EXTON VILLAGE
NEWSLETTER No 210
APRIL 2023

EXTON BOOK CLUB
On Tuesday 25 April 2023 members of the Book Club will be meeting to select the reading list for the upcoming twelve months. We would love to welcome new members so if you are interested please come along and help with the book selections.

Among the titles we enjoyed last year were The Girl With The Louding Voice by Abi Dare, An Instance of the Fingerpost by Iain Pears, and The Spy and The Traitor by Ben MacIntyre, as well as modern classics and some lighter contemporary fiction.

We start at 7pm and the April meeting will be hosted by Lesley Taylor at Long Thatch, 12 Top Street. For more information please call Lesley on 01572 811178, or just come along on 25 April. We look forward to seeing you.

PARISH COUNCIL
Please remember that Ward Councillor, June Titterton-Fox, has a surgery prior to each Parish Council meeting. You are welcome to come along and discuss any concerns on a range of subjects. June has a number of points of call at her fingertips so you may be surprised.

The meetings take place at 6.30pm before the commencement of the Parish Council meetings at 7 pm. First Wednesday of the month.

June can be contacted on: jfox@rutland.gov.uk, or telephone - 01733 563900
Exton and Horn Parish Council would be interested to hear views from residents concerning the retention and upkeep of the skateboard ramp housed in the playpark. This wooden structure has over the last 5 years or so been repaired twice at considerable expense and now that Greetham has a concrete version perhaps ‘serious skateboarders’ prefer to use that? Repairs are required about every couple of years and cost in the region of £2000. Do you feel this is worthwhile or should it be removed and replaced with something else if and when funds are available? I believe a concrete version is in the region of £20,000+! The ‘original’ flat concrete area just beyond the playpark, where skateboarders used to meet, still exists.

We know that some younger persons use it to ‘slide’ and then get splinters and have been reminded in the newsletter that this is not the purpose of the ramp. The surface is always rough due to the skateboard wheels running over it. Those in favour of keeping it may have some suggestions as to how funds may be raised to support the upkeep? Others may feel it should be disbanded? We would be pleased to hear from you.

Email: clerk@exton.org or speak to any of the village Councillors.

CORONATION KING CHARLES III
The Parish Council will be planting a tree later in the year to commemorate the Coronation.

If you let your dog foul a public place, the local council can give you an on the spot fine of £80. If you refuse to pay the fine, the council can prosecute you in court for allowing dog fouling. Residents should know they may contact the Rutland DOG WARDEN if they have issues they wish to raise: 01572 722577 : outside office hours, you can call the out of hours service (Monday to Friday 5pm to 8pm and Saturday and Sunday 8.30am- 8pm): 0116 269 6177.
DEFIBRILATOR
As we seem to have a number of new residents in the village it seems appropriate to remind them that there is a defibrillator. This is sited in the telephone box where Stamford Road joins Empingham Road and Garden Road. The defibrillator is maintained by the Parish Council thanks to the services of Bernadette Wallace.

REMINDER
Residents mobile Post Office service, at The Green, every Friday from 1.15pm to 2.15pm.

Anyone wishing to have lilies in St Peter & St Paul Church in memory of loved ones at Easter should contact Ann Bell 01572 812594
‘T’ FOR TUESDAY
Exton Village Hall, 2.30-4 pm

2nd Tuesday EVERY MONTH- 11th April 2023
All Welcome

Alternatively if you would like a home delivery please do let me know.
bernie.wallace@btinternet.com - Tel: 01572 812956/07858484918

EXTONBURY 23 TICKETS NOW ON SALE!
Our ridiculously low price has been held once again to just £10 in advance, with children 12 & under totally free - that's for 11 superb bands providing nearly 12 hours of music in our lovely village. Don't miss out - get your tickets today, payment options include cash, bank transfer or cards. Order from www.extonbury.com, email extonbury@gmail.com or call WhatsApp Mark on 07710 459655

VILLAGE HALL AGM
This year's AGM will take place on Tuesday 4 April at 7.00pm. Members of the public are welcome.

DOOR TO DOOR SALES
Some very unpleasant door to door sales persons in March, proved to be very offensive to one or two residents which is totally unacceptable. but I have to say the Police patrol car arrived very quickly when called. They drove up and down a few times but I do not know if they managed to catch up with the callers. The very fact that the ‘visitors’ disappeared so quickly says it all. Do be careful and do not be forced into purchasing items. Genuine callers should appreciate your privacy and would not be abusive.
RUTLAND RESIDENTS URGED TO REGISTER TO HAVE THEIR SAY IN MAY

On Thursday 4 May electors in Rutland will have their say at County and Parish elections on who represents them locally.

Residents must be on the electoral register to be able to vote in May. Rutland County Council is urging those who are not registered at their current address to make sure they are registered before it is too late.

The deadline to register to vote is midnight on Monday 17 April. It takes just five minutes to apply online at gov.uk/register-to-vote.

This year residents in Rutland will be voting to select:

- councillors, who represent their local area and residents, and will help shape the future of their local area by making plans and taking decisions
- parish councillors, who make decisions on local issues affecting their parish and act as ambassadors for their community, keeping everyone aware of local needs and concerns

Mark Andrews, Returning Officer for Rutland County Council, said:

“Local elections are an important opportunity to make your voice heard and have a say on who makes decisions about issues that directly affect day-to-day life here in Rutland. If you have recently turned 18 or moved home, it is particularly important to make sure you are correctly registered to vote. If you’re in doubt, you can check with us by contacting us at elections@rutland.gov.uk or calling 01572 720 954”

Those intending to vote at polling stations in May will need to show photographic ID. A list of accepted forms of ID is available on the Electoral Commission’s website. Those that do not have eligible ID can apply for free voter ID.

Ailsa Irvine, Director of Electoral Administration and Guidance at the Electoral Commission, said:

“If you’re not registered by 17 April, you will not be able to vote this May. Registering to vote only takes five minutes and can be done online. “This year voters should also remember that they will need to bring photo ID to the polling station to be able to vote. Anyone that does not have an accepted form of ID can apply for free voter ID by 25 April.”

Exton & Horn Parish Council members:
Tommy Cooper[Chairman], Harry Campden, David Healey, Peter McNally, Paul Taylor, Lynne Cundy Jones, Terry Connolly, Kiloran Heckels - all due for re election
4th May 2023 Ward Councillor: June Fox
For information about registration or voter ID please contact Rutland County Council’s Election team by emailing elections@rutland.gov.uk or call 01572 720 924.

**Notes:** People can choose to vote in person, by post or by appointing someone they trust to vote in their place, known as a proxy vote. The deadline to apply for a postal vote is 5pm on 18 April, and for a proxy vote the deadline is 5pm on 25 April.

- The requirement to show photo ID at the polling station, is a **new requirement**, introduced by the UK Government’s Elections Act which was passed last year.
- To apply for the free ID, known as a Voter Authority Certificate, voters will need to provide a photo, full name, date of birth, the address at which they are registered to vote and their National Insurance number.

**EXTON PLAYPARK**

Over twenty five years ago several sets of parents in the village got together to form PAGE [Play Area Group Exton]. There was a great deal of fund raising activity by families such as the Bells, Lesiaowskis, Healeys, Wallaces, Seckers, Mills, McCloughlin, Almond, Lambert, Castle, and many others, supported by the Parish Council of the time with Chair Dan Howison and the late Mick Bell [who chaired PAGE]. After receiving Lottery funding in 1999 they successfully brought their vision to fruition on a piece of land owned by Exton Estate. Installation began, the original two spring ‘ride on’ animals were made in the village by Mick Mills.

Fast forward to 2019 and a’ refurb’ was required! PAGE meanwhile had disbanded and the responsibility was with the Parish Council. Extra health and safety legislation had to be adhered to and this time fortunately finance came from the RCC ‘Healthy Rutland Fund’ granted; Derek Palmer was Chairman, followed by John Pitts and Annette Oliver, Clerk. Installation was delayed by the Covid epidemic but finally in 2020 the ‘Trail’, replacement spring horse, swing seats and new bench were in place.

Tuesday 14\textsuperscript{th} March 2023 and it was time for the second phase of refurbishment, achieved thanks to funding from the RCC. The original toddlers tower had sadly seen the end of its days.
Organiser of the ‘opening’ was Parish Councillor Lynne Cundy Jones and on a chilly but bright sunny morning the good turnout of residents was appreciated, some already mentioned. Ward Councillor June Fox has been fully supportive all the way with the last two grant applications and came to support, as did PC councillor Kiloran Heckels. Lynne had arranged for Dr Mary Hardwick, Director of the Inspire2Tri community venture at Manton, to officially open proceedings. The playpark sits alongside the Exton and Greetham school and the Rainbow Children’s Centre, who have watched the progress of the latest build through the fence. It was great to see the nursery and early years children ‘road test’ the new equipment. Thanks to Head Megan Davis, teachers from the School and the Rainbows for supporting the event and supervising the youngsters. Also to Caroline who supplied the chocolate cupcakes to go with the strawberries and apples. Rob Persani was on hand to record the opening and the photos show just some of the enthusiastic users!
Right:

Eager toddlers enjoying the opportunity to try out the new Tower

Second refurb 2023
The new Tower:
Robust construction, soft tarmac surface, durable materials and conforming to modern day safety standards. The toddler fence has been removed.

Jonathan Pollard looks after the day to day maintenance of the playpark on behalf of the Parish Council.

https://www.stamford mercury.co.uk/news/revamped-playpark-is-open-9304200/ .................................[link to Rob Persani article]
WHEN IT ALL BEGAN: 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

JAZZ IN THE VILLAGE

JAZZ IN THE VILLAGE
SATURDAY 7 OCTOBER
Doors open 7.30pm, music from 8.00pm
Tickets £12 per person
Ian Millar sax -- Dominic Spencer piano

After some very positive feedback from our soundings the Village Hall is pleased to confirm an evening of cool jazz with the brilliant Scottish duo Ian Millar and Dominic Spencer stopping off in Exton as part of their UK tour. Doors open at 7.30, music from 8.00p.m. Bring your own drinks and enjoy a magical atmosphere. This is a ticketed event at £12 per person, accompanied 16s and under free. Tickets go on sale in May from the hall website, by email o extonvillagehall@gmail.com or by telephone / WhatsApp 07710 459655 .............Mark Butterill
This month we share some pictures of the amazing bags that our children in Year 2 and 3 have created in their DT lessons. As part of their DT they have designed and made bags using different sewing techniques; making decisions about whether to use zip or button fastenings; and deciding how to decorate them. Don't they look amazing?

If you would like to find out more about the school, do visit our website—www.extonschool.co.uk.

We are always happy to show prospective parents around the school. Please contact the school office on the phone on 01572 812380 or by email at extonoffice@rltschools.com to arrange a visit.
Summer Festival Weekend
9th - 11th June 2023

Florilegium: Music for the King's Pleasure
7.00pm - 8.15pm, Friday 9th June
All Saints' Church, Oakham

Sung Compline
8.30pm - 9.15pm, Friday 9th June
All Saints' Church, Oakham

Choral Reflections: Allegri's Miserere
7.30pm - 9.00pm, Saturday 10th June
St Peter and St Paul, Exton

Come and Sing Choral Evensong with David Hill
Sunday 11th June
2.00pm - 3.30pm Come and Sing rehearsal
4.00pm - 5.00pm Evensong
St Peter and St Paul, Uppingham

For more information and tickets, please visit:
artsfortheheartofengland.co.uk
The Rutland Show is taking place on Sunday 4th June this year. We are very fortunate in our small county that money raised at the tombola stall at the show goes towards helping many local needs for example our CAB and also to individual people and groups which support various health issues within Rutland.

Each year the bottles which I collect help to raise funds at the show. Please will you leave any bottles in the plastic box outside Rutland Barn, Maltings Yard, during the week beginning Monday 15th May until Sunday 21st May.

Years ago I used to visit every house in the village but it is a big job doing it this way and by bringing a bottle (of anything) to my house it is such a much easier task for me to then deliver them to be sorted for the tombola.

Terry Connolly

LOST PROPERTY

This hip flask has been found in Exton Park. It was handed to an Exton resident who was out walking by a visiting walker from Little Bytham. It was found in trees by the bridle path leading from Viking Way, Exton.

If you are the owner or think you know who is – please get in touch

annetteoliver63@gmail.com

Tel: 01572 812233
REMINDER!!

EXTON CHURCH BIG CLEAN
SATURDAY 1 APRIL 2023

On Saturday 1 April, there will be a morning of cleaning, sweeping and polishing to assist the regular volunteers as the church prepares for Easter. We will be gathering at the church from 10am to 12.30pm. If you can help, let us know in advance on edward.heckels@gmail.com – or just turn up. Cleaning equipment and materials will be provided!

EXERCISING DOGS

Despite repeated appeals in the Newsletter and in the March edition a report of a serious incident involving a horse, it is so sad to still be told of continuing ‘near misses’ and sometimes not so near. Apart from the legalities, it defies belief why some owners feel it is appropriate to let their dogs run loose in Exton park and jump up other people and dogs. In one incident I am told an owner who was also pushing a pram! I repeat please keep them on leads. If another owner is approaching you and their pets are on leads then do not assume they are ok with your dog/s rushing up to them or their pets. Any nervous dogs or puppies are not going to improve by being overwhelmed by other dogs. We get so many walkers with and without dogs in Exton these days, more since Covid I think, and unfortunately regular arguments are becoming the norm. Unfortunately some owners are almost critical of dogs on leads and seem to think it shows some sort of weakness. It really does not! It shows they are under control and therefore not going to annoy anybody else human, canine or equine or any other. Please - please allow everyone the opportunity to have a pleasant walk with their dogs without constantly worrying!!!
ST PETER AND ST PAUL PARISH CHURCH, APRIL  Services

6th 6.00pm Maundy Thursday at Thistleton
7th 10.30am Good Friday at Clipsham - 12.00pm at Greetham
9th 11.15am Easter Day
23rd 11.15am Holy Communion
30th 10.30am Benefice Communion at Exton

Save the Date.....
Saturday  **June 10th 7.30 - 9pm.** As part of the Arts for the Heart of England Summer Festival there will be a performance of Allegri’s Miserere at Exton Church. Information and tickets at artsfortheheartofengland.co.uk

Ahead of the church’s 5 yearly inspection (the Quinquennial), work is being carried out inside and out so that not too many faults are found. Some small leaks on the roof have been seen to and work is being done on the areas of crumbling plasterwork within the church.

General queries can be directed to the cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com or to me at sallyrm24@gmail.com or on 811411. .................Sally Miller, Churchwarden

Thank you to all those friends and neighbours who gave money in memory of Alan [Manison-Reeve]. A total of £158 was given to The Salvation Army and £251 to the Royal Papworth Charity. These were two of the charities to whom he donated regularly.......Sally

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY – Holy Mass
Sundays at 9 am
## CONTACT INFORMATION

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THE SPINNEY, don’t forget to save any saplings or suitable shrub cuttings for planting out in the Spinney. It is really coming into its own now and once the building works have finished in the adjoining property, residents will appreciate what an attractive amenity this is.

Our thanks to the School for printing the Newsletter

Closing date for contributions to the MAY edition, adverts, notices, etc is 20th April

entertainment/news/family announcements, births deaths and marriages, welcomed by the Editor free of charge