

THE PLOUGH

Averham, Kelham and Staythorpe
Community and Parish Magazine

MAY 2024



It's time!!

The Annual Sunflower competition is here.

Kindly sponsored by Averham & Kelham Churches.

You'll find your packet of seeds with this month's Plough magazine.

Just sow under cover March to mid-May - 0.5cm deep in separate pots if possible. Plant out in late May outdoors, either in the ground when they are 30-45 cms tall or leave in the pot. They grow in most garden soils in full sun.

We'll let you know when the judging will take place later in the year, as usual the tallest sunflower will win.

Good Luck growers

Averham, Kelham and Staythorpe Parish Council

Vacancies for Parish Councillor and Clerk

Averham, Kelham and Staythorpe Wards

Due to the resignation of several councillors, we are now desperately low of Parish Councillors, meaning the council is on the verge of collapse. If this carries on, and no-one steps forward to fill these vacancies then your Parish Council will be dissolved. Quite a few parishioners also hold some misconceptions about your Parish Council, so here are a few myth busters:

- *We are unpaid volunteers and have not claimed any form of expenses for our activities.*
- *We adhere to strict rules, governed by NALC.*
- *We live in the Parish, and care about what happens here.*
- *Against an unwanted application, the Council is one voice, residents' voices are many.*

If you are wondering why a Parish Council matters, here are some positive achievements and reasons why:

- Averham and Staythorpe villages are now in the Southwell Minster school catchment.
- Successfully challenged the necessity to have a huge gravel extraction plant in the parish.
- The PC are consulted on matters of planning within the Parish
- Dog bins and defibrillators have been provided in each village, which are paid for and maintained by your Parish Council.
- Successfully pressured the County Council to resurface both Church and Pinfold Lanes.
- Successfully lobbied for the speed limit to be lowered on the bypass/ Staythorpe Road and the inclusion of safety signage.
- Successfully lobbied for the Averham to Newark footpath to be cleared of rubbish and vegetation.
- Secured funding to install village entry signs for Staythorpe and is developing a plan to fund signs for the other two villages.
- Some village benches have been maintained by the Parish Councillors and other repairs are planned along with replacement picnic tables.
- Village planters have been purchased and are being maintained by your PC.
- Commemorative trees/hedging have been planted in all villages funded by PC.
- PC provides financial support for New Year and street parties etc.

So, would you like to make a difference in your local community?

Would you like to influence decisions that affect people like you living in Averham, Kelham and Staythorpe?

Are you committed and enthusiastic about protecting the environment, the countryside and rural communities?

If you are interested in making a difference in the above, then please apply to

Ian Bradey, Acting Chairman 01636 701565 email cllrbradey@gmail.com.

REMEMBER THE PARISH COUNCIL IS YOUR COMMUNITIVE VOICE and YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE and INFLUENCE WHERE YOU LIVE.

COME and JOIN US, TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE IT AN EVEN BETTER PLACE TO

WHAT'S ON?

W.I. Meeting	13 th	May at 7pm
Garden Club Meeting	14 th	May at 7pm
St Michael and All Angels church		
Messy church, Averham	28 th	April at 4pm and
	19 th	May at 4pm
Afternoon Tea and Cake supporting Dementia UK	22 nd	May at 2—4pm
National Civil War Centre, Unveiling	25 th	May at 1:00pm
Annual Wellow Maypole celebration:	27 th	May 12pm—5pm
Mobile Library: On Staythorpe Road, Averham on:		
	13 th	May 14:10—14:25
Book Club: Birch House, Staythorpe Road	5 th	June at 7:30pm
Robin Hood Theatre:		
The Lady in the Van	11 th —15 th	June
International Star Wars Day:	4 th	May

The Lady in the Van.

Based on real events, in April 1974, Miss Shepherd drove her dilapidated van into Alan Bennett's front garden in genteel Camden.

A well-known local itinerant and eccentric with poor mental health, Mary Shepherd was described by Alan Bennett as “a bigoted, blinkered, cantankerous, devious, unforgiving, self-centred, rank, rude, car-mad cow”. The play examines their relationship which remains tense but even Miss Shepherd's uncompromising selfishness becomes an entertaining and lovable flaw - possibly.

Village WhatsApp Groups

Did you know that our villages have their own WhatsApp Groups?

Well, we do and they keep us in touch with what's happening around us and share community news. If you'd like to join, here are the 'Administrator' details:

◇	Averham:	Tracey Carlisle	07970 179755
◇	Kelham:	Judith Mills	07775 781591
◇	Staythorpe:	Debs Storey	07974 957684

WANTED: FLOOD WARDEN VOLUNTEER

Given the exceptional weather conditions experienced recently it is important that our villages are prepared for flooding in the future. Currently the PC, NSDC and Notts CC are looking for volunteers in order to increase flood resilience across the District and County, specifically in Averham and Staythorpe. Should you wish to volunteer you will need to register with Notts. CC. It is a simple form to complete and then attend a short training course which can be done remotely or in person.

This is open to any resident who wishes to volunteer. If you would like to have a preliminary chat please contact the Acting Chair of the Parish Council on:

email: cllrbradey@gmail.com

Alternatively contact the East Midlands Flood Resilience Team:

floodresilience.eastmidlands@environment-agency.gov.uk

PARISH CLERK JOB VACANCY

By the time you read this I will have left AKS Parish Council so the post of Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer is vacant. If anyone is interested in the role, please email Chairman Ian Bradey at: cllrbradey@gmail.com

The hours are 15 per month plus 4 hours annual leave, mostly working from home but attending meetings as necessary, currently held at Kelham Hall. Training is available. Salary is £2685 per annum (This figure in effect from 1st April 2024).

There is a laptop, a printer and a 2-drawer filing cabinet to accommodate.

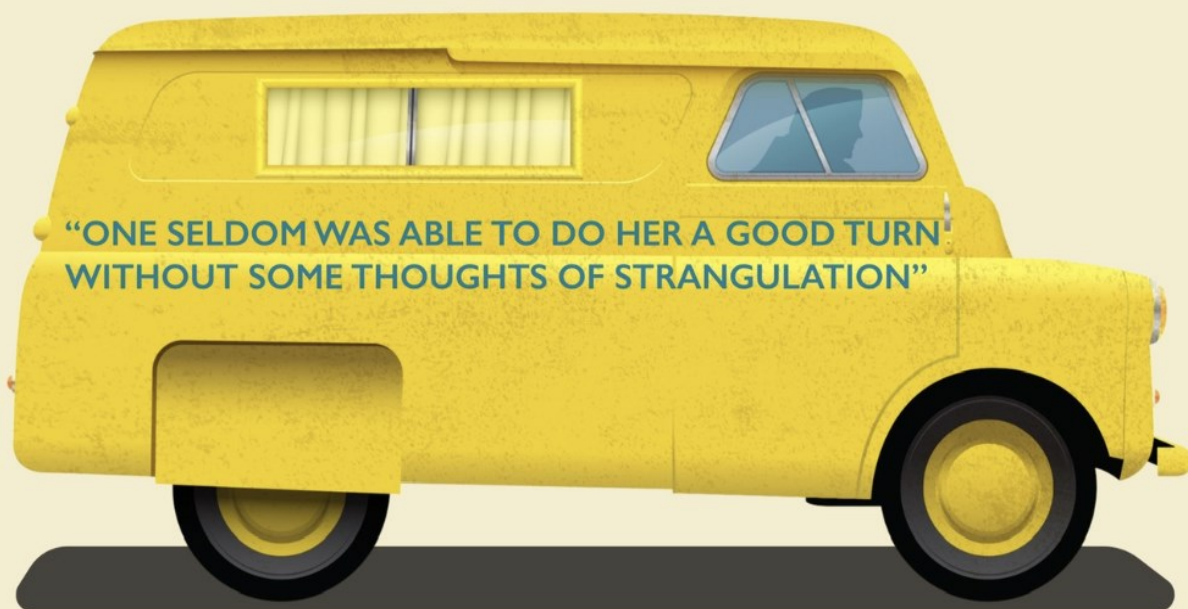
Meetings are every other month on the 3rd Monday plus 2 finance meetings a year.



ROBIN HOOD THEATRE COMPANY
PRESENTS

THE LADY IN THE VAN

BY ALAN BENNETT



TUES 11TH TO SAT 15TH JUNE 2024

PERFORMANCES 7.30^{PM} EVERY NIGHT & 2.30^{PM} SATURDAY MATINEE

THIS AMATEUR PRODUCTION OF 'THE LADY IN THE VAN' IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT
WITH CONCORD THEATRICALS LTD ON BEHALF OF SAMUEL FRENCH LTD
WWW.CONCORDTHEATRICALS.CO.UK

THE ROBIN HOOD THEATRE
TICKETS £12.00 MEMBERS £10.00
CHURCH LANE AVERHAM NEWARK NG23 5RB
BOX OFFICE : 07733 179986 BOOK ONLINE AT RHTC.CO.UK



ROBIN HOOD THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED REGISTERED IN ENGLAND COMPANY NO : 07415434 REGISTERED OFFICE : CHURCH LANE, AVERHAM, NEWARK, NG23 5RB REGISTERED CHA 240

Muskham Preschool

**Opening now on Tuesdays and Thursdays
during all school holidays**

Opening times and fees:

- Tuesday to Friday (term time)
- 8.30am - 4pm
- Half and full day sessions available
- Competitive hourly rates
- Government funded places available - 15 and 30 hours
- Tax free childcare systems accepted



Make friends - Gain independence - Enjoy new experiences

Muskham Preschool is at the heart of the community to provide an happy, homely environment, where children can build secure relationships, confidence and become settled in their surroundings.

They will learn through play and their own interests indoors and outdoors so they can thrive and achieve in their learning and develop their readiness to start the next adventure in life.



More information:

- Qualified, experienced and highly motivated staff
- Private outdoor garden and play area
- Variety of indoor play areas
- Variety of external providers including Caterpillar Music
- Registered Ofsted provider



Contact us:

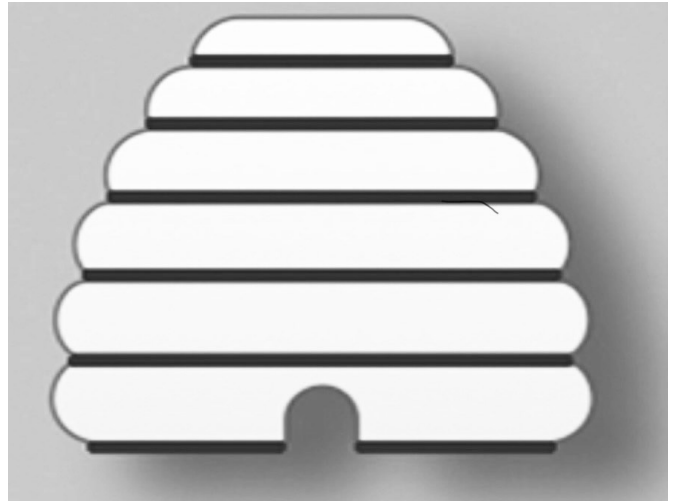
Muskham Rural Community Centre, Nelson Lane, North Muskham, Newark, NG23 6HL
Please call us on **07714 799408**, find us on **Facebook**
or email us at **muskhamplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk**

ASK Hive Community Hub

Fundraising

Our application to acquire the school is progressing, slowly, a decision normally would have been in May, however, elections have interfered and we are hoping for a positive decision in June.

On the plus side there have been no queries from the team at Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) on our (174 page) application!



There were a number of items which NCC specified we would have to meet to be successful and we have met the majority of these; the one weakness at present is our organisation. The Council want a legal entity but until there was indication of a positive outcome, the Steering Group did not feel it worth spending a good sum of money on speculation. Therefore, if successful, this will be at the top of the list of actions, closely followed by setting up bank account(s) and linking ASK Hive to the lease.

On the plus side Nottinghamshire County Council have announced a Community Fund with matched grants of up to £20,000. Which is in addition to Newark and Sherwood District Council's matched grant of up to £30,000. The largest fund available for projects like ours is the Government's 'Community Ownership Fund' that has been successfully used by many village pubs that have been taken over by their communities. These grants are only 20% matched and up to £2,000,000 although the majority seem to be around £250,000. Additionally there is also a feasibility fund of up to £5,000 to set out the application and its feasibility where feedback is given, if required, to 'tweak' or improve the full application.

What are the plans for our Community Hub the ASK Hive? Rather than go overboard with "we can do this and this and this and that" we believe a more measured approach that we build on to involve all of our community. Initial thoughts are certainly returning the Christmas Carols to the site, re-instating the New Year Party and an ASK Day during the summer for fun and games for all.

Initially, there will be a couple of days at the start to 'patch up' and repair / clean the former school to make it weathertight and usable. We will be asking for help to achieve this and will combine it with a BBQ to finish.

We have our fingers crossed.

NEW Averham-based childminder set to welcome children from September 2024

Oak House Childminding is set to open its doors in the new academic year. Melissa Evans, who has 7 years experience as a KS1 Primary School Teacher, is changing her career after a decision was made to prioritise her young family and their learning and development journey.

Oak House Childminding is based on the ethos that children learn through play, whether that is indoors or outdoors. It allows for the expression of personality and uniqueness, enhances curiosity, creativity and stimulates a sense of well-being. Melissa firmly believes in helping each individual child to develop a positive attitude towards their learning. This will contribute towards them becoming a confident and self-motivated learner, in preparation for their next chapter at school.

She places importance on providing a varied learning experience and has a bursting Early Years curriculum jam packed with exciting activities. The children will be participating in a wide range of activities, from cooking to messy play. It will also include spontaneous 'teachable moments' that stem from child-initiated ideas and activities which extend their learning. Melissa understands that all children explore and learn at their own pace and it is her responsibility to encourage the children to take calculated risks, provide a stimulating environment and inspire children to be the best they can be. The space will encourage collaboration, communication and exploration. **Details:**

📍 Oak House Childminding will be open from 7.30am – 5.30pm. Extended hours can be offered if needed after a joint discussion.

📍 *Funded Hours available for all eligible children*

📍 *Tax Free Childcare scheme*

📍 *Daily Rate: £57.50 which includes 3 meals (one of which is hot), snacks and small activities such as local toddler groups*

📍 *Half Day may be available if space allows at a rate of £30 for 5 hours*

📍 *Minimum attendance: 2 days per week*

If you are interested in finding out more or want to visit the space to see for yourself, please email: ***oakhousechildcare@outlook.com***

J's Oasis Mosaics -Workshops



Would you like to learn a new Craft?

Come along for a fun creative Mosaic workshop ideal for beginners. Bring a group of friends and/or family or join in with others.

You will be able to choose from a full selection of coloured tiles, glass nuggets and other materials to create Coasters or Hanging Hearts. At the end of the workshop, you will be able to leave with your very own creation. You can create any simple design you like: just let your creativity fly.

Taster workshops are available on various dates from April 2024 in my studio at Kelham, near Newark at £25 per person, cost includes all materials required.

Workshops will run for a minimum of two people up to a maximum of six. Children must be aged 12 or over, and costs just £5 to reserve your space (refundable up to five days before)

If you would like to attend one of my workshops as an individual or as part of a group please contact me, Janet Emeny, for further information on 0775 111 7820 or email me at:

js.oasismosaics@gmail.com

theWI

INSPIRING WOMEN

April Report

What a launch into our new WI Year when we welcomed Simon Miller from the British Sign Language Institute, who with the aid of his interpreter, shared his life experiences and difficulties having been born deaf. He is an incredible guy who has taken all the difficulties in his stride and had us rolling with laughter at some of his experiences. He had worked for Boots and driven lorries for a living. He now works for the BSLI. He gave us a quiz to start off with which dispelled my preconceived ideas/myths about being deaf. We didn't score too badly overall but it helped to highlight the difficulties the profoundly deaf face. A great evening.

Good start too as we welcomed new member Nicola Clegg. On new members, you would be made most welcome if you want to give us a go.

The May meeting is always a bit serious as we discuss the National Resolution which, if passed at the National Annual Meeting, will form the basis for a national campaign to improve access to proper dental health. Yes a bit serious but the WI covers so many bases of fulfilment. We then round it off with a Fish 'n Chip Supper so still worth turning up! Our broader local fulfilment offers members a monthly session of Rummikub and a craft and chat session on the last Thursday morning of the month.

Meetings are 2nd Monday of the month at 7pm to around 9pm at the Robin Hood Theatre.

Admission £3.00 which includes a cuppa and a cake and the Raffle.

Jenny Quickmire Meeting Sec.



ASK Garden Club Report April 2024

As usual, there was an excellent turn out for April's meeting and we were able to welcome another new member. The evening began with a talk by Rachel Barrowcliffe on Future proofing your garden.



Rachel began by stating what all gardeners know - gardening is good for you both physically and mentally but she also recognised that in order to continue using our gardens in a beneficial way, we may have to make changes. She looked at two reasons why you might want to future proof your garden: changing lifestyle and

mobility, and changing climate. Whatever the reason, Rachel emphasised the need for careful planning.

ASK Garden Club Report continued

Here's a list of things to think about.

Lawns and mowing

☐ Reduce the size of your lawn by increasing the size of a patio so that there is less to cut.

☐ Put a 'mowing edge' around your lawn – this is a strip of brick slightly lower than the lawn. You can mow over it without damaging the blade and you do not have to edge the lawn every time you cut, just tidy it up 2-3 times a year.



☐ When creating a new lawn, consider growing from seed rather than laying turf; it's cheaper

and easier to establish.

Beds and watering

☐ Raised beds are helpful if you have mobility issues and can overcome problems like soggy soil or poor growing conditions. Ideally raised beds should be belly-button high and no more than 48 inches/120 centimetres deep (so you can reach across) but can be as long as you like or have space for. They can be made from any material.

☐ Put a retaining wall (say 1 brick high) around flowerbeds to retain soil and mulch and prevent spilling onto paths or lawns.

☐ Use a thick layer of mulch on all the beds as this helps to suppress weeds, feeds the soil, promotes worm activity and conserve water. Mulch can be well rotted manure, leaf mould or bark chippings.

ASK Garden Club Report continued

Beds and watering continued

☐ Install a watering system to reduce the number of watering cans you have to fill. There are lots of different systems for different situations and they are not expensive.

☐ Automatic system which runs off a battery or solar pump. Connected to an outside tap and a sprinkler or drip-feed system. Useful if you have lots of containers which need regular watering.

☐ Water butts connected to a solar pump are good for watering a few containers.

☐ 'Leaky pipes' in larger beds though you have to be careful not to chop through them when planting. It's easiest to install a pipe when creating a new bed – put the pipe on the soil, cover with a membrane and chippings and plant through the membrane. This also stops water evaporating.

Reduce watering by creating a gravel garden. Always use a membrane underneath gravel. Plant through the membrane (adding some fertilizer) but remember that gravel itself will need weeding from time to time.

Planting

☐ Don't overcrowd your beds. Crowded plants need more pruning, feeding and general care. Put the right plant in the right place and give it space so that it can reach its full potential.

☐ Use plants that attract pollinating insects and install bee houses – sited at head-height and facing South or West.

☐ Encourage other wildlife where possible: a ladybird can eat 4000 aphids in its lifetime; toads and hedgehogs eat slugs.

☐ Grow your own fruit and veg and if possible, have a 'cutting bed' for flowers for the house.

Paths, driveways and garden buildings

☐ Look carefully at your existing garden and decide what you need to change to make it work for you. Ask family and friends for their suggestions – they may

ASK Garden Club Report continued

Paths, driveways and garden buildings continued

☐ Think about where to site a shed or summerhouse – they don't have to be hidden at the bottom of the garden. Closer to the house makes them more accessible and they can be masked by plants.

☐ Do you want to make your garden more easily accessible so you can walk side by side, or even move a wheelchair about? If so, paths should be at least 1.2m wide and flat paving, not gravel or bark chippings.

☐ Maybe change steps to gentle slopes, or if that isn't practical, install something like an outdoor stair lift.

☐ Think where you will site your bins and make sure there's enough space to move them about easily. Consider screening them.

☐ If you're changing your driveway, make sure you leave enough space for car doors to be opened wide so that someone with limited mobility or even in a wheelchair is able to get into/out of a car easily.

☐ Plan to install electric cabling in before laying a new driveway or path. This could be for an electric car, mobility scooter, or garden lights.

☐ Always use good quality materials and reliable tradesmen so that the work doesn't have to be done again in a few years time. If possible, use 'porous' paving which reduces the danger of waterlogging and flooding.

After Rachel's talk there was the customary raffle and then Nigel kicked-off the annual potato and bean growing competitions.

Judith Mills

Membership is £10 per year which also entitles them to a discount on many items on sale at Southwell Garden Centre (excludes sale items and multi-buys).

Non-members pay £3 and get one raffle ticket.

Maypole Celebrations

The annual Wellow Maypole Celebrations will take place again this year on the late May Bank Holiday, 27th May, starting at 12 noon and continuing until 5pm.

This is one of the great, free events of the year in the local area and always draws a large crowd. There is free parking near the site, but the roads around the village green are closed for safety.

The main event, the crowning of the new May Queen, takes place on the village green, where the maypole is situated. This year Evie Hollingworth will be crowned, following in the footsteps of her older sister Lucy, who was May Queen in 2019. Evie's maids of honour will be sisters Gaby and Lotte Cooper (former Averham residents).

The other highlights of the day are always the children's procession, and the ever popular



maypole dancing. The May Queen, her retinue and the dancers gather at St Swithin's Church beforehand, with the dancers wearing white pinafores over pretty dresses and garlands in their hair.

The party forms a procession to walk down the yard of the Red Lion pub to the green for the ceremony and dancing around the Maypole. The young, some very young, dancers practice hard for some six weeks to be ready for the big day. As well as the much-loved traditional element, there is live music and entertainment, as well as Morris dancing and Punch and Judy, stalls selling crafts, plants etc, a special food area.

Call to Prayer

I was sitting in Church one day with my dog, Tessa, when someone came in and found me using my mobile phone. I blame that lad from Aslockton whom Jenny Hamilton referred to not so long ago. He became Archbishop of Canterbury and helped Henry VIII to have his marriage annulled. But his great contribution to us and countless people was to produce the Book of Common Prayer. Common because it was for everybody. Until Cranmer's time, clergy were obliged to pray seven services throughout the day. This was all very well for monks but not for busy parish priests. Cranmer devised two services – morning and evening prayer for use by everybody, clergy and people together. The priest was to ring the bell in the morning and in the evening calling everyone to join him.

When I had a busy parish in Nottingham the bell would ring at 5.30 for evening prayer. One man stopped every day on his way home from work. Being near to the bus station, people with time on their hands would investigate why the bell was ringing and join me in prayer. Some especially young people made friends and began to come to the Sunday morning services as well.

As a boy, every summer my vicar would take a party of lads, youth hostelling in Derbyshire. Each morning, we would set out hiking, stopping at the first church we found to thank God for those who had brought the faith to that place. He would then take from his rucksack this enormous book – The Book of Common Prayer with all the readings and prayers for the whole year. We then prayed morning prayer, - well as much as teenage boys could manage. The same would happen with evening prayer, huddled on our youth hostel bunk beds.

We no longer need such a giant book, an App 'Daily Prayer' contains all the readings and prayers we need for the whole year. It also notes all the special days and has a beautiful late evening service – just right to use before you go to sleep.

Another of Cranmer's reforms, for which I am particularly grateful was his allowing clergy to be married. St Peter, the first Pope was married. Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law. A young priest stayed with us one summer. He came from Columbia but was on holiday from the catholic University of Louvain in Belgium where I was once a student. He joined me as I went about my parish work and helped me when celebrating Holy Communion. At the end of the holiday, he said that essentially, I was as Catholic as he was but that he was taken from his family at a young age and sent to a seminary and that he was old enough to have a wife and family, but this had been denied him. How he envied Muriel and me with our three children. How grateful we and our church are to Thomas Cranmer for allowing this to happen. Just think of the contribution clergy wives have made.

Call to Prayer continued

But where do priests come from? When one of our bishops was licensing a new vicar, he said in his sermon that there had been some mumbling in the parish about the length of time it had taken finding them a new priest. Very directly he asked, 'When did your parish last produce a priest?' A question we should think and pray about at this time.

A priest never retires. Which is one reason I was found that morning in church using my 'Daily Prayer' app which all of us can use too and why we use the Sunday Worship app to celebrate Holy Communion together taking turns since Muriel is not only my wife but also a fellow priest.

What God in his wisdom has given us.....minds to invent mobile phones to keep in touch with Him and each other.

May I thank all those who have been wishing me well at this time – with messages and visits. I hope to be up and about again before too long.

God Bless

David Keene

Date for your Diary

Wednesday 22nd May 2024 2pm to 4pm

St Michael's and All Angels Church Averham

Fundraising for Dementia UK

Tea Coffee and Cake Afternoon

£2.50

(unlimited Tea or coffee)

Entrance £2.50 to include
raffle ticket




DementiaUK
Helping families face dementia

"The Pete Garrett I knew....."

I met Pete fairly late in his years - I think he had just retired but was doing occasional practical jobs, ad hoc, to keep active.

The first thing I noticed about Pete was his weather-beaten face and leathery arms which gave a rude clue as to his life in farming. He hailed originally from somewhere in East Anglia – Suffolk, I think, or was it Norfolk?

I might be mistaken, but I think he lived in Kelham for nearly 5 decades with his wife Jennifer and family, Roger, Graham and Barbara and worked for James Miller farms for most if not all of that time. He saw the transition of the farm from mixed to solely arable.

It was not long before I started to learn about farming as it was, Pete recounting a plethora of farming facts accumulated over many decades. And yes, he recalled a variety of stories of his life in farming – some hilarious, some scary, some proud, some resentful, some happy, some sad.

I soon gleaned that he could be a fairly contentious and obstinate character but that, at heart, he was a good man. We always enjoyed a friendly chinwag although I was sad that his deafness made conversations very difficult. Moreover, he could not enjoy the lovely sounds of the countryside. He obstinately refused to wear hearing-aids, finding them a fiddly nuisance. Had he persevered, I think they might have transformed his life.

He was well known in Kelham for his willingness to help others. For example, he helped folks with gardening and, not least, for over 30 years he took responsibility to keep the churchyard mown. It was not unusual for him to end a 3-hour summer mowing session, drenched in sweat and filthy from head to foot with grass cuttings and dust. And when Broadgate Lane was awash, inches deep in rainwater, Pete would be out there, spade in hand, clearing the 'grips' to allow it to run off into the dykes.

Pete had a real love of his garden which he kept in fine order, especially his vegetable garden, growing upwards of 10 varieties of vegetables and fruits. His greenhouse too was a picture in summer, stuffed with tomato plants and a huge grapevine.

He was particularly proud of the occasion when many samples of local soil were analysed at Brackenhurst – and the sample from his garden proved to be the best of all, well balanced, fertile, and nutritious! No wonder his vegetables were so good!

One of his regular jobs at home was to keep the sitting room log burner fed with wood. Pete would take every opportunity to fetch wood throughout the year wherever it might be available – blown or felled trees and branches, demolished sheds, fences and more.

"The Pete Garrett I knew....."continued

As a result, he always had a well-stocked woodyard where two diesel-driven bench saws were used to reduce the larger chunks of wood. He kept the two-cylinder Lister diesel engines in good order and those big circular saw blades razor sharp. His confidence in using the saws was awesome if not outright terrifying. Pete would use them continuously for maybe an hour or more with the big screaming sawblades completely devoid of guards. A serious accident was always millimetres away, but thankfully, Pete's sheer skill always prevailed.

Pete loved reading and had a good appetite for books - fiction, biographical, tales from WW1and2, and militaria, and other historical events. His reading included magazines about vintage vehicles, especially tractors and associated equipment.

Most of his reading matter came from Sunday car-boot sales which he attended regularly – going to any one of three in the area. But most often he would be there to buy, renovate and sell tools and implements. He invariably made a modest profit, at least enough to cover his entrance costs plus a bit more.

But the time when Pete most enjoyed his car-boot sessions was when he was selling his garden's bounty of fruit and vegetables. They almost always sold out - they were that good!

He would also enter some of his prized examples into local produce competitions. As far as I know, Pete never won a First Prize rosette but was always in the judges' shortlist.

Summer brought about the agricultural shows and ploughing matches which Pete absolutely revelled in – to see spectacular main-ring events plus vintage machinery side by side with the most modern versions. He would marvel at the capability, speed and efficiency of new agricultural technologies, and being stunned at their almost unimaginable cost!

Whilst he attended many of the big County shows, he loved ploughing matches and most of all, the annual Southwell ploughing match. He was thrilled to receive from John Miller, a show-chairman's complimentary pass to 2023's event which gave him access to all areas. He was so very proud of that privilege.



With an ultimate pass from Him, no doubt Pete will be looking down on the 2024 Southwell ploughing match on September 28th at Oxtun.....with a big grinning smile....bless him.

'Till we meet again, Pete.....

ANON

Church News for May 2024

St Michael and All Angels

As promised in the last Church update, Easter week proved to be rather full on with events. We held the lovely evening service of Compline at St. Michaels on the Wednesday evening. I have to say the path lights and automatic lighting in church came in very handy for the return journey down the church path. Good Friday afternoon we welcomed Bishop John Finney for our quiet hour, and a very profound and memorable hour of worship we had. Just very special for us. Many thanks John.

Then we had the main event on Easter Morning as Rev. David Bartlett led us in the act of Holy communion which of course is so very special at Easter. We had the full enchilada with Celebratory lighting of the Pascal Candle which was then duly processed into Church and the altar candles were lit from this. Very stirring stuff.

Thank you David for an impeccable and again memorable celebration.

After all the serious stuff the youngsters enjoyed an Easter Egg Hunt in church in the afternoon with the usual squeals of delight and fun. Many thanks to Anne Pirisi for her continued hard work with the youngsters.

Then we had our first Tea and Talk afternoon on April 17th. We seemed to be missing quite a few of the regulars for various reasons, but for those of us there it was great to have a catch up with village events. Thanks again to Linda White for helping out with the event.

Hopefully the next tea party on May 22nd will attract the crowds as, alongside Tracey Carlisle, we will be having a fund raising event for Dementia UK. The entry fee will be £2.50 plus a cuppa and cake and a raffle, also £2.50. Please try to pop in for a while and support this worthy cause.

Cleaning and Flowers for May: Anne Pirisi

Jenny Quickmire

“The Field Detectives”

The next **BIG Field Detectives Event** on the horizon is the **Colonel Francis Hacker Unveiling** at the **National Civil War Centre**, in Newark, Nottinghamshire on **Saturday 25th May 2024** at 1:00 pm.

The day's centrepiece will be the unveiling of Colonel Francis Hacker's portrait. For the nation to see the face of an historically important figure who died 363 years ago for the very first time, is a day not to be missed.

Colonel Francis Hacker was a parliamentarian soldier during the English Civil Wars (1642-1651). He was standing beside King Charles I when his head was removed from his body, and the Death Warrant was in his possession for eleven years. However, little is known about him and his family. **On Saturday 25th May 2024**, the real face of Colonel Francis Hacker will be unveiled.

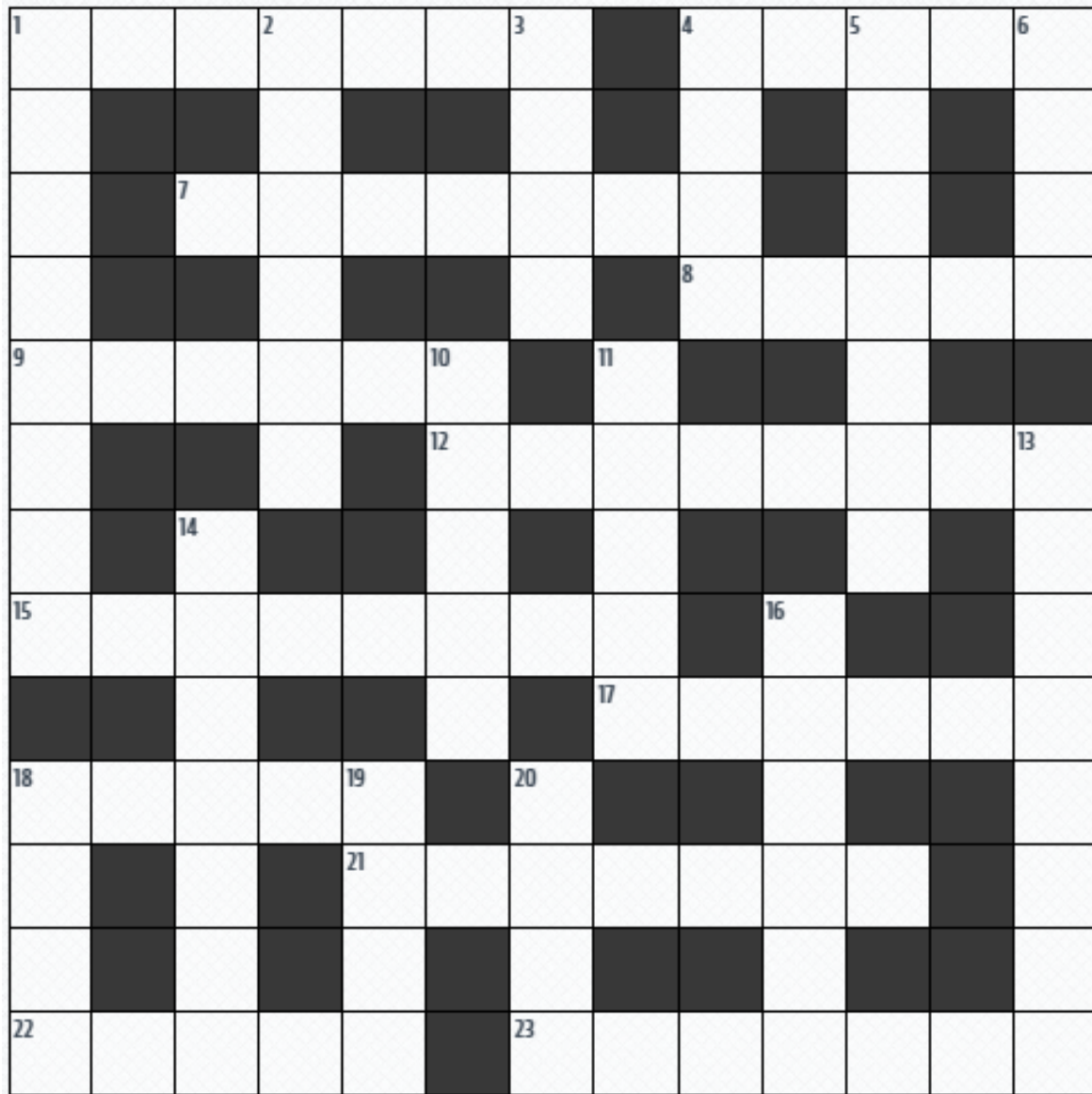
It will be the first time the nation will see the true image of a man who deserves a higher degree of study and understanding.

There is an amazing backstory to the unveiling, featuring the discovery of the painting, the search for Stathern Hall, the Death Warrant, the telling of a family history story that erased many myths and legends and most of all, the coming together of a village community.

As you will know only too well; time travel discoveries involve a broad collaboration of many, and this particular investigation continues to attract more and more people who want to learn the story of this amazing character.

Catherine has written an account of her research into the

CROSSWORD



Across



1. Injured
4. Dull brownish-yellow
7. Mimic
8. Shopping mall
9. Property wrecker
12. People taken from danger
15. Cattle charge
17. Radio interference
18. Special skill
21. Subtle differences
22. Rested on knees
23. Tactlessly

Down

1. Conveys
2. Body of warships
3. Clock face
4. Retain
5. Humiliated
6. Jot
10. Flood barrier
11. Levies
13. Bless
14. Wrist iron

Down

16. Underground hollow
18. Twist
19. String tangle
20. Attire

FUN FACTS FOR MAY

- ♦ The only month of the year that never starts and ends with the same day.
- ♦ It is named after the Greek goddess of fertility, Maia, or the Latin word for elders, maiores.
- ♦ The birthstone of May is the emerald, which symbolizes success and love.
- ♦ It was once considered a bad luck month to get married, according to a poem.
- ♦ It is a time of fertility and celebrations.
- ♦ In America May is Hamburger Month.
- ♦ 14th May is Dance like a chicken day!
- ♦ Highest and lowest recorded temperatures in the UK in May were; 38.5°C in 1957 and lowest –2.7°C, however normally one of the warmest months.
- ♦ Cinco de Mayo (5th May) Mexicans celebrate their victory over the French.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND AND UNITED SERVICES

Sunday 5th May 9:30am	St Wilfrid's North Muskham	Holy Communion
Sunday 12th May 9:30am	St Wilfrid's South Muskham	Holy Communion
Sunday 12th May 3.00pm	St Wilfrid's North Muskham	Messy Church
Sunday 18th May 09:30	St Wilfrid's Kelham	Holy Communion
Sunday 19th May 4pm	St Michael and All Angels Averham	Messy Church
Sunday 26th May 9.30am	St Michael and All Angels Averham	Morning Prayer

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St Michael and All Angels Church

Averham on

Sunday 19th May at 4.00pm

Theme: The Good Shepherd

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**MW9145 9kg Washing Machine, 1400 spin, inverter motor, LED display, Delay Timer, Stop Add Go
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**NVSD7W 7kg Vented Sensor Dryer, Delay Timer, White
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Treasurer: Steve Emeny 07889 486 260

AVERHAM CHURCH:

Warden: Vacancy

Treasurer: Hilary Snell 01636 672 640

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL:

Secretary: Carole Binks 01636 816 343

AKS PARISH COUNCIL:

Acting Chair: Ian Bradey 01636 701565
email cllrbradey@gmail.com
Clerk: Vacancy aksparishclerk@outlook.com

POLICE:

PCSO: Richard Dunn 07595 074 292

POTHOLE:

Notts County Council 0300 500 80 80

STAYTHORPE POWER STATION:

01636 59 69 00

nikki.marshall@rwe.com

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY:

Environment Agency Flood line: 0345 988 1188

NATIONAL GRID:

www.nationalgrid.co.uk/poer-cut-information

OTHERS:

Garden Club: Nigel Britton 07929 367 461

W.I. Secretary: Nicola Walker 07930 344 558

Bell Ringers: Martin Cooper 07810 658 627

Latham Farms: Steven Gill 07966 382 781 or
Stuart Perkins 07818 171 689