribed all the Nottingham Returns - a few minor changes made (although we've gone with our local interpretation of some of the entries ...).
- The emigration stories have continued to develop: it seems that Mark Starbuck (on the James T Foord cholera ship) moved on to New Zealand and settled in the same area as Samuel Woolley (Plough Inn article, last issue) - he was even licensee of a Plough Inn but there is no firm evidence directly linking them to each other ...
- More added to the Lengthsman's Hut renovations page.
- Some new aerial photos of the village from the church tower.
- Kinoulton Estate Auction catalogue 1919; we now have copies of the maps/plans that accompany the catalogue.
- An article about the Trent Bore has been added to the Anglo-Saxon Vikings page
- A new article about The Mrs Mabel March Cup has been added to the page about Horticultural/Flower/Produce Shows. Her story is fascinating and we'd love to hear from you, if you can answer any of the remaining questions. Also added to the page is a gallery of newspaper articles recording shows from years gone by.



New things that are on the way:

- There are a number of new groups working on the Belvoir Angels in the Vale at the moment and we have new information (including some great new information about

the Belvoir Angels gravestone found in the garden at Cobblestones) - this will be added to this page soon. If you are interested in these gravestones and you are on Facebook, you can follow a new photographic search project; search Belvoir Angels and join the community group;

- From this project, we have met a wonderful gentleman from Granby who has offered to take photos of the Church and its artefacts. This is very much ongoing but here are a few samples to whet your appetite.
- The next very big project is to complete the transfer of the Wadkin archive material to the relevant house, business and family pages which will (finally!) make this amazing material more easily available.
- There is a huge amount of work going on in the background: on Wills, on Parish Records and on the graveyard census (with accompanying family stories).



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

Local Nature Reserve

We are incredibly lucky in Hickling to have as our 'village green', the Canal Basin and the Grantham Canal itself. This area is currently designated as a local wildlife site and, a little further on in Hose, there is a stretch which has SSSI status.

Earlier this year, many of us were enjoying how wonderful the towpath areas were looking and discovering what an extraordinary refuge the canal and its surroundings offered to so many people during the worst of lockdown (whilst also beginning to worry about the low water levels on the canal ...). A group of us got together (all appropriately socially distanced!) with thoughts of reviving a plan which began just over ten years ago but which never quite happened; to establish our Hickling bit of the canal as a Local Nature Reserve.

We have a remarkable amount of expertise in the village and there is no doubt that there is a huge community affection for the wildlife and environment around the canal, too. So, a lockdown project is now beginning to take some real form; we approached the Parish Council in June (you may have seen the Minutes since?) and then the Notts Wildlife Trust, Rushcliffe, the Canal & River Trust and Natural England all of whom have to be supportive - fortunately, the idea is going down well.

So, what is a Local Nature Reserve?

The official definition is: "*Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) are a statutory designation made under Section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 by principal local authorities. (...) LNRs are for people and wildlife. They are places with wildlife or geological features that are of special interest locally. They offer people opportunities to study or learn about nature or simply to enjoy it. They range from windswept coastal headlands, ancient woodlands and flower-rich meadows to former inner city railways, long abandoned landfill sites and industrial areas now re-colonised by wildlife. They are an impressive natural resource which makes an important contribution to England's biodiversity.*"

Basically, this is a little like a house being Grade II Listed; English Heritage look after the designation for a house and for wildlife sites it is Natural England. It recognises how special a particular area is and commits to helping local people maintain and support it.



An LNR is an agreement made between the local authority (Rushcliffe) and the landowner - in this case, the Canal and River Trust (CRT). They would then delegate day-to-day projects to a 'Friends of' group and this is where anyone in the village who is interested can get involved. An LNR is a partnership (in this case, between the Notts Wildlife Trust, Rushcliffe, CRT and the village) - the LNR, on behalf of the village, becomes a point of contact and focus for any possible future projects or for just maintaining the status quo where the status quo is a strength.

Reassuringly, this is a project which involves us all but it also represents a commitment from anyone with an interest in the canal and its future for us all to work together. It is early days, but projects might include; bat boxes, improving conditions for the water voles (we now know that they're there!) and for nesting birds, dragonflies and similar. There are some wonderful wildlife areas bordering the canal and we hope the LNR designation will help these, too.

We are working closely with the Parish Council and we are committed to involving everyone and keeping everyone informed as the project develops. The Canal & River Trust, Natural England and the Grantham Canal Society all have a very strong emphasis on wildlife and protecting the environment in all of their activities and we believe this project fits very well into this. If you are interested in learning more about what we are doing (particularly if you have any suggestions, would like to be involved or if you have any worries), please do contact us, we'd love to hear from you!

Simon Lane: simon-lane@tiscali.co.uk

Peter Playle: peterplayle@hotmail.co.uk

Jane Fraser: frasermjlk@outlook.com

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NEVILE & LANGAR WARD NEWS



From Cllr. Tina Combellack Rushcliffe Borough Councillor
for
Hickling, Langar, Colston Bassett, Kinoulton, Upper
Broughton, Hickling Pastures & Owthorpe

WISE - Waste Investigation, Support and Enforcement - Fly Tipping

As a result of scrutiny, Rushcliffe are to roll out a 6 month trial of Waste Investigations Support and Enforcement (WISE) which would be a cost neutral solution to fly tipping where the Company retains income in relation to fixed penalty notices issued. Watch this space.

Play Grounds and Parks –
during lock down, play areas are to remain open but parents must not meet in groups of more than 2 and all children's hands should be sanitised before and after play.



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CANAL

The Grantham Canal has proved a vital source of leisure during the pandemic, however water levels have been falling and causing concern for all Rushcliffe residents not just those in villages served by the canal. The GCWRG (Grantham Canal Water regeneration Group) was set up to look into ways of increasing feed into the canal and reducing water loss through leaks and excessive reed growth. We were therefore delighted to receive the following announcement for the Canal & Rivers Trust with whom we have been working.

Reed removal taking place on the Grantham Canal

We're starting works to tackle the problem of reed on the Grantham Canal to improve the canal. Water levels have been a particular problem on the Grantham this year - due in part to the wet and summer and the local ground conditions - and reed growth is making the problem worse. The growth of water along the canal. Over the coming weeks we'll be clearing the reed growth at Humberston, Kinoulton, and Gamston to ease the situation at each site.

TREES – there has been an enormous demand for free trees this year.

Over 2000 trees are to be planted across Rushcliffe.

Can I put out a plea to everyone – like pets at Christmas – a tree is for life not just for a year.

We must conserve as well as plant trees.

We are only too happy to remove trees that are not classed as good specimens. Trees do not always grow uniformly but none the less they are habitats for wild life and help cleanse the air.

Look after your trees and enjoy them.

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Discounts for group bookings

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



Remembrance Day 2020

We may not be able to remember how we usually do in Rushcliffe this year, but please reflect on Remembrance Sunday at home. Mayor Cllr Sue Mallender, ...

11th Day of the 11th month and Remembrance Sunday was a little different this year but none the less memorable.

All the villages commemorated the event in one way or another. The Borough produced a video which can be seen at <https://youtu.be/Phe2FzEbqyQ> and a montage of events.

COMMUNITY FUND – I have a small pot of money which has to be spent before the end of the financial year in March. In previous years I have funded play equipment, notice boards, seats, defibrillators, trees, guides and scouts, bulb planting, litter picking equipment, Kitchen equipment for village halls and much more. If there is any way I can help with a project, particularly covid related projects, please let me know.

WE WILL HAVE A GOOD CHRISTMAS SO
Don't let anyone hijack it.



Stay well, stay safe, stay happy and have fun

Cllr Tina Combella

The Wind and Trees.

I love the song of tree and wind,
How beautiful they sing.
The lichen on the beach tree rind
E'en beats the flowers of Spring

From the southwest, sigh, sigh it comes
Then whizzes round in pleasant hums;
It sings the spirit of the storm.
The trees with dancing waxes warm;

They dance and bow, and dance again,
The very trunks, each branch and grain
Shake and dance and wave and bow
In every form no matter how.

In every storm they dance on high,
The semblance of a stormy sky,
Then sob and roar and bend and swee,
The semblance of a stormy sea.

I love the song of wood and wind,
The sobs before, its roar behind.
I love the stir of flood and tree;
'Tis all of nature's melody.

I love the roaring of the wind;
The calm that follows cheers the mind.
'Tis like the good man's end of peace
When joys begin and troubles cease.

John Clare
1793-1864

Illustration by
Carry Akroyd
(John Clare Society.)



What's lurking in your dogs' bowl?

Some interesting information caught my eye about the germs that live in our dog food and water bowls.

In terms of the unhealthiest, germ laden places in our home our dog's bowls feature fourth after the kitchen sponge, kitchen sink and toothbrush holder. What lurks there does not only affect your dog's health but can affect ours too.

Plastic bowls in tests had the greatest accumulation of bacteria – I've thrown out the plastic one I was using! This is because even with regular washing, scratches and nicks provide places for bacteria to harbour. Scouring only causes more scratches to occur.

Ceramic bowls also accumulate a lot of bacteria; hiding in micro cracks in the glaze which are often invisible to us.

In tests, glass or stainless steel are the best choice.

Surprisingly, your dog's water bowl harbours many germs too. You may have seen a pink/grey or slimy film clinging to the sides of the water bowl. This is called *Serratia Marcescens*. It smells putrid to dogs and is an opportunistic pathogen known to cause UTI's and other infections.

Rinsing out your dog's water bowl with hot water is equal to doing nothing according to research. They recommend cleaning with hot soapy water daily with a weekly run through the dishwasher. Alternatively, soak in Milton or similar for 10 minutes to ensure you are protecting your dog's health.

Hope that's provided some helpful information for you.

Lynne Marshall
www.loveyourdog.org.uk

Dog Behaviourist and Trainer
fb: loveyourdog1

'Almost felt like you liked the Forest! That's good! That's uncommonly kind of you,' said a strange voice. 'Turn round and let me have a look at your faces. I almost feel that I dislike you both, but do not let us be hasty. Turn round!' A large knob-knuckled hand was laid on each of their shoulders, and they were twisted round, gently but irresistibly, then two great arms lifted them up. (...) But the hobbits noted little but the eyes. These deep eyes were now surveying them, slow and solemn, but very penetrating. They were brown, shot with a green light. Often afterwards Pippin tried to describe his first impression of them. 'One felt as if there was an enormous well behind



them, filled up with ages of memory and long, slow, steady thinking; but their surface was sparkling with the present: like sun shimmering on the outer leaves of a vast tree, or on the ripples of a very deep lake. I don't know, but it felt as if something that grew in the ground - asleep you might say, or just feeling itself as something between deep earth and sky had suddenly waked up, and was considering you with the same slow care that it had given to its own inside affairs for endless years.' (Lord of the Rings; Treebeard)

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Remembrance

In view of national Covid-19 guidance, it was regrettably not possible to hold our traditional Remembrance Day Service at Saint Luke's Church, Kinoultan, or to form a procession to the War Memorial at the village hall. Our usual ceremony was restricted to informal laying of wreaths, but with due dignity and respect. Wreaths were laid on behalf of the Royal British Legion, Rushcliffe Borough Council, Kinoultan Parish Council and the Scout Association.

The ceremony at the War Memorial at Hickling village hall was similarly restricted. Last Post and Reveille were performed by Jim Woolley. Wreaths were laid for Royal British Legion, the Scout Association and Hickling Parish Council in a respectful manner. On Armistice Day, Wednesday 11 November at 11 am, two children from Kinoultan Primary School accompanied by headmaster, John Savage, laid a wreath on behalf of the school.

The Poppy Appeal

This year is the Legion's 99th Annual Appeal. Locally, our organisers are Norman Evans in Kinoultan and Pauline Chell in Hickling. But due to pandemic restrictions we were unable to arrange the usual doorstep collections. Arrangements were made for poppy box sales at local public locations and some houses. Every Poppy counts, and nationally the Legion introduced new ways of making online donations and via supermarkets at the checkouts. Current welfare spending is around £1.6 million per week for veterans in the armed forces community. The Legion's helplines have reported that tens of thousands of vulnerable veterans are having problems with the pandemic and are urgently seeking help.

Our collection boxes from Kinoultan and Hickling have raised £823 so far. This compares favourably in the circumstances with the equivalent sum of £1524 last year. Many of you will have supported the Fund in other ways such as online direct donations. We can still accept donations by cash or cheque at 26 Newbold Way, Kinoultan, or any RBL member. Finally, we should like to thank all our donors for their generosity.

Michael Chapman

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Guides

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see back inside cover

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Carol Beadle 822195

Jane Fraser 822845

Gill & John Bloor 822682

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Kinoulton School PTA

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Nottinghamshire Police

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see PCC

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Phillipa Jacks (bookings) 823622

Lynn Irving 07388 348341

lynn.irving74@gmail.com

Dorothy Chahal (Pres.) 822369

Carol Beadle (Treas) 822195

Diary

All events subject to the Coronavirus situation

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

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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!

2021 Copy Dates;

February/March 15.1.21 April/May 15.3.21

Copy must be received before 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.

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- 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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