COVID 19 and the Gov Roadmap

Rutland still has a high proportion of cases. The long awaited announcement by the Prime Minister Boris Johnson on 22nd February regarding the way out of the Covid Lockdown gave some hopes for the improvement to our way of life gradually throughout the summer. By then it is envisaged the majority of the population will have been vaccinated although it was intimated that booster jabs will be on the cards before winter. The full details can be found on the site below. **Some extracts only are shown here: please read details, do not take out of context....all dates can change.**


“Four steps will be considered. 1. The vaccine deployment programme continues successfully. 2. Evidence shows vaccines are sufficiently effective in reducing hospitalisations and deaths in those vaccinated. 3. Infection rates do not risk a surge in hospitalisations which would put unsustainable pressure on the NHS. 4. Our assessment of the risks is not fundamentally changed by new Variants of Concern. **STEP 1** will start with **schools** on **8 March**, and include some further limited changes on 29 March to allow families to meet outdoors as most schools break up for the Easter holidays. By the time Step 1 begins, those aged 70 and over and the clinically extremely vulnerable (JCVI cohorts 1 to 4) will have received protection from their first dose of the vaccine. From **8 March**, every **care home** resident in England will be able to nominate a single named visitor who can come in for a regular visit. The visitor will have to take a rapid lateral flow test every time they visit, wear PPE and keep physical contact to a
minimum........From 29 March ..... At this point, the Government will enable people to meet up in limited numbers outdoors, where they are less likely to catch the virus or pass it on. People will be able to meet outside in groups up to a maximum of 6 people (the Rule of 6) or with one other household, though people from different households will still need to socially distance from each other. This will apply in all outdoor settings, **including private gardens.**

...recognising the different situations faced by families and individuals; two households will be more helpful for families, while the Rule of 6 is likely to help people in different households to reunite outdoors, including those living alone or in shared accommodation. Those eligible to form a support bubble will still be able to do so, enabling close contact for many of those in most need of support, and will continue to be counted as part of the same household. ...also allow outdoor sports facilities to reopen, broadening the options for outdoor exercise and recreation. .....tennis and basketball courts, and swimming pools, can be used by people in line with the wider social contact limits. Formally organised outdoor sports – for adults and under 18s - can also restart and will not be subject to the gatherings limits, but should be compliant with guidance issued by national governing bodies..........Rules around **funerals** will not change; these can proceed with 30 attendees and wakes with 6 attendees, though not in private homes. **Weddings** will still be able to proceed with 6 attendees only but will no longer be limited to exceptional circumstances. As a result of these changes, people will **no longer be legally required to Stay at Home. Many of the lockdown restrictions, however, will remain in place.** Unless an exemption already applies, it will not be possible to meet people from other households indoors and many business premises will remain shut. Guidance will set out that people should continue to work from home where they can. People should continue to **minimise travel** wherever possible, and should **not be staying away from home overnight** at this stage  

**STEP 2 12th April:** Additional premises will be able to reopen but should only be visited alone or with household groups: non-essential retail; personal care premises such as hairdressers, salons and close contact services; and indoor leisure facilities such as gyms and spas (but not including saunas and steam rooms, which are due to open at Step 3)..... including **outdoor hospitality**, zoos, theme parks, drive-in cinemas and drive-in performances events. The rules on social contact outdoors will apply in these settings. Hospitality venues will be able to open for outdoor service, ........**STEP 3 will take place no earlier than 17 May,** and at least five weeks after Step 2, following a further review.......the Government will announce one week in advance whether restrictions will be eased as planned. In Step 3, all but the most high-risk sectors will be able to reopen. **STEP 4 will take place no earlier than 21 June.**........Remove all legal limits on social contact, .....  
Reopen the remaining closed settings, including nightclubs and enable large
Please read the information in full to avoid misunderstanding [Ed]

**THANK YOU** to those who kindly contributed to the Xmas trees – I am glad to say this was **£80** by the time it reached the school not £60 as advised in the previous newsletter. All towards the ‘new bike fund’.

**Thanks to all who contributed from the school.**

**Ann Bell** has kindly loaned some photo albums of Exton occasions, I hope they revive good memories for many residents: [key to photos 1 – 10 is on page 7]

**HAPPIER TIMES – OPENING OF THE PLAYPARK 1999**

Back Row: left to right - David Lambert, Phoebe Langstone, Lauren Cramley, Tracy Lesiaowski [now Dalby], Andy Lambert [decd], Gary Mews

Front Row: left to right Nick Hepburn [decd], Emma Lambert, Luisa Almond, Sevea? ?, Hannah Castle, Katy Almond
Key to photos

1.?
2. Lorna and Emma
3. and 4?
5. Coreen, Wendy, Teresa
6. Ann and Mick and ?
7. Florrie Castle, Puggy, Nicola and Ella
8. Linda Grace Georgina

9. Lady Mary Gainsborough and Florrie Castle
10. Foreground the late Eileen Bell with baby Ella and Lord Gainsborough [5th Earl] behind who was one of the benefactors of the equipment
More memories: Photo below is 2008 taken in the Playpark
Tiffany, Ella, Tuesday, Holly, Roseane

CALLING ALL KNITTERS
Did any of the knitters in the village take up the challenge in the December Newsletter for knitted squares? I sent off 50 but obviously had to pay the postage. If anyone is interested in joining forces let me know as there are now arrangements in place for them to be picked up if large enough quantity. Let me know if you are interested......these blankets are much appreciated and look beautiful when the Framework Knitters assemble them see below [01572 812233.[Ed]
I was delighted to receive this email in February – “To our three wonderful knitters, I have great pleasure in attaching a photo of 'your blanket' and I hope you can recognise your squares in the photo. Our volunteer who sewed up the blanket said the squares were all incredibly neat and easy to sew up and I love the design that she has chosen. We have made second deliveries to Action Homeless in Leicester and Meadows Food Bank in Nottingham and first drops to Meltham Food Bank near Huddersfield and the hostel at St Paul's London, where clients are moving into permanent accommodation. This is only
possible thanks to your help as we are 100% volunteer run and we hope to continue distributing blankets throughout this year.”

GONE HOME - Glad to report Dolly has been collected...[see Dec newsletter] hopefully by her small owner

PARISH COUNCIL
At the February meeting Tommy Cooper was elected Chairman, the role of Vice Chairman is currently not filled. Anyone interested in being a Parish Councillor should contact the Clerk, Helen Duckering clerk@exton.org. There has been some unfortunate publicity of late due to the wonders of Twitter and the internet concerning a parish council meeting in another part of the country, this is such a pity as the majority of Councillors work hard in the interests of their parish and give up their time voluntarily. This is another example when modern technology can be used for ill.
OBITUARIES

**EILEEN BELL** (sister of the late Mick and Sheila) who lived in Stamford End passed away in hospital in Kettering Sunday evening 24th January 2021. A lot of people in the village will remember her from her nursing days. She was a midwife in the community for years (she delivered Nicola Bell as Mum Ann had her at home). When she retired from her career as a district nurse, people in the village would often still refer to her as Nurse Bell. Eileen was recognised by lots of people as she always had her West Highland White dogs with her when walking in the village and latterly on her scooter. Unfortunately she was a victim of the Covid virus while in hospital being treated for another problem. Our condolences to the Bell family, what a sad few months it has been for them.

**ALMA KETLEY** [nee Dawson] of Empingham Road, Exton passed away peacefully at home 17th February aged 75 years, a private funeral is planned for 9th March at St Peter & St Paul Church, Exton. Our condolences to her family.

VISITORS TO THE VILLAGE in the Lockdown

We were all pleased to see the police presence recently during the Lockdown asking where the visitors had travelled from. They were at the Coach Road, around the Green and along Stamford Road. David Healey and his family were in the park and approached, David said how pleased he was to see them. He was told one family were from Birmingham! Hardly in the spirit of the Government advice?. Whether this will be a deterrent we do not know but I believe there is a book of walks in which Exton is included. No doubt the Viking Way which is a hard surface is an attraction with all the mud in other walking areas currently. I don’t think any of us would mind as much if the parking was more respectful and dogs were kept on leads.
GET WELL SOON  Patsy and Dick Goodey have had a worrying time lately as Patsy has been resident in Papworth and Kettering Hospitals. Fortunately successful heart treatment has resulted in her coming home 10th Feb. There have been others unwell in the village and hopefully they too are in better health now. It is at times like these when the support of friends and family are so much appreciated in these difficult times and the inability to visit hits hard.

The recent snow falls have no doubt enchanted the young in Exton and certainly made the village look like a Christmas Card. Thanks to those who helped neighbours by clearing paths etc. it is so appreciated. Unfortunately one resident did not enjoy the conditions so much. On Thursday 11th February between 3pm and 8am Friday 12th February 2 pink sledges were stolen out of a garden in Top Street. The thieves had to go right up to the back door of the property to take them and two small girls were left feeling very disappointed that they were unable to enjoy more sledging. The family have owned the sledges since the children were small and they both have the girl's full names on them in permanent ink! On Monday 15th February the husband noticed one of the sledges by the defibrillator phone box abandoned and broken causing litter and publicising the child’s name. The other sledge is still missing and no doubt still in the possession of the culprits. If you think one of your family may be responsible then please make them do the right thing and return this. Just leave in the garden OR alternatively leave in the drive of 20 Stamford Road. Let us hope the culprits now realise the seriousness and unkindness of their crime.

YOUR HELP is needed to keep Exton clean!
see February newsletter – Assemble - March 13th outside the Fox and Hounds 9.30 a.m. Current Gov guidelines will be followed
We would just like to advise of a forthcoming road closure (due to essential pipe maintenance work by Severn Trent) along Exton Lane Burley which will affect the Centrebus Service RF2. This service will be diverted but all settlements will still be served though it is likely that a couple of minutes will be added to the journey time. Passenger Notices will be displayed at the appropriate bus stops.

Those of you familiar with researching Family History will be very used to looking at census forms and grateful for their content, however you must complete the census by law. If you do not, or if you supply false information, you could be fined up to £1,000. Some questions are clearly labelled as voluntary. The census helps understand what our society needs now and what it’s likely to need in the future. The information it collects helps plan and fund services in your area. This could include transport, education and healthcare. Charities also use census information to help get the funding they need.

Businesses use it to decide where to set up, which creates job opportunities.

Keeping the public and census staff safe
At the ONS, our main concern is the safety of the public and our staff. We want everyone to be safely counted during the census. To do this, we’re making sure that our plans are always in line with the latest government safety guidelines. Census 2021 is a digital-first census, which means that we will be encouraging people to respond online if they can. You will be able to complete the census using any device, including your mobile phone or tablet.
If you need help, we’ve got it covered. We will have an online help area on our website and offer help by phone, webchat, email, social media or text message. We’re also encouraging people to get help from friends and family to complete their census. If it’s safe and within government guidelines, we will also be opening Census Support Centres to help people fill in their online questionnaire.

**What to expect from our census field officers**

After Census Day, at the end of March and into April, our census field officers will be visiting households from which we’ve not received a completed census form. They will encourage people to complete the census and help you to access further help if you need it. Our field officers will never need to enter your house. Our field officers will be working in the same way as a postal or food delivery visit. They will be wearing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and working in line with government guidance.

To find out more about how we will be making sure Census 2021 is completed safely during the coronavirus pandemic, please visit the ONS website.

*more photos of Exton occasions will be published in later newsletters*

**BREAKING NEWS**

The Air Ambulance landed in the village near the bridge Empingham Road Saturday morning 20th February after circling overhead, fortunately I understand there was a favourable outcome. What a great service this is?

**CONGRATULATIONS TO HARRY CAMPDEN** who has just been made a Deputy Lieutenant for Rutland
At the time of going to print there is no confirmation of the regulations affecting worship, information will be on line and notices at the churches.

**ST PETER AND ST PAUL PARISH CHURCH, EXTON**

Unfortunately remains closed

**ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY**

Unfortunately remains closed
Exton and Greatham CEVC Primary School

Wanted!

Wrap Around Care Worker(s)

The Headteacher and Governors of Exton and Greatham CE Primary School are seeking to appoint a Wrap Around Care Assistant to lead our Breakfast Club to start as soon as possible.

Hours: Morning Provision: 7.30am-9.00am daily.

Wrap Around Care Assistant: Salary: £9.62 per hour (pro rata) term time only 20 hours per week.

This post may be suitable for job shares.

The successful candidate will be required to work together with the Wrap Around Care Manager to provide a warm, welcoming, caring and stimulating wrap around care environment in line with the ethos of the school.

Applicants will have:

- An understanding of good quality childcare
- Ability to provide safe and creative play opportunities
- Experience of working with 4-11 year olds
- An ability to be cooperative and able to work effectively as part of a team
- A desire to innovate and achieve success for themselves and others
- A commitment to equal opportunities

All applicants will be subject to an enhanced DBS check.

For further information about the job, an application pack and job description, please contact the school office on 01572 812380 or email extonoffice@ritschools.com.

CLOSING DATE: TBA
START DATE: TBA

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Our grateful thanks to the School for printing the Newsletter

**NEWSLETTER:** Contributions for April to be with Editor by 20th March  
annetteoliver63@gmail.com /or by hand 20 Stamford Road.  
If you wish to add your email to those who receive an online copy therefore in colour and earlier, please contact the Editor.
Exton and Greetham CE Primary School
Serving the communities of Greetham and Exton

Exton & Greetham in Lockdown

We have just received news that we can reopen our doors to the whole school on 8th March following the latest lockdown – and the staff are delighted to be able to welcome all of the children back to the school site.

I have been amazed at the resilience our children and families have shown during this time and their application to their learning at home.

Below is a sample of some of the work during lockdown.

If you would like to find out more about the school, the website is a good place to start – www.extonschool.co.uk. We now have a ‘virtual tour’ available on the website under ‘about us’. We are also happy to chat to prospective parents on the phone on 01572 812380.