

The Plough

September 2025

To: AVERHAM, STAYTHORPE & KELHAM VILLAGERS



PHOTO: DIANA KING "VIEW TOWARDS AVERHAM"

The brown cow has a podcast — it's called "*Heard It Here*"



After a wonderfully hot and sunny summer, one of the warmest and driest since records began almost 140 years ago. One of the major issues has been lack of water, and as a result we are seeing trees shed their leaves early, berries and fruits ripening early all of which will have an impact on our wildlife as they are preparing for winter too early! On a selfish note there's a lot less grass cutting, although none of this seems to deter the weeds!

WHAT'S ON?

Mobile Library

Staythorpe Road, Averham

1st Sept. 14:10 - 14:25

Messy Church

St. Michael and All Angels Church

7th Sept. 16:00

W.I. Events

Robin Hood Theatre

8th Sept. 19:00

Garden Club

Robin Hood Theatre

16th Sept. 18:30

Open Day

St. Michael and All Angels Church

20th Sept. 14:00—16:00

Harvest Thanksgiving

St Wilfrid's Church Kelham

21st Sept. 09:30

Blackadder Play

Robin Hood Theatre

23rd—27th Sept. 19:00

Mobile Library

Staythorpe Road, Averham

29th Sept. 14:10 - 14:25

See page 17 for Church Services

Editor: Bob McGhee

ploughmageditor@gmail.com



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AVERHAM CHURCH OPEN DAY – 20th September 2pm

Come along and discover more about Averham Church.

Have a go at bell ringing and climb the Church tower, whilst supporting the fantastic MacMillan Cancer Support Charity.

The event kicks off at 2pm on Saturday 20th September 2025 at Averham Church. Doors open at 1.45, at 2pm, there will be a presentation by Professor Chris Brooke of Nottingham University on the history of Averham Church. It is the oldest church in Nottinghamshire and its origins are Anglo-Saxon. Our beautiful Church is of both local and national importance - come along and find out all about this hidden gem in our village. From 2.30 to 3.15pm tea, coffee, soft drinks, cakes, biscuits and buns will be served plus a raffle and tombola, with all proceeds in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support Charity.

At 3.15pm onwards you can listen to our fabulous Church bells being rung by our local team. You can even have a go at ringing yourself!

Weather permitting you can climb the bell tower and see our beautiful village from a completely different angle! On a clear day you may be able to see Lincoln Cathedral. At 4pm the event closes.

Also there will be a display giving fascinating information about the rectors of Averham from the 18th century until the 20th century. Thanks go to Judith Mills for the work involved in putting this display together. We would like you to make a donation for the tea etc to MacMillan so please so bring some cash with you. Children are very welcome but there will be an age restriction on both the tower tour and bell ringing. There will be a Harvest Thanksgiving service at Kelham Church at 9.30am on Sunday 21st September, hopefully this will be outside weather permitting, if not it will be inside the church. Continued

AVERHAM CHURCH OPEN DAY – 20th September 2pm

All donations to support the Women's Aid in Newark. A small friendly independent local charity it opened in 1975 to provide direct access accommodation with support services for women and children who have been made homeless because of domestic violence and abuse. The charity would be grateful for any donations of fresh, tinned or dried foods, cleaning goods, toilet rolls, washing powders etc. Also, baby wipes, nappies or nappy bags.

You can drop off with **Judith** at 18, Home Farm Close or **Tracey** at 5, Ayrshire Way or **Hilary** at The Poplars, Church Lane prior to 20th September or bring to the Averham church open day on 20th September, details in this plough edition.

Many thanks. **Tracey and Hilary**



CALL: 01636 679687

To talk to a Domestic Abuse Support
Worker in confidence



St Michael and All
Angels Church,

Saturday,
20th September

Please join us at this great fund-raising event for refreshments, delicious home-made cakes and great company!

There will also be a raffle of fantastic prizes generously donated by local businesses.

Serving from 2 pm – 4pm



WORLD'S BIGGEST
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CANCER SUPPORT



HARVEST FESTIVAL

This year's Harvest Festival will be held at St. Wilfrid's Church in Kelham on 21st September at 9:30am

See you there.

Any produce given will be donated to Newark Women's Aid

Southwell Ploughing Match & Show

Saturday 27th September 2025

at Farnsfield NG22 8HP

Advanced tickets available £14 (under14s FREE) book on web-site www.southwellploughingmatch.co.uk or £15 from

Hilary Snell 07970 389182 - John Allan 07831 46845 - John Miller 07966 519793

BLACKADDER

"As cunning as a fox who's just been appointed Professor of Cunning at Oxford University?"

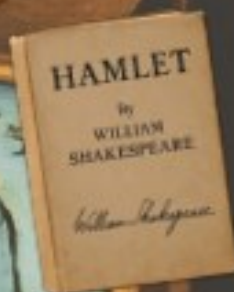


If you had a Time Machine, which era of Blackadder would you visit? The Dark Ages? Elizabethan England? Regency Britain? Or the trenches of World War I? Can't decide? We couldn't either so with the aid of a little theatrical magic you can visit them all. Join us as Blackadder and Baldrick go on an adventure through time and space and mess up more cunning plans in one evening than you could possibly imagine.

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AKS WI newsletter September 2025

The end of July saw the end of our Whist League Season. Sadly this year there were no winners for AKS but it has been great fun along the way over a 2 month period. If anyone enjoys a game of whist

Southwell WI are putting together a good old fashioned Whist Drive on October 21st at Southwell WI hall. The deal off is 1.30pm and includes afternoon tea for £6.00 Please contact Jenny Quickmire if you would like to join in with it.

Traditionally we have no formal meeting in August as lots of folk are away on holiday but during 'lockdown' we were able to meet face to face or rather mask to mask by the riverside where we had our first riverside picnic. Amazingly the covid debacle did generate some good things; one of them being our annual August picnic. 10 members and 3 visitors from the village joined in a relaxed couple of hours in proper Summer weather where we enjoyed an endless flow of Pimms and a news quiz. Good thing we managed to find a bit of shade for the event. We always organize a trip out for August and this year we are making a visit to the National Bomber Command Memorial Centre in Lincoln on the 20th. A report on that one will be in the October Plough!

Again looking forwards to our next meeting which is on September 8th 7pm at the RHT. The subject is 'Staying Safe on-line' by the Police Cyber Unit, which is a very pertinent subject for us all. Please come along and make use of the session. Its just £3 entry and includes a drink and a bun and raffle.

For further info please contact Jenny Quickmire on 07890641102.

Jenny Quickmire Meeting Secretary

Community Hub Project, in the air.



On the 14th August, the ASK Hive team had a meeting at County Hall with council officials and our Councillor Sue Saddington, supported by Councillor Sam Smith.

The purpose of the meeting was to determine whether the administration will sell enough of the site for it to become a viable Community Hub.

The story so far:

The team have been chipping away at this project for over three years and but without receiving confirmation of the site area, as a consequence the ASK team have been reluctant to start the next important phase of engaging the community in detail to see how you would like to see it used and the facilities the hub will provide.

In April Notts County Council had suggested a small strip of land along the edge of the A617 which was hardly enough space to put up a garden shed, let alone a community hub. Obviously this proposal was rejected. Prior to the meeting, the council came back with a revised offer which increased the proposed area to 0.4 acre, but with a condition that all existing trees were to be retained! In order to comply with planning rules, emergency services' access, etc., initial calculations suggest 0.5 acre would be realistic, and the team questioned the requirement to retain all trees.

The outcome: NCC are to come back within 10 working days with a further revised plan and the result of their investigation into the status of the trees. For clarification, there are NO plans to remove all the trees, however it does create flexibility, should our architects need it. The team are sure that new trees would be planted to counter any removal.

Continued

Community Hub Project, in the air . . . Continued

Once the updated plans and information are received, the Hive team will respond quickly, and the the proposal should be passed to the council with the departments recommendation to accept. This is likely to be early October.

After it has been passed, the council will be demolish the school and have the site cleared, the legal transfer of the land initiated and planning applied for. Optimistically, this first phase will belong to the community early 2026!

Yes, you read that right. After three years of visioning, planning, and a fair bit of elbow grease, if the council are true to their word, the first major milestone is nearly complete. The land will be ours—and now the real adventure begins. The land will be ours, and the real adventure begins!

Hold onto your gardening gloves and dust off your bunting—because something truly exciting is happening in our village!

What's Next?

1. Design It

Got ideas? The team want them! (Askhive@outlook.com)

2. Cost It and Fundraise

Once the dream is drawn, we'll crunch the numbers and rally the troops. Expect various forms of FUNdraising, grant applications.

3. Build It

Hard hats on! This is when the vision becomes reality.

4. Get Going!

Once the doors swing open, the fun begins. From toddler groups to tech classes, film nights to food festivals, The Hive will be a place to connect, learn, celebrate, and grow.

Let's make it buzz!

Parish Clerk Required

We are looking for a Parish Clerk for the Parish Council

The role entails:

- ⇒ Preparing the Agenda and taking Minutes for meetings, writing up and distributing the Minutes for the SIX Parish Council 'Open' meetings and TWO Finance meetings over the year.
- ⇒ Paying invoices and completing financial spreadsheets
- ⇒ You will use the Council's laptop and printer for these tasks
- ⇒ Training will be provided.
- ⇒ The Rewards:
 - ⇒ An ideal flexible PART TIME role
 - ⇒ £17.00 per hour for a maximum of 15 hours per month

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 |



ASK Garden Club Report

Garden Visits 2025

Waxwings and Goldcrest

For our July garden visit, twenty of us went to see a very different garden. Although just outside Bestwood Village near Nottingham,

the garden is located down a long single track off the A614 and not recognised by all sat navs. Thankfully our hosts Rob and Jill gave our group detailed instructions and were waiting for us at the end of their drive. They were joined by their brother and sister in-law, Roger and Judith. Once we'd all parked our tour of the garden began.

We split up into two groups; we were told the land was acquired in 2010 from what was a derelict brownfield



site. Realising their ambition, they built two eco-homes and created a beautiful, organic bio diverse garden which celebrates their love of nature. This garden is a haven for birds, insects and invertebrates with meadows full of wild flowers for

pollination, extensive woodland and a comprehensive no-dig vegetable garden and orchard.

Continued

ASK Garden Club Report Continued

A large pond (20m diameter) was created in January 2016, shallow sided and lined with Bentomat, a geosynthetic clay liner topped with sandy subsoil. George's pond, named after Jill's late father who helped create it, is fed with rainwater from the roofs of the properties and is then used to irrigate the vegetable garden.

The more formal borders closer to the properties are planted with wildlife in mind, buddleia, teasel, achillea, eryngium and phlomis to name a few. Log piles, insect hotels, bat and bird boxes populate the woodland areas along with several



small water pools, a perfect refuge for amphibians venturing away from George's pond.

As the evening drew to a close, we all enjoyed a drink and homemade cakes topped with raspberries and tayberries from the garden.

We return to the Robin Hood Theatre on Tuesday September 16th 6.30pm for our Bean, Potato and Flower Competition. Always a lot of fun and everyone is welcome to come along and join in.

For further details about our club, please contact me at:
bootiqueonline@outlook.com or 07929 367 461

Nigel Britton – Club Secretary

ESTD.



2024

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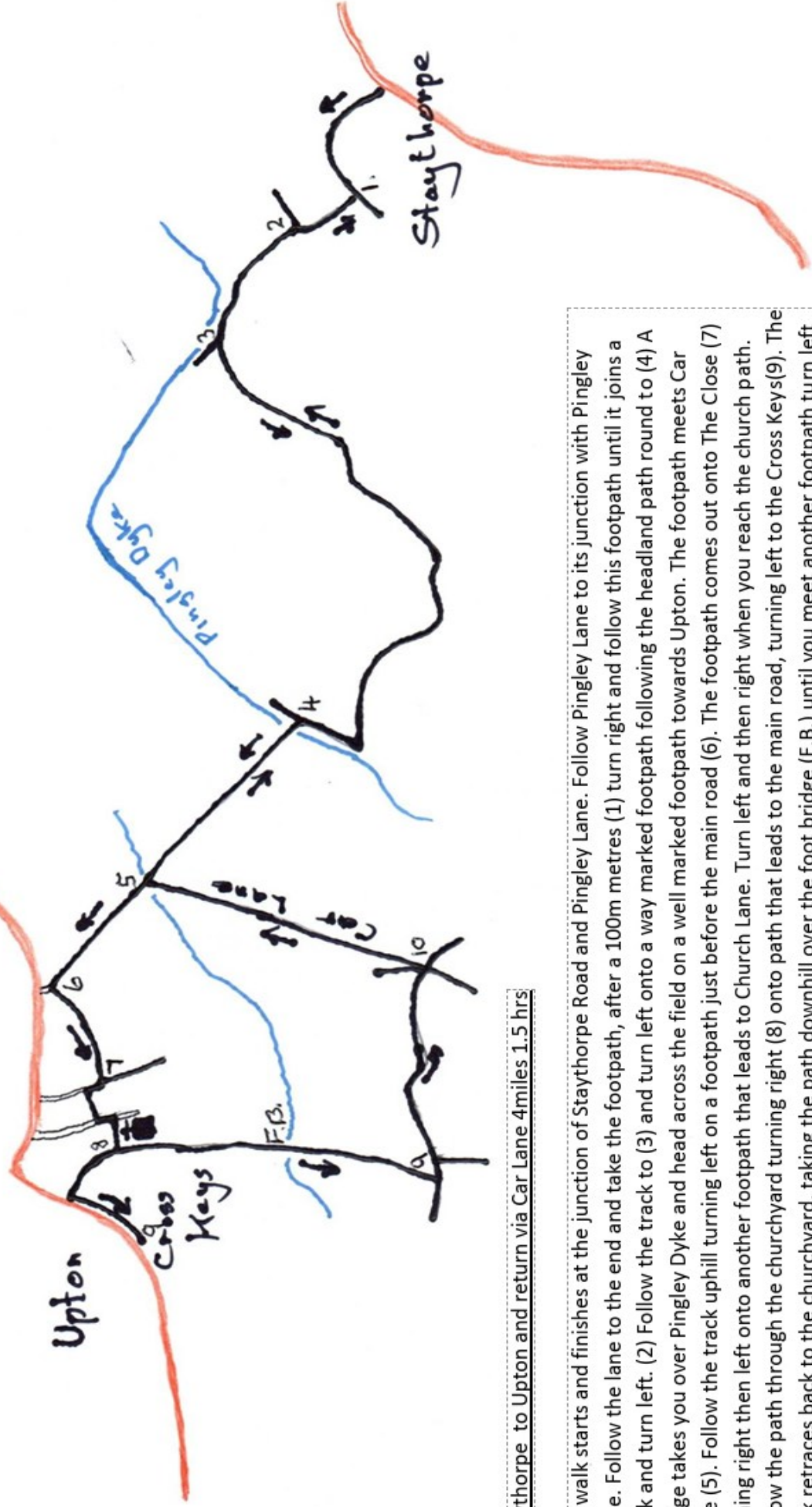
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Upton Country Walk J. Wolfenden

Staythorpe Upton + return
4 miles 1hr 30 mins



Staythorpe to Upton and return via Car Lane 4miles 1.5 hrs

The walk starts and finishes at the junction of Staythorpe Road and Pingley Lane. Follow Pingley Lane to its junction with Pingley Close. Follow the lane to the end and take the footpath, after a 100m metres (1) turn right and follow this footpath until it joins a track and turn left. (2) Follow the track to (3) and turn left onto a way marked footpath following the headland path round to (4) A bridge takes you over Pingley Dyke and head across the field on a well marked footpath towards Upton. The footpath meets Car Lane (5). Follow the track uphill turning left on a footpath just before the main road (6). The footpath comes out onto The Close (7) turning right then left onto another footpath that leads to Church Lane. Turn left and then right when you reach the church path. Follow the path through the churchyard turning right (8) onto path that leads to the main road, turning left to the Cross Keys(9). The walk retraces back to the churchyard, taking the path downhill over the foot bridge (F.B.) until you meet another footpath turn left (9) and follow the footpath until it joins four more (10) take the second left Car Lane a wide farm track (can be very muddy in wet weather) Follow the path back to (5) and retrace your route back to Pingley Lane Staythorpe Road junction.

J.W Aug 25



— St Michael and All Angels —

Feast Day 29th September

As a boy we had a collection box from church in the shape of an elephant with the letters along its side UMCA. I discovered they stood for Universities Mission to Central Africa. David Livingstone the famous explorer seeking the source of the Nile and campaigning against slavery, appealed to the students of Cambridge and Oxford to go as missionaries to Africa to preach the good news of Jesus Christ. They responded. Where once there was a slave market in Zanzibar now stands a cathedral. My parish church supported a dispensary which evolved into a hospital. One of our curates went as a missionary which stimulated our support. Years later when I was studying for the priesthood at Cambridge a former college student on leave from the UMCA came for a break at his old college. I was deputed to keep an eye on him. His name was Mark Way. In Africa he was feeling rather forgotten by the church back home. Eventually he and one of the missionaries fell in love but the rules of the UMCA society forbade them to marry. They returned to England in order to do so. After an eventful career he had become the Bishop of Masasi but then became Rector of Averham and Assistant Bishop of Southwell with special responsibility for overseas mission and Christian unity.

To his surprise what he expected to find was a vegetable garden but there was, in fact, a theatre built by the village carpenter Robert Lee who was then taken to London by the Rector, the Revd Cyril Walker, to see what a theatre looked like. The theatre had become more of a community centre, the new Rector, Mark Way, summoned a meeting of interested parties and the theatre was revived.

Continued . . .

Feast Day 29th September

A thriving monthly lunch club was founded, drama groups, including the footlights performed and a bunk room was made, over the theatre foyer where cast could sleep. Prominent actors such as Judi Dench were accommodated at the Rectory. We have a flourishing theatre once again. Twice I have grown a beard when playing a part required it.

When I was Rector of Bingham the parish supported CMS, the Church Missionary Society, in particular we adopted a couple who were agriculturists and who went to work in India. The mayor of Bingham was quite excited by the idea of having a John Deere tractor in the market square and raising money to send it to India. He was disappointed when our missionaries found the idea impractical. They would be armed with a well-balanced fork and spade. Their main task would be teaching the best crops to grow and the best way to prepare the ground. They would spend time in the Bingham parish when on leave and sharing their experiences.

This month Averham Church celebrates its dedication to St Michael and all Angels. We are reminded that the world and its people are only a small part of God's creation. We give thanks to God for those who brought the good news of Jesus Christ here centuries ago and established our parish church – the oldest in Nottinghamshire. We give thanks to God for all those who have maintained the life of our church over the years – cleaners, and tea makers, clergy and music makers, grass cutters and gardeners, bellringers and readers. Treasurers and secretaries, countless numbers of people who have supported and enhanced St Michael and all Angels over the centuries. Now it's our turn.

Blessings

David Keene

CHURCH OF ENGLAND AND UNITED SERVICES

Sunday 7th Sept. 9:00am	St Wilfrid's North Muskham	Worship Service
Sunday 7th Sept. 3:00pm	St Wilfrid's North Muskham	Messy Church
Sunday 7th Sept. 4:00 am	St Michael and All Angels, Averham	Messy Church
Sunday 14th Sept. 9:30 am	St Wilfrid's South Muskham	Harvest Celebration and Holy Communion
Sunday 21st Sept. 9:30 am	St Wilfrid's Kelham	Morning Prayer
Sunday 28th Sept. 9:30 am	St Michael and All Angels, Averham	Holy Communion

KELHAM CHURCH

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AVERHAM CHURCH

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There are NO publications in January or July 2026

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**For the 2025 editions of the magazine -
Copy required by 17 of the month.**

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St Michael All Saints Church

AVERHAM

MESSY CHURCH

7th SEPTEMBER

4:00 pm

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DEFIBRILATOR CODE:

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KELHAM CHURCH:

Warden:	Philip Staniforth	01636 703 289
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
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AKS PARISH COUNCIL:

Chair:	John Miller	01636 704670 cllrJohnrMiller@gmail.com aksparishclerk@outlook.com
Clerk:	Vacancy	

FLOOD WARDEN:	Aaron Laurence	07713 594665
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POLICE:	Richard Dunn PCSO	07595 074 292
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POTHOLES:

Notts County Council	0300 500 80 80
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STAYTHORPE POWER STATION:

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staythorpe@rwe.com

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY:

Environment Agency Flood line:	0345 988 1188
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NATIONAL GRID:	www.nationalgrid.co.uk/power-cut-information
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OTHERS:

Garden Club:	Nigel Britton	07929 367 461
W.I. Secretary:	Jenny Quickmire	07890 641 102
Bell Ringers:	Martin Cooper	07810 658 627
Latham Farms:	Steven Gill	07966 382 781
Mobile Library		01636 812148

Southwell.library@inspireculture.org.uk