


Clarbrough & Welham

Bassetlaw Community Newsletter

Quarterly: Spring 2026



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**Volunteering's benefits to Volunteers
and much, much more!**

Visit our community website: www.clarbrough-welham.org.uk for much, much more!

Vulcan to the Sky Trust's next Vulcan XH558 Engine Test Runs are set to howl again soon

The Vulcan to the Sky Trust (VTST) is thrilled to announce that the iconic Avro Vulcan XH558* will once again howl as she performs public engine runs at Doncaster Sheffield Airport in 2026.



This marks an exciting return for one of Britain's most beloved aircraft and a significant milestone in the Trust's ongoing mission to preserve and celebrate aviation heritage.

Engine runs involve starting and operating XH558's four Rolls-Royce Olympus engines while the aircraft remains on the ground, allowing visitors to witness the legendary howl and vibration.

These events offer a rare opportunity to see and hear the Vulcan come to life, evoking memories of her flying days and showcasing the engineering excellence of her design.

VTST is planning a series of public events throughout 2026, specific dates will be released – see below for the first batch! These events will be held at Doncaster Sheffield Airport, where XH558 is based, and will raise vital funds for the aircraft's continued preservation.



Marc Walters, chief executive of VTST, said: "This is fantastic news for our supporters and for the charity. The return of engine runs will not only reconnect the public with XH558 but also will also

help us to raise vital funds to support her ongoing preservation. We are deeply grateful to FlyDoncaster for working closely with us to enable this to happen."

The resumption of engine runs follows a challenging period for VTST, during which the charity has and continues to face significant financial pressures. With the support and

collaboration from FlyDoncaster, the Trust is now able to move forward with plans to reintroduce these popular events.

"We remain optimistic that, with a strong response to our fundraising appeal, continued cost-saving efforts, a successful Christmas season in our online store, and the return of engine runs in the new year, we can continue supporting XH558 for the foreseeable future," added Marc.

The Vulcan Experience, a long-term vision for a dedicated visitor centre and educational hub, remains a key goal for VTST. In the meantime, the return of engine runs represents a vital step in maintaining public engagement and generating the support needed to secure XH558's future.

Christian Foster, programme director – SY Airport City, said on behalf of FlyDoncaster, "The agreed programme of Vulcan engine runs marks a truly memorable date in the history of Doncaster Sheffield Airport, we are extremely excited about this proposition and urge members of the public contact the Vulcan to the Sky Trust to support and visit this iconic aircraft."

Further details, including event dates and ticketing information, go to the Trust's website:

www.vulcantothesky.org and then look for **Events** at the top of their homepage.

*Editor
A Founding Guardian of Vulcan to the Sky Trust*

Latest News Flash:

The Vulcan to the Sky Trust (VTST) has appointed Craig Shepherd as its new Chief Executive, leading the charity into a pivotal new chapter for the iconic Avro Vulcan XH558 which is based in Doncaster but held in trust for the nation.



VTST exists to preserve and protect XH558 while delivering public benefit through education and engagement. The Trust's work is rooted in responsible stewardship: maintaining a complex, irreplaceable aircraft to exacting safety and engineering standards, while using it as a platform to inspire interest in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) across the UK.

Speaking on his appointment, Craig Shepherd said: "XH558 is one of the most powerful symbols of British engineering ever created, and it deserves to be cared for with both realism and pride."

*For more on RAF serial numbers see page 14.



Warsop Wildlife Rescue Team - One Very Lucky Owl... and One Very Long Day!

This beautiful Tawny Owl has certainly had more than her fair share of drama today.



A concerned member of the public spotted her dangling from fishing line over the Chesterfield Canal in Brimington. How long she'd been there, we can only imagine. With our team still 45 minutes away, we hoped she could hang in there (pun fully intended!) until help arrived.

By the time our volunteers reached the scene, several worried onlookers had gathered, and two incredibly kind chaps were already doing their best to free her. But hanging so far out over the water made things tricky.

Enter our incredible Bird Handler! Never one to give up, even if it means getting soaked! With no boat on hand, up the tree he went, snapping a few branches to carefully guide the owl closer to safety. Soon enough, she was netted, lifted out of danger, and on her way to the vets.

After checking her over, it looks like she's suffering from a bad wing sprain and some tenderness but thankfully, no major injuries. With rest, love, and a little TLC, we're hopeful this lovely lady will be back in the skies where she belongs very soon.

A massive thank you to everyone who stopped, cared, and helped today, you made all the difference.

Update on the Tawny Owl from the canal at Dixon's Lock.

We are pleased to say that after a week of rest and care for her strained wing we are ready to send this beauty home. Our bird handler will be releasing back in the area on which the rescue took place. Thanks to everyone involved getting this Tawny the help needed.

For more photos, see page 16.

Thanks to Chesterfield Canal Trust's Warsop Wildlife Rescue Team (December 2025)

Halfway to Hollywood



The Friends of Bassetlaw Museum and History Wardrobe present 'Halfway to Hollywood'. Join dress historians Lucy Adlington and Meridith Towne for an exciting presentation showcasing original garments and accessories.

Like picture-goers of the thirties and forties Lucy and Meridith of History Wardrobe invite you to escape into the world of cinema's golden age as they explore sensational styles, as well as stories from behind the camera, before revealing their own show-stopping transformation...

- **Free Admission. Suggested donation £5 (cash only).**
- Light refreshments will be available
- Exciting raffle prizes

Event taking place at **Grove Street Methodist Church, Retford** on **Wednesday 18th March 2026 18:30 – 19:45**

Book your place on Eventbrite or

contact the museum on **01777 713 749**

or **bassetlaw.museum@bassetlaw.gov.uk**

This event is organised by the Friends of Bassetlaw Museum and supported by the UK Shared Prosperity fund.



Retford Arts Hub is looking forward to the first of our 2026 exhibitions.

Last February we held an exhibition titled "Is this Art?" formulated after a visit to the Summer Exhibition at the Royal Academy of Art. This proved to be very popular and thought provoking so we decided to repeat this exhibition. The originality and skill of our artists and artisans make this a real must see for all those interested in original art in all its forms and runs from 4th February to 13th March.

The new year also brings a number of interesting workshops for all ages.

On 14th February there will be a weaving workshop for children aged 7 to 14 years. More information on this and other workshops can be found on our Facebook page, or call in at the hub on Churchgate :



We are looking forward to a new year with new challenges and surprises. Our dedicated volunteers take great pleasure in presenting to our visitors lots of local information and events as well as the best of local arts and crafts with the hub being central in this.

If you are looking for an outlet for your art/craft work and would like to be part of this unique asset, please call in and have a chat with us.

If you have a few hours to spare and would like to be more involved, consider becoming a volunteer and joining a friendly group of people where you will be made very welcome. You can choose your hours to suit yourself and will be rewarded with a congenial atmosphere in a stimulating and interesting workplace.

Perhaps a new year is the time to try something new and if you think you might like to do this, do drop by and have a chat with us.

[Right] Retford Arts Hub volunteers enjoy William's free workshop making willow woven wreaths for Christmas ▶

Further Information can be found on Facebook, Instagram; @retfordartshub/ call us on **01777 860 414**

Use the correct waste bin - Let's get it right!

Recyclable waste from your household bins is taken to be sorted at our Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Mansfield. Once it arrives at the MRF, it is sorted into the different material types by very high tech machinery before being baled and sent on for recycling.

Unfortunately, a percentage of the waste that arrives at the MRF is not suitable for recycling and has to be removed from a conveyor belt by a member of staff. Most of the time these items have been put in the bin by mistake.

You can help out by making sure that you only put the correct items in the recycling bin at home. Don't forget, if you are unsure you can use our free Recycling Checker to find out if an item can be recycled.



To check whether an item can be recycled or not, use Notts Free Recycling Checker at:

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/recycling-and-disposing-of-waste/use-our-free-recycling-checker>

Thanks for helping us to recycle, Nottinghamshire!

Computer thoughts for today

Before computers, some words had different meanings!

Memory was something that you lost with age.

A CD was a bank account.

And if you had a 3½ inch floppy you hoped nobody found out!

Compress was something you did to garbage, not something you did to a file.

And if you unzipped anything in public, you'd be in jail for awhile!





Bassetlaw
DISTRICT COUNCIL
— North Nottinghamshire —

Bassetlaw District Council has backed plans to refresh its Council Plan and overarching Vision 2040 to make sure it continues to remain relevant and ambitious.

Council to refresh its Vision 2040



At a Full Council meeting on Thursday 4th December 2026, councillors agreed to the proposals to keep it in step with changing priorities while continuing to deliver great services and create better outcomes for everyone.

The update to Vision 2040 will outline how the council will deliver bold, inclusive, and sustainable improvements for everyone in Bassetlaw.

Cllr Julie Leigh, Leader of Bassetlaw District Council said: "We've made great progress on Vision 2040 and are proposing to update our plan to build on this success and prepare for upcoming changes in local government, which will bring significant changes to how local services are delivered.

"Our update to Vision 2040 will be built around our clear mission to support people, neighbourhoods, and the economy through transformation, while laying the foundations for a clean, green, high-tech future. It also ensures that we remain financially resilient and ready for the transition to a new unitary council."

Since the council approved the current Vision 2040 in March 2024 following public and stakeholder consultation, significant progress has been made in the actions set out in the current plan.

The updated version will evaluate these actions and reaffirm the councils Vision statement.

24-hour automated telephone payment line

24-hour automated telephone payment line: 0161 621 2990



Bassetlaw District Council has an automated 24-hour telephone payment line, allowing residents to make a range of payments over the phone.

To make a payment, call **0161 621 2990** and press:

- 1 - Council Tax
- 2 - Non-Domestic Rates
- 3 - Invoices
- 4 - Rents
- 5 - Benefits Overpayments Invoices

Clarbrough Village Fair 2026

A reminder that the Clarbrough Village Ventures group are looking to host the Clarbrough Village Fair on Sunday 10th May 2026.



The village fair helps support local traders, provides an opportunity for local groups to put on shows and demonstrations and brings the community together.

It will be a good day out for all the family and, while the Village Ventures group have a small team, we wouldn't be able to make this a reality without your help.

We are looking for additional volunteers that will help with the organisation leading up to the events or just to help on the day (10th May 2026) with marshalling, putting up gazebos, etc.

Without this team of volunteers, the Clarbrough Village Ventures group will not be in a position to hold the village fair so if you can help in any way then please do show your support.

We also have a number of indoor and outdoor pitches still available at this event.

If you would be interested in having a stall, or to find out how you can help then please email clarboroughfestival@gmail.com or contact Louise on **07472 004 745**

Nic Smith
Clarbrough & Welham Parish Councillor

"Two things are infinite: the universe and human stupidity; and I'm not sure about the universe."

Albert Einstein (1879 - 1955)

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7TH - 9TH MAY 2026
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Story and Script by **BEN ELTON**

Original Vocal Score by

BRIAN MAY, ROGER TAYLOR & MIKE DIXON

"We Will Rock You" is presented through special arrangement with and all authorised performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide (TRW) www.theatricalrights.co.uk

The Majestic Theatre, Retford.

Bookings: 01777 706866 or www.majesticretford.org



WE WILL ROCK YOU is a high-octane, adrenaline-fueled musical featuring more than 20 iconic Queen hits, including "Bohemian Rhapsody," "We Are the Champions," "Somebody to Love," "Don't Stop Me Now," and of course, "We Will Rock You."

Set in a post-apocalyptic future where individuality has been outlawed and music is controlled by algorithms, the story follows two young revolutionaries who dare to defy the system to save rock 'n' roll.

This fist-pumping, foot-stomping anthem to freedom and self-expression is a musical for our time - unapologetically bold and filled with the timeless power of Queen's legendary music.

With over 7 million fans rocked in its original 12-year West End run, WE WILL ROCK YOU made history as the longest-running show at London's Dominion Theatre. A global phenomenon,

WWRY has been performed in 28 countries and seen by more than 16 million people worldwide. This explosive, rockin' spectacle is a celebration of the power of music and individuality that will leave audiences cheering for more.

East Midlands set to be national leader for fusion and clean energy skills

Bassetlaw District Council, on behalf of the STEP Fusion Skills Collaborative, has appointed clean energy consultancy Opergy to lead the development of a business case for new skills development opportunities that will support the STEP Fusion programme at West Burton in Nottinghamshire.

Funded by East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA), Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority, the UK Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA), and UK Industrial Fusion Solutions (UKIFS), the commission marks a key milestone in establishing the East Midlands as a centre of excellence for fusion and clean energy skills.

The project will focus on assessing future skills demand from the STEP Fusion programme and other planned developments in the region. STEP fusion is a nationally significant infrastructure project led by UKIFS to build a prototype fusion powerplant that will demonstrate net energy, fuel self-sufficiency and a viable route to commercial fusion.

The commission will map current capacity with the needs of STEP Fusion and build the business case for investing in the training and education needed to close the skills gap. The goal is to make sure people in the areas surrounding West Burton can access the high-quality jobs created by STEP Fusion and other clean energy and advanced technology projects coming to the region. The STEP Fusion programme is expected to create 8,500 highly skilled, full-time jobs across the supply chain, meaning it is vital for Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, and South Yorkshire to be poised to take advantage of this emerging industry.

**Don't Miss a Trick
Keep Well-Informed
Find the information you need**

If you want to keep up with local developments, get advice on almost anything local then make sure you regularly visit our community website which has nearly 240 pages:

www.clarborough-welham.org.uk



[Clarbrough](#) [Welham](#) [Mayflower Pilgrims](#) [Retford History](#) [Worksop Priory & Gatehouse](#)
[Family History](#) [Great War](#) [VE Events](#) [Sloswick Trust](#) [King Charles III](#)
[Genealogy](#) [NLHA](#) [Archives](#) [Message](#) [Bassetlaw Christian Heritage](#) [Vulcan to the Sky](#)
[Retford Historical & Archaeological Society](#)

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- UKAEA
- Village Hall CDCA
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- Law & Order
- Health & Welfare
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- Utilities
- Your Money
- Local Business
- Sport
- ICT Site
- Finding us
- Contact us
- Site Policies
- Local Contacts
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Our website's home page has our website's main menu on the left showing its major sections.

A quick check will show that this is far from the 240 pages detailed above. However, hovering over any of the main menu items will review all of the sub-pages for the particular section – these sub-pages are also shown as blue highlights at the top of the main menu item's page.

One example of this shown at the top of the facing section.

Hovering your pointer over the main menu's **Local History** item pops up a submenu extension showing the same sub-menu items as those blue links in the image above right.

Another such example really does emphasise just how extensive our website's local information is – the pop-up sub-menu for the **Out-and-About** main menu item looks like this shown opposite ►

[Note: the **red emphasis** is just to replace the pointer 'finger' visible on-screen.]

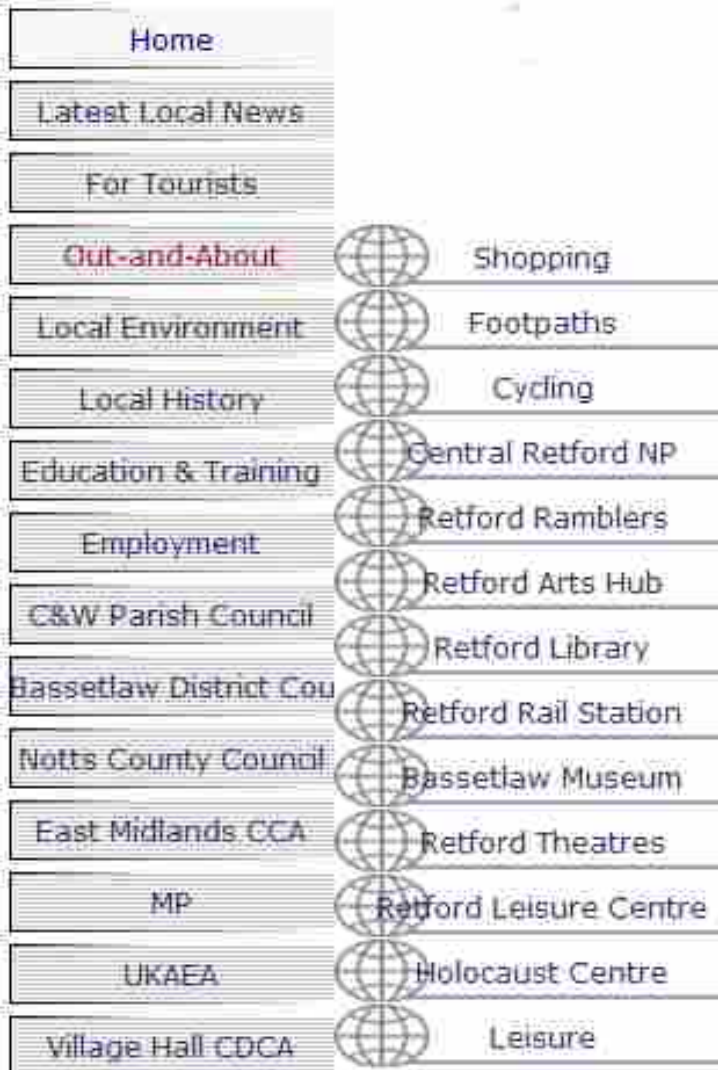
Several of these sub-menu items have further sub-pages accessible as blue headings as shown at top-right.

Our website is kept up-to-date extremely regularly so do visit it as regularly as possible to keep yourself fully informed about local – and not-so-local news as possible.

A couple of very useful features is the local weather feature in the sun on our homepage:



This is your link to the Met Office's Retford weather forecasts.



Editor's holidays advice!

If you use our community website's weather forecast as detailed at the foot of the previous column you will see the top of page today's forecast with **Retford (Nottinghamshire)** in the search bar at top of page.

What isn't immediately obvious, unless you've already decoded the hand-lens symbol at the right of this bar, is that you can delete Retford (Nottinghamshire) from this bar and then type into it any destination on Earth to get their forecasts! A few are not available for political or practical reasons.

Your editor uses this feature regularly when both planning and then preparing to set out on holidays.

All of these Met Office forecasts, both UK and abroad – are for today and the following six days.



Into 2026 with Muddy Fork

Muddy Fork, Retford's Gardening for Wellbeing charity, has had a well-earned break over the festive season. With much less to do in the garden during the winter months, during the final weeks of the year participants variously enjoyed two apple-pressing sessions provided by Darren Dowse from the East Markham Gardening Club, sitting in



the warmth of the Visitor Centre with the Christmas stall, and a seasonal get-together in the garden with home-made soup and mince pies.

As autumn progressed into winter, the garden maintenance programme continued and a few vegetables soldiered on until harvested. The chillis and peppers remained productive until the first frost arrived. Willow was harvested, trimmed, and used for craft work. The crab-apples were the last thing to be made into jelly for sale. Nettles and brambles were attacked and the garden starts the year looking quite tidy!

With the arrival of the New Year, Muddy Fork looks back with gratitude and appreciation for all the goodwill it receives from local individuals, organisations and businesses. The remarkable generosity demonstrated by donations of prizes for the seasonal raffle, and the support this and the Christmas stall received, are all heart-warming. It all helps Muddy Fork to continue to provide a free service to anyone in need of a boost to their wellbeing.

And now it's time to think about planting again. The broad beans and the garlic are already well on their way and the raised beds are topped up with new, well-riddled soil. Come and have a look if you're at the Nature Reserve.

For further information, if you might be interested in volunteering, or could make a donation, check out the website at www.muddyfork.org, while referrals, whether self-referrals or on behalf of someone else, should go to Rose, rose.muddyfork@outlook.com.

Visitors to the garden are always welcome.

National Holocaust Museum



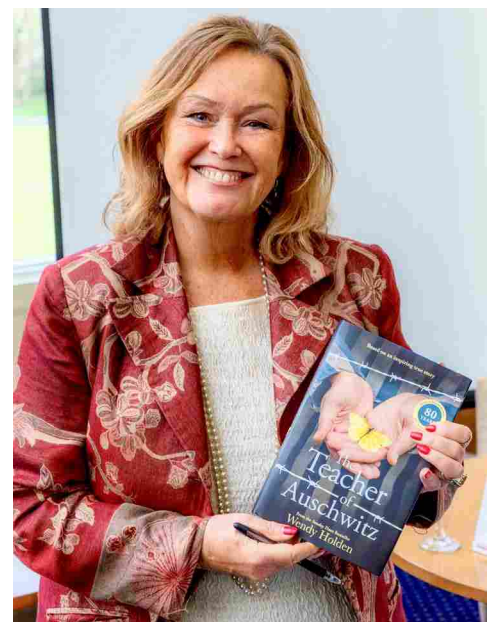
The National Holocaust Museum admission ticket lasts for 12 months so you pay once for unlimited exhibition visits.

Some of our special events do have a small additional charge so please do check our website for a full list of upcoming events. www.holocaust.org.uk.

We offer a warm welcome and a homely coffeeshop, we look forward to welcoming you in 2026.

**Tuesday 17th February
13:00 - 14:30
The Teacher of Auschwitz:
Wendy Holden
Author Event
and Live
Discussion.**

International bestselling author, Wendy Holden, joins us to talk about her book 'The Teacher of Auschwitz', based on an inspiring true story.



**Wednesday 18th February 11:30 - 13:30
Candles, Cake & Community**

Be part of our community writing workshop as we turn the messages tied to our community tree into creative pieces, sharing stories, cake, and connection

**Thursday 19th February 11:30 - 12:30
Family Friendly Kindertransport Testimony and Object Handling**

Explore Kindertransport stories, objects, and hope through survivor experiences and a guided exhibition tour.

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Could you be a.....

- **Driver** – Support people who struggle with transport by helping them reach appointments, shops, and social activities.
- **Befriender** – Offer companionship to those experiencing loneliness or have recently been discharged from hospital and make a real difference through conversation and connection.
- **Administrator** – Help keep our services running smoothly with valuable office support.
- **SWP Tutor** – Share your lived experience to empower others to manage long-term health conditions.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO VOLUNTEER GET IN TOUCH TODAY



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STEP Fusion prototype powerplant at West Burton

Communities across North Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire and South Yorkshire are being invited to help shape the early planning stage of the UK's ground-breaking STEP Fusion prototype powerplant.

From 14th January, UK Industrial Fusion Solutions Ltd (UKIFS) began a localised public consultation, which gave Don't wish upon a star. Build one. people the chance to learn about the emerging proposals and share their views. Events took place in community venues, including Clarbrough Village Hall, within roughly 10 kilometres of the West Burton site, with additional activity in Bawtry to support wider transport discussions.

This early consultation marked a significant moment for the STEP Fusion programme, which aims to deliver a first-of-its-kind fusion powerplant at the former West Burton A site, chosen for its strong infrastructure, long energy-generation history and well-established grid connections.

Paul Methven, CEO of UKIFS and Responsible Officer for STEP Fusion, said:

"This is a major milestone for STEP Fusion and for the communities who have supported us from day one. Local people in and around West Burton, Retford and Gainsborough have played a crucial role in bringing the Programme to the region. Over the past two years we've held extensive outreach events and listened closely to the community's ambitions and concerns. This first formal consultation is your opportunity to help shape the proposals as they develop."

Visitors to the consultation events and online portal were able to explore early plans for the site including the potential layout of the fusion facility, transport strategies covering road, rail and river options, and the long-term economic benefits for the region.

The vision also includes a public transport interchange, river-handling facilities and areas for science-park-style innovation space that could support broader research and development activity in the future.

Paul Methven added:

"We are committed to designing a facility that fits sensitively with its surroundings. Our early plans protect green space, encourage biodiversity and make the most of opportunities for public and active travel. We value the area's heritage and are working closely with organisations such as Historic England."

The in-person events ran from 14th January to 17th February 2026, **with the online feedback portal remaining open until 11:59pm on 11th March 2026.**

Residents, businesses, and community groups can provide feedback online, at an event, or by post.

How to take part:

Online: www.stepfusion.com/consultation

Email: communications.step@ukifs.uk Post: **FREEPOST STEP FUSION (no postage or further address needed)**

Don't wish upon a star Build one



The first of its kind, STEP Fusion is the UK's major technology and infrastructure programme to build a prototype fusion powerplant that will demonstrate net energy, fuel self-sufficiency and a viable route to plant maintenance.

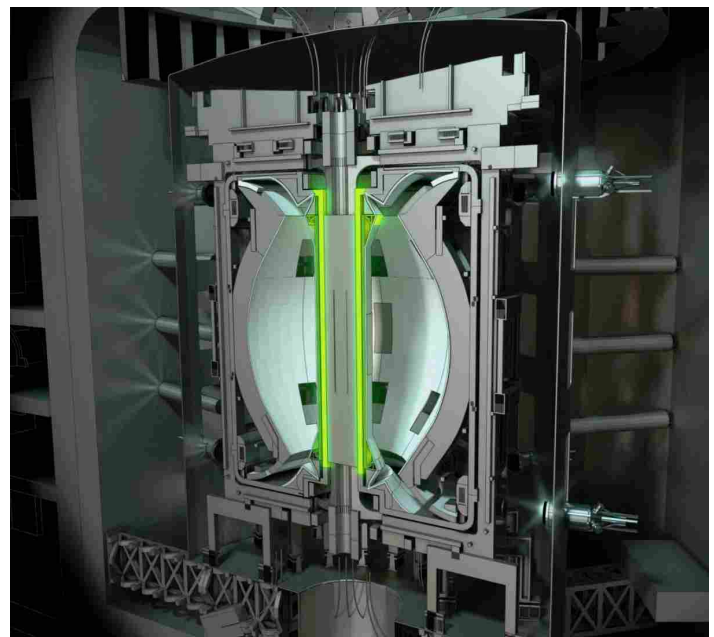
This will pave the way for the potential development of a fleet of future fusion powerplants around the world and the commercialisation of fusion energy.

We'll achieve this by producing a prototype tokamak powerplant — in an innovative spherical shape — that will demonstrate net energy. That's why the programme is called STEP: it stands for '**Spherical Tokamak for Energy Production**'.

But STEP Fusion is about more than tokamak technology — it's a huge endeavour encompassing design, site development and construction, alongside supply chain logistics and industry. Fusion research and development has the potential to catalyse new ideas and technologies that will benefit multiple industries and help secure our future on this planet.

By bringing together government and business, inspiration and pragmatism, theory and practice, UK-expertise and international impact, we're going to realise the step-change that will secure humanity's bright future.

A combination of hydrogen gases - deuterium and tritium - are heated to over 100 million degrees Celsius (that's 10 times hotter than the core of the Sun) in an advanced device called a tokamak:



At such high temperatures the particles in the gas within the tokamak slam into each other with such colossal force that their nuclei merge to create a heavier element releasing large amounts of energy.

For much more on the nature of **atomic fusion** and how it differs from **nuclear fission** see our article on page 15.

Sustainable Aviation Focus

As 2026 opens, the sustainability movement, specifically in the USA, stands in sharp contrast to where it was 12 months earlier.

This time last year, Joe Biden was wrapping up his presidency and Democrats still controlled the balance of power in Washington, which they had used to advance a green-energy agenda aligned politically with European policies.

The airline and aerospace industries were fully behind the net-zero rush, touting the promise of sustainable aviation fuel and electric-propulsion technologies.

Then came the 20th January 2025 inauguration of President Donald Trump, whose campaign platform called for boosting oil production and reversing what Trump has called the “Green New Scam”. In Washington, black gold was back in fashion.

Love or loath him, the US president has achieved some of what he promised.

Just days ago, Trump posted on Truth Social, “Venezuela will be turning over between 30 and 50 Million barrels of high-quality sanctioned oil to the United States of America”. The comment followed the 3rd January capture by US commandos of Venezuela’s former leader Nicolas Maduro.



Despite shifting political winds, the aviation industry’s position remains unchanged. Net-zero remains the goal and over in Europe government-aided development programmes continue, with the EU moving forward with plans to fund development of hybrid-electric narrowbody powerplants, among a raft of other low-emission technologies.

But such a stark shift on the other side of the Atlantic does not help the sustainability movement, either politically or practically.

Inescapable realities are a further drag on progress: IATA recently said SAF production still – and costs five times more than Jet A.*

And because aerospace is what is, and bringing new aircraft or engines to market is more expensive, complex and costly than originally hoped, not all of the developers currently in the race will reach the finish line.

It has become clear in the last year that there are no magic bullets. The next major efficiency bump in the airline sector

seems unlikely to arrive until the latter half of the 2030s, when Airbus and Boeing aim to introduce new narrowbodies.

Meantime, efficiency advancements seem likely to remain incremental, as they have always been.

On that front, Boeing and several partners recently evaluated a new onboard data communications system intended to improve flight-trajectory planning, thereby minimising delays and reducing fuel burn.

With help from partners – including Collins Aerospace, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Honeywell, NASA, Thales and Viasat – Boeing evaluated the system during test flights using a United Airlines 737 Max.

Political winds aside, it is worth noting sustainability goals make perfect business sense even if not tied to climate goals.

When fuel is one-third of their costs, airlines will always seek to burn less of it, so long as doing so works out cheaper in the end. After all, that is why each generation of new turbofans going back many decades is at least 10% more efficient than those they replace.

*IATA = International Air Transport Association

SAF = Sustainable Aviation Fuel

Jet A = A highly refined, kerosene-based aviation used, mainly, in the USA.

Turbofan engines are the universal power plants for commercial aviation (and significant number of military vehicles) as exemplified opposite.

Goacher’s Farm Shop

Wood Lane, North Wheatley



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“On the final day of the 2025 we had our first zero day. The first day on record since we began providing emergency food parcels in 2012.” – Laura Kennedy, Supporter Engagement Manager.

“In a way it feels like a milestone. And it would be great to announce that nobody in Bassetlaw needs emergency food provisions, but one day does not reflect the needs throughout the year.”

In 2025 BFB provided 1,557 food parcels. This provided around 54,000 meals to over 3,000 people. In the first week of 2026 they have already supported 26 families.

Alongside national issues such as benefit cuts, switch backs on free school meals, energy price increases, families and individuals also have their personal circumstances to navigate. Whether that be job loss, illness, caring responsibilities or homelessness. When personal and national conundrums collide, BFB see the highest demand for emergency food support, but this work is unpredictable.

“Year-in, year-out we see people accessing our services for the first time. In 2025 32% of recipients were first time users. Having previously been able to cope, even a small change in circumstances can plunge families into financial insecurity. And there are those repeatedly needing food

provisions. When a family is doing everything they can to reduce their outgoings and working with debt money advisors, and still cannot afford to pay their rent and bills, what can be done?”

The team know that Bassetlaw residents, community groups and businesses care about those experiencing food insecurity. BFB know this because they see it. All the time.

There are periods where there are surges in donation and corporate group support, such as the Harvest Festival, Easter and Christmas. But they also experience the kindness of people all year round. Whether it's weekly food donation from a church, the pupils that help bring in their school's Harvest collection, the corporate group that harvests produce from the community allotments, or the dedicated volunteers that give their time and energy to each session, the spirit of support is always present.

“We hope that 2026 will see a reduction in demand for emergency support. All we know for certain is that there are many cogs that make up the machine that is Bassetlaw Foodbank. And for that we are incredibly grateful to our supporters and volunteers, and what they help us to achieve.”

If you want to know more about how you can best support Bassetlaw Foodbank visit our website:

www.bassetlawfoodbank.org

“Before you marry a person, you should first make them use a computer with slow Internet service to see who they really are.”
Will Ferrell (1967-)

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Volunteer Spotlight: The Joy of Being a Befriender

When people think about volunteering as a befriender, they often picture the positive impact on the person receiving support — and that’s absolutely true. But what many don’t realise is just how life-enhancing it can be for the volunteer too.

Many Bassetlaw Action Centre volunteers say they began befriending to help others but stayed because of how rewarding the experience became. Spending an hour chatting every couple of weeks can bring an unexpected joy. Volunteers get to know someone’s stories, interests, and memories — forming bonds that often turn into lasting friendships. For many, their befriending match becomes a highlight of the week, filled with laughter, life stories, and shared memories.

Research shows that giving time to others can improve emotional wellbeing, reduce stress, and increase happiness. Volunteers often report feeling more positive, staying socially active, and regaining a sense of purpose — especially after retirement or major life changes. Knowing you’ve brightened someone’s day boosts your own mood too. Befriending doesn’t require special skills or long hours. Just being yourself, showing up, and offering a friendly ear is enough. In return, volunteers gain confidence, fulfilment, new perspectives, and friendships they never expected. As one volunteer put it: *“If you’re thinking about it... do it!”*

If you’d like to become a befriender and make a difference in someone’s life — and your own — contact Bassetlaw Action Centre on 01777 709 650 or email: enquiries@actioncentre.org.uk.

“Man is still the most extraordinary computer of all.”
John F. Kennedy (1917 - 1963)

The Allegra Voice Choir

Do you love to sing? Do you enjoy being in a group of welcoming, relaxed and like minded people?

Why don't you come and have a taster session with our choir who sing in 3 part harmony (our male section is growing so come on guys, don't be shy). We are led by James Fox, our amazing Musical Director, renowned for delivering so many brilliant performances both locally and nationally.



We meet on Tuesdays, in term time, in St. John the Baptist Church, Clarborough, DN22 9NA starting at 19:00.

You can simply turn up or contact our Secretary Fran, **07747 488 454** if you require any further information.

We look forward to seeing you on a Tuesday, you won't regret it.

Judith Smith

RAF Serial Numbers

Observant visitors to aircraft museums such as South Yorkshire Aircraft Museum, Newark Air Museum, RAF Museum Midlands at Cosford or even Imperial War Museum at Duxford will have noticed that Royal Air Force (RAF) aircraft always have a serial number on their tails. This system of identifying every aircraft in British Military service has developed since foundation of the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) in 1912.

For much, much more on **United Kingdom military aircraft registration number** search Google for the Wikipedia article with the above title or go to: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Kingdom_military_aircraft_registration_number

Editor

The difference between Nuclear Fusion and Nuclear Fission

Firstly, the words from an English Dictionary:

Fission: Splitting or breaking up into parts.

Fusion: Process or result of joining two or more things together to form a single entity.

Since this is all about 'nuclear', what does this mean?

Without going into loads of history, let's just say that scientists over centuries have discovered that everything around (and within) us is made up of tiny items called **atoms**. They also discovered that these atoms come in a huge range of 'flavours' called **elements**. These range from the smallest of all, Hydrogen, to whoppers like Uranium, Plutonium and even heavier recently (2006) discovered Oganesson which is element number 118 in the so-called Periodic Table of the Elements.

These atoms of whichever element we are discussing can be thought of as tiny 'solar systems', their central 'sun' is what is called their nucleus and around this are electrons spread in something like orbits, similar to our planets around the Sun.

20th century discoverers enhanced this model to show that nuclei ('nucleus-s) are made up of positively charged particles called protons glued together by neutrally charged neutrons. The 'planetary' electrons carry a negative charge that equals the total positive charge of the nucleus.

So much for your science lesson! How does all of this relate to Nuclear Fission and Nuclear Fusion?

Firstly, a bit of history. The discovery and understanding of **nuclear fission** was concentrated in early 20th century leading up to World War 2 which led to the Manhattan Project development the atomic or nuclear bomb.

Physicist who developed the ideas of nuclear fission included Lisa Meitner, Otto Frisch, Otto Hahn. Hahn won the Nobel Prize in chemistry in 1944, but Meitner was never recognized for her important role in the discovery of fission – a typical male focus of the times!

The history of the nuclear model began with **Rutherford's Gold Foil Experiment** (1909-1911), which showed atoms have a tiny, dense, positive **nucleus**, replacing Thomson's "plum pudding" model. This led to Rutherford's **planetary model**, where electrons orbit the nucleus like planets. It evolved with **Bohr's model** (1913), adding quantized electron shells, and further refined with the discovery of the **proton** and **neutron** by Chadwick (1932) into the modern nuclear model, describing protons and neutrons in the nucleus with orbiting electrons. For most readers, the best 'model' of these atoms is like our solar system – a tiny, extremely dense centre called the nucleus with a cloud of tiny electrons in various orbits around the nucleus. Protons have a positive charge, electrons a equal-size negative charge – so they attract each other – and a neutral neutron which helps to 'glue together protons and neutrons to form the atom's central nucleus. This is a typical model image.

The start of understanding the behaviour of nuclei of the largest known atoms came after the neutron was discovered in 1932. Scientists realized that it would make a good probe of the atomic nucleus.

This quickly resulted in realisation that hitting a heavy nucleus of the likes of Uranium could result in that atom's nuclear splitting into two or more smaller parts and also release of several neutrons. This process generated a vast amount of energy that was calculated using Albert Einstein's famous formula $E = mc^2$ in which E is the energy of the process, m is the amount of mass lost from all of the products of the splitting and c = speed of light.

That this process of nuclear fission in the heaviest atoms known at the time – largely focused on Uranium or Plutonium, often released more than one high speed neutron. It was quickly realised that this could lead to a **chain reaction** which would quickly accelerate the process as the number of fissions would accelerate.

This chain reaction was soon used to create the atomic bombs that ended World War 2 and also nuclear energy production in power stations.

A massive environmental impact of adoption of nuclear fission, both for weapons and energy production, is the fact that the resulting fragments produced by the splitting of the heavy atoms are often dangerously radioactive.

Nuclear fusion, however, has none of these issues. So what is nuclear fusion? Well, one key answer is that it is the energy that drives our Sun, so it is **that** important!

In some ways, the physics of nuclear fusion can be imagined as much simpler than nuclear fission. This is also now understood to be the power-source of stars – the light and warmth you enjoy outside are the result of nuclear fusion in our Sun!

So what is going on? Well, early 20th century work showed that if you could slam together four atoms of hydrogen you could create a single atom of the next element, Helium. This Helium atom has a mass slightly smaller than the four Hydrogen atoms that created it, so this is converted into energy by the same Einstein equation at the top of this column.

Stars such as our Sun are composed, mainly, of Hydrogen and have super-high temperatures and massive gravity squashing their cores – ideal for driving this nuclear fusion.

Recent issues with our Earth's climate change has started to drive research into using nuclear fusion to provide human power, allowing us to step away from use of fossil fuels such as oil and coal which, when burned, produce (mainly) carbon dioxide which is implicated in this global warming.

Getting the equivalent of our Sun's 'innies' into a power station is a massive task but already work in USA, China and Europe is making progress and UK is stepping in with a massive effort focuses on plans for a Nuclear Fusion power station at West Burton in Nottinghamshire. See the article on page 11.

Editor

"By 2029, computers will have emotional intelligence and will be convincing as people."

Ray Kurzweil (1948 -)

"Eighty percent of success is showing up."

Woody Allen (1935 -)

Carbon Monoxide dangers

As the weather gets colder, we're spending more time indoors and heating our homes to keep warm. The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) is reminding people of the dangers of carbon monoxide (CO), an odourless and colourless gas produced by potentially malfunctioning fuel-burning appliances and less ventilation in the home.



Natural gas burns orange yellow with a 'floppy' flame when there is a lack of oxygen, which means there is danger of carbon monoxide poisoning.

There are simple steps you can take to protect your home and family:

- ★ install carbon monoxide alarms and test them regularly
- ★ use ventilation such as an extractor fan in the kitchen and when using fuel-burning appliances
- ★ service your gas appliances and sweep chimneys every year
- ★ watch for warning signs such as 'floppy' yellow or orange flames on gas appliances instead of crisp blue ones.

What are the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning?

Because carbon monoxide is invisible and has no smell, recognising the symptoms is crucial. Watch out for:

- headache / dizziness
- feeling or being sick
- feeling weak
- confusion
- chest and muscle pain
- shortness of breath

An important warning sign is symptoms coming and going, especially if they get worse when you're in a particular room or building and improve when you leave or go outside. If you notice this pattern, it could indicate a CO problem.

What should I do if I suspect CO poisoning?

If you think you might have carbon monoxide poisoning:

1. stop using any appliances you think might be producing CO
2. open windows and doors to let fresh air in
3. go outside immediately
4. get medical advice as soon as possible
5. do not go back into the affected building until you've received professional advice
- 6.

If you think a gas appliance is leaking carbon monoxide, call the free **National Gas Helpline** immediately on **0800 111 999**. The service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Every carbon monoxide death is preventable. As we head into the colder months when risk is highest, take time this week to check your CO alarms, book appliance services if they're due, and make sure everyone in your household knows the symptoms to watch for. These simple actions could save your life or the life of someone you love.

UKHSA

Chesterfield Canal Trust's rescued Tawny Owl



The Change to UK Decimal Coinage

Prior to 'Decimal Day' on 15th February 1971 the English coinage system was based on the following relationships:

- 2 Farthings = 1 Halfpenny
- 2 Halfpence = 1 Penny (1d)
- 3 Penny also known as thrupenny bit.
- 6 Pence = Six pence (often referred to as a tanner) (6d)
- 12 Pence = 1 Shilling (often referred to as a bob, e.g. six bob) (1/-)
- 2 shillings = 1 Florin (or two bob bit) (2/-)
- 2 Shillings and 6 Pence = 1 Half Crown (rarely referred to as half a dollar) (2/6)
- 5 shillings = 1 Crown (5/-)
- 20 Shillings = 1 Pound – a paper 'banknote' until 1983 (often referred to as a quid) (£1)
- Other terms much more rarely used include :
- 21 Shillings = 1 Guinea (£1/1/-)
- 13 Shillings and 4 Pence (160 pence) = 1 Mark (13/4)
- 4 Pence = 1 Groat (4d)

Note the way sums of money were written: 6/8 means 6 shillings and eightpence, while £4/11/6 was four pounds eleven shillings and six pence. The use of *d* for penny may seem odd until you realise it is short for the Latin *denarius*. The term guinea was (and is) used for 21 shillings (£1.05), especially in horse racing and by auction houses, although no coin of that value has been issued since 1813 !

In advance of Decimal Day the halfpenny and half-crown were withdrawn, and 5 new pence and 10 new pence coins were issued from 1968 to circulate alongside the existing shilling and florin coins. A 50p coin appeared in 1969 to replace the old 10 shilling banknote. The farthing had gone long before, in 1961.

After Decimal Day the penny and threepence coins rapidly disappeared from use. The sixpence continued in use as 2½ pence for about nine years. The new halfpenny went not long afterwards. However, the old shillings and florins continued alongside the 5p and 10p coins until a reduction in size in the early 1990's resulted in their disappearance from circulation. The 50p coin was also reduced in size in 1997.

Three new coins have been introduced since decimalisation - the 20p appeared in 1982 followed by the pound coin in 1983 and the two pound coin in 1998 (although 1997 versions are frequently found in change). Commemorative two pound coins were issued irregularly from 1986, but these early coins differ from the circulating version first issued in 1998 in that the latter is much thinner and is also bimetallic.

[Below] *Various old coins sit on one of the last £1 notes.* Reading anti-clockwise round the group from top left, one penny 1967, Half Penny (1942), Three penny bit (1941), One penny (1901), William IV six pence (1831-1837), Two Shillings 1947, Half Crown 1948, Half Penny 1917, One Penny 1912.

Editor



Clarborough & District Women's Institute



A big change for us as the New year starts in that we are changing our venue to Hayton Village Hall. This is due to our growing numbers and our desire to stay with afternoon meetings. We are still meeting on the second Monday in the month and below is our programme of speakers for 2026 in case you missed it in the last edition of the Newsletter.

The sharp-eyed amongst you will have noticed that the Speaker for June has changed, please see the full programme below:

- 🌸 **12th January - My time on Bargain Hunt** - Rev Mark Cantrill
- 🌸 **9th February - The history of females in the Police Force** - Lesley Taylor
- 🌸 **9th March - 7 Year Stitch** - Jackie Howard
- 🌸 **13th April - Hearing Dogs for Deaf People** - Angela Richards
- 🌸 **11th May - Annual Meeting and Resolutions**
- 🌸 **9th June - Birthday Meeting: A slight misunderstanding** - Philip Braund
- 🌸 **13th July - Visit to Hook WI**
- 🌸 **August - No meeting**
- 🌸 **14th September - "My Mum had one of those"** - Janet and Paul Barrass
- 🌸 **12th October - Harvest Treats** - Margaret Pottinger and Margaret Winters
- 🌸 **9th November - The North Island of New Zealand** Kevin Lennox

🌸 **14th December - Modern Hot Air Ballooning** - Adrian Sumner

Our meetings start at 14:00 and there is a charge of £5 for visitors which includes a raffle ticket and refreshments. We look forward to seeing you there.

A Happy New Year to all readers.

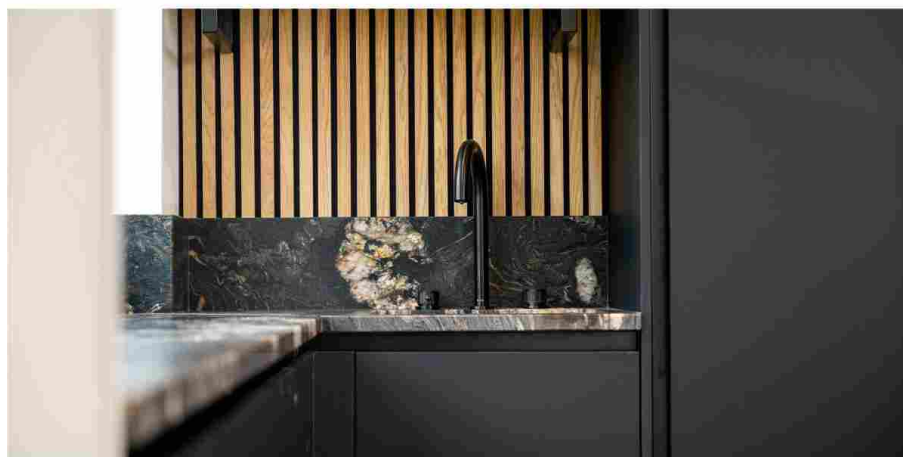
Lucy Richardson
(07966 452 240)

Outdoor Exercise Equipment

Clarborough & Welham Parish Council is exploring possible purchase of equipment to promote good health for local residents.



[Left] This is just one example of such equipment.
For more on this and ways for you to submit your thoughts, see article on page 23.



Kitchens - Bathrooms - Boilers - Heat Pumps and more...

Contact us for more information

📞 01777 702684



Keeping your home safe – always

Keeping your home safe shouldn't take the sparkle out of holidays, family visits or business 'outings'. Homes may be left empty for days at a time - something opportunistic thieves know well. But we also want to feel safe and secure when spending time at home, too. That's where simple, modern security can make all the difference. Here are some simple ways to help keep your home protected:

- Put your radio on a winter playlist – A softly playing talk radio station can make it sound like someone's pottering around indoors. Not that we stole this idea from a popular film.
- Let your curtains multitask – Thermal curtains keep the warmth in and nosy eyes out, turning your home into a snug little winter grotto - a cosy double win.
- Set up a “festive light decoy” - use timers or smart plugs to switch lamps on and off at different times throughout the evening. It creates that warm, lived-in glow, and from the outside, it looks like someone's home enjoying a mug of hot chocolate (even if you're miles away).
- Give your house a winter check-up – Creaky gates, loose latches, or dodgy outdoor bulbs can send the wrong signals; a quick once-over keeps things secure and quieter in the wind.
- Do a “digital winter tidy” – Update passwords, disable old smart-home devices, and check which apps still have access to your cameras or security tools.
- Give Your Wi-Fi a secret-agent alias - Rename your network something like “Surveillance Central” or “Definitely Not an Empty House”. It won't stop crime, but it might make your neighbours smile, and confusion is a surprisingly good deterrent.
- Create a “thief-unfriendly garden” - Plant prickly winter shrubs near fences and rear windows for a touch of seasonal charm and security. Holly isn't just Christmassy, its festive sprigs make your garden both merry and mildly unwelcoming to unwanted visitors.
- Create your own “Neighbourhood Ninja Network” - Agree with trusted neighbours to keep an eye on each other's homes over the winter - and all year round - and optionally give the Whatsapp group an unnecessarily dramatic name. Something like Winter Watch or Silent Night Security Crew.
- Use smart security to protect your home from those on the Naughty List. Systems like SimpliSafe help deter intruders and send instant alerts, so you know what's happening at home from anywhere.

Bassetlaw Museum Curator's Corner New Display Case

I am pleased to announce the arrival of a new high security display case. It was very late in arriving and I was fretting all day and finally it arrived at 6:45pm during the Friends Committee Meeting. I think it is fair to say that the committee could tell how excited I was! It is made by Click Netherfield (*Exquisite Museum Showcases | Excellence & Innovation - Click Netherfield*) the world's leading museum display case manufacturer and was funded by a grant from Museum Development Midlands.

This is a “once in a lifetime” opportunity (I've never had the funds to buy a case from them before). It will be used to display new acquisitions, higher value items and Treasure (like the silver ingot coming from the BM in the New Year).

Mike Galer
Museum Curator

Editor's footnote: Do visit the museum to see this amazing device. Initial inspections would result in a 'so what's so special' reaction, it's only when you find out what, quite literally, lies beneath the surface.

Cruising holidays

For someone who has been taking cruise holidays for many years, talking to many people who don't even consider this, reveals some misunderstandings. There isn't space here to go into great details but our experiences which are predominantly based on sea and river cruises marketed by TUI. However, a couple of really important points often surprise people:

- Sea sickness. This is usually caused by bodily reactions to the ships movements. These can actually be significantly reduced or even removed by choice of cabin. Book a cabin as close to the middle of the ship – both in terms of fore-aft position and also deck level; this latter usually means a cabin as low down as can be booked.
- Provision for either single passengers or passengers with mobility issues. Our experiences of chatting with such fellow passengers, whether waiting for the lift, going for dinner or waiting to go into the theatre, is that TUI really places their movement needs as a top priority. This even extends, when appropriate, to excursions on land.

Editor

Clarbrough Post Office

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“No man has a good enough memory to be a successful liar.”

Abraham Lincoln (1809 - 1865)

New alternative provision commissioning framework will improve outcomes for local children

Following an increase in demand for alternative provision services, Nottinghamshire County Council has announced a new approach to contracting providers to meet the needs of local children and young people.



The council says the new commissioning framework, which has been designed based on feedback from families, will improve outcomes for children and young people.

Alternative provision is education arranged by local authorities for children of compulsory school age who, because of illness or other reasons, would not otherwise receive suitable education. It can be provided in non-school settings which are unregistered and not subject to Ofsted inspection, so the council is responsible for monitoring the safety and quality of the services it commissions.

Services may be provided to children and young people with or without special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) including those who have an education, health and care plan (EHCP) outlining the additional support they need.

To meet the growing need for alternative provision, the council has announced that it will move away from a traditional approved provider list, instead using a blended commissioning model with five specific 'Lots'. These will include individual placements, block bookings, accredited online providers, one-to-one tutoring and full-time registered providers.

The refreshed approach aims to improve the availability of local provision, reduce travel costs, increase specialist expertise and improve outcomes for young people, as well as improving engagement with education and re-integration into a school setting.

Councillor Hana John, Cabinet Member for Education and SEND at Nottinghamshire County Council, said:

"We're really pleased to introduce our new approach to commissioning alternative provision, which is designed to secure the best possible options for our children and young people. This means giving them greater access to better services so they receive the right support at the right time, especially when they are temporarily unable to attend school.

"Our team has worked closely with families and listened carefully to their experiences. As a result, we are changing how we work to ensure families benefit from more local provision, reduced travel time, and increased provision that offers specialised expertise in tailored subject areas.

"Our innovative new approach will be a positive step for local providers. It will create more opportunities for smaller providers and help us build much better working relationships between the council and the organisations we commission.

"As a council, we are committed to investing in our children and young people. These ambitious changes will make services more flexible and efficient, help reduce transport

costs, and ensure we can respond effectively to future changes across the county.

"Most importantly, this means better outcomes for our young people. They will have the right support for their education, their social and emotional development, and their health and wellbeing. We want to raise aspirations, improve attendance and attainment, keep high engagement in learning, all whilst enabling them to successfully re-integrate into a school setting."

The new commissioning model is expected to launch for the new academic year in September 2026. The council will be inviting providers to apply from early 2026.

Saved (possibly) by Ubuntu Linux

In the early stages of my editor's work of putting together the Spring 2026 issue of Clarbrough & Welham Newsletter that you are now reading, I had a panic attack when my Windows 11 PC seemed to 'hang up'!

The red hard-drive light on the front of its tower had become a constant glow and its features, from emails to text editing, seemed to be very slow. Having already spent a couple of days creating some of what you are now holding, I wondered what I could do to save my efforts.

This was the point at which I wondered whether the other PC on my desk, one that has Ubuntu Linux as it's Operating System (OS) and Document Foundation's LibreOffice as text editor. LibreOffice is a spin-off from the other open-source word processor, OpenOffice, which is the one I have used on my Windows PCs for many years.

So, copying my struggling folder of Newsletter files onto my flashdrive and then uploading it onto my Linux PC, I got back to work – almost seamlessly! This included some of the many image editing tasks that I usually do with GIMP image editor which is installed on both my Windows 11 and also Linux PCs.

To cut a long story short, later that day I brought the Windows 11 PC back to 'normal' by, essentially, reinstalling it's Windows 11 OS.

That Ubuntu Linux OS and both OpenOffice and LibreOffice as well as Gimp are all free, gives a flavour for my approach to computing! What you are holding illustrates how effective they are!

Editor

Computer Sage
Healing Computers



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Looking to volunteer in 2026? BCVS will help you find the perfect role!

BCVS makes it easy to connect with local charities and community groups that need your help. Whether you have an hour a week or more to give, there's a role for you.

Why use BCVS to find your volunteer role?

We use one simple platform, Plinth: Browse hundreds of opportunities in one place

Tailored to you: Filter by interests, skills, and availability

Roles currently available include:

- Animal Care
- Administration & Reception
- Fundraising & Campaigning
- IT / Social Media Support
- Youth Work & Mentoring
- Gardening & Practical Help
- Driving & Event Support
- Food Bank & Retail Assistance
- and many more!

Find your role today by scanning the QR code with your smartphone or by following the steps on the right



How to get started:

1. Visit help.plinth.org.uk/bcvs
2. Register your details
3. Browse opportunities and apply
4. Start making a difference in your community

BCVS is here to help you find the right role and connect you with the charities that need you most.

Ready to volunteer? Sign up today!



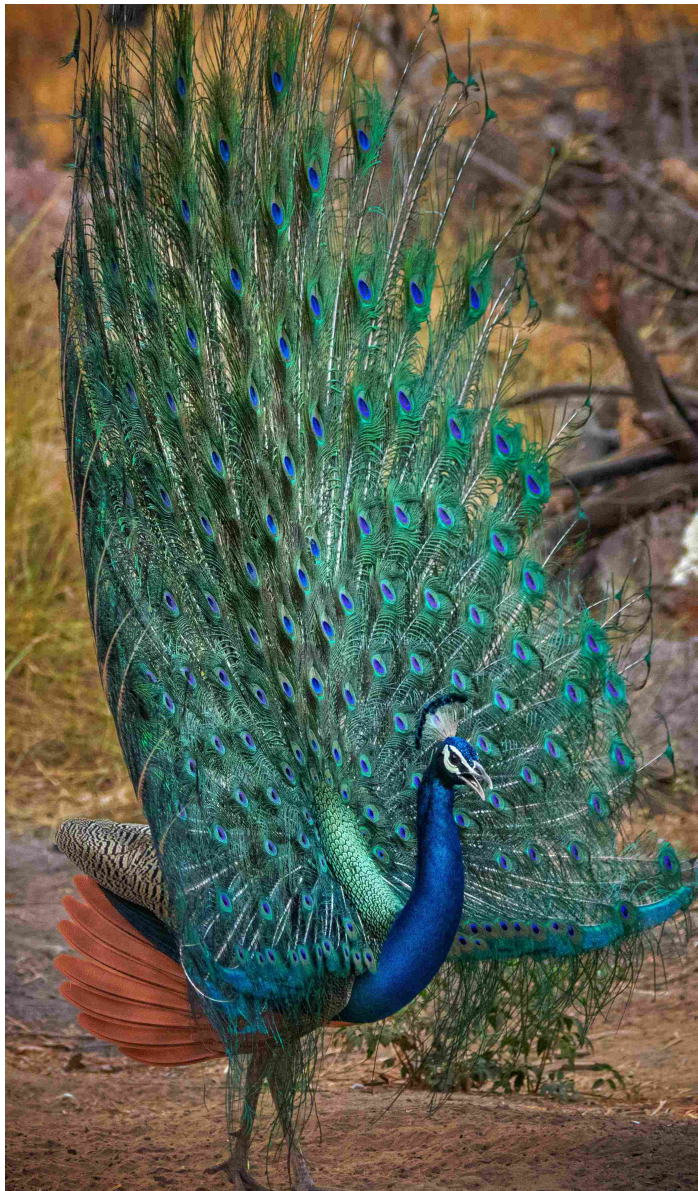
involve@bcvs.org.uk



www.bcvs.org.uk



01909 476 118



[Above] Was this peacock (*pavo cristatus*) the cause of the Hare on our front cover looking so startled?

"I changed my password everywhere to 'incorrect'. That way, when I forget it, it always reminds me, 'Your password is incorrect'."

Anonymous

LAWNMOWERS

Tony Halford



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Retford, Notts DN22 6LP**

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Email: thlawnmowers@hotmail.co.uk

**Aurora
Wellbeing
Centre**

AURORA
Wellbeing Services



Aurora is a local cancer charity providing support in Bassetlaw for people living with cancer or a long-term health condition. However, we are not just a cancer charity and can offer a safe a warm environment for everyone, whether they are lonely, want to meet people or take up a new hobby. We are a community hub and offer a range of heritage and wellbeing activities that promote self-care, reduce isolation and help people to reconnect with their community.

Spotlight on... Volunteering

A New Year and a New Way to Make a Difference!

Have a few hours to spare and want to give back to your community? Volunteering with Aurora Wellbeing could be just the thing! We have lots of different roles for you to try, including heritage projects, creative work, fundraising, charity shop support, reception, tearooms, and admin.

Why not pick up an application form today and start making a difference?

Heritage Exhibition: The Loudest Whisper You'd Ever Hear

Discover the life of local personality Gerald Marshall through his remarkable photography in this new exhibition. Join us for the official opening on Thursday 12th February, 12:00-13:00, including a short introductory talk. Free event.

Craft/Social Groups

Spring into Spring and fire up your creativity! We have lots of groups for you to try which are open to everyone of any ability or skill.

Friendly Crafters – Wednesdays, 10:30 –12:30.

Try any craft, beginner or experienced. £4/session, includes hot drink and biscuits. No booking required.

Craft, Chat and Create – Tuesdays, 14:00 –16:00.

Focus on paper crafts with all materials and refreshments provided. £6/session. No booking required.

Art Club – Mondays, 13:30 –15:30.

Explore pottery, painting, printmaking, and sculpting. £3/session, includes all materials, tea, coffee, and biscuits. No booking required.

Object Encounters (Heritage Hub) – First Thursday of the month, 10:00–11:30.

Discover Worksop's hidden history through hands-on encounters with our heritage collection, with the next session exploring childhood games and toys. £1/session, refreshments included.

Stitch Club – Thursdays, 14:00–16:00.

Learn to use a sewing machine and create a new project each week. £10/session, materials and refreshments included. Limited machines – call 01909 470 985 to check availability.

Fundraising for Aurora

Did you know there are lots of fun ways you can help raise funds for Aurora? You could organise an event like a coffee morning, take on a sponsored challenge, or run a marathon. Celebrating a special birthday or occasion? Instead of gifts, why not ask friends and family to donate to Aurora?

There are plenty of other ways to support Aurora too – we collect used stamps and foreign currency (coins or notes), and we always welcome good-quality clothes, books, and toys for our charity shop. Every little bit helps us continue the work we do in the community!

Pop in: The Old Library Building, Memorial Avenue, Worksop, S80 2BJ

Opening Times: Monday – Friday 09:00 – 16:00 (Tearooms open until 15:00)

Email: admin@aurorawellbeing.org.uk

Call: 01909 470 985

Check out our website: www.aurorawellbeing.org.uk

Follow us on social media:

Facebook: @AuroraWellbeingCentreBassetlaw and Heritage & Health at Aurora Wellbeing

Instagram: @aurorawellbeingcentre and @heritageaurora

Have Your Say! Outdoor Exercise Equipment for Our Community



Clarborough & Welham Parish Council is exploring the idea of investing in outdoor exercise equipment for our local green spaces, and we'd love to hear your feedback before moving forward.

Outdoor equipment can offer huge benefits for people of all ages and mobility levels — from gentle, low-impact movement to strength-building and balance exercises. It encourages us to stay active, enjoy the fresh air, and connect with others in the community. Whether you're looking to improve mobility, maintain fitness, support rehabilitation, or simply add a bit of healthy activity to your day, outdoor equipment can provide an accessible option for everyone.

- Do you think this would be beneficial for our parish?
- What kind of equipment would you like to see?
- Are there specific locations you think would work best?

See page 18 for an example of such equipment.

Your thoughts will help shape this potential project. You can email us with your questions and thoughts at clerk@clarboroughandwelhamparishcouncil.gov.uk or visit us during our next council meeting sessions – see page 24. Consultation will be open until March 20th 2026.

Coming soon to a kerb near you!



Bassetlaw District Council will begin collecting glass from the majority of households in the district from 30th March 2026. New black bins, which are just for recycling glass, are being distributed across Bassetlaw on a weekly

basis up to February 2026.

The glass collections will be emptied every six weeks.



Retford chiropractic wellness centre

Serving Retford and surrounding areas for over 30 years

At Retford Chiropractic Wellness Centre, we believe everyone deserves the opportunity to achieve their full health potential. Our mission is to support you and your family on your journey to optimal wellness with expert care and a compassionate approach.

As a fully GCC-registered practice, we adhere to the highest professional standards, ensuring you receive safe and effective care tailored to your individual needs. Let us help you take the next step toward a healthier, happier life.

Our Services:

- Chiropractic
- Neuro Rehabilitation
- Acupuncture
- Photobiomodulation
- Massage
- Hypnotherapy
- Food Sensitivity Testing
- Beauty Treatments
- Endoscopic Microsuction (Ear Wax Removal)



Choosing the right treatment can feel overwhelming, which is why we offer a FREE chat with any of our practitioners to help you find the best option for you. This session helps you explore your options and receive expert guidance tailored to your needs.

Contact Info:

- 01777 710 720
- www.retfordchiro.co.uk
- 67, Grove St. Retford DN22 6LA



Note: For a selection of the very latest news that has been provided to our community website (www.clarborough-welham.org.uk) select **Latest Local News** from the top of our homepage's menu.

Nottinghamshire School's Holidays

Spring Half-Term : 16th - 20th February 2026.
Easter : 30th March - 10th April.

Lots going on at Retford Library:

Tuesday 3rd February 10:00-11:30 Library's Crime Café
Monday 23rd February 14:00-15:30 Library's Poetry Café : 'Love makes the world go round'.
Both of the above have a fee of £1 per person which also includes refreshments.

For more information and to book your place contact:

Retford Library on **01777 708 724** or retford.library@inspireculture.org.uk

Newsletter editorial deadlines
23rd March (Summer 2026 issue)
13th July (Autumn 2026 issue)

Newsletter Advertising rates for a whole year of four consecutive issues

Full page	£125.00
Half page	£75.00
Quarter page	£45.00
Business card size	£25.00

Contact Greg (01777) 700 918
clarboroughwelham@gmail.com

Special rates for 'one off' insertions
Yet again, our greatest thanks go to our tireless (!) team of volunteer distributors

Useful computer hints and tips

- One of my favourite computer tips is being able to 'undo' pretty much anything, anywhere! The undo function is handy even outside of Microsoft!
- On your keyboard, press **CTRL + Z** to undo your latest action. You can undo all kinds of actions, from the last thing you typed to that important file you accidentally just deleted!
- Plus, here's a bonus round: you can redo your undo by pressing **CTRL + Y**! You will also find that many apps have this feature in their **Edit** menu item where it appears in the Undo feature where this also enables Redo – invaluable!
- Another invaluable keyboard action is contained in the **Print Screen** key. On smaller laptops and notepads this key may be abbreviated to **PrtSc** or similar.
- This saves a full screen picture of whatever is shown on the screen at the instant you tapped this key.
- The image is saved to your computers clipboard which is part of your system's memory. It can be **pasted** into any suitable app such as a word processor or image editor – just select **Paste** from the apps appropriate menu item.
- This feature can even grab a still shot from video showing. Your Editor has found this particular feature really useful if your computer is 'misbehaving' – grabbing a screen shot when an occasional, unusual, event takes place can be very useful when passing it to your IT specialist.
- **Restart** is another invaluable feature of computers. This is roughly equivalent to the old d.i.y. Approach of, 'Turn it off, count to 10, switch it back on'. This isn't quite the same for a typical computer, but it has a built-in equivalent – **Restart**. On a typical PC this probably is a separate key on the front of the tower, on other devices, as well as PCs, this appears in the **Shut down or sign out** option on the desktop.

Editor

Clarbrough & Welham Parish Council Meetings

12th January 2026
23rd February
30th March
11th May

Meetings open 19:00 in Clarbrough Village Hall
Agendas are always posted at least a week in advance on notice boards and on our Parish Council's website.

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