

Clarborough & Welham Newsletter

Autumn 2015

Our biggest issue yet!

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...and much, much more

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Material published in this Newsletter does not necessarily represent opinions of the Editors. Material submitted without a full postal address will not be published. All publication decisions remain the responsibility of the Editors alone. Clarborough & Welham Newsletter is distributed free to every household in our community as well as a number of other local outlets as well as some in Retford and Worksop. Back issues are also available on our community website.

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From the Editor

Spongebob Strawpants offers thanks to Steve Dodd and the whole Clarborough Village Ventures team for the resounding success of our first Scarecrow competition in the build up to the 2015 Festival (see pages 8 & 17 for more).

Twenty four pages makes this issue of our community Newsletter the biggest yet.

Demand for both advertising and editorial space reflects the fact, unique locally, that our Newsletter goes **free** to every premises in our community – plus a wide range of somewhat more distant areas. At the time of writing, our print run is 600 plus some 50+ copies by our Primary School for families from outside our community. Besides our community deliveries, we place batches in our village SPAR store, Kings Arms, Gate Inn and Howbeck Garage, all for passing trade. Added to these are further batches lodged in Retford Library, Bassetlaw Action Centre plus Hope shops in both Retford and Worksop. A final batch go to Bassetlaw Community & Volunteer Service (BCVS) at their Priory Centre in Worksop. Add to that pdf copies of Newsletters posted on our community website (see bottom of page) and you will see that our Newsletter really does put local events 'on the map'.

We should add that our community website has been climbing the internet ladder too. An entry of 'clarborough' into a Google search finds our website either second or third in the list. Over the past year or so our site has also been achieving some 7000-8000 pages downloaded (not 'hits') per month which is startlingly good. We've even checked this globally via our links in Australia and Canada – same results!

So, if you need to get your message out – either for your group or business, get in touch. Business advertising rates are very reasonable (page 24).

www.clarborough-welham.org.uk

Newsletter deadlines (provisional dates)

19th October (Winter issue)

18th January (Spring 2016 issue)





You know how the media seem keen to talk about 'dumbing down' whenever examination results show more pupils 'passing' or achieving high results? Maybe it just could be

that our young people are actually getting smarter! Could you do better than the answers shown below if you were asked, like them, to **'create an imaginative simile expanding using adverbial clauses'**?

Now, over to the pupils, aged 8-9 years...

As cold as an Atlantic invasion, slowly drifting away in the freezing wind, on a fresh winter's morning. [H.W.]
There was a ghostly shaped reflection, as bright as a torch, shimmering off the clear still water, haunting the night. [S.T.]

As weak as a helpless fighter, losing in vain. [R.A.]

As cold as a snow storm, with the snow shimmering like polished ice. [K.W.]

As pretty as the brilliant sunset, leaving the quiet earth to rest peacefully. [J.H.]

As pretty as a bright, white and black piebald horse, briskly trotting in dressage. [C.M.]

As pretty as the beautiful sunset, climbing down to its night of rest. [R.L.]

As brave as a fearsome boxer, stepping up to fight his hardest opponent yet. S.J.]

As dry as the yellow, soft, tickly sand on the burning hot beach. [L.B.]

As black as space, looking down at a lost, lonely dog, with the stars guiding it home. [T.B.]

As sharp as a metal chainsaw, old, crooked and rusty, chopping down a tree, swaying in the sunset. [F.S.]

The winter air was as cold as a comet hitting Pluto, at a helpless 5,000 miles per hour. [B.R-L.]

As soft as a fluffy, white, cloud, up in the dazzling, blue sky. [A.M.]

As pretty as the sunset, on a summer's day. [William H.]

As tall as a skyscraper, out in the space sky, staring down to Earth. [E.C-C.]

As soft as melted chocolate, sinking down my throat [C.S.]

It was as hot as a volcano, when it's bubbling, sticky lava is erupting out of it. [K.S.]

As tall as a giraffe, reaching for the beautiful delicacies, up high. [A.L.]

As cold as a glacier, caving in by a wolf's claw, at the black of night. [A.P.]

Miss Sly (class teacher)

Note for Parents:

Wednesday 2nd September is an INSET Day, so the autumn term starts on Thursday, 3rd September.

Friday 23rd October is also an INSET Day with school re-opening on Monday 2nd November after half-term.

Keep a regular check on the school's website: (<http://www.clarborough.notts.sch.uk>) for all of these dates and much, much more. Important dates through to July 2016 can be found in the **Calendar** sub-page under **Parents Zone**.

Retford Oaks Academy visited Clarborough Primary School on 6th July as part of their summertime Reading Road Show. Every year Retford Oaks take their books



and reading skills into local primaries. Led by librarian and Learning Resource Centre Manager, Mrs Wadsworth, Retford Oaks Year 7 students read to and with the children at Clarborough. There was the opportunity to colour in and collect stickers, along with a photo call!

Date for your diaries: Morning of Friday 25th September will be our next Macmillan Coffee morning with our usual range of refreshments, cakes & sweets, little pressies and other arty things; all in aid of this most worthwhile charity – so come along, you don't even need to be a parent of the school!



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Wild words from Idle Valley



Being a warden at the Northern part of the reserve can be quite challenging. But most days the job is very rewarding. Being a face for the reserve makes visitors feel welcome, gives regulars someone to share their sightings with and makes locals feel someone is keeping an eye on things. I feel that over time, wardens build up a much needed rapport with the people they meet on a daily basis.

One of the joys of wardening is meeting new visitors who are coming to the reserve for the first time. The Trust logo on the jacket draws them to you and soon you are chatting like old friends.

They look amazed at some of the wildlife you tell them can be seen on this very rich reserve. They usually take a map and some good advice and happily wander off in search of all the great sightings. And if I catch up with them again at the end of the day, it's always "This is an amazing place, I'll definitely be back"

Then on my travels I'll probably bump into some of the regular visitors. Regular birders will ask me if there's anything about and being part of the Lound Bird Club I have instant access to new sightings via our text group. I know pretty much instantly what birds may be around and I have put many a grateful birder on the right course for their bird.

At this time of year the reserve is alive with Summer visitors and even if no one is around it's a joy to be part of it all. There are chiffchaffs and willow warblers singing their familiar songs in almost every tree, swallows, swifts and martins effortlessly soaring past your head, the much loved cuckoo making his presence known, and one of my favourite Summer sounds, the reed warbler hiding amongst the reeds occasionally giving you a glimpse of his elegant chestnut feathers and white throat before disappearing once again into deep cover. And just occasionally you can have a wild encounter which takes your breath away. Like the time I was on Hawthorne lane and out of nowhere a female roe deer came out of the bushes at speed being chased by a very amorous buck. I froze on the spot and they were so busy in their dash of love that they simply didn't notice me. They just kept on running toward me until they got to within a few feet of me. I thought at one point they might run right into me. When they finally saw me they did a quick 90 degree turn and ran around the field at the side of me still in the pursuit of love. I hope it was all worth the effort in the end.



At the end of the day you get a whole lot more out of wardening than you put in and if anyone was thinking of becoming a warden but didn't know whether they would

enjoy it I would say, come and give it a go and you will find it's one of the most rewarding jobs you can find.

Idle Valley Nature Reserve is 1 mile north of Retford, The Great North Road, sat nav DN22 8SG

A stunning and inspiring wetlands landscape, packed full of trails, lakes, woodlands and meadows. A great place to visit for all ages and interests. The Café, shop and centre are free to visit and open 10:00 - 15:30 every day.

**Dave Mannifield
Volunteer Warden**

Hear the Vulcan for the last time

Based at nearby Doncaster/Sheffield Robin Hood Airport, the last airworthy Avro Vulcan XH558 is now



Image by Darren Harbar Photography

coming to the end of her flying career. Inescapable engineering realities have finally closing in! If you've never experienced the close-up effect of raw power coupled with the unique shape, then 2015 is your last chance.

Having said that, plans are currently developing to make the Vulcan the centrepiece of an engineering academy with an emphasis on aero-engineering. The Vulcan will remain, for quite a few years, a working machine – high speed taxi runs along Robin Hood's runway will still be a feature!

For more on the Vulcan, and also about ways to support her continuing life, go to the Vulcan to the Sky Club at: <http://club.vulcan.tothesky.org>

Editor



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North Nottinghamshire Place & Story

North Nottinghamshire really is a great place to work, live and visit. Boasting well-known attractions such as Clumber Park, Hodsock Priory, Welbeck Estate and the Chesterfield Canal, the area also has excellent communication links – be it road, rail or air. Local businesses and potential investors also have access to a talented workforce as over 15 million people live within a two hour radius.

In March 2013, Bassetlaw District Council put a bid together to the European Regional Development Fund for a project entitled 'Invest in Bassetlaw' which was focused around place shaping to raise awareness of the area. Research showed that 'Bassetlaw' as a label is little understood and so efforts began to **Place** the area more clearly in the minds of national and international business.

The project focused on improving economic performance, with the aim that it should be owned and developed by business and other key organisations across the public and voluntary sectors. The District Council were at the heart of the work but recognised it would take more than them alone to make North Nottinghamshire more successful.

A private sector **Place Board** was formed, chaired by George Buchanan from Hodsock Priory, with representatives from a cross-sector of organisations including Charcon Construction, Harworth Estates, North

Nottinghamshire College and Bassetlaw Community & Voluntary Service (BCVS). A Place Manager, Sally Gillborn, was recruited to work with the Place Board to drive this work forward.

The work of the Place Board is supported by our North Notts Envoys ambassadors scheme. Envoys are local businesses that unite to bring together their knowledge, networks and influences to promote the area locally and nationally. Regular Envoys events take place at key venues in and around the North Nottinghamshire area. Venues have included the hangar with the Vulcan aeroplane at Robin Hood airport and Osberton Horse Trials. Future events are scheduled to take place at Worksop College and Center Parcs.

To find out more about the North Nottinghamshire story and our North Notts Envoys scheme, please contact Sally Gillborn on 01909 533 223 or email sally.gillborn@northnotts.co.uk

Sally Gillborn

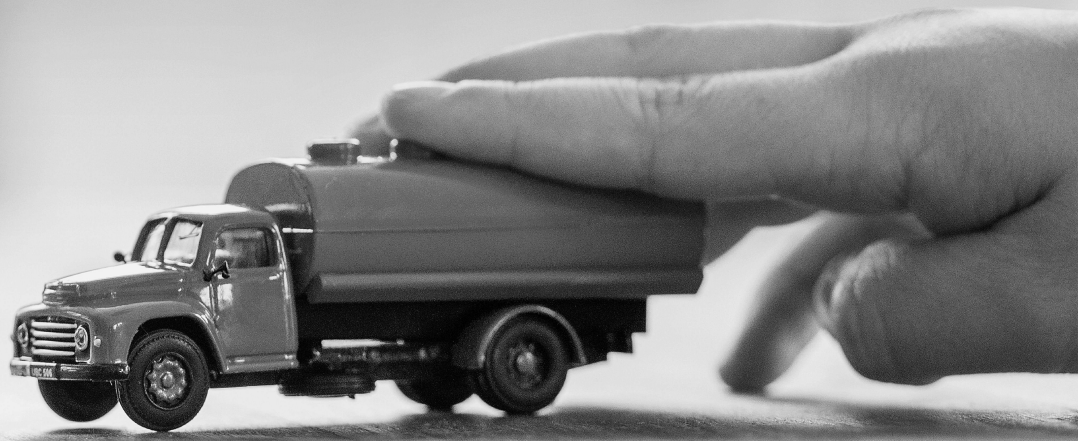
Community Defibrillators

Hot news – Ann Cobb and colleagues are working towards a unit for Welham. Keep your eyes peeled for training events.

I have striven not to laugh at human actions, not to weep at them, nor to hate them, but to understand them.

Baruch Spinoza (1632-1677)
Dutch philosopher

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...and much, much more...

There is so much more to share than space in this Newsletter allows.

To get up-to-date news and information from the following sources, visit our community website (www.clarborough-welham.org.uk):

Out-and-about and Local Environment links providing lots of summer holidays ideas for families.
Police Reports in full
Law & Order news from the Home Office
Local Job opportunities links
Retford Library events, talks, etc.
Bassetlaw Museum events and exhibitions
Emergency contacts for all utilities
Contact details for your representative on District and County Councils plus your MP, John Mann.
With nearly 150 pages, our website, will amaze you with the amount of useful information at your fingertips.

Editor

Warning – another Microsoft Scam

Just as we were going to press, the following e-mail came in from David Tupman, a class member of Clarborough & Welham IT Group. He warns of a new twist to the recurring 'Microsoft' scam. David continues...

I have received two phone calls this morning stating they were from Microsoft offering to help with Windows 10. I asked what division of Microsoft they were as I work for Microsoft & of cause the phone went dead. I wondered if it would be worth informing the members not to fall for this scam.

Due to Windows 10 expected very soon it is easy to accept that the phone call may be genuine.

David Tupman

Editor's note: we can't emphasise enough that ANY call from someone purporting to represent Microsoft, Apple or any other computer system cannot know anything about what is on your computer system(s). Any conversation that tries to convince you that they 'are aware of.... on your computer' is a sure-fire scam; hang up immediately!

Need a helping hand with your computer or laptop?



Clarborough & Welham IT Group may be just the ticket, and don't take our word for it, here's David Tupman's thoughts after his first 5-week block of classes at Clarborough Village Hall:

Myself and a friend joined the Clarborough & Welham IT Group for the five 90mins sessions over five weeks & I felt I ought to write this letter to anyone considering the next session. Firstly, don't consider - "DO IT". I was anxious about coming to the first session as I live 25miles away & knew nobody except the friend who came with me - don't be worried or anxious as you will be treated as a friend. The five tutors are volunteers who gladly give their time to help others. They explain everything in a simple & understanding way.

We need not have worried as we were met at the door with a warm welcome & introduced to the volunteers who take the course.

They explain everything in layman's terms & at your pace too - anyone who has not used a computer before through to more advanced users, on a one to one basis if you require it.

The other twenty or so people on the course were a mix of ladies & gents & ages who also were most friendly and welcoming & nobody felt like a stranger after the first week.

By the way I am 67 and my friend 82.

Please give it a try.

Need we say more? We are, however, always on the lookout for additions to our tutor team, so if you've got a bit of time each week and have a bit of computer experience (we don't need experts, just those with a bit of hands-on experience) then get in touch. This could also be an opening for someone wanting 'back-to-work' skills as their family moves on - we are experienced reference writers!

Classes run through 30 weeks per year on Tuesdays (13:30-15:00) or Wednesdays (10:00-11:30) and cost just £15 for a 5-week block. Our first Autumn block starts w/c 14th September (through to w/c 12th October). Dates for November through to July 2016 are on our website www.cwitgroup.btck.co.uk

Use our laptops or bring your own.

For more information, or to enrol, contact Greg on (01777) 700 918 or e-mail clarboroughwelham@gmail.com

FREE CLASSES! Working in co-operation with Kath Sutton, we aim to promote her book to a wider audience through a dedicated website and also online publishing (Kindle, iPad, etc).

If you would like to get involved – either as 'student' or 'tutor' – come to Clarborough Village Hall on Tuesday, September 22nd for a preliminary meeting starting at 15:15. This won't cost you a penny!

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SUPPORTING THE INDEPENDENT AUTOMOTIVE AFTERMARKET

Charity starts at home

I have to be honest and say that the following two articles have moved me deeply; they go such a long way towards demonstrating how no matter what established religion we follow, underlying human nature can be so powerfully positive. Read on...

Muslim Charity

Your Editor was recently invited to become a Trustee of Bassetlaw Community & Voluntary Service (BCVS) which is based at the Old Priory School in Worksop. Earlier this year, an initiative was launched which brought together BCVS and Jamia Al-Karam, the Muslim college based at Eaton Hall near Retford. The aim was simple, to seek ways to address widespread negative perceptions and support the college's efforts to become more integrated in the local community.

It was against this background that my wife and I were invited to a ceremony on Monday 15th June 2015, at Bassetlaw Hospital to hand over a brand new Resuscitaire Unit to the hospital from Muslim Charity *Helping The Needy*.

At this point I hand over the Maroof Pirzada:

Muslim Charity *Helping The Needy* is a UK-registered charity with Head Office at Eaton Hall, near Retford.

As well as providing urgent humanitarian assistance to vulnerable communities around the world, the charity focuses its efforts in Maternal Health and Education related projects in the developing world.

As part of its Maternal Health programme and its commitment to support UK-based initiatives, *Muslim Charity* funded the Maternity Ward of Bassetlaw Hospital with a brand new Resuscitaire Unit (costing £7,995), a piece of equipment vital in all hospitals for babies who require resuscitation soon after birth.



Speaking at the ceremony, Neil Taylor, Chief Executive of Bassetlaw District Council [above, second from right], said: "This is an extremely generous gift from the Muslim Charity which will no doubt help to save young lives. The underlying theme of this gift is beginnings, beginnings of new lives and new community bonds. I know that it will be a very valuable piece of equipment for the Maternity Ward that will be greatly appreciated. This gesture will also strengthen the relationship between the Muslim

community and the Bassetlaw community."

Peter Watson, General Manager at Children and Families Care Group, Doncaster & Bassetlaw Hospitals [above photo, far right], said: "We are grateful to *Muslim Charity* for providing the Resuscitaire Unit which is an important piece of equipment as it is used to keep a child warm and breathing well after birth. We highly value the support from charities, particularly *Muslim Charity* who we are proud to have a relationship with."

Bakhtyar H. Pirzada, Vice Chairman of *Muslim Charity* [photo, third from right], commented: "Having worked for numerous years in the area of maternal health in developing countries, *Muslim Charity* has worked tirelessly in promoting maternal health and care in parts of the developing world and has provided long-term initiatives to those in need, saving lives on a daily basis. A death of a child, a mother, or both, during pregnancy, childbirth or aftercare is a real phenomenon in many parts of the world, even though this provision of healthcare and facilities may often be taken for granted here in the developed world."

Bakhtyar continued: "Today, *Muslim Charity* stands to appreciate the great healthcare provision provided by the National Health Service and is proud to contribute to the Maternity Ward at Bassetlaw Hospital. The Hospital is a central pillar of our local community and all of us who live in this area benefit from it all the time. Being the local hospital to Eaton Hall, where the Charity is based, we are grateful to Bassetlaw Hospital for its service and for accepting this humble contribution to its Maternity Ward".

Maroof Pirzada, Director, *Muslim Charity*

Editor's note: After the presentation described here, I received a note from Maroof outlining Muslim Charity's most recent news: a) raising some £117,000 through Sky's Islam Channel for Safe Water projects in Asia and East Africa. Maroof added 'It is just so fulfilling to have such a wonderful response from viewers and donors because the funds raised will go such a long way in providing a new Water Borehole in Somalia for vulnerable communities which will help tens of thousands of families.' b) donating £1500 to Eaton Church's June Gardens Event.

***Nation shall speak peace unto nation.* BBC Motto**

Reflections on Living Below the Line

What's this all about? Nine of us agreed to face the challenge of spending only £1 a day on food and drink for 5 days, in solidarity with 1.4 billion people around the world who live on less than that. I do mean "live on" for they also have to pay for shelter, heating, clothes, education etc. out of their £1 a day. We have asked people to sponsor us, and send money for these people care of Christian Aid. This is a summary of my diary of the week...

Monday 11th May

It's 6.30am and I've just been downstairs to unload my dish-washer and washing machine. I do appreciate these machines, but it's a far cry from seeing women (in my childhood in Iran) washing clothes in the river and beating them on the rocks to get them clean. Now for a nice cup of tea – no, it will be hot water as I have only 3 teabags for the whole day and no coffee; I'm hoping to get 2 or even 3 mugs of tea from each tea-bag.

Breakfast: I'm enjoying my mug of tea as I reflect on those 1.4 billion people and my own life-style. I have clean water from a tap, and I don't have to walk to the village pump to get water every day and even twice a day for some families, and then carry it back to where I live; nor do I have to heat it on an open fire of burning logs, for I have a kettle and electricity. I can wash my hands or have a shower whenever I want, for water is brought to my home through pipes. I think I've taken water for granted too much and I hope I will appreciate turning on the tap much more now.

I had porridge for breakfast. 3 tablespoons of oats was today's portion. Five of us had clubbed together to buy a few things in bulk for £5 and then share them out, so that each of us used £1 of our allowance. My share was 200g of oats, 200g of rice, 180g of mixed frozen vegetables and 3 eggs for 85p. That leaves me £4.15p for the rest of my food and drink. I'm grateful that I have fresh rhubarb in the garden, as well as frozen runner beans, raspberries and loganberries in the freezer. My porridge today was flavoured with a small handful of defrosted loganberries (a bit sour) and 2 tablespoons of natural yoghurt. Total cost of breakfast including tea was 13½p. I have planned a menu but with the option of changing it if I want to.

Tuesday 12th May

I stopped off at the supermarket today to buy 2 bananas (only 27p for 2) and one large Granny Smith apple that cost 44p, to try out interesting looking internet recipes for 'Living Below the Line'. As I walked around, I noticed how many sugary items were on special offer. The supermarket's 'special offer' of only £1 is what those 1.4 billion have to live on for a whole day. Up to now, whenever there was a special offer on something I really like, I have bought it. After all, it's cheaper than usual, for it is a Special offer. Now perhaps I will think differently. Someone asked me if I would lose any weight, so I am checking to find out. Lunch today was 40g rice, frozen mixed vegetables, runner beans, some sweet and sour sauce (only 26p for a 1lb jar), and then a banana cooked with cinnamon spice; total cost 23p. Supper was baked beans with 2 small slices of brown toast, followed by stewed rhubarb with yoghurt, and that cost 40p.

Wednesday 13th May

I shall be glad when this challenge is over, for when I open the cupboard and see what I usually have for breakfast, I do long for it. This morning there was a Service of Holy Communion and yes, I took the bread and wine, for churches abroad would provide that for free. Afterwards we chatted over refreshments, and people were asking what I had for breakfast, lunch etc, others were commenting on those people having no tap water, no microwave or cooker. May people be generous in giving (sponsoring) so these 1.4 billion can benefit

from our 5 day effort. By the way, I had a mug of hot water, but as we celebrated a birthday with chocolate cake, I took a piece home to have on Saturday! I do miss sugar in my diet.

Thursday 14th May

I was thinking about my lunch of rice, vegetables, sauce and an egg that cost 17½p, whereas the apple (albeit for 2 meals) cost 44p. That's more than twice the cost of the main course. I agree it's not harvest time for apples, so I shouldn't be surprised, but I am. In future I will try to buy what is in season, and also buy what is grown locally rather than imported unless it's for a good reason. A few years ago, the Mothers' Union gave me this to think about when shopping: *Do I need it? Can I afford it? Will I use it? Is it worth it?* I wonder how this £1 a day will affect my shopping in the future.

I am struggling today to keep to my £1 a day and not indulge in a treat, and phoning to chat to a friend just out of hospital helped to distract me from wanting something sweet to eat. People living in poverty don't have all our gadgets to entertain them, so friendships and relationships matter, generosity and caring love are crucial – and flourish among them.

Friday 15th May

I looked at JustGiving's internet site last night <http://www.justgiving.com/retfordchristianaid> and 59% of the £1,000 target had already been donated, and that is in addition to what our local churches have been given to pass on to Christian Aid. I do hope and pray that the money raised will help people grow food, keep cows, hens etc, and become more self-sufficient. Most of all, may your generosity, our self-denial, and the prayers of us all, express God's love to the world.

Saturday

We've finished our £1 a day diet. Tomorrow I will find out how others got on. My total spend for 5 days was £4.59p. and I lost 4lbs.

Elizabeth Davies

Editor's note: Elizabeth added that her little group raised some £1,750 including Gift Aid. Thanks go to all who contributed.

Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.

George Santayana (1863-1952)

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Bassetlaw & Doncaster Hospitals

Now for some *good* Health Service news! We see so many negative headlines in national newspapers (it's what they do best, being negative) that it's good to pick up messages that are good news, so here goes...

At a recent BCVS meeting, your editor received the following information from Clive Tattley who sits on the Clinical Governance and Quality Committee of Doncaster & Bassetlaw Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. The Trust has a consultant on the European exam standards board for ENT (Ears, Nose and Throat); we have two nurses from the maternity unit who have just been awarded the *Nursing Times* accolade for a new procedure; we are a 24/7 hospital; we are monetarily in the black; we are about to spend over £3 million on rebuilding the south side of Bassetlaw Hospital and finally, the trust is well on course for eventually becoming a teaching hospital – the top rank in hospitals with all the benefit that brings!

Clive Tattley

Scarecrow Competition was a great Festival success

Not only did the competition provide an eye-catching header to our Newsletter, but entries surpassed our wildest dreams both in number and quality.



Initial plans hoped for around twenty entries which actually turned out to be 45! The winning **Spongebob Squarepants** and **Gone-with-the-Wind** [above] were truly magic, but so many other's ran them really close for top honours. So, the standard has been set – we've all got some 9 months to conjour up our entries for 2016!

Men's Health 3

This actually applies to both men and women. We all know that too many calories and too little exercise are recipes for trouble in due course – but going to the gym is so easily put off until later! Walking – yes, basic walking about – is a really effective way to lose some weight and also wake up tired metabolisms. Walking provides both mental *and* physical exercise and we are lucky enough to live in a semi-rural area.

There are lots of easyish walks around the villages. Incorporate a hill (Howbeck Lane for example) and you do even better. 5 easy walks:

- The Gate Inn (no stopping for a quick pint on the way), canal south to Bone Mill Lane, along Bone Mill to A620, Little Lane, Broad Gores, footpath back to the Gate. (Perhaps ok for a slow half now!)

- Again from the Gate, north through Hayton to the Boat Inn, back along Main Street Hayton and Smeath Lane. (A series of temptations on this one – but be strong!)
- The Church to the Baulk as far as Pinfold Lane Welham, right down Pinfold Lane to Welham Corner and back along the A620.
- Howbeck Lane to the top of the hill, right onto Red Flats Lane, right at the end to the top of Whinleys Lane (Church Lane) all the way back to Main Street, Clarborough.
- Howbeck Lane, right onto Red Flats Lane, left along Blue Stocking Lane, left and back along Howbeck Lane.



All these walks require good footwear as all can be muddy, some very muddy. Times are between 30 and 75 minutes.

Go on – help yourself!

Paul Willcock

Don't grumble – do something!

Recent Retford Business Forum meetings have led to several discussions about 'current issues'. Wendy Quigley, who many of you will know, made a very pertinent point about folks who grumble a lot but don't actually do much about things. Her key message can be summed up quite simply as **go to the top**. If we have issues about services or situations, go-to-the-top of an organisation – don't get fobbed off by someone lower down in the organisation. This point was thoroughly endorsed too by Councillor Michael Storey.

Editor

More Dates for your Diary

- 11th August: Book launch (see page 9)
- 2nd September: Panto 2015 Meeting (see page 21)
- 12th September: Retford Heritage Day
- 14th September: Parish Council Meeting (page 13 for October and November dates)
- 19th September: Retford FiverFest.
- 22nd September: Book project meeting (page 5).
- 2nd October: Village Ventures at Church (19:00)
- 10th October: Retford Ceilidh at Village Hall (page 22)

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Healthwatch is your guide to the network of NHS and Social Care

provision in the area. Local Healthwatch Champions can advise on how to contact these services. They also provide a channel for individuals to pass their experiences back to the professionals. This can be either complaints or complements. Many professionals say that complaints far outnumber complements because we (and I include myself here!) tend not to pass back our thanks for good service as often as we ought.

Healthwatch Champion for Clarbrough & Welham is Chris Herdman who comes with a wide range of experience and insight derived from a long career in the local health service. Chris holds drop-in services at Clarbrough Village Hall on the first Monday of each month (except bank holidays) from 09:30-11:30. Alternatively contact her on (01777 700 918 or e-mail clarbroughwelham@gmail.com putting *Healthwatch* in your Subject line. She would dearly love to pass on your complements to the professionals as well as help you with 'issues'.

For regular Nottinghamshire HealthWatch newsletters, see our community website's **Health & Welfare** pages.



BASSETLAW
DISTRICT COUNCIL
NORTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

**District Councillor
Kath Sutton**



In early July four residents of Clarbrough and Hayton had a two hour meeting with Beverly Alderton - Sambrook, Head of Regeneration, and Paul Cooper, Development Team Manager, and myself, to discuss their concerns over recent Planning decisions down Smeath Lane. It was an honest, open and cordial meeting and the constraints under which the Department operates and their working relationship with other County agencies were discussed and acknowledged. The group felt that they had a better understanding of how the Planning System works and some positive factors emerged, however some residents concerns appeared unanswerable and they felt that their views held little weight against Government requirements and local issues.

I attended a very successful Rural Conference at the end of June which dealt with Rural isolation arising from lack of income and employment, lack of access to transport and other services, and lack of social interaction. The speakers from Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire, BCV S, Partnership Commissioning Bassetlaw, and Advice Bassetlaw, were lively and informative and described the ways in which groups were now working together to combat this isolation. Some examples were Rural Bassetlaw Befriending, Community Minibus, Notts. Car Scheme, Wheels to Work, amongst others. One interesting innovation was that of Village Vending for villages without a shop, where a vending machine held basic necessities i.e. bread milk eggs etc and was proving most successful for those who could afford the initial cost. Certainly there seems a real desire to eliminate this most distressing situation.

Any idea how much water your household uses each year? Your editor was amazed that his two-person household used just over 74 tonnes last year - and a water butt services the garden!



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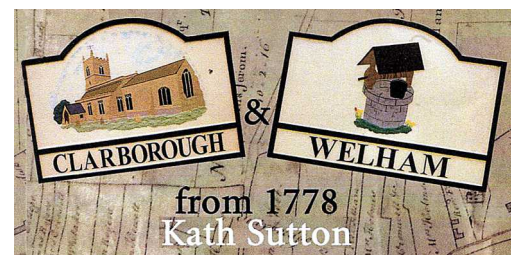
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And... for something quite different, do come along to my book launch at Clarbrough Village Hall on Tuesday 11th August (14:00-15:30).

Clarbrough & Welham from 1778 starting from the Enclosure Award explores our community's history as seen through early Parish Council Minutes books, old School Log Books and reminiscences from current residents.



So, come along for the book's launch at our Village Hall and enjoy a chat, cup of tea or coffee and a cake.

Kath Sutton

Local Contact Details

Alzheimer's Society 01909 730 886
(Bassetlaw Dementia Support Service)

Ambulance (Emergency) 999

Anglian Water 0800 771 881
(report leaks or other service issues)

Bassetlaw Action Centre (01777) 709 650
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Bassetlaw Clinical Commissioning Group
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Bassetlaw Community & Voluntary Service (BCVS)
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Bassetlaw District Council 01909 533 533

Bassetlaw District Councillor (Kath Sutton)
(01777) 709 034 kath.sutton@bassetlaw.gov.uk

Bassetlaw District Hospital 01909 500990
(non-emergency)

Bassetlaw Museum (01777) 713 749
Friends of Bassetlaw Museum fobm14@gmail.com

Clarbrough Gardening Club (01777) 707 811

Clarbrough & Welham IT Group (01777) 700 918
clarbroughwelham@gmail.com
(also for Newsletter and website matters)

Clarbrough Parish Council (Office/Monday am only)
(01777) 710 902 clarwelpc@yahoo.com

P.C. Chairman (01777) 700 517

Clarbrough Primary School (01777) 708 065
office@clarbrough.notts.sch.uk

Clarbrough Village Hall bookings (phone or text)
07530 532 185

Clarbrough Village Ventures (events. pantomime, etc)
(01777) 705 877, (01777) 710 780

Clarbrough Womens' Institute 07967 191 007

Clumber Park 01909 544917

Crimestoppers anonymously/free 0800 555 111

Electricity Supply failure 0800 056 8090
(Western Power Distribution)

Elizabethan Academy (01777) 713 700

Environment Agency (water pollution) 0800 80 70 60

Emergency Services (all) 999

Fire Brigade (emergency) 999

Food Bank (Retford - The Well) (01777) 702 344

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- Crown House** (01777) 703 672
- Tall Trees** (01777) 701 637
- Riverside** (01777) 713 330

Healthwatch Nottinghamshire 0115 963 5179

Healthwatch Champion (Chris) (01777) 700 918

Idle Valley Nature Reserve (01777) 713 945
askidlevalley@nottswt.co.uk

IT Champions 01623 727 600

MP (John Mann) Constituency Office 01909 506 200

Nottinghamshire Archives 0115 977 4401
archives@nottsc.gov.uk

Nottinghamshire County Council 0300 500 80 80

Nottinghamshire Country Councillor (Liz Yates)
(01777) 860 218 cllr.liz.yates@nottsc.gov.uk

Nottinghamshire Police & Crime Commissioner

General enquiries 0115 9670999 Ext. 801 2005

Nottinghamshire Womens' Aid 01909 533 610

PCSO Dave Airey 07525 226 838
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Retford Post-16 Centre (01777) 861 400
office@retfordp16.org

Retford Train Station 0845 722 5333

Severn Trent Water (advice) 08456 016 016

Shelter (Here magazine) here@shelter.org.uk

Tuxford Academy (01777) 870001

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Clarlborough Skate Park Closure

The Parish Council was approached by village teenagers, asking for a Skate Park. The Teenagers, Parents & Parish Councillors, set up a Skate Park Committee, to oversee fund raising & planning of the Park. This took 12 months.

Teenagers organised a petition of support in Clarlborough & gained 55 signatures.

The Teenagers also attended a Parish Council meeting to present their petition.

A number of letters of support were also received. Along with £450 in donations from County & District Councillors. Teenagers also helped raise funds with a Tombola Stall at the Village Christmas event.

The Skate Park Committee regularly updated the full Parish Council, on their progress. All minutes were recorded.

It was reported in the Retford times, Village Magazine & Village Website that the Skate Park would be at the Gill Green Play area. No objections were received.

A Grant application to WREN Environmental proved successful to the tune of £22,700. Notts County Council then agreed to match fund the project and take over the building of the Skate Park, so long as the material used for the Ramps was wood (Quieter than Metal, safer than Concrete), according to Ross Marshall, County Special Projects officer. He visited the proposed site along with Sue Jaques, Senior officer with County Local Improvement scheme (LIS)

The WREN money was then transferred to County Council, who said they would pay the rest of the cost.

The only build cost to the Parish was 11 per cent Landfill tax to WREN.

The Teenagers came up with a design which was agreed & modified by Ross Marshall. Bassetlaw District Council Planning department were consulted & provided with a Sketch plan of the Skate Park site. They said they had no objections, so long as the ramps were below 3 metres in height.

They did not consult their own Environmental Health department about the project.

When the Skate Park opened in 2012, a nearby resident complained about noise levels.

Working with the residents, the Parish Council attempted to address the issue.

Notices were put asking users to respect the neighbours, and a row of Conifer trees was planted between the Skate Park & Canal, Sadly this made little difference to the noise.

The Parish Council also called a public meeting to discuss the problems, attended by over 50 residents. At the meeting Teenagers were asked to keep noise levels down, report any unsocial behaviour at the Skate Park, and to take all Litter home. The Parish Council also decided to step up Skate Park inspections, and to restrict Park opening times up to a maximum of 9pm. The Parish Council also asked for volunteers to help

manage & monitor the park, only one came forward.

Soon after the meeting the noise nuisance was reported to Bassetlaw Environmental Health. They conducted a noise survey & concluded that the noise was unacceptable. Working with the Parish Council, a decision was made to install an Acoustic fence between the Skate Park & residential properties, at a cost of £7,000.

Another noise survey by Environmental Health concluded that noise levels had been reduced, but not sufficiently to satisfy requirements.

In November 2014, the Parish Council received a noise abatement order to be implemented by 2nd April 2015. Environmental Health also commissioned a report by MAS Environmental and paid the £1,500 cost. The report said that Skate Parks should ideally be 240 metres from properties. In a bid to keep the Skate Park open the centre driveway ramp was removed, as this was deemed the noisiest part of the Park.

Environmental Health then carried out a further survey, and concluded that the Acoustic wall was now being used as a ball wall, despite notices being put up not to use it as such.

To comply with the order, the Parish Council has now been asked by Bassetlaw Environmental Health to close & dismantle the Skate Park. The park was dismantled in May, 2015.

The Parish Council feel that the advice they received before the installation did not take into account the noise issues. After receiving the complaints we have tried to address the issues, unfortunately with no success.

Sometime in the future, the Parish Council hopes to replace the skate park, with something that will not have the same adverse noise impact....

Phil Gibson

Chairman, Clarborough & Welham Parish Council

Clarborough & Welham Parish Council Meetings

14th September
19th October
30th November

Meetings open 19:00 in Clarborough Village Hall

Agendas are always posted at least a week in advance on notice boards and on our community website where you will also find approved Minutes

Parish Council Office (Village Hall) is open on Monday mornings (excluding Bank Holidays), so do drop in for advice or to make comments on any local issues.

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

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

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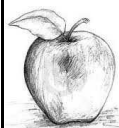
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Law School

PCSO Dave Airey's monthly reports can be read in full on our community website (see page 1), just follow **Law & Order ► Police Reports**.

Here we highlight a few of Dave's recent observations.

Firstly, **security of sheds and outbuildings**. This is particularly important if these are used to store things such as power tools since these may be used to gain entry to the main property. Keep sheds locked and get a battery powered alarm fitted. Contrary to what we often read in the national press, we **live in relatively crime-free area** and Dave would be the first to say that a widespread 'eyes open' attitude by the local community and their willingness to report suspicious individuals, vehicles or events plays a significant part in this. While we should always phone 999 in an emergency situation, use of other routes can be very helpful in dealing with suspicious matters.

Dave's contact number is on page 10. PC 1695 Bill Bailey is the new beat manager for this area. His contact number is 07910 336 844 and E-mail address is Bill.bailey@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk

Finally, did you know that we are in constant contact with the Home Office? See our website's Law & Order pages for the latest Home Office news!



And now, some eye-watering news!

There is some good news at last for Wonga customers. Wonga have reduced their interest rates – to a still massive APR of 1,509%. This reduction has been made in order to comply with the new regulations imposed by the Financial Conduct Authority limiting the interest charged on loans to 0.8% **per day**. Do not be fooled by the new image that Wonga, and the other so called Pay Day Lenders, are trying to portray. Their eye watering charges are still something to avoid – especially when there are other, cheaper and better, alternatives available in Retford. I refer here, of course, to the 2 Shires Credit Union which is there to support people in the local community. An example will help...

Borrowing £201 from Wonga for **29 days** and repaying the full amount as a single payment would result in an interest charge of £46.83 with an APR of 1509%. Borrowing £200 from 2 Shires Credit Union and repaying over **12 months** at £19 per month would result in an interest charge of £27.10 with an APR of 26.8%.

The article in *The Independent on Sunday* also gave an example of someone in urgent need of a new washing machine. She had gone to one of these shops where you pay a fixed weekly amount for goods. This washing machine was going to cost a total of £1300 on the pay weekly deal. By taking out a loan with the local Credit Union, this customer was able to go to a local shop to buy the washing machine with the total cost being a mere £300 – including loan interest.

All Credit Unions in this country, including the 2 Shires Credit Union, charge similar interest rates. Come and talk to us about our savings and loan products. 2 Shires Credit Union is there to help you, and is a non-profit making organisation - spread the word!

Opening Hours

Our Community Branch at the One Stop Shop in The Square in Retford is open on Thursday mornings from 09:15 to 11:15. In addition, anyone can pick up a leaflet and/or an application form to save or a loan application form from the One Stop Shop anytime from 08:40 to 17:00 Monday to Friday. **For more information visit our web site: www.2shires.org.uk or telephone our Worksoop office - 01909 500 575.**



Why use a Credit Union?

A recent article in *The Independent on Sunday* showed membership of Credit Unions is booming. Before the financial crisis about 700,000 people were members of Credit Unions, but by September 2014 this had risen to 1.17 million. Based on growth in members experienced by 2 Shires Credit Union since last September, this number is significantly higher than that. This increase in the number of members is also reflected in the amount of money held in savings accounts at Credit Unions. Even so, Credit Unions are still used by a minute percentage of the population in this country whereas in Ireland some 70% of the population are members.

One reason for this difference could be the perception that Credit Unions as primarily for the poor. In fact, Credit Unions can be very useful for a broad spectrum of the population of savers and borrowers. Credit Unions certainly offer an ethical alternative to mainstream banking. At 2 Shires Credit Union, for example, all the directors are unpaid volunteers and any "profits" are distributed to members in the form of a dividend. All Credit Unions, are here to serve members and NOT generate profits for outside investors and speculators.

It is also worth pointing out that all the money we lend comes from savings deposited by members. As with other Credit Unions, we do not borrow money from the wholesale markets.

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Liz Yates County Councillor



On Monday the 6th June I received a letter informing me that the County Council were proposing to erect an extra gantry on the A620. This follows on from many complaints from local residents about the number of HGV's blocking the highway whilst trying to manouvre their vehicles around to avoid the low bridge.

The proposal is to site the gantry approximately 175m west of Little Gringley Lane, allowing vehicles to manouvre at the Little Gringley Lane junction, where it is deemed that there is sufficient room for vehicles to turn more quickly. My understanding from the county officer is that the gantry needs to be sited after the first railway bridge coming from Retford, which is 4.5m in order to allow vehicles access to Little Gringley Lane and other properties that are sited before the other bridge which is 3.8m. This has been queried by the parish council so, to have a discussion about it the County Council officer is attending the next parish council meeting to clarify and answer questions.

Clearly the situation is a difficult one and needs addressing, and the County Council are right to address this in the best way possible. Hopefully the situation will be resolved for the benefit of the residents of Welham. As always you are very welcome to contact me about this or any issue of concern you may have on - (01777) 860 219 email cllr.liz.yates@nottsc.gov.uk

Editor's note: See page 21 for an update on this story.

From your MEP

We welcome 'aboard' Emma McClarkin, one of five Members of the European Parliament (MEP) who represent the East Midlands. Readers should note that to date she is the only MEP for our region who has responded to our offer of space in this Newsletter. So, without further ado, over to Emma...



One of the things I get asked most is about funding that's available from the EU. So a few years ago, I published a brief guide to European funding opportunities, which I hoped would be of use to various organisations and groups in the East Midlands. I sent this out to a wide range of people across the region, and it proved to be very popular.

Now, along with my colleague Andrew Lewer, we have recently launched an updated guide, as well as a new youth opportunities booklet. These include the new funding cycles that are currently running, and a special one on funding for young people. We hope this will enable more groups and organisations across the East

Midlands gain access to EU funds and opportunities. These booklets outline the background to EU funding and funding schemes. They endeavour to help individuals and organisations navigate the vast array of funding schemes and rules, as well as providing information on the types of funding available and what they can be used for, along with details of success stories in the East Midlands. Tips and helpful pointers on constructing the best application can also be found in the booklets.

Whilst I may disagree with the EU on many points, if there is money to be had from the EU then I want to see as much of it as possible brought back here to the East Midlands. If you'd like a copy of either booklet for an organisation or group that you help with, please either contact my office, or you can download an electronic copy from my website, www.emmamccclarkin.com

Clarbrough & District Womens' Institute



- 14th September: British Owls by Annette.
- 12th October: Becoming a Blue Badge Tourist Guide by Margaret Harrison.
- 9th November: Cookery Demo - Festive Treats by M.Winters & M.Pottinger. [All 19:30 starts]

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In Search of The Fallen

Regular readers may recall Pete Cox's article in our Summer 2014 issue explaining his plans, along with a small group of friends, to

locate and honour the graves or memorials of all those men from Clarborough, Welham, Hayton and Clayworth whose names appear on Retford's War Memorial. This project is coming to a conclusion and we will be serialising extracts from these researches that apply to men from Clarborough or Welham as close as practicable to the centenaries of each individual's death. In many ways it is good news to know that none of those remembered were killed a century ago from this Newsletter's issue.

Footnote: Between 10th & 12th March, 1915, BEF and Indian troops suffered 12,000 casualties when advancing 1200 yards at Neuve Chapelle.



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BCVS

Bassetlaw Community and Voluntary Service

Encouraging Community Action

Social Prescribing Service (Pilot)

Aim of the Service

The aim of this new service is about linking people to activities in the community that promotes independence and wellbeing. It is about connecting people to non-medical sources of support.

Background

Bassetlaw Clinical Commissioning Group has commissioned Bassetlaw Community and Voluntary Service (BCVS) to provide the Social Prescribing Service across Bassetlaw. The service is available to patients aged 65 and over who are socially isolated or frail and registered with a Bassetlaw GP.

How to Access the Service and What the Service Provides

Patients can be referred into the service via their GP or Community Nursing Service. The patient will then receive a visit from a Voluntary and Community Services (VCS) Advisor to discuss voluntary or community services that could improve the patient's health and wellbeing. The service is available for a maximum of 12 weeks. The Advisor can help patients to:-

- Access specific support groups
- Attend local community social groups
- Access benefits, debt and welfare rights advice
- Address isolation issues
- Access services for carer/s
- Create a plan of action
- Improve health and wellbeing and independence
- Access information and advice on a wide range of services
- Access other services eg. community transport

At the end of the 12 week intervention, the Advisor will arrange to meet the patient and discuss next steps to enable the patient to continue accessing the support they have received from the voluntary and community sector.

Contact Details

Julie Barnes, Social Prescribing Manager at BCVS.

Telephone: 01909 476 118 extension 30 or

e-mail: socialprescribingmanager@bcvs.org.uk

Clarborough Festival 2015 raises more for local good causes

Early reports show an increase over 2014: the church made £600 in the kitchen, the dog show made £150 and the stall money £210. Watch our next issue for thoughts on spreading this around our community.

Nonna's biscotti

Thanks go to Maria of *Dellissima Cakes* for the following, seasonal, recipe, so, over to Maria...

Italian biscotti have lots of recipe variations, but the one I use is from the Puglia region of Italy, where my mother came from. She used to bake these as soon as Autumn came around, so it was only natural that it was my first thought for this Autumn issue..

Almonds are harvested in August, so are perfect for Autumn recipes. This recipe is perfect for home baking.

The biscotti are incredibly easy to bake, and children love them. I used to help my mum bake them, and my sons used to help me each Autumn.

Biscotti are small Italian biscuits packed full of flavour. This home-baked biscotti recipe is from Puglia, the region my mother came from. It is incredibly easy to make, but don't be deceived, they taste amazing with a glass of wine, or equally as good with a cup of tea or coffee. It can be made with gluten free flour and it is entirely dairy free!

Recipe

- 900g plain flour
- 400g sugar
- 4 large eggs (keep 1 of the yolks back for later)
- 110 ml of extra virgin olive oil
- 1½ tablespoons baking powder
- 1 grated lemon zest
- 500g whole almonds
- A few tablespoons of milk (if required)

Method

- 1 Preheat the oven to 400°F/180°C
- 2 Mix all of the ingredients apart from one egg yolk, to a soft dough.
- 3 Add some of the milk if the dough is not soft.
- 4 Shape the dough into a loaf and place on a baking sheet
- 5 Brush the loaf with beaten egg yolk
- 6 Bake until it is light golden in colour, then remove it from the oven, and slice it.
- 7 Return to the oven for 15 minutes until crisp.
- 8 Try to resist eating until they have cooled down. Store in a tin lined with kitchen towel.

Options

You may add 1 teaspoon of vanilla extract, espresso coffee or lemon extract to the dough for flavoured biscotti. Dipped in melted chocolate, they are irresistible! Try replacing some of the almonds with glace cherries or sultanas, or even some apple chunks from your Autumn windfalls.

Storage: biscotti should be dry, so avoid airtight containers unless you are going to leave the lid off. They store well in paper bags, card boxes or even better, eaten! If you have any left after a week, you can freeze them.

Maria Ditch

Science without religion is lame, religion without science is blind.

Albert Einstein (1879-1955)
German-born physicist



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Extract from Spring 2015 FoBM Newsletter

Friends of Bassetlaw Museum (FoBM) Committee Member and Treasurer, Derek Turner, makes the case for supporting your local museum.

We are lucky in Bassetlaw in having our own museum and it is important that the local community support and make use of its marvellous facilities.

The role of museums has changed over time and never more so than in the last few years. As well as their traditional role of collecting, preserving and showing collections, museums now find that they play an increasing role in supporting the development of communities and help shape community identity. Our museum provides a stimulating public space in which people can come together and be inspired. It provides a unique interactive experience of getting up close to things we usually only see in books, newspapers, on computer screens or on the television. The perception you get of something from a second hand source is often completely different to the one you get when you see something with your own eyes.

Add to all of this a building that now reveals its early 19th century grandeur thanks to recent National Lottery funding and this is a treat not to be missed.

In terms of education, going to a museum can bring what is taught in schools to life, by seeing artefacts or paintings for example.

Research also shows that those who have had first hand experience of such information are more likely to retain it in later life.

We are so fortunate in having a museum that is well-organised with exhibitions that are well-maintained by our enthusiastic and hard-working staff - a museum that reaches out into the local community.

Drop in to the Museum to join the Friends of Bassetlaw Museum and support its ongoing development. Your subscriptions will be put to good use!



© Turner Family

Derek Turner

The Friends of Bassetlaw Museum will be hosting their next talk, **Footpads, Kings and Highwaymen**, at 19:00 on 29th September 2015. Historian, Ian Morgan, will tell the story of Nottinghamshire's Great North Road, a fascinating tale of intrigue, battles, murder and highwaymen. The event will be held at the museum. Entry is £1.50 for members and £3.00 for non-members.

If you are not already a member of the Friends and would like to help us support and raise funds for Bassetlaw Museum, you will be welcome to join us on the night. The price of membership is £5 for adults, £3 for juniors (under eighteens) with corporate membership being £20 per annum. For this, Friends enjoy special events, previews, talks and a quarterly e-newsletter.

Also, if you're the creative type, there's the opportunity to contribute historically themed articles to the newsletter.

A copy of our membership form can be downloaded from Streetlife.com or from www.clarbrough-welham.org.uk. It is also available from the Hub, Retford and Worksop Libraries, Bookworm and, of course, the museum at Amcott House, 40 Grove Street, Retford, Notts, DN22 6LD. Telephone: (01777) 713 749.

Email: fobm14@gmail.com.

And, finally, a couple of **cries for help** from Sam Glasswell, Curator at the Museum:

1. We are trying to increase our visitor numbers. One thing we need to do is find out how people hear about the museum. If anybody would be prepared to carry out some short surveys for us, that would be a great help.
2. Would you be willing to make tea or help with children's activities? This would be much appreciated. Help is also needed to prepare materials for activities for some of our events and holiday activities.

Contact Sam at sam.glasswell@bassetlaw.go.uk or telephone 01777 713749

The Worksop and Retford Brewery Company at Worksop Library

Wednesday 16th September, 14:00-15:30

Local authors Dave Pickersgill and John Stocks will be presenting an illustrated talk about this influential regional company, from its formation to its destruction.

They will share research and anecdotes from their e-book *The Worksop and Retford Brewery Company: Telegraphic Address: Beer Worksop*, telling the story of the brewery and its effects on sporting and cultural life in Bassetlaw.

The talk will fascinate anyone interested in Worksop, beer or brewing, and people are invited to come along and share their own memories.

Entry to the talk is £2.00 and booking is essential - please call the library on 01909 535353 or email worksop.library@nottsc.gov.uk

Helen Fox



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Windows 10 – should I jump?

Those of us who were bitten by the 'pig's ear' of a launch of Microsoft's Windows 8 will need no prompting when we advise caution in taking up Microsoft's offer of a free upgrade to Windows 10. The offer applies to either Windows 7 or Windows 8 (in fact you will have been expected to upgrade to 8.1 before going to Windows 10). Usual advice in any major upgrade to any computer system (be it Microsoft, Apple, Linux or any other operating system) is to avoid being one of the first in. Wait for the first public experiences published in the media and specialist magazines which often point to (hopefully) little things that need a bit of tweaking by the manufacturer before most of us get on board. By the time you read this, Microsoft's planned 'release' of Windows 10 will have passed (due on 29th July) so those initial experiences should be appearing. At Clarbrough & Welham IT Group we are planning to upgrade one of our Windows 8.1 machines during our summer break, so when our autumn classes resume w/c 14th September you should be able to join us to get some hands-on experience of an early release of Windows 10 to make your own judgement. Microsoft has said that the upgrade will be 'free for the first year' and although what that actually means remains a little unclear, if you would like to come onboard with our classes, please see our separate article on page 5.

Greg Herdman

Even while they teach, men learn.

Seneca c.4 BC – AD 65

The Power of Neighbourhood Watch!

A few years ago a lady who then lived in Sutton was invited by a friend for afternoon tea. She arrived at Dinnington shortly after 2.00pm and was enjoying her afternoon cuppa when the doorbell rang. The friend answered the door to be confronted by a Parish Priest, Father Walton from St. Gerard's. After introductions and all the niceties the clergy man explained that he had come for the donation promised by her husband a few days earlier. The lady explained that he must have the wrong address, as her husband, who was a Prison Officer was in fact away on a two week course via the Prison Service, and was in Cambridge until the weekend. He promised to return next week and see the husband, gave her Gods Blessing and left. The householder was still pondering over what had taken place and related details to her visitor, angry with herself for giving too much information, but kept re-assuring herself everything was alright, he had his dog collar and cape and was well spoken and you can always trust a man of the cloth, can't you? The friend was supportive but concerned! She informed her two weeks ago her local Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator had brought a message via the ringmaster system warning residents to be aware of bogus callers in the area, one of that whom was posing as a Parish Priest. Panic stations! *I've just told him my husbands away till the weekend, what shall I do?* Ring the Police! The police were sympathetic, but not surprised when

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enquiries revealed that Father Walton of St. Gerard's did not exist. The lady is more vigilant now, viewing any uninvited callers with suspicion, and has since joined the local Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. All because a lady came to afternoon tea.

Frank Bradley

Parish Council Pointers...

Hoping all our local residents are having a happy & healthy Summer. Remember; please make sure your children stay safe, especially near the Waterside...

Driveway Flooding... Flooding after heavy rain at the Village Hall driveway entrance will hopefully soon be dealt with. A new Soakway is due to be installed shortly...job done on 22nd /23rd July!

Goal posts... The Parish Council are looking at refurbishing the goal posts with better net support & new nets, on the village sports field. Just in time for the new soccer season....

Well done.... to our local WI, for organising and hosting an excellent, free, Summer luncheon for Senior Citizens. It was much appreciated....

Low Bridge issues... your Parish Council met with Notts C.C. representative on 20th July for a site inspection and, after some considerable persuasion, have agreed that a new warning gantry for Welham's low bridge will be sited at the turning layby near the Hop Pole. Watch this space!

New Blood.... needed on Clarborough & Welham Parish Council. We have two vacancies at present, so if you would like to make a difference on your home patch, please contact us.

It would be especially nice to have someone to represent the younger members of our Community. Contact Parish Clerk, Wendy Davies, by e-mail: clarandwelpc@yahoo.co.uk or (01777) 710 902 (Monday am only).

Finally – and apologies for mentioning this so early in the year – details have been announced for the annual **Christmas Tree Lighting Fayre on Wednesday 2nd December from 17:45.**

Barrie Codling, Parish Councillor

Pantomime 2016: Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves

This autumn promises to be one of the busiest yet for the Clarborough Village Ventures Drama Group as they bring a Persian twist to the village hall with their fourth annual pantomime "Ali Baba" (and as many thieves as they can fit on stage!)



Set in far off Arabia, this year's show is packed full of intrigue and suspense alongside all the music, fun and thigh slapping we've come to expect from this annual production.

The show will run from Thursday 18th to Saturday 20th February 2016. Tickets go on sale at the Victorian Market and will be available afterwards from the SPAR Store in Clarborough.



There's always lots to do both onstage and behind the scenes and it's not too late to get involved. Whether your passion is painting, creating, sewing, writing or singing – or maybe the opportunity would fit into your school or sixth-form programmes - then simply **come along to our next meeting at Clarborough Village Hall, 19:00 on Wednesday 2nd September** to find out more and get involved; or call 07766 482 030 for more details.

Heather Heard

The notes I handle no better than many pianists. But the pauses between the notes – ah, that is where the art resides!

Artur Schnabel (1882-1951)
Austrian-born pianist

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Bassetlaw ACTION Centre

Bassetlaw Action Centre is a registered charity operating a total of 13 projects and linking individuals and organisations with help and support across the Bassetlaw Area.

Our Community Transport Options

Each of our transport options offers a door to door service throughout Bassetlaw. Membership fees and a mileage charge apply unless otherwise stated.

Bassetlaw Community Car Scheme: Available if you are unable to make your journey by public transport or none is available, our volunteer drivers can assist with journeys to the shops, doctors or visiting friends or family.

Car Scheme Plus: Our wheelchair accessible transport option which is also ideal for those with limited mobility. It is fitted with a turny seat and can carry up to 3 passengers plus a fixed wheelchair.

Community Minibus: Our wheelchair friendly minibus is available to local community groups and individuals. Membership is free of charge for individuals and our day trips are priced individually. Group membership details are available on request.

Bassetlaw Resource Centre for Older People

The Bassetlaw Resource Centre gives older people the opportunity to find out more about the help and services available to them in order to stay healthy, active and independent. The centre is open in the Buttermarket at Retford Town Hall every Thursday from 10am to 3pm. Home cooked meals are available from 12 noon until 1pm and refreshments are available throughout the day.

Community Outreach and Home Support

Our Community Outreach Advisor is able to visit people over 50 in their own home to give free advice and signposting to relevant services.

We can also provide a Home Support service that can incorporate shopping, prescription collection, laundry, cleaning, a sitting service, light meal preparation and escorted shopping and visits. This is a chargeable service; please contact us for further details.

Housing Choices

The service is aimed at older people who recognise that they are starting to find things difficult in their own home and want to consider their options to meet their changing needs. These might include moving to more suitable accommodation or making changes or adaptations to their existing property. Contact us for more information or to book an appointment at one of our surgeries which are held in Retford, Worksop, Carlton in Lindrick and Misterton.

Stroke Information Service

The service provides advice, information and support to stroke survivors, their families and carers. This can be help with filling out forms, applying for benefits, looking at housing needs, helping people return to employment following a stroke or just be a listening ear. Please contact us for more information.

Staying Well and Looking After Me

The following courses are delivered free of charge across Bassetlaw and each last for six weeks with one session per week.

The **Staying Well** Expert Patients Programme (EPP) is a 'chronic disease self-management course' to help people living with long term conditions maintain their health and improve their quality of life. The courses are led by 2 people who also have long term health conditions.

Looking After Me is a course for adults who are caring for someone living with a long-term health condition or disability. It is about you making time to look after your own health needs. It aims to help you take more control of your situation and make a difference to your life.

Volunteering Opportunities

We have a range of volunteering opportunities available within our community transport schemes, for befrienders and for assistants at the resource centre. Please contact us for details of how to apply.

Our other services

First Contact: We are a part of the First Contact scheme which uses a simple checklist to help people aged 60 or over receive services to keep them safe and independent in their own homes.

Bassetlaw Self Help Link: Providing a support service for self-help groups in the area.

Energy Advice: Our Community Outreach Advisor can provide advice on energy efficiency in your home.

Meeting and Training Room Hire: Our meeting room is available to hire for up to 10 people. Our Training Room can seat up to 12 people and laptops are provided.

Befriending Service: We offer a befriending service through GP referral as part of **Social Prescribing**.

How can you contact us?

Bassetlaw Action Centre, Canal Street Retford, Nottinghamshire, DN22 6EZ

Telephone: (01777) 709 650 **Fax:** (01777) 700 644

Email: enquiries@actioncentre.org.uk

For more information follow us on Twitter@actioncentre, visit our Facebook page **BassetlawActionCentre** or go to our website www.bassetlawactioncentre.org.uk



RET FORD CEILIDHS

Retford Ceilidhs is keen to spread the word about fun dancing for any age group at their ceilidhs held about 4 times a year. Retford Ceilidhs have become a popular way to meet new people, enjoy a bit of fun activity and learn some new dances. There is no need to know how to dance to come and join in with ceilidh dancing as there is a caller to help us through the different dancers. Come along to **Clarbrough Village Hall** on **Saturday October 10th** from 20:00 - 23:00 with Rosianna Ceilidh band providing the music and calling. A band we've not had before so looking forward to it. If you want to find out more about our ceilidhs check the web site:

<http://retfordceilidhs.btck.co.uk>

Its a good idea to check and book tickets before the dance by contacting Kathy Cowbrough by email retford.Ceilidh@gmail.com or phone (01777) 706 880. Then just pay at the door.

Ramblings of a Teacher

The following article by Michael Tidd, a Deputy Headteacher in Nottinghamshire, may give readers a flavour of the internal efforts that a new National Curriculum (which came into effect on 1st September) demand of school teachers and their pupils. It may also provide comfort for parents who may find 'progress' reports difficult to understand in the light of these changes. Recent discussions between school staff and Governors have also, naturally, focused extensively on the challenges and opportunities provided by this new National Curriculum.. So, over to Michael...

Dear Parents,

When you receive your child's report this year, things might not look as clear as they once did. Having spent years getting your head around levels and sub-levels, I'm afraid they are no more. And as much as this might come as a shock to you, believe me, we as a profession were no more prepared for it.

It comes at a time when - as you'll know - so much else has changed in our schools. Teachers the length and the breadth of the country have been doing our utmost to provide the smoothest and most effective transition for your child as we move from one national curriculum to another, but it hasn't been easy.

It means that when you receive the report on the attainment of your child at the end of this academic year, the picture may look very different from the past. Children who were comfortably on track for their age will suddenly and unexpectedly appear to be falling behind. Those who were flying high may seem no longer to be. Your child's school may well try to explain this in its covering letter. Please be reassured that they are not simply covering their backs, or trying to paper over cracks. The reality is that the goalposts have moved so significantly that it has been impossible to keep on track. Your child may well have made excellent progress this year, and yet still be showing as not yet attaining the required standard.

Treat that with the caution it deserves.

Let me illustrate with an example. In the past, KS2 children who were achieving well in maths might have explored the notion of probability, allocating fractions to likelihoods of events and working out the chance of things occurring. All of that work is now ignored: the new curriculum does not include it, and so the attainment scores will not recognise it. That your child may well have excellent knowledge and skills in this area would count for nothing.

Instead, those same children are now expected quickly to fit in three years' worth of fractions work that never previously existed. Content that was previously covered in Year 7 and 8, is suddenly now expected of our 10-year-olds. The issue is repeated for aspects across the subjects, and age ranges.

Be reassured too, that as a profession we don't warn you of these things because we have low expectations or don't want to strive for these new challenging goals. Already schools are doing their utmost to fill those gaps,

to adjust their curricula, to provide the extra direction and support pupils need. But Rome wasn't built in a day. And similarly, a four-year Programme of Study cannot be covered in 30 weeks.

In time, all of our children will work through the national curriculum at the expected rate, and numbers of children working at the expected standard will rise. This won't be a reflection of some brilliant work achieved by the government, but rather of teachers adjusting what they teach to meet the new requirements.

So apologies, parents. We recognise that it's confusing, indeed worrying in cases. We've been confused and worried too. Doubtless your child's teacher will be able to reassure you of the progress they have made this year, and their school will be able to explain how they've set out to change things to meet the new requirements.

But this year more than ever, I'd urge you not to panic when you see the score, or tick-box, or highlighted grade. Take time to read the paragraphs so carefully drafted by your child's teacher that highlight what your child has achieved and where they need to go next.

There is no need to presume that anyone has failed your child. As ever, teachers will be doing the best to provide the best possible education within the parameters set by the government. If you have worries, then of course, ask. As a profession we don't yet have all the answers (we're still waiting, too!) But the teachers who work with your child know much more about them than any grade, score or tick-box will ever tell you.

So read the report, take note of the assessments, but most importantly, think back to how your child has grown this year, and what they now know and can do that is new to them and you. And share your pride with them of what they have achieved.

Let us do the worrying about how we pull together the curriculum to meet their needs: we promise - we're experts at it.

Teachers tackling the new curriculum and its assessment may find my free resources:

(<https://michaelt1979.wordpress.com/freeresources/> useful.

Editor's Note: for anyone interested or curious as to what the National Curriculum is actually about, and how it is structured by key stages and through programmes of study, the best place to start is the Government's own website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum>



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Clarborough and Welham

Neighbourhood Plan

Your village, your plan, your future

Things are poised to take some major steps forward in the next few months. It has been a long 'slog' in getting to terms with some aspects of the Plan, especially the Bassetlaw District Council land between the two sides of Broad Gores. But we are getting there!

BDC Land

Some final fully drawn layouts for the land have just been prepared. These have been put to the Parish Council in early August. There will be a leaflet showing these plans delivered to all homes and businesses before the end of August. This will be followed by a presentation and a number of 'drop-in' meetings in the first week of September. These meetings will be held on 4th September, 7th September and 9th September. A questionnaire asking for comments will have a return date of 13th September 2015.

Draft Plan

The Steering Group are working with a planning consultant on the wording of the Draft Plan. When the results from the BDC land consultation are known, towards the end of September, these will be incorporated in the Draft Plan. The Draft Plan will be finalised in early October.

This Draft Plan will be made public at the beginning of November and has, by law, to be out for consultation for a minimum of 6 weeks. There will be leaflets, questionnaires and meetings about the Draft Plan.

In December and January any changes needed as a result of the consultation will be incorporated into a Final Plan. This will then be subjected to Examination by an independent examiner to make sure it is legally correct. If it passes this hurdle it will then return to residents to vote on in a legal Referendum in early March 2016.

If it is voted for by you, the voters of the Parish, it is "Made" and becomes part of the BDC Planning Policy.

Remember! This Plan belongs to *you* as villagers. Without your input at every stage it cannot progress and give a satisfactory result. ***It does not belong to Bassetlaw District Council nor is the content controlled by them.***

So, watch out for the next consultation document that drops through your letterbox – this is vital feedback to shape our plan.

There will be public consultation on the Draft Plan. This will cover a period of 6 weeks as required by law. Details of events will be circulated throughout the Parish.

Contacts: clawenp.btck.co.uk
candwnp@gmail.com
[Facebook.com/clawenp](https://www.facebook.com/clawenp)

Is Online Publishing for You?

You editor is a keen photographer, particularly when on holiday to interesting places. With the convenience of digital cameras, this often results in a vast collection of photos.

In the past, I have selected and edited my collection and then had them commercially printed through one of the online providers. This is probably a good point at which to explore this particular aspect a little further since I'm often asked about 'best printers for photos'. My short answer is, 'don't bother!'. The costs of home printing colour photographs to commercial standards (paper quality, light sensitivity of inks, etc) makes the costs totally uncompetitive with products ordered online. Typical costs for home printing a 6"x4" photo fall in the 35-45p range whereas online prices fall into the 5-10p range!

However, back to online publishing. I have now settled into using one of the most popular online printing houses, Blurb (www.blurb.co.uk) have a free book publishing tool called **BookSmart** which requires just basic word processing skills to construct a book in a range of styles and formats (paperback, hard back with dust cover or hardback with photo-cover. Once your book is complete and has been edited and proof-read (several times in my experience if errors are to be avoided!) it can then be uploaded for production. In this writer's experience, the final products are of the highest professional standards with superb photos on excellent paper. Service is really swift – often within a working week as standard – and prices very competitive. A recent major project yielded a book of just short of 400 pages containing some 1150 images for a shade under £90 delivered. If these photos had been printed separately even the best online price would have come to around £60 before mounting, binders and paperwork were taken into account. For more information go to Blurb's website – or get in touch with your community IT Group.

Greg Herdman

P.S. As an alternative, there is the e-publishing route that makes your work available for devices such as Kindles or iPads. For more on this, see the possibilities developing around Clarborough & Welham IT Group's support for Kath Sutton recently launched local history book (see page 9).

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