VILLAGERS FOR EXTON CHURCH

On behalf of the VFEC Committee, i.e. Chairman Annie Lea, Treasurer Christine Smith, Committee member Sally Miller, we would like to thank Ann Bell, June Green, Jane Bell and everyone involved in the fund raising **Candlelight Supper in Exton** in February resulting in £896 being added to the VFEC account.

**GIVE OUR BIRDS AN EGGCELLENT EASTER**

Easter is a time when many gardeners’ like to tidy up and trim back, but this is the also when many birds start to build their nests and lay their first clutch of eggs. It only takes a moment to accidentally destroy a nest, so a few minutes carrying out some simple checks before starting any work could be the difference between life and death. Garden favourites such as robins, sparrows and blackbirds are in decline and need all the help they can get, especially after a harsh winter, and they also help us by controlling aphids, caterpillars, snails, slugs and bugs.

Neil Pilcher of the Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust said “We ask everyone to be careful and to quickly check for nests just before starting work.
Dense hedges such as Leylandii are popular nesting sites, but any hedge, tree, shrub and even ivy could be home to a growing family. If not doing the work themselves, householders should ask their contractor to check for nests too. If in doubt, the work should be postponed until the end of August when the breeding season is over”.

All birds are legally protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act whilst nesting, and protection starts the moment they begin building the nest until their young have fully fledged. Give our birds a boost this spring – a little extra care could make all the difference to our feathered friends.

The Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust works to protect and enhance Leicestershire and Rutland’s wildlife and wild places. The Trust is the largest non-governmental organisation dedicated to the conservation of wildlife in the two counties. The Trust has around 15,500 members, manages 33 nature reserves covering more than 3,000 acres, and provides advice to other landowners on conservation issues. Helping people to enjoy and have access to wildlife is increasingly part of the Trust’s work. The Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust is one of 47 Wildlife Trusts across the UK forming the Wildlife Trust partnership, the UK’s leading conservation charity exclusively dedicated to conserving all wildlife.

Exton has certainly had its fair share of snow this winter as did the whole of Rutland. It certainly brought out the best in the village though as the offers of help, clearing paths, shopping, etc. from neighbours was certainly so appreciated by those unable for a variety of reasons to risk going out themselves.

I had personal experience of this as did Colin Bradford from Campden Close who tells me that Sarah Wingrove knocked on doors in his road including his to offer assistance. It’s one of the reasons that makes Exton so special. Thanks on behalf of those in receipt of the kindness to all those who offered it. While writing this Colin would also like to say how appreciative he is of Andy and Helen Peaple who walk his dog regularly. You see the world is not all bad – there are some lovely kind folk about! [Ed]
GOODBYE MERYL AND PAUL!

Yes they have left the village! After all these years of being so involved in so many things this couple have departed to Dorset for practical reasons and will be living near to one of their sons. Let us all wish them well in this new venture and hope they have a happy healthy future. I am sure they will miss their sweet thatch cottage in Pudding Bag and Meryl’s devotion to her delightful garden will be remembered by us all.

VILLAGE NOTICEBOARD

The Village Notice board may be missing for a while during the spring as it is being repaired and smartened up. There are plans to have unlocked doors over the end boards to ensure that the general notices are kept dry and not liable to blow away enabling a smarter appearance all round. I believe the current board was put in place for the Royal jubilee celebrations so naturally the paint is a little weary now and areas of the frame are rotten. We wish to retain the original design as much as possible. The now defunct ‘Stitchers’ group in the village are donating their remaining funds to enable this upgrade for which the Parish Council is very grateful and the PC will make up any deficit.

Watch this space!!

VILLAGE PLAY AREA

I am delighted to report that the repairs to the play area are now underway and we envisage a smartening up of the area generally over the forthcoming weeks. Any suggestions regarding equipment are
appreciated and will be considered. Remaining funds from the now dissolved PAGE group will be used and the Parish Council will make up any deficit as the area is now within their remit, the ground being rented from Exton Estate.

**VILLAGE HALL UPDATE.** It's an exciting time for the Village Hall as the improvement project enters its final phase. By the time you read this the large room will have almost been completed, with new tongue & groove panelling to window level and plastered & painted walls above. Stripping off the old panelling revealed just how quickly the hall had been built back in the thirties, and crucially revealed the complete lack of any insulation. Going forward we'll be able to keep the hall much warmer while burning less gas. The new LED lighting will also save on electricity. It's going to be nice to be eco friendly at last! We'll have a pause in the building work in April to allow the bowls team to finish the indoor season, but will resume in the second half of May with a similar makeover for the small room. We'll be installing a high quality permanent music system - you'll be able to stream your party playlist direct from your phone or iPod by Bluetooth, no need to hire a disco! We've also taken the plunge on a projector and screen which will allow the hall to be used for business meetings, talks and demonstrations and maybe the odd film show subject to licences. Pretty impressive I hope you agree. Hopefully we'll have everything ready some time in June. I'd like to thank all our users for bearing with us during the work. The annual meeting of the Hall Management Committee will take place on **25 April at 7.00pm** and is open to all Exton villagers who would like to attend.

Finally I'd like to say a big thank you to Ann Bell who will be retiring from the position of caretaker at Easter. Ann has done more for the Hall than anyone can know over far too many years to remember and we'll miss her enormously (although she will stay on as a member of the committee to keep us on our toes!). I'm pleased to say that Lorraine Palmer-Cash has offered to take over from Ann and look forward to working with her from April onwards. .....**Mark Butterill, Hall Chairman**
Rotary Open Evenings

If you are interested in becoming more involved in the wider Rutland community, the Rotary Club of Rutland and the Rotary Club of Uppingham are jointly sponsoring two Open Evenings on Tuesday 15th May and Friday 18th May at Oakham Rugby Club, 7.00 for 7.30 pm. The event will last about one hour.

The aim of the evenings is to widen understanding of what Rotary is and what it does and to encourage people to become involved locally with the largest charitable organisation in the world.

Rotarians come with widely differing backgrounds but are united by their motto of ‘Service Above Self’.

Rotary has been adapting to changes in society by creating new ways of becoming a Rotarian and these Open Evenings will be an opportunity to learn what Rotary does now and what it may do in the future.

No commitment, just pop along and have a look at us.

Contact Rotary@KettonPark.com

EASTER LILLIES

Anyone wishing to donate towards Easter Lillies in Exton Church in memory of loved ones please contact …Ann Bell Tel 01572 812594.
We’ve joined The Rutland Learning Trust!

On 1st March 2018 we became part of The Rutland Learning Trust alongside Whissendine CE School, Langham CE School, Ketton CE School and St Nicholas CE School, Cottesmore. We have been working alongside the Trust for the past year and we are delighted to be officially part of this local multi-academy trust.

Being a part of The Rutland Learning Trust enables us to retain the caring, family ethos which our parents know and love, whilst also developing a wide range of teaching and learning opportunities. The Rutland Learning Trust believes that by working together we can sustain excellence and transform learning and provide an outstanding education for all children. It focuses on valuing and caring for every child in order that they have the very best chance to excel and achieve their potential.

We are excited that children and staff will be able to work in collaboration with other schools, sharing areas of expertise in Exton & Greetham, as well as benefiting from the expertise of other staff within the Trust. We have already been able to share in opportunities such as sports festivals, art days and maths challenges, as well as hosting the 2nd Rutland Learning Trust Music Festival here at Exton in July 2017.

With a growing school roll and lots of exciting opportunities to explore with The Rutland Learning Trust, the future looks bright for Exton & Greetham CE Primary School!

School website: www.extonschool.co.uk
Phone: 01572 812380 to arrange a visit.

Explore & Grow
‘T’ FOR TUESDAY

MONTHLY ‘TEA’ PARTY

Tuesday 10th April
2.30pm – 4pm
Exton Village Hall.

There is no set charge, we only ask for a small donation towards the cost of the hall hire and refreshments.

If you would like a lift please contact Bernadette 812956 or Sally 811411.

All Welcome!

EXTON INDOOR BOWLS CLUB AGM 7 PM Tuesday 10th APRIL 2018 IN THE VILLAGE HALL. The bowling season indoor at Exton now draws to a close but we will be back in October! Enquiries: 01572 813148/812233

MARKET OVERTON BOWLS CLUB – outdoor. The season begins in April with Cheese and Wine Evening, Friday 6th April, newcomers very welcome of any age, school age to pensioner. Good company, good fun, good exercise, fresh air, bar, come and join us. Free trials, one to one help, Enquiries year round to 01572 812233
Exton & Horn Parish Council are taking seriously the complaints from residents regarding the impact over the last few months of dogs, dog walkers, dog fouling, parking; it seems Exton is now ‘the’ place to come to walk dog/s.

Unfortunately the impact on the village is easy to see. An incredible amount of cars parked just anywhere around the village green, Stamford Road, Top Street, Newfield Road, etc. We cannot prevent visitors and indeed as it is a conservation village it is to be expected. It is however very inconsiderate as no thought appears to be given to others trying to squeeze by or leave their own driveways safely. There are also some resident dogs and owners who are causing concern and the Dog Warden has been advised.

We cannot condone the ignorance of some of the owners who allow their dogs to run free, do not consider it a problem that motorists have to avoid them, or that some people and children do not like dogs and can be quite scared should a dog run up to them.

Why should dog owners or non dog owners have to ‘pick up’ from other dogs?

The danger to livestock is also paramount. There are some new signs being distributed by the Police to try and raise awareness. Dogs should NEVER NEVER be off the lead when there are sheep and lambs in the fields particularly.

DID YOU KNOW?

N.B. It’s against the law to let a dog be dangerously out of control anywhere, such as:
- in a public place
- in a private place, e.g. a neighbour’s house or garden
- in the owner’s home

The law applies to all dogs.
Out of control
Your dog is considered dangerously out of control if it:

- injures someone
- makes someone worried that it might injure them

A court could also decide that your dog is dangerously out of control if either of the following apply:

- it attacks someone’s animal
  - the owner of an animal thinks they could be injured if they tried to stop your dog attacking their animal
- A farmer is allowed to kill your dog if it’s worrying their livestock.

Penalties
You can get an unlimited fine or be sent to prison for up to 6 months (or both) if your dog is dangerously out of control. You may not be allowed to own a dog in the future and your dog may be destroyed.

If you let your dog injure someone you can be sent to prison for up to 5 years or fined (or both). If you deliberately use your dog to injure someone you could be charged with ‘malicious wounding’.

If you allow your dog to kill someone you can be sent to prison for up to 14 years or get an unlimited fine (or both).

If you allow your dog to injure an assistance dog (e.g. a guide dog) you can be sent to prison for up to 3 years or fined (or both).

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Annette Oliver, Clerk, Exton & Horn Parish Council

The two links below may be of interest:

https://www.gov.uk/control-dog-public

https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/media/8277/law.pdf
ST PETER AND ST PAUL PARISH CHURCH

Services in April

1st 10.15am Easter Day Communion
8th 11.15am Morning Service with Cathy Dyson
22nd 11.15am Holy Communion with John Adamson
29th 10.30am Benefice Service at Thistleton

From April onwards Weekday Morning Prayer will be said in the church at 9.15am. Everyone is welcome and the short service is about 15 minutes long.

Florence Isabella Caldicott was baptised in the church last month. Her parents live in Barleythorpe and were married in Exton last year. Congratulations to Lucy (Mathers) and John (Shannon) on the birth of Charlotte Elizabeth.

OBITUARY: Love and sympathy to Margaret Oliver and her family on the death of her husband, Sid. Also to Alan Wade and his family on the death of his brother Neil whose funeral will take place in Exton church on Monday 26th March at 11.30 am

The Annual Parochial Church meeting will be held in the Village Hall on April 26th at 7.45pm. Everyone on the Church Electoral Roll is encouraged to attend.

Services will carry on as usual now Marcus has left but he will no longer be at the end of a ‘phone. General queries can be directed to the cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com and all others to me at sallyrm24@gmail.com or on 811411 ............... ........Sally Miller[Churchwarden]

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

Holy Mass Sunday 9 am
# EXTON CONTACT INFORMATION

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Tele</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ladies Circle</td>
<td>Christine Wallace</td>
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<td>Village Hall Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Garden House, Barnsdale Ave</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caretaker/Bookings</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>Parish Church Rector</td>
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STRETCH AND TONE CLASS
EVERY TUESDAY MORNING AT 9.30 AM
EXTON VILLAGE HALL - EVERYONE WELCOME
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND TO BOOK A PLACE
PLEASE CALL SUE ON 07507088164/ suepegelow@hotmail.co.uk

(please bring an exercise mat and a bottle of water)

(Sue Pegelow is a qualified PEA, RSA Exercise to Music, Zumba and Power Chi Yoga Instructor)
LOOKING FOR A CAT SITTER

Purrfect care when you’re not there

If you’re away on holiday, or just out for the day and don’t want to put your cat in the cattery I’m your answer. I have over 25 years experience of looking after cats, and have 3 cats of my own. Also, for your complete peace of mind while you’re away I can provide you with updates and photographs on WhatsApp to show that your cat is happy and being completely cared for.

Call 07854491335 or email debs.222@hotmail.co.uk
Margaret Oliver and family would like to thank everyone who have been so kind with cards, calls, etc since the loss of husband Sid Oliver. Your support has been much appreciated.
Our cat, "Tiggy", has gone missing from Top street, Exton, for quite a few months. She is very friendly, tortoiseshell short hair, also she is microchipped; unfortunately our details are not up to date on the chip and will show our previous address.

My mobile number is 07484 151133.

Suzanne Randall
Many thanks to the School for printing the newsletter.

Contributions for May by 20th April

[It would be appreciated if news was not left until the deadline]

To view in colour see: exton.org [thanks to webmaster Paul Taylor]
or request email version from the Editor.