THE LITTLE GREEN BOOK
YOUR LOCAL NEWS MAGAZINE

Produced for the Metheringham Area in conjunction with Metheringham, Dunston, Nocton, Scopwick and Martin Parish Councils

FINAL ISSUE like this WINTER 2018

IN FOND MEMORY OF PETE FORD
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Eulogy for Councillor Pete Ford
By Councillor Sally Wilson Chairman MPC

Cllr Pete Ford, Acting Responsible Financial Officer for Metheringham Parish Council was the most prolific volunteer for the village of Metheringham. He was a Parish Councillor for nearly 20 years and followed in the footsteps of his Mother, Ruth Ford, who also served our parish. Being the longest serving councillor out of all of us, and not forgetting that this has been his turf all his life, gave our council an insight into the history of the village of which he was so proud of. In simple terms, he just loved our village. His enthusiasm, hard work and focus on the role of being a financial officer, without any payment over the years, enabled us to save thousands of pounds as well as knowing he had his heart at the centre of all he did.

I also have to talk about MACLA and The Little Green Book, which was a newsletter, which turned into magazine, going to over 3000 households in Meg and surrounding villages. This latest edition, which would have been the 70th edition whose sole editor was Pete Ford; I hope someone does fill these big shoes and continues this magazine.

Let’s turn to the Fayre and Feast where Pete would set up a vast amount of photographic historical magic, folder after folder would be displayed in the village hall and his corner would be four deep with villagers finding photographs of bygone days. He told me that the following day he could hardly get out of bed.

MACLA and the Parish Council negotiated the ownership of Meg playing fields for the village, which was very protracted, and very painful. Believe it or not it went on for 13 years. We got there in the end and his beloved playing fields where the football teams have played for decades under his guidance, finally came back to villagers control.

Let’s go back to the Parish Council meetings where decisions are undertaken by a group of volunteers, about where we live. Always slightly controversial, never afraid to say what he thought, never understanding why more people would not help with events and furious with a malaise which he feared would not allow community events to happen. He was also a bit naughty. When his beloved Manchester United or England were playing and a council meeting was held he somehow managed to hide an earpiece just to keep an eye on the score!

He will be very sorely missed for his depth of knowledge he had, the total dedication for where he lived, his love of football, his enthusiasm for the Parish Council, always willing to give an insight into how things were and how they could be, always there to listen to new ideas and always there for us, his fellow councillors and the staff.

All we know is that we need to watch our spelling and our grammar, because I can assure you he was a stickler for getting it right. He will be watching us and he would never forgive us if we gave up. We will never do that because he has shown us how it should be done!
METHERINGHAM, SOTS HOLE & TANVATS PARISH COUNCIL
Sharon Stafford (Clerk/RFO)
Sabby McKechnie
(Admin Assistant / Local Access Point Advisor)
Metheringham Parish Council, Local Access Point, 15A High St, Metheringham, LN4 3DZ
Tel: 0800 6343307 / 01526 323100
or email: parishclerk@metheringham-pc.gov.uk
Website:
http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Metheringham/
The Parish Council Facebook page:
https://www.facebook.com/MetheringhamParishCouncil
Office Opening Hours
Mon / Tues / Thurs 9.30am-1.00pm
Closed Wed / Fri / Sat / Sun
We may be out of the office during these times due to meetings and training days. If not available please leave a message on our answerphone or send an e-mail. We will get back to you as soon as possible.

County Councillor
Rob Kendrick
Tel: 01526 323364 / 07773 706449

Parish Councillors
Chairman
Sally Wilson - 01526 321289
Vice-Chairman
Nick Byatt - 01526 322750

METHERINGHAM, SOTS HOLE & TANVATS PARISH COUNCIL
Ian Holmes — 01526 268070
Jane Kendrick — 01526 323364
David Parry — 07971 401971
Shirley Peek - 01526 322575
Sandy Walker — 01526 321313
Mike Ward — 01526 323354
5 vacancies
District Councillors
Rob Kendrick
Tel: 01526 323364 / 07773 706449
John Money
Tel: 07775 692013 / 01526 321112

PARISH COUNCIL
MEETINGS
Prior to the official start of each Parish meeting, a public forum, of not more than 15 minutes will be held, if required. The public may address the council or committees between 7.15pm and 7.30pm on current matters, or issues which may become future agenda items.

The public are welcome to stay and observe all of the meeting.
Monthly Council Meeting in the Village Hall, Middle Street. Last Tuesday in the month at 7.45pm
This is the final edition of the Little Green Book in its current form and has been pulled together by a small group of volunteers using the templates and advertisements left by Pete Ford.

Thanks to all those who have helped and contributed, and apologies for any errors.

If you feel this magazine is a vital part of our community and you’d like it to continue, it needs a group of dedicated people to do it.

So contact Sally Wilson on 0800 6343307 and put your name forward.

METHERINGHAM PARISH NEWS

‘The Little Green Book’, edited by the late Pete Ford, was a really useful village magazine which was distributed by volunteers 4 times a year to over 3700 households and businesses in Metheringham and surrounding villages. A lot of news was always given via this magazine from not just our Parish, but from all those outlying Parishes around us too. Although The Little Green Book was not part of Metheringham Parish Council’s remit, we had taken over the distribution to volunteer deliverers from the Parish Office of late. On Pete’s untimely death, we asked, via social media and personal contact, for any volunteers to take on the job of editing the magazine. A meeting was held recently with those who responded and this issue is the result. I feel it is a really important part of community building to share useful information in a variety of means – paper and digital, together with giving local people a chance to advertise in a local magazine. Fingers crossed this gets up and running soon. If you feel you would like to get involved please ring 0800 6343307 and we can pass your details on.

Due to the above, I felt you needed to be kept in touch with updates regarding your Parish Council:

As you will be aware, it has been announced that the Parish Council has bought the old NHS building on the High Street and we are now in the final throes of negotiating with Lincolnshire County Council regarding the ownership of the Library. Watch this space!

In the meantime, our vibrant community library has over 30 volunteers who do a sterling job, not just for Metheringham residents, but those in the outlying villages who also use it. Our pothole situation is still dire and I urge you to keep reporting these, with photos if possible, to Lincolnshire County Council highways department via their website. If you do not have access to the internet, you can of course pop into the Parish Offices, and we can report for you.

Metheringham Swimming Pool had a very good season. I think the very warm summer we had helped and...
Bed and Breakfast—all rooms en-suite—full English Breakfast
Free internet connection - Live Sport with Sky Sports & BT Sport
Monday Night—Pie and Mash and a Pint £7.95
Wednesday 12.15 until 3.00 pm - 2 Course Carvery £5.95
Friday Night—Steak Night—8 oz Sirloin and all the trimmings and a Pint £10.00
Homemade traditional bar meals (all with homemade chips or mash) served
Mon 6.00—9.00 pm / Tues, Wed & Fri 12.00 –3.00 & 6.00-9.00 pm / Sat 12.00-3.00 pm
Sunday Carvery 12.15—3.00 pm
Takeaway meals available—Curry & Rice / Donner Kebabs
LIVE BANDS monthly (See Board) / Monday 2.00 pm BINGO / BIKE NIGHT –Tuesday pm
Parties, outside bars and outside catering available

METHERINGHAM PARISH NEWS

although they have struggled with volunteers occasionally, this is a really good asset for our village. The new play park has been very well used over the summer too. Unfortunately, we had a spate of vandalism towards the end of the summer, which was immensely disappointing. We support our police 100% in getting those responsible for damaging our village and community the punishment they so richly deserve. If you have anything you need to report crime wise please ring 101 as quickly as possible, don’t assume that someone else is calling it in. Please also stay on long enough to get an INCIDENT NUMBER so that the problem can be tracked. In an emergency dial 999.

The trees which the parish council are responsible for have just been surveyed and quotes are being sought from tree surgeons to get any works carried out. The parish council are also obtaining quotations to carry out the urban grass cutting in the village which has previously been the responsibility of Lincolnshire County Council. Please continue to encourage dog owners to pick up after their dogs. We have fourteen dog poo bins and numerous litter bins which poo bags can be placed in, which NKDC empty, please use them; we have poo bags in the office and library if you run out. The playing fields need special attention regarding fouling as the football club need to play on clean fields.
Continued on next page
METHERINGHAM PARISH NEWS
A lovely afternoon was spent in the village hall to help celebrate RAF 100. The Blighty Belles sang, lovely cakes were eaten, lots of cups of tea made, a raffle with over 25 prizes drawn (the top prize – a Dyson cleaner was won by the Ho-nisetts). The afternoon culminated with a sunset ceremony with live bugler! A big thank you to all of those involved, especially those who donated raffle prizes and made cakes and to everyone who volunteered their time to make it a special event.

Over £500 was raised for the RAF Benevolent Fund; a fitting charity.

So lots going on with still lots to do. If you feel you would like to volunteer your time to support your village, we have some room on the Parish Council for more councillors. It takes a team effort to run this village smoothly and efficiently. I am grateful on your behalf to our staff, my fellow councillors and those who support us. Thank you for your support Councillor Sally Wilson
Metheringham Parish Council
Chairman Metheringham Parish Council.

METHERINGHAM METHODIST CHURCH
We are sadly waiting for one final hurdle prior to our Chapel going on the market. The sale sign will be up fairly soon and we wait prayerfully to discover what God has in store for us.

At present, we are carrying on as usual with our Christmas activities including a Christmas Day service at 10.30am in our Chapel. All are very welcome to any of these events.

Next year, we are planning our usual Sunday Services at 10:30am (in our Chapel during the winter months). However, on Sunday 13th January 2019, 10th February 2019 and 10th March 2019, our services will be held in Metheringham Community Centre, Caroline Road, a lovely warm venue. It would make a huge difference if people do come along and support us.

We still aim to serve our local community as much as we are able.

Angeline

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PARISH COUNCIL

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clerkscopwick@gmail.com

Chairman
Philip Baumber - 01526 322654
Vice-Chairman
Janet Flett — 01526 321611
Alistair Brackenbury - TBA
Tim Banks—01526 323444
David Nelson — 01526 322292
Matt Spry—07539624467
John Woodward— 01526 320298

District Councillors
Steve Clegg - 01529 410575

County Councillor
Rob Kendrick

Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council meetings take place bi-monthly on the last Tuesday of the month. The Parish Council now have a dedicated website provided by Lincolnshire County Council. The website address is:

Lincolnshire.gov.uk/ScopwickandKirkbyGreen/

Earlier this year the residents of Scopwick and Kirkby Green voted to create a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish. The first meeting was held in April and dates of future meetings, together with meeting minutes can be found on the Parish Council Website.

Jill Moran—Parish Clerk

Pictures on this page and opposite from Metheringham Fayre and Feast in 1966—thanks to Jonathan Tatton.
More on pages 28, 59 and 73.
GREAT BARRIER REEF
FISH SHOP

Princess Margaret Av., Metheringham Phone 01526 322296

Open Monday and Tuesday 4.30pm to 9.00pm
   Wednesday - Thursday - Friday - Saturday
   11.30am to 1.30pm and 4.30pm to 9.00 pm
   OAP Special (lunchtime only)
   Wednesday & Friday;
   Fish, Chips and Peas £3.40

PHONE ORDER WELCOME
METHERINGHAM VILLAGE HALL
WHAT’S ON

MONDAY
Pre-School 9am –3pm
Badminton Club 7.30pm - 9pm

TUESDAY
Pre-School 9am –3.00pm
Yoga Barre - 8pm—9pm
Parish Council meetings
7pm—9pm (last Tuesdays)

WEDNESDAY
Pre-School 9am—3pm
W.I. (3rd Wed) 7.15pm - 9.30pm
Over 60s (1st Wed) 7pm - 9pm

THURSDAY
Pre-School 9am –3pm

FRIDAY
Pre-School 9am –3pm
M.C.M.Bingo 6.30pm-9pm
(3rd Fridays)

Saturday and Sunday available for hire.
The dedicated number for all bookings and enquiries is...

07477 102556 maggiekristen@icloud.com

CHRISTMAS LUNCH
Last year a Christmas Lunch was hosted in the Church Hall for people who would otherwise spend the day on their own. This was such a success that it will be repeated this year but the venue will be the Village Hall.

If you will be on your own and think that you would like to join us for a few hours of fun and festivity; and a home cooked meal, please get in touch. Perhaps you have a partner suffering from dementia or a similar condition and would like to join us, you will both be welcome. Last year the generosity of the local community was overwhelming and enabled us to have the event at very little cost. We do, however, ask for a donation of £5 to help with funding the event. Is there anybody who could give an hour of their time on Christmas Day to help to serve lunch or help with entertainment?

Please get in touch with Janet Wheater on 01526 320888 or Kay Bulled on 01526 320589 to book a place or offer any help.

If we are out leave your telephone number and we will ring back. Alternatively call into the Parish Council Office and they will take your details.

Kay Bulled and Janet Wheater
Salon 32 on Metheringham High Street has over 50 years experience in professional high end hairdressing. We are a Colour Specialist Salon linked to Affinage Educators and Colour Experts. We are stockists of The Manicure Company gel polish products including gel overlays and acrylic nails. Salon 32 offers bespoke nail art and makeup. We can discuss your hair, nail and make up needs; and provide in-salon parties, tailored to your own requirements, from our little VIP’s to birthday and hen parties.

Thursday is treat day for our older gentlemen when a haircut is just £5 for OAP’s.

Mrs Michelle Kitchener MSSCh MBChA

VISITING SURGICAL CHIROPODIST

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Please note you cannot have the title ’Chiropodist’ unless you are registered with HCPC.
NOCTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS
This report covers the main issues discussed at the meetings of Nocton Parish Council held since May, 2018.

Annual Parish Meeting – Residents attending this year’s meeting received two presentations: one from the local NHS Communications and Engagement Officer on issues and developments affecting the local health service and one from Simons, the company responsible for designing our new village hall, showing the proposed plans and drawings for the building and answering questions about the development.

Presentations were followed by a discussion on ways in which residents might be encouraged to come forward and play their part in the life of the village, perhaps by standing for election to the Parish Council at next year’s elections; by becoming a trustee to help manage the new Village Hall; or in some other way to help our community to prosper.

Nocton Village Hall – It has, unfortunately, taken much longer to progress this project than we would have hoped partly because of the need to adapt the building to meet the conditions attached to our planning approval to protect the lime trees bordering the site.

From our most recent discussions, however, it appears that if all goes according to plan, the Hall will close in January with a start on site taking place in March. The construction phase will take about six months and so the new Hall should be opened some time in the autumn. The current building will, therefore, remain open for the usual Christmas and New Year festivities.
NOCTON PARISH NEWS cont.
The Parish Council is intending to fund the bulk of the rebuilding costs through a Public Works Loan from the Government and as part of the application process we were required to conduct a survey of all village households to ensure that residents were willing to meet the repayment costs through a very modest increase in the Parish Council’s annual precept. The survey was conducted during August, the outcome of which showed that a significant majority of those taking part supported the proposal. We are currently waiting for formal approval to our application.

Neighbourhood Plan — Work is underway to make amendments to the Plan in order to ensure that it is better able to protect the villages from unwarranted and unwanted development as was clearly the original intention. As we are amongst the first (if not, the first!) area to seek to amend an approved Neighbourhood Plan, there are a number of fairly complex issues involved in the re-drafting process. The Steering Group responsible has engaged the services of a professional and experienced Planning Consultant with the costs being met by way of a grant.

Nocton Hall – Despite further recent discussions with NKDC officers, we are no clearer as to the current position regarding LEDA Properties’ (the site owner) proposals for its apparent plans for a significant residential development on the site of the former RAF Hospital at Nocton Hall.

Straw on the Highway – The Parish Council has been attempting to deal with the considerable problems caused by large quantities of straw being dropped from lorries making their way through Nocton to and from the power plant at Sleaford. We are in contact with all of the numerous agencies involved, none of whom, however, seem able or willing to take any action. We will, however, continue to press for a solution.

Finally, and on behalf of my colleagues on Nocton Parish Council, I would like to pay tribute to Pete Ford for his tireless efforts in producing “The Little Green Book” over many years. His contribution to the life of this part of Lincolnshire will be sorely missed.

Further information about Nocton Parish Council is available on its website
Councillor Ian Goldsworthy
Chair of Nocton Parish Council
http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Nocton/
Notes from a Churchwarden

Those of you who are or have been a churchwarden will know the challenges that face us in keeping the Church building safe and in good order for future generations. Here at Martin we are graced with a Church that is relatively new (1874, that’s new in Church terms!). Designed by the architect Thomas Wyatt (whose other buildings include the Adelphi Theatre, Brompton Hospital and the Exchange Building in Liverpool) we have a Church that is in pretty good order. However, in March this year I discovered that the underground room had flooded – 1.5 metres of water knocking out the boiler and some of the electrics.

The insurance company were immediately informed and so a Loss Adjuster was appointed. The source of the water was never discovered despite intensive investigation by surveyors and Anglian Water. Eventually by mid-October all was dry, and a new boiler was installed and the boiler room put back into good order – just in time for the cold months. Also and more importantly, in time for the arrival of the new Vicar to the Carr Dyke Group, the Rev. Steve Holt to whom we extend a warm welcome.

Services at Holy Trinity, High Street Martin
1st Sunday of the month, Morning Prayer at 11.00pm
3rd Sunday of the month, Holy Communion at 11.00am
All Welcome.
Coffee mornings every Tuesday, 10.00 am to noon.
Please see the Church Notice Board for more information.
TELL TALE TUSK REVIEW
The audience at Dunston Village Hall had a real treat on 2nd November, as Tell Tale Tusk, an all-female band of five talented musicians performed an eclectic programme of acoustic folk including gentle ballads, bawdy tales and foot-stomping reels. The girls showcased their flair for putting modern twists on traditional folk songs and melodies from around the British Isles and beyond with new material of their own. They blended exquisite and unusual vocal harmonies with a variety of instruments and also included some a cappella and audience participation pieces. The band achieved a good humoured rapport with the audience and along with a bar, raffle, and mini “Dutch auction” of walking equipment, a relaxed and enjoyable evening was had by all.

Our next planned musical event is on March 24th, featuring Don Kipper, a multi-award winning ensemble interpreting a wide range of traditional musical forms reflecting the cultural diversity of North East London. Tickets will be on sale approx. 8 weeks before the event.
THE RED LION,
MIDDLE STREET, DUNSTON
LN4 2EW

01526 322227

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Function room available, visit our
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or

DUNSTON HUB
Dunston Village Hall
Second Thursday of the month 2 to 4 pm
Come along and enjoy a piece of home-
made cake and a cuppa for just £1.20.
There are stalls selling cards, vegetables,
cakes, jams, gifts, wool and more as well
as a Post Office, advice from a repre-
sentative of Metheringham Pharmacy, a
visiting fishmonger and a 50:50 Raffle.
Money raised at the Hub is donated
Continued on next page

DUNSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Ms Lesley Frances (Clerk)
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shclerk@gmail.com

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Robert Ford 01526 320810

Vice-Chairman
Russ McLuckie 01526 321919

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June Gwillym 01526 320541
07974 695464
Bob Hughes 01526 321135
Jim Murray 01526 322673
John Simpson 01526 322909
2 VACANCIES

District Councillors
Rob Kendrick
Tel: 01526 323364 / 07773 706449

John Money
Tel: 07775 692013 / 01526 321112

County Councillor
Rob Kendrick
Tel: 01526 323364 / 07773 706449

The Parish Council meet on the
first Wednesday of each month
in Dunston Village

Continued on next page
to local organisations and national charities. In 2018, the Hub raised £110 for Breast Cancer Care, £114 for Marie Curie and £97 for Macmillan Cancer Charities.

Besides our usual stalls, there will be more seasonal stalls and a prize raffle at our Christmas Hub on Thursday 13th December so come along to buy some unique Christmas presents and extra treats for the family. Children are always welcome. Drop in after school and enjoy a mince pie or piece of cake.

Come along and meet friends old and new.

If you would like a stall at one of the Hubs, please call Jean on 01526 320810 to book a table.

Hub Dates 2019: 10th Jan, 14th Feb, 14th Mar, 11th April, 9th May, 13th June, 11th July.

DUNSTON SEWING BEE

Meets Thursday 7 to 9pm in the Lamyman Room, Dunston Village Hall.

Social needlecraft group. Everyone is welcome from beginners to experienced hand-sewers or machinist. Work on your own project or learn a new skill and enjoy a chat and a cuppa with people who share an interest. Whether it is making toys, handbags, home-décor, clothes or quilts that interests you, we have plenty of books for inspiration, sewing machines and an over-locker for you to use. If you have never used a sewing machine before or want to make a quilt but don’t know where to start, there will be someone happy to help you get started.

Come and join the sewing/crafting revolution. Just £3 a session.

For more information call Jean on 01526 320810.
Whether you use mental health services in Lincolnshire, support someone who does, work within them or just want to find out more, we believe everyone can learn something to help someone they know progress on their recovery journey. We want to give everyone the opportunity to learn together, to share experiences and knowledge and to participate not as a patient, carer or a member of staff, but simply as a student.

At the Recovery College we use an educational based approach to help people recognise and develop their personal resourcefulness and awareness in order to become experts in their self-care, make informed choices and do the things they want to in life.

We aim to:

Enable you to take back control of your life
Use our courses as a route to recovery
Improve your overall experience of mental health services
Share your recovery journey with you giving you hope that you can move on
Show you can have a fulfilling life, with or without on-going symptoms
Open up opportunities which you may have thought were unavailable to you
Educate supporters of people who access mental health and social care service in Lincolnshire on recovery principles.

All our courses are co-designed and co-delivered by experts with lived experience of mental ill health, peer trainers and expert health professionals.

Courses include: but not exclusive to:

- Understanding stress,
- Understanding anxiety
- Dreaming of a better sleep
- Bouncing Back—Mental Health Resilience
- WRAP (Wellness Recovery Action Plan)

Contact us for further information about our next enrolment date on 01522 518500 or email recoverycollege@lpft.nhs.uk or check our website http://www.lpft.nhs.uk/our-services/adult-services/recovery-college
Book Review
This Boy: A Memoir of a Childhood by Alan Johnson

This is the story of two incredible women: Alan Johnson’s mother, Lily, who battled against poor health, poverty, domestic violence and loneliness to try to ensure a better future for her children; and his sister, Linda, who had to assume an enormous amount of responsibility to protect her family when she was still only a child.

London’s Notting Hill in the 1950s was an unimaginably different place to the white stucco splendour it’s known for today. Alan Johnson’s family lived in condemned housing, declared unfit for human habitation, in a cramped flat with no central heating, no electricity and no running water.

Alan Johnson was born in May 1950. He was General Secretary of the Communications Workers Union before entering Parliament as Labour MP for Hull West and Hessle in 1997. He served as Home Secretary from June 2009 to May 2010. Before that, he filled a wide variety of cabinet positions in both the Blair and Brown governments, including Health Secretary and Education Secretary. Until 20th January 2011 he was Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer.

An interesting read: contrasting my idyllic, happy childhood on my father’s farm in Cornwall where food was plentiful, and my playground was acres of green vistas to that of Alan’s where food was scarce and infrequent, and his playground was the street where he lived. A sobering read.

Selina I read this book with interest in two days. It is hard to believe such poverty and deprivation existed in my lifetime. No small wonder he became a Labour MP to fight for this inequality. Much to be admired.

Wendy What an appalling start in life but thank goodness for his sister and his own determination. I wonder if there is a sequel telling how he went into politics?

Paula There were few negative comments about this book and, whatever your political leanings, you would have to admire how Alan Johnson became an MP despite his poor start in life.

A few members of the group are keen to read his subsequent books, Please, Mr Postman and The Long and Winding Road. He was a Beatles fan! This was one of our more popular books and scored averages of 8 for both the enjoyment and quality of writing.

Pauline
METHERINGHAM COMMUNITY LIBRARY

A lot has happened concerning the library since the last issue. The NHS building to the rear has been purchased and the library building itself along with the surrounding land has been gifted by Lincolnshire County Council to the Parish Council. What this means is that the library’s future is more certain and will have a permanent home. The intention of the PC is to demolish the site and create a new build HUB incorporating the library, Parish offices and local amenity space.

One of the major factors in this coming about was the success of the library over the past three years and the dedication of the team of volunteers who keep the library running. In due course there will be a village consultation before plans are drawn up. No doubt, between now and the new build being finished there will be a period of upheaval; however, it is intended that the library will continue to operate throughout, although maybe with limited stock.

The number of visitors, borrowers and issues have risen over the past year. There are around 150 active borrowers and some 800 issues per month and the Public use PCs are seeing increasing usage. From May, there is no charge to use these PCs. You can search the internet, print and photocopy. Lamination up to A4 is also possible.

Inside we have a folder and village diary for forthcoming events and activities and outside we have a notice board where village events may be displayed. There is always an issue with advertising space and it is helpful if your poster is A5 size then we can display more. Also outside is a “sales and wants” board. To display in the sales and wants notice board costs £1.00 per month for a postcard or postcard sized advert.

We now have some 37 volunteers at the library and the library is open for 18 hours each week.

Tuesday 1pm – 5pm
Wednesday 10am – 2pm
Thursday 10am – 2pm
Friday 1pm – 5pm
Saturday 10am – 12noon.

A recent survey of the state of high streets in the UK found that a variety of shops and services was required to attract people and one of the services was a library. With increasing population in Metheringham and the surrounding villages the library significantly contributes to the health of our High Street.

An increasing number of travel and event companies now offer a form of e-ticket where, instead of sending you a ticket in the post, they require you to print it out at home. In this digital age it is generally assumed that everyone has a computer and printer, but this is not the case. As mentioned earlier, Metheringham library has two “public use” PCs which are free to use, to
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Website  http://www.travelcounsellors.co.uk/lisa.pocock

Metheringham Library cont

print out your ticket. These PCs will not allow you to save any documents; however the library usually has USB flash drives available for sale. The current stock is for 128MB priced at £3 each. The public use PCs also offer internet access to a variety of other library services:

If you are interested in tracing your ancestors then “Ancestry.com” is available free of charge.

The library hosts a Scrabble club, usually on the afternoon of the first Monday of the month.

Thank you to all the supporters of the library; Parish Council, customers and especially the volunteers without which it would have closed three years ago.

KEN COTTON

NOCTON GARDENING CLUB

The Club formed In September 2014 and over the four years we have developed and grown into a group of around forty members who don’t just live in Nocton but also in Dunston, Scopwick, Potterhanworth, Branston and Metheringham. Having support from The Little Green Book and especially from Pete enabled us to become known to our neighbours and make new friends. We shall miss this publication but some people are just too hard to replace.

We are beginning our fifth year in good shape and looking forward to even more interesting speakers and talks to inspire and to teach us ways to make the gardeners life a little easier. We meet on the first Thursday evening of each month except January and August, 7pm to 9pm in the MAC Leisure Building.

We don’t have a website or Face book page as we are too busy working in the garden but if you do want to know more you can always contact me, Julie Partridge, on 07778956625.
METHERINGHAM VILLAGE HALL

The Hall is busier than ever as we come to the end of 2018. As well as our regular user groups, which offer a wide range of activities, the management committee organisers regular fundraising events throughout the year. As well as providing entertainment for the local community, it is a much needed source of income for our ongoing refurbishment project.

This year our fundraising has included table top sales, a fashion show, community cinema and live music. In the coming weeks we will be welcoming back the Wrinkly Rockers, after the success of their visit last year. Everyone who attended enjoyed a night of music and nostalgia. Our fundraising plans for 2019 are already well under way. Look out for our community cinema event early next year, where we shall be transforming the hall into a cinema for the evening.

We are currently looking for enthusiastic volunteers to join our team and support us with our fundraising events. Anybody wishing to be part of the team or for more information should contact myself (Rebecca) on 07852512730.

Metheringham Village Hall is at the centre of our community life and it is vital that we all work together to keep this fantastic amenity open for generations to come.

Rebecca Harvey - Chairman

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DUNSTON VILLAGE HALL

The Hall has been the centre of our community since 1948. The five-year plan of refurbishment was finished in September 2018 with the construction of a new entrance and internal doors plus the fitting of new flooring in the entrance hall. Sometime in the New Year, a specially commissioned plaque of Dunston Pillar’s King George bust will be mounted on the outside wall in tribute to the wooden statue that once stood in the village hall grounds.

This 70th Anniversary year has seen an increase in the variety of activities, events and family celebrations held in the village hall.

Three live music events with folk groups ‘Alaw’, ‘Ninebarrow’ and ‘Tell Tale Tusk’ have been so popular that tickets sold out. Comedy Nights every two months are well attended. The ever popular Fashion Show in November was sadly the last one to be presented by LincsFashion. Everyone will miss them and wish Ady and Gill a happy retirement.

The ‘Not Just Country’ Beginners Line Dance Class on Thursday evenings has been very successful in 2018 and from January 2019 there will be two classes - a New Beginners Class from 6 to 7 pm and an Improvers/Intermediates Class from 7.15 to 8.30 pm.

Take a look at the regular activities and special events we have on offer in 2019 and come and join in. You will be most welcome.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHAT’S ON IN DUNSTON VILLAGE HALL</th>
<th>Weekly</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Post Office</td>
<td>Monday/Thursday 2.30pm to 4 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wellhead Upholstery Classes</td>
<td>Monday 10am to 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pilates</td>
<td>Monday 6pm to 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dance &amp; Tone</td>
<td>Monday 7pm to 8 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unique Yoga</td>
<td>Tuesday 10.30am to 11.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circuit Training</td>
<td>Tuesday 6.30pm to 7.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silver Sounds Band</td>
<td>Tuesday 6.30 to 8pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Beginners Line Dance</td>
<td>Thursday 6pm to 7 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improvers/Intermediates Line Dance</td>
<td>Thursday 7.15pm to 8.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sewing Bee</td>
<td>Thursday 7pm to 9pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silver Sounds Band</td>
<td>Saturday 10am to 12 Noon</td>
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<th>Monthly</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dunston Hub</td>
<td>2nd Thursday 2pm to 4pm monthly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dunston Parish Council</td>
<td>1st Wednesday 7.30pm monthly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Special Event            | Don Kipper – Live Music from Europe & Asia. |

Sunday 24th March 2019
HAVE YOU THOUGHT OF PLAYING CROQUET?

The Inaugural Meeting of the new Dunston Croquet Club was held on 24 October, when the officers were appointed and the constitution adopted.

Dunston Croquet Club is a new club which will start playing in 2019 on lawns shared with Dunston Bowls Club at Dunston Playing Field. Members of any age over 11 are welcome, but under 18s must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Club fees will be modest. Croquet is a combination of skill and strategy that keeps you physically and mentally fit; an enjoyable game where men & women and young & old can compete equally in a social yet competitive environment.

For more information, contact Ralph Timms 01526 322 515, chair@dunstoncroquet.uk or view www.dunstoncroquet.uk
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chriskennealey@hotmail.com
THE B1188 POLICE PANEL
covers the cluster group villages of Metheringham, Dunston, Nocton, Potterhanworth and Blankney and each Parish Council has a representative on the Panel who attend meetings, together with PC Pete Hanson and one of his PCSO's. Members of the public can be co-opted onto the Panel and all meetings are open to the public. The meetings are held on the first Monday in March and September at 7 p.m. rotating between each village, but obviously, if need be, we can call meetings in between these months. The next meeting will be held within St Wilfrid's Church, Metheringham.

Normally it would have been in the Parish Council's Pavilion but I believe work on the entrance will be being carried out so Mrs Margaret Amos has kindly offered us the use of the church for which we are very grateful and thank her. As we are not funded, we have to rely on the generosity of each Council who provide us with the use of their village halls free of charge, and for which we are extremely grateful.

Early this year we invited our new MP, Dr. Caroline Johnson, to attend a meeting which was her first one at a Police Panel. She was very impressed and stayed a lot longer than she should have done, was very supportive of the team, and feels Police Panels should continue as it brings the Police and villagers together.

I will add that senior Police Officers want to see these Panels continue, too. We constantly discuss the B1188 itself and all its traffic problems, especially Waneham Hollow, where we are trying to get more signs, double white lines and lower speed limits. I have met with a member of the Road Partnership team at this site who is trying to help us attain more procedures in this area.

We also discuss all criminal activities committed in the area. Unfortunately, criminal damage, anti social behaviour, etc., still continues, which our Police team deal with efficiently and as quickly as they can, and in this regard I would point out that the team consists of just one PC and two PCSO's to cover 18 villages - a very large area. Don't forget to keep your doors, windows, sheds and cars locked, with all keys taken out, to deter opportunist burglaries.

Sadly, we lost PCSO Sarah Kennedy-Sharp off our team as she is now training as a PC, so we send congratulations to Sarah in her new role and thank her for her support over the past five years to our villages and also to our Police Panel. In her place we have welcomed PCSO Katarzyna Szaban who is doing very well in her new role and the Panel will naturally give her our full support.

Another area that is on the increase is scams and fraud. Please be very wary of telephone or door callers asking you for your financial details - do not disclose anything.

Should anyone have any queries regarding the Police Panel or would like to chat to me generally, I will be happy to help if I can - my number is 07974-695464.

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M.A.W.S.
Metheringham Animal Welfare Supporters Group are struggling, and we are appealing for helpers.
The Christmas Market should have been on Saturday 10th November, but we have been gazumped again! As in 2016, we lost hundreds of pounds as a result (after 30 years PDSA / MAWS).
Where have all the volunteers gone? We desperately need a PA for the Coordinator, Assistant Secretary, a Clerk and Drivers. Everyone seems so busy, folk do not have time anymore and no one is stepping up to the plate. Can you spare 2 hours a week?
As a result MAWS have had to change track yet again, (we have done it many times in the past 30 years). Instead of the usual fourteen events a year we can only put on four due to the lack of volunteers. We are having to depend more on donations and sponsored events. If you can help us in any way, please phone me on 01526 321436
Thanks again for your support.
Joyce Muncey—MAWS Chair / Co-ordinator / Treasurer

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There are currently limited spaces available in our pre-school, which offers 15 hours of free childcare per week. Terms and conditions apply for this, which we will be happy to discuss. We also offer 2 year old funding in our toddler room, which offers 12 hours per week free childcare.

We also have an out of school holiday club for school children, which is open 7.15am till 6pm in the school holidays. We go out on trips with the school children in the local area or further afield.

For more details please call or pop in.

We are open 51 weeks a year. We have an open door policy, so turn up whenever you wish and we will be happy to show you how we aim to give your child the very best childcare available.

Hope to see you soon, Michelle x

Yellow Brick Road, High St, Metheringham

01526 321094
From Cllr John F Money (Metheringham Ward) North Kesteven District Council.

During the seven years I have been your district councillor I have written quite a few articles in this excellent magazine, none more important than this one. Firstly may I pay tribute to the late editor Peter Ford, his dedication to the local community and sport was without equal, he will be greatly and sadly missed.

As a District Councillor my prime consideration is to the community I represent; young, old, or somewhere in the middle, your concerns are my responsibility and not just District Council related. If I can I will try to resolve issues with other councils, agencies, and government departments I have connections with, or point you in the right direction. My question today is are you getting all you are entitled to - advice, physical help, grant aid, mobility aids, council tax reduction etc? The list is endless. We know all this information if available on the World Wide Web but I find at times you have to know the answer before you can ask the question when searching for something. Since taking up the position of Executive Member with responsibility for Housing, Property and Wellbeing Services I have discovered many options available to parishioners. I have been able to facilitate disabled facilities grants and council tax reductions and much more for the benefit of local people. Lots of these services are not means tested and are available to all.

Just one small example, TV licences are free when you become 75 years young, but you have to apply. I have advised more than 20 people to apply who had no knowledge of the scheme, not widely advertised I might add. That’s over £3,000 saved to be spent on little extras within the community.

If you have any issues which you think I may be able to help with, please contact me or alternatively call NKDC Customer Services on 01529 414155 who will put you in touch with the right department. My colleague Cllr Rob Kendrick and I represent the parishes of Blankney, Dunston, Metheringham and Nocton. I know this booklet is distributed outside of those parishes and details of other district and county councillors are contained within this magazine or on NKDC’s website.

At this time of year our thoughts are with the brave men and women who 100 years ago gave their lives in conflict, together with all those who have died in wars since that we may enjoy the freedom and privileges we have today. Once again please do contact me and I will help if I can.

Cllr John F Money
Executive Member for Housing and Property Services
North Kesteven District Council (Metheringham Ward)
01526 320323
07775692013
Cllr_john_money@n-kesteven.gov.uk

A County Council report from Cllr Rob Kendrick, Metheringham Rural Division, is on page 50 of this magazine.
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We are looking to recruit some more folk who have some experience singing soprano and alto parts. Maybe you sang in your salad days, took part in a school or youth production, and wonder what it would be like to return? Can I encourage you to come and find out? It can be off-putting, attempting to sing or join a choir. It’s very human to worry about being judged or not being good enough. Such a shame! In fact, we’re all on a journey. We want to be marvellous immediately, of course we do. You didn’t learn to drive a car overnight, or to walk in a week. Singing takes time, practice makes perfect, and if you give yourself a chance to grow and develop you’ll be so glad you did.

So, why should you join Metheringham Singing for Pleasure Choir? It’s a great opportunity to make and develop friendships. You can develop musical skills, singing in harmony with others, following musical
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Metheringham Singing for Pleasure choir continued

notation, the basic techniques of singing. It is very gratifying to think, I can do that now, and this time last year, I couldn’t have. It is healthy for mind and body to engage with a song, to perform, polish and perfect it. This is stimulating in itself.

We do some breathing exercises, to improve control. This has helped a number of people. Ours is a smaller group, more intimate than a large choir. This makes it less daunting than joining a cast of thousands, but still with the support of other singers, so if you do happen to sing an unintended note it doesn’t stand out.

We have the opportunity to influence songs, we have more control over the material than is often the case. We pay a really skilled singing teacher to be our Musical Director, and we ask for more of what we want to sing. He can rearrange pieces to suit us. This makes it more comfortable to sing, and we sound better. The Metheringham Singing for Pleasure Choir is local, convenient and comfortable. It’s easier to walk round the corner than drive to a town to sing. No auditions, no judging. Thanks for reading this.

Jayne Palmer
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METHERINGHAM HAND IN HAND CLUB NEWS
We meet every 2nd Friday at 106 Caroline Road, Metheringham. We need more members, so could that be you? Carers are also welcome. In October 2018 we celebrated our 50th anniversary with a lovely meal at Blankney Golf Course. Sharna entertained us We’ve also enjoyed trips out to Pennells, Daisy Made, Downtown, Terry O’Toole Theatre and a pub lunch near Gainsborough. If you would like some company, tea and cake, games and quizzes for a few hours, please contact: Mhairi Lavington on 01526 328608
**ST WILFRID’S METHERINGHAM**
16th December
10.30am A Service of the Word with Christmas Carols
23rd December
10.30am Holy Communion
24th December
4.00pm A Christingle Nativity
11.30pm Holy Communion
‘Midnight’ Service
25th December
NO SERVICE
31st December
10.30am Group Service of Holy Communion

**ST PETER’S DUNSTON**
16th December
9.00am Holy Communion

**ST PETER’S DUNSTON cont.**
24th December
11.30pm at Dunston Methodist Chapel
25th December
10am Family Communion

**ST OSWALD’S BLANKNEY**
23rd December
4.30pm Carol Service – Service of Readings and Carols

WRAP UP WELL JUST IN CASE THE NEW BOILER IS NOT INSTALLED AND WORKING!
25th December
9.00am Holy Communion (1662 Prayer Book Service)
Revd Alan Coates 01526 569979

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**ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS CHURCH SERVICES IN METHERINGHAM WITH BLANKNEY AND DUNSTON**
METHERINGHAM AMATEUR DRAMATICS

Firstly, thank you to Neil and helpers for taking on The Little Green Book, a much needed point of information for our villages and no mean feat!

This will be my final piece on behalf of Metheringham Amateur Dramatics as I stood down as Chair at our AGM last month. Thankfully the committee has allowed me to stay! Our new Chairman is Mr Gary Wright, a long standing member of the group, commonly known by our audiences as ‘The Scottish One’ I would like to wish him all the very best in his latest role.

Our next production will be ‘The Dunston Ghost Walk’. The Ghost Walks we have performed over the last few years in Metheringham and Blankney, have been very well received and we have had requests for more. So come and join us in February and find out the stories of Dunston, but make sure you look out behind you!

*Dates to be confirmed.*

Tickets will include a bowl of soup and roll with a drink afterwards.

There are changes afoot for our group. We would love to bring you a pantomime once again, but as usual we are struggling for members. It takes anywhere between 50-60 people to put on a panto, from making tea through to taking the lead. So if you are tempted in anyway please get in touch and maybe we can revive this amazing village tradition.

Chairman - Gary Wright - gary_wright7@sky.com

So that’s me, signing out, thank you for all your continued support for our group, and I hope to see you at Dunston in February.

Fran Pembery

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Return to Blankney (cont. from previous issue)
Years ago a former resident, the Second Earl of Londesborough, had a passion for fire-engines. If a fire broke out within a radius of twenty or thirty miles of the Hall, he would leave his guests to their own devices and tear off on his little red fire-engine.

No doubt it was he who had had the little fire-station built, from which came some of the antiquated equipment with which we tried to save his Hall. Now nature has taken over. In the crannies of the walls, in between the paving stones and along the footings of the walls tufts of grasses and flowers had rooted themselves.
RETURN TO BLANKNEY cont.

the front of the building and a
carved figure over the main door-
way looked out rather wistfully from
the desolation within. Before occu-
pation by the RAF, glittering social
occasions would have echoed to
the same rafters that now lay
charred and sodden in the grass
and flower-beds where they had
fallen or been thrown on the night of
the fire. There was something un-
canny and strangely disturbing
about these charred reminders of
the past: of my own past.

I discovered that the Blankney Es-
tate was being administered by
agents who had an office up a lane
near the crossroads. The two clerks
there were interested to hear my
first hand story about the events on
the night of the fire. They gave me
permission to wander round the site
and take photographs. But before
returning to the ruins, I called at the
village post-
-office which also served
as a general store. Hundreds of
small items fastened to cards hung
round the walls: tinctures for one
thing, pills for another, ointments for
this and mixtures for that. Cakes
chocolates and cooked meats met
in an ill-assorted display on the
counter, while the more bulky items
such as buckets, clothes-lines, fire
lighters, cases of minerals and par-
affin oil were gathered into conven-
ient heaps on the floor.

A dark, middle aged woman wearing
an old slouch hat waited to attend
me. I wanted two things: information
about the Hall and a fruit pie. (Why a
fruit pie you will learn later). She re-
called how many people were en-
gaged on the Estate during the First
World War, and spoke of some of
the famous people who had stayed
at the Hall, such as King Edward VII,
then Prince of Wales.

On the ground floor back at the Hall
there was a bay window on the east
side of a large room where we
worked when on duty.

It was possible to look through the
window over the sunken garden and
lawns, past the pool to the fields be-

eyond. I retraced my steps through
the sunken garden and found that
the two sculptured children were still
disporting themselves in the pool
although the grass now almost ob-
scured them. The building we used
during the war as a NAAFI was an
old barn-like place covered with li-
chen situated at the opposite end of
the drive. The windows had been
broken, and I was able to look inside
and see the old serving hatch where
we bought tea, coffee, cakes and (if
available) chocolate. One regular
item on sale was a well-known make
of fruit pie: we must have consumed
thousands, but at a price less than
half what I paid at the village post-
office.

Continued on page 43
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Kids Corner Day Nursery changed ownership in April 2013 and since then we have been busily refurbishing to give our setting a home from home environment. We are a small intimate family run nursery which is owned by Diane Ward and Laura Milligan a Mother and Daughter team.

We strive to offer the highest quality of care for children from the ages 6 weeks - 11 years, providing a stimulating, engaging, secure and exciting environment where every child is valued and respected and where parents feel happy in the knowledge that their children are being looked after by experienced and dedicated members of staff. We believe children learn best through play, which is why our experienced staff work hard to plan specific activities to meet every child’s interests.

We have a 5 star food rating and our first Ofsted we were rated a GOOD, which are both available to view online.

We are open 51 weeks of the year 7am-6pm and offer government funded sessions for children the term after their 3rd birthday, we also have funded session for those that qualify for 2 year olds

We have a Kids Club and pick up from Metheringham Primary School.

Here at Kids Corner we have an open door policy, no appointments are necessary if you would like to come and see what we provide please feel free to pop along at a time convenient for yourselves. Alternatively give us a call on 01526 321388, we will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Kids Corner Day Nursery is located on Sleaford Road making us very accessible to parents/carers, with our own car park, making drop off and pick ups hassle free.
RETURN TO BLANKNEY cont.
So back again in my old eating haunt I enjoyed my fruit pie while leaning on the window-sill of the now deserted former NAAFI. Close to the walls at the back of the Hall there used to be lavender and other herbs growing in small beds, until the night of the fire when, I am afraid, many were trampled underfoot in the urgency of the hour. Nearby was the sunken garden which used to be full of roses. On moonlight nights, when on guard duty, I have wandered around this garden amid the flowers and the shadows, and surrounded by the subtle fragrance of rose and herb in the cool atmosphere of the Lincolnshire countryside. In the distance a slow goods train chugging its way between Lincoln and Sleaford drawn by a heavy steam locomotive. Those were the pleasant nights when everything good and peaceful. But there were other nights. Nights when I felt that someone else was in the garden, someone watching me. Such nights made me feel uneasy and I felt conscious of an evil or mischievous atmosphere surrounding the place. I used to call them 'evil nights' and I would hurry back to the doubtful seclusion of the sentry-box with occasional glimpses over my shoulder. I mentioned this experience to my friend Lindsay Costeloe on one occasion and he said that he also had similar feelings at times. But that was fifteen years ago: now I found no roses to scent the air, and the flower-beds and steps leading into the sunken garden were a mass of thistles and weeds.
There was ample accommodation for horses at Blankney, and it had been the stables, where we were billeted. Designed by E.J. Willson in 1825, for some of the finest bloodstock in England, they were well built and we made them quite comfortable. Today they were being used as poultry houses. Coming off a duty watch at midnight, the fact of not having to get up early the next morning often induced Lindsay, Jim, Mervyn and me to play billiards into the early hours of the morning until the moon came up over the trees and a ghostly mistiness stole in from the fens.
Blankney church tower rises above the stables only a few yards beyond the fence. On certain Sunday mornings, just as we climbed into bed to sleep after a night watch, the eight bells in the tower (given by farmers as a thank-offering after the First World War) would begin their morning peal: it was after the national ban on bell-ringing had been lifted. As they rang out on the morning air, poor Lindsay would lie fuming in his bed, trying to sleep against the clangour of
Continued on page 44
what he described as 'those perishing bells'. The church stands between two main drives to the Hall. The rector showed me round, pointing out the silver-gilt chalice and paten of the early 16th century and a strange effigy of one John de Glori about whom little seems to be known but is dated early 14th century. Perhaps the finest monument is the kneeling life-size figure in white marble by Sir Edgar Boehm of Lady Florence Chaplin wife of Henry Chaplin the famous Victorian squire. The marriage only lasted five years, as she died after a two day illness, on 10th October 1881.

Returning to the Hall, I discovered that the demolishers had moved in. I felt that I had returned for the death of the Hall. One man told me that some of the stone was going to repair Lincoln Cathedral, but a lot of the rubble was being dumped down the lane. Before leaving I returned once more to the back of the Hall, and there I noticed something against the east wall—it was a spray of roses. So all the roses hadn't deserted the place. At least one link with the rose garden remained.

Written by Reginald Williams and originally published in ‘Lincolnshire Life’ in March 1982

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METHERINGHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Everyone at Metheringham Primary school was shocked and saddened to hear of the death of Pete Ford last May. Pete was a good friend to our school and he supported us well during the 12 years that I have been Headteacher at the school. He will be greatly missed. Our thoughts are with his family and we hope, that as time goes by, their sadness and loss will be replaced by many memories of good times spent with Pete.

A few weeks ago our pupils took part in our Harvest assembly and we were delighted to have the parents and families of our new reception pupils at this event. Pupils sang songs, acted out plays and recited prayers that were performed at this assembly. The highlight of the assembly was the Reception pupils’ offering of ‘The Dingle Dangle Scarecrow’ which was enjoyed by all of the parents in attendance. Pupils brought donations of food that were given to the Community Larder to help those in need.

During the first full week back at school our Year 6 pupils took part in Bikeability training. The aim of the course was to ensure that pupils gained a good level of competence in the use of their bikes and about the road safety implications that they need to be aware of. 34 of our 39 year 6 pupils took part in this training with 3 pupils achieving level 1 and 31 pupils achieving level 1 and level 2. Well done Year 6!

Our annual Expressive Arts week in school took place at the end of last term. This year our focus was based around mental health and wellbeing, one of our school improvement priorities for this academic year. At the beginning of the week all of the pupils took part in a dance session led by our dance teacher Megan. This really helped to boost the confidence and participation levels of some of our pupils. Pupils also took part in Yoga sessions in their classes and also in a whole school Yoga session that took part in the playground. All was calm in school for the rest of the day! We took part in Pizza Massage, mindfulness activities and art, drama and music activities during the week in our classes. At the end of the week the whole school went out on an autumnal walk which the pupils, and staff, really enjoyed. Pupils marvelled at dew laden spiders’ webs, the crunchy, colourful leaves on the ground and rainbows formed by the sunlight catching on some of the long blades of grass. What a wonderful way to end term 1.

Once again we have been awarded the Sainsbury’s gold games award for all of our involvement in school sports and games over the last academic year. Well done team green! We have appointed our new Sports Crew for this academic year and they will be kept busy writing sporting newsletters and helping out at sports events and tournaments. So far this academic year our pupils have taken part in non-competitive Dodge Ball, Football and Fencing tournaments. We have also won gold and silver medals in cycling and we have enjoyed participating in multi-skills and active maths events. Continued on Page 48
METHERINGHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS
Continued from page 47
On the 28th of September the school held a maths open morning for parents to join their children in their maths learning, tackling problems solving and reasoning activities. At the same time the school held a Macmillan Coffee Morning event for the parents and families. Both events were very well attended and the school raised £286.47 for Macmillan Cancer Care.
We have been running a wide range of after school and lunchtime clubs in school. The Carres’ outreach team have helped us to run active maths, multi-skills, netball and football clubs. Our dance teacher has been running a contemporary dance club for pupils and Darren from Mad-Minis has continued to offer an after school drama club. We have also had a wide range of games clubs for all ages of children afterschool and at lunchtimes and we have choir clubs for infants and juniors after school. Our gardening club ran during term one with our busy gardeners doing a fantastic job of keeping our flower beds and vegetable patches weeded and maintained. Term 2 sees the start of our Metheringham Heroes club for forces pupils in school and also a traditional games club covering games such as tiddlywinks, snakes and ladders, ludo, jacks and pick-up sticks. A trip down memory lane for many of the adults in school!
Term 2 will be busy for us all with Anti-bullying week, Children in Need and Christmas events to run and attend.
Continued on page 49

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METHERINGHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS
Continued from page 48
We will be holding anti-bullying assemblies in school for the parents to attend. These will be run by the children during the week. Our Friends of Metheringham School group will be holding a ‘Children in Need’ disco to raise money for this cause. In December the school will be transformed with Christmas trees and decorations and then we will be busy getting organised for our school Christmas Fayre. Our pupils will be planning games, making crafts and baking cakes and biscuits to raise important funds for school. The school choir will be singing at the village carol service and at our school carol service at the end of term. Some children will also be visiting the hand in hand club to sing to them before Christmas. Nativity plays will be performed, parties will be held and talent shows will be entered. The pupils and staff will also be entertained by a performance of ‘Ouch’ from Rhubarb Theatre Company. Lots to look forward to and fun times ahead for us all! Before we know it, 2019 will be with us all!
Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year from the pupils, staff and governors at Metheringham Primary School.
Elspeth McMenemie
Head Teacher
Metheringham Primary School

Metheringham Over Sixties Club

Diary Events:
Wednesday 2nd January
Members’ Evening, entertainment by popular local singer Sharna’
Wednesday 6th February
Members’ Evening, entertainment by singer Sarah Sheldon.
Saturday 3rd March
Coffee Morning at the Village Hall from 9.30am – 11am.
Wednesday, 6th March
Annual General meeting
Club events are held at the Village Hall, Metheringham, commencing at 7pm with doors opening at 6.30pm, unless otherwise stated. Watch out for the posters displayed around the village as a reminder of forthcoming events and we are looking forward to seeing you all.
Non-members are welcome to join us on members’ evenings, as guests, at a cost of £3.00 per visit. This includes a half-time cup of tea or coffee when we also serve biscuits. New members are accepted into the club at our May meeting. We have a waiting list for new members, but should you wish to add your details to the list please contact the Chairman Margaret Amos
Tel: 01526 321049
Dave Williams Secretary
COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT
From Cllr Rob Kendrick, Metheringham Rural Division

Like many people I hope we don’t have a repeat of the prolonged bad weather of last winter. However, the County Council has plans which are now ready to be put into action. Already at the time of writing the 43 council gritters have been in action putting on average 200 tonnes of salt on the 1869 miles of key roads covered every time they go out. Each gritter run costs a whopping £20,000 and the gritters are on call 24/7. Data comes in from 10 weather stations across the county which the engineers use to decide whether or not to send out the gritters. They are on standby between October and April next year.

Almost everything I come across in my role on the County Council makes me very aware of the size of the county and the impact that has on providing services. One of the scrutiny committees I sit on examines, for example, the provision of services for children with special educational needs and disabilities where we have 4600 children in need of these services. Over 40% do attend mainstream schools with others going to special Schools run by the County Council and some having their needs met outside the county. Another area which involves big figures is adult social care where we spend over £200 million across the county. In fact 45% of spending by County Councils in England is on social care.

An area that is of particular interest to me is the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire which the County Council "hosts". This is mainly because I worked in the NHS in Lincolnshire for 30 years! This committee gives the opportunity for councillors from the County and District Councils and representatives from other bodies to question the bosses of NHS trusts. In some cases we require them to report very regularly so that we can see how they are performing. Also the Committee can refer their concerns to health ministers.

Another area the County Council is focussing on is boosting the County's economy and the creation of jobs. Special links have been forged, for example, with Hunan province in China which is now one of the biggest economies in the world.

On a lighter note we are lucky to have a special exhibition at the Collection in Lincoln of work by famous British Artists including David Hockney. They come from the private collection of David Ross the philanthropist. The show is on until 6th January 2019.

Like other councillors I like to take the opportunity when possible to visit local groups and parish councils to learn more about what makes our part of Lincolnshire tick!

I can be contacted on email: cllrr.kendrick@lincolnshire.gov.uk or you can see what I am getting up to by following me on Twitter: @robkendrick53

A report from Cllr John F Money Executive Member for Housing and Property Services, North Kesteven District Council is on page 30 of this magazine
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SILVER SOUNDS BAND

Band members are preparing for a busy festive season with performances at the ‘Christmas at the Arena’ event in Allington in November. They are also playing for Christmas Lights Switch-Ons in Langworth and Navenby, and of course Metheringham Christmas Market and Metheringham Carol Service. Other events include Heighington Christmas Market, North Kyme Village Hall Christmas Concert and lots of carolling!

The annual Christmas Concert this year is at Cranwell Village Hall on Saturday December 15th at 7pm and will feature a performance by the young stars of the Training Band. If you can’t make that date the main Band are holding a Christmas Concert at The Venue in Navenby on Saturday 22nd December, 7pm.

Christmas Eve brings our favourite event of the year – the Christmas Singalong in Dunston Village Hall, 2th December 6pm–7pm, with complimentary Gluhwein and lots of audience participation.

The Band is always keen to welcome new members so whether you already play, or would like to learn, we would love to hear from you. Our Band Manager is Helen Duncan – email: silversoundsband@gmail.com or call 07443 009709 / 01526 323860. She is also the person to contact for information about any events, or to book the Band. Visit our Facebook page to keep up to date with Band activities.

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METHERINGHAM FOOTBALL CLUB
Peter Ford was the life and soul of the football club, having been involved for a majority of his life. We never knew how much he did for us and for that we applaud him, as if it weren’t for Peter, there would be no football club. We’ve all taken on responsibilities and have managed to stay afloat without the presence of Peter. His weekly match reports, his photography and the way he would discreetly watch Manchester United play whenever we had a meeting and many, many other things, are everything we miss about Peter. We hope he’s proud that we’ve kept his hard work going.

**Under 8’s** - Managed by Dale Firth and Emma Shaw
The under 8’s have had a good start to the season with multiple victories and a handful of goals. Many goals have been scored for the under 8’s as their victories include 7-1 results, with a few players frequently scoring. Let’s hope they continue with their streak of results.

**Under 10’s** - Managed by Andy Loakes and Dave Counsel
The under 10’s have had a brilliant start to their third season, losing only one match and winning the rest. The results they have been bringing in is simply amazing with 10-0 victories. Hopefully they continue this run which would lead to another presentation day like last year with the Under 10’s receiving most of the club trophies.

**Under 11’s** - Managed by Paul Newton and Laura Day
Having only played 4 matches since the start of the season, the Under 11’s are off to a good start with a variation of wins and draws. Their first season on a nine a side pitch has not affected this side as they are still bringing in good results. So far, a very decent start, let’s hope they keep bringing in the good results.

**Under 15’s** - Managed by Graham Shaw, Alex Coates and Dave Panton
The Under 15’s second season in the B league has started with a flurry of losses against a decent opposition. 

Continued on page 53
METHERINGHAM FOOTBALL CLUB
continued from page 53
Under 15s continued
Their match against favourites to get promoted Ancaster Gladiators ended in a one all draw, hopefully boosting the confidence of the players. The team are now playing on the Star and Garter pitch and has took some time to adjust to.

Sunday XI Reserves - Managed by Lee Kilner and Kye Pimblett
The Reserves have had a bumpy start to the season and currently sit bottom of division four. Having drawn two and lost two, the reserves still have a decent goal difference and the signing of new players could mean a turn around for them. Hopefully things will click in place and they will start to bring in the wins.

Sunday XI - Managed by Richard Hargrave
The Seniors have also had a rocky start to the season, with players leaving it has meant that this squad has to adapt and bring in a lot of youngsters. They have had a tough opposition, including playing favourites to win the league twice in three weeks. Some results have been completely unfair as in most occasions they deserved a win. But with more players coming in, it has allowed a stronger squad to shape and can bring in the wins as relegation would be unfair.
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TILLY’S TEA and GIFT SHOP
opened its doors for the first time at their Grand Opening in Metheringham on Saturday 3rd November. The charming new tea shop is a welcome attraction to the community and the many surrounding villages. Tilly’s offers delicious homemade cakes, afternoons teas, freshly made hot and cold food, aromatic coffees and teas, smoothies and takeaways. Gluten and vegan options available. In addition to the tea shop, there is a huge variety of gifts and crafts for all ages and crafts. If that isn’t fabulous enough, they are home to the stunning artwork of Lincolnshire’s own Baron and Knight artist, the talented Lizzie Mason. It’s coming up to Christmas, so Santa has sent a special red post box to Tilly’s for children to send their letters to him, plus they can try and spot the naughty Christmas elves hiding in the tea shop. Tilly’s guarantee you a warm and friendly welcome. They really would love to see you, so pop over, have a brew and a bit of cake with them, we know you’ll love Tilly’s!

To book afternoon tea, call 07812 749408.

To celebrate, Tilly’s Tea & Gift Shop is offering you the chance to win tea and cake for two people. To enter please send your name and address to Tilly’s Tea & Gift Shop Competition, 1 Caroline Road, Metheringham, Lincoln, LN4 1HF.

One winner will be drawn and notified on the last day of December and January.
HEALTH BENEFITS OF TAI CHI
by David, instructor at Metheringham Tai Chi class
Modern health research is now starting to confirm what people in the east have known for many centuries: how Tai Chi can provide many health benefits for people of all ages. This ancient oriental health art has been practised for hundreds of years as a calming, meditative yet invigorating health art. It helps restore and maintain physical and mental health by rejuvenating the natural energy of the body (or ‘chi’) whilst gently helping to keep it toned and flexible. Regular practice can help reduce stress levels, relax the body, improve balance, develop dynamic mind control and promote general well being.
Tai Chi was not developed to fix specific problems, instead it treats the whole person on a continual basis, with regular practice you can regain lost vitality and movement due to your whole system working more efficiently. Tai Chi is an extraordinary tool that can reward its practitioners with improved good health that can be sustained by continual practice.
I learnt Tai Chi from very knowledgeable teachers over the last twenty five years. Partly because I have benefited so much from Tai Chi myself, it is a pleasure to share this knowledge with others in my classes. Now seems a good time, as Tai Chi is getting overdue positive recognition from health research and the medical profession, and it seems like more and more people are wanting to learn it.
My Metheringham class is on Thursdays from 1.30pm to 2.30pm at St Wilfrids Church Hall, Church Walk, The cost is £4.50 per class (concession/retired) or £5.50 (waged)
For other classes near Lincoln go to taichilincoln.com
Feel free to come along for a taster class with no commitment, if you’re interested, or contact me for more information/questions.
More information can also be found at the FAQS page at my website taichilincoln.com
David, Tai Chi Instructor.

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FACING A NEW CHALLENGE

Almost daily it seems that we are encouraged by the Media to take up new challenges! We are told that the benefits will include a sharper mind and the satisfaction of a new skill learnt especially for those heading into middle and later life! As a piano teacher living in Metheringham I see the truth of this in the pupils I teach, from the youngest, aged 5 to the oldest, 70+.

For many, playing an instrument is a long held ambition, for others, it is a return to lessons after a gap of many years, but for all of them it starts with a phone call, a text or a knock on the door that leads to a wonderful journey. They are a testimony to the truth that it is never too late to try something new. They are all proof that a willingness to learn and a commitment to practice really produces results. New pathways seem to open in our brains as we play an instrument and brain to hand coordination inevitably improves too!

As we head towards a new year I would suggest that we all have a goal to try something new, whether it is playing an instrument, joining a choir, learning a language, painting or anything else. It really is never too late.

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SOME WINTER WILDLIFE NOTES
At the time the the MACLA mag/ Little Green Book was launched I was quite involved in community activities in Metheringham and was village correspondent so used to write up quite a few articles for Geoff Brown and later Pete Ford. In recent years I have managed to transfer my activities to more rural activities, our environment and wildlife so here are a few personal points of view about three little mammals I try and do my bit to help.

Britain's Hedgehogs (Erinaceous europaeus) are in real trouble. There has been a drastic decline in the last two decades. Our only spiny mammal hedgehogs can move up to 40 metres a minute and are mostly active at night. Their reasons for decline are complex and there are many contributing factors including: building over foraging routes, fewer wilderness areas in gardens, the removal of hedges, garden and field margins, the use of pesticides and insecticides, more road traffic, litter, more badgers. All is not lost yet and by helping hedgehogs we help their whole ecosystem. Here are a few reminders -

- Fencing panels with no through access are a serious threat to hedgehogs getting to their food source and away from predators. This could so easily be put right with an access hole 13cm across and high. Look at Hedgehog Street to find out more.
- Hedgehogs should be in hibernation by now but remember if you are lighting a pre-heaped bonfire to always check for hedgehogs thoroughly before lighting. Preferably move the whole heap.
- In the spring they will re-emerge to look for food. If you have regular visitors you may leave out some cat or hog food and water to supplement their diet of slugs and snails and worms and things. DO NOT LEAVE MILK AND BREAD.
- Hedgehogs can suffer injury from litter. Rubber bands, plastic 4-pack drinks can rings and plastic carrier bags are particularly dangerous. No-one should be littering anyway but if you see any of the above when you

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SOME WINTER WILDLIFE NOTES
Continued from page 61
are out and about exploring this lovely area of Lincolnshire please make sure you pick it up and dispose of it properly.
If you find a hedgehog out in the winter or in the daytime any time of year it is probably not alright. The British Hedgehog Preservation Society has a helpline number should you need advice regarding sick injured or orphan hedgehogs...01584 890 801. The People's Trust for Endangered Species also (PTES) wants your help to record hedgehogs through the Big Hedgehog map or becoming a hedgehog Champion via the Hedgehog Street website.

Bats also go quiet in the winter they are not in true hibernation but a state of torpor. There is little known about winter hibernation roosts which are not the same as summer ones and although we are not sure if the number of roosts is falling the number of bats per roost is. A bat can live up to thirty years which is very unusual for so small a creature.
Some bat facts: In Lincolnshire we have 11 of the 18 British species of bat. All British bats are insectivorous and nocturnal but they vary in which flies and moths they feed on, how soon after sunset they emerge to fly at night, their echolocation calls and how and where they roost. Bats are more closely related to us than to mice. Bats can eat up to 3000 mosquitoes a night. A brown long-eared bat (whose ears are a third of its body length) can hear a ladybird on a leaf. Our commonest bat is also our smallest; the pipistrelles are around the size of a 50p piece until they spread their arms (wings). When a bat emerges in the spring the females continued on p.63
SOME WINTER WILDLIFE NOTES
Continued from page 62

will move to a maternity roost where they will give birth and rear their young. Male bats are often solitary. The Lincolnshire Bat group (LBG) are involved in several surveying initiatives to find out more about these enigmatic and extraordinary creatures.— Daubentons bats are being surveyed on watercourses, we now have a Nathusius' pipistrelles survey programme as well. In the winter we look at known hibernation sites around the county. LBG work with Tattershall church to help the church community to live alongside the hundreds of bats who live in the church. This church is also one of a handful chosen to be part of the National Bats in Churches project alongside the Historic Churches trust, the Bat Conservation Trust and other partners.

Bats should not be on the ground or on walls in daylight so if you find a grounded or injured bat please contact the Lincolnshire Bat helpline on 01775 766286 or e-mail info@lincsbatgroup.co.uk or contact the Bat Conservation Trust. 

Water Voles (Arvicola amphibious) are another species that have been seriously depleted in recent years. Again the reasons are complex - changes to watercourses, lack of riverbank maintenance, pesticides and insecticides, larger predators...but especially mink.

Water voles are often mistaken for brown rats but have more rounded features; a blunter muzzle, smaller rounded ears, small black eyes, a furry tail and glossy brown fur. They are mostly herbivores chewing on grass stems which they hold in their front paws, while sitting on the river bank; if disturbed they jump into the water with a distinctive “plop”. They have undergone one of the most significant declines of any British mammal in the last 40 years, largely due to the release of American mink into the wild.

I do some water vole surveying for the PTES (People's Trust for Endangered Species) National Water Vole Monitoring Programme and in 2017 was delighted to actually see voles on Scopwick Beck and evidence at several of the other sites I go to locally. This year I saw nothing.... This could have been due to the bad spring, an example of the extremes of climate we have induced by not taking global warming and consequent climate change seriously in the last thirty years.

I hope that by highlighting the plight of these three helpful but harmless characters of our local Lincolnshire countryside you will also be moved to help where you can.

Dot Howes
SIX WAYS TO HELP THE ENVIRONMENT

1. Turn off electrical items when you are not using them – lights, computers etc. – even standby lights use ‘phantom power’ – even better unplug things if you can.
2. Turn down the temperature in your house. Water and heaters can be on too high for comfort, wear an extra layer and find out if your home is as efficient as possible.
3. Switch to LED light bulbs, they use up to 85% less energy, last longer and are safer.
4. Use a clothes line instead of an electric dryer when you can.
5. Try and conserve water, have shorter shower, fix a dripping tap, don’t always use the dishwasher and only do full loads of laundry.
6. Be really aware of what can be recycled, avoid single use plastics and look for things that will be more durable including clothes and shoes. Re-use things when you can.

THINGS THAT OFTEN CAN’T BE RECYCLED

Aerosol Cans; Batteries; Black or Dark Plastic; Strongly Dyed Paper; Ceramics and Pottery; Coffee Cups; Crisp Packets; Disposable Nappies; Drinking Straws; Most Gift Wrap; Hand Soap Pump Dispensers; Juice Boxes and Coated Containers; Nail Varnish Bottles; Napkins and Paper Towels; Photo Paper; Used Pizza Boxes; Plastic Bags; Plastic Boxes and Food Containers; Plastic Screw Caps; Post-It Notes; Shampoo Bottles; Shredded or Wet Paper; Styrofoam; Used Take-out Containers; Tissues; Tyres; Layer Padded Envelopes; Wine Glasses, Glass Cookware and Window Glass; Wire Hangers and Yogurt Cartons.
WHY DO PILATES?

Many GP’s and Physios will suggest that Pilates can improve posture, muscle tone, balance and joint mobility, as well as relieving stress and tension - indeed, they are correct. Having suffered with a lower back injury some years ago which resulted in my finding out that I had spondylosis of the spine, as a fitness instructor, it was devastating news. Then I discovered Pilates and since doing so have never looked back. After only a few months of attending classes, the transformation to my life was astounding. I went back to teaching high impact fitness classes and as a result, decided to train to add Pilates to my repertoire. That was 20 years ago and I have been teaching it ever since.

Pilates was initially developed as a rehabilitative tool by Joseph Pilates who was a German gymnast, born in 1883, and dedicated his life to teaching his exercising techniques, believing that poor posture goes hand-in-hand with poor health. By having an awareness of breath and of the alignment of the spine, it will strengthen the deep torso and abdominal muscles giving you the core strength needed for everyday activities.

The beauty of Pilates is that anyone, at any age can do it. Through controlled and progressive movements you can totally reshape your body. Pilates makes you stop and think about what you are doing as you travel through the various exercises. By focusing your mind, regulating your breathing and making use of internal resistance, Pilates, being predominantly mat based exercises, it is an extremely powerful way to tone your body.

For information on classes local to you please contact Sue Fisher on 07824 387162.
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METHERINGHAM SQUASH CLUB
Keep active in the winter months – join our Club Night on Monday evenings.
For many who enjoy physical activity and playing sport, the winter period can be challenging. Cold, wet weather and reduced daylight can be barriers to enjoying outdoor activities. So for those who enjoy keeping active, this is a great time to try a new sport that can be played anytime during the day and evening whatever the weather or lack of light! Playing squash or racketball are great ways to keep fit and meet like-minded people at our friendly club in Metheringham. Furthermore, squash was rated as one of the healthiest sports in a recent survey - it is possible to burn a whopping 408 calories playing squash for 30 minutes. Metheringham Squash Club has Level 2 coaches who are available for coaching beginners through to advanced players in individual or group sessions. We recently ran our first Squash 101 courses. These six-week courses are open to all ages 14+ and are a great and fun introduction to indoor racket sports. Our participants consisted of a family of beginners as well as individuals who had either never played before or were returning to the game after several years. We hope to run more courses in the new year, so please keep an eye on our Facebook page, website and notice board on the
outside of the club. We run our ‘Club Night’ on Monday evenings from 6.40 – 8.40. This is open to all abilities aged 14+, especially for those who would like to try the sport or return to it after a break. For club playing members the cost is £2 per session and for social or non-members it costs £3 per session. There is no need to book, just turn up with a clean pair of indoor trainers to change into and we can supply a racket.

The new squash season is well under way at the club and MSRC have again entered six teams into the Lincolnshire Squash Weekend League and one team in the Mid-Week League. At the time of writing, the six teams are scattered liberally throughout the four divisions. It is early days though!

The annual Parker Handicap competition was held throughout September. 34 players entered, and it came down to Ellis Karran versus Dan Carlile in the final on the evening of Sunday 30th. For Ellis this was his first Parker final and he played some excellent squash to provide a competitive and entertaining match for all the spectators. However, once again Dan showed himself to be the superb player that he is and was just too strong for Ellis.

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METHERINGHAM SQUASH CLUB
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It’s not just about the squash at the club though. We have a good programme of social events that run throughout the year. From quizzes to live music, BBQs to Dinner Dances, we think that there is something for everyone at the club.
If any of the above sounds of interest to you, please contact us via the details below, or call into the bar which is open from 7pm nightly where staff and members will be pleased to talk with you about the benefits of becoming a playing or social member of the club.
The club offers an introductory fee for new senior full playing members of £75 for the first year of their membership. Social membership is just £12. We hope that you agree that this provides excellent value for money.
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METHERINGHAM SENIOR CITIZEN WELFARE

All are welcome to join us at Coffee Morning which are held every Thursday in St Wilfrid’s Church Hall, Church Walk from 9.15 to 10.45 am

Angela Harvey (Sec)

NOCTON CLUB

Normal Opening Times
Monday / Wednesday Closed
Tuesday 7.30 - 11.00 pm
Thursday / Friday / Saturday
7.30 - 11.00 pm
Sunday 2.00 - 7.00 pm

On Sunday, families with children are allowed in the main bar.

Social Membership Fees:
Residents: FREE / Non residents £2

For further details contact the club on 01526 323588
N.K. STROLLERS in Metheringham

We are a walking group who meet up in Metheringham every Friday at 10am in the pavilion by the playing fields and do a 90 minute (approx 4 miles) local walk. There is no charge for this activity.

It’s a great opportunity to meet new people, have a chat as you stroll along and get some exercise … and a free cup of tea or coffee (and biscuits) at the end. No need to book just turn up in your boots!

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MEGAPHONICS
Megaphonics is a recently formed singing group who meet at the Community Centre on Caroline Road, Metheringham on a Tuesday evening at 6.30pm until 8.30pm.
The group is open to all, whether they have singing experience or not. One of the key elements of the group is to sing and have fun. Some members can read music, others cannot. It makes no difference.
We sing a variety of songs; anything from musicals and Disney to pop and rock. The only requirements to join are that you like singing and having fun! We always have a drink and a chat half way through the evening.
Come along and join us. It is only £5.00 per session and you are guaranteed a warm welcome.
Metheringham WI

has had a very interesting and busy year. The New Year started with a games evening and then in February country dancing with Andrew and Sally Long, which was very enjoyable. March saw our AGM and Christine Wright became our new President. Audrey stepped down after 13 years as President. Trophies were presented for various activities followed by a ploughman's supper. We had another successful afternoon tea with quiz with other Institutes taking part; Navenby won followed by Wellingore and Ruskington. Our meeting in April had a talk and demonstration on Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation; members took part and everyone should learn how to do CPR. May came with a talk on Bletchley Park with Keith Appleyard; and in June we had a cheese and wine evening with the Steam Punk Singers entertaining us. July saw a talk on hedgerow and garden herbs with Debbie, we also attended the Market Rasen Ladies Day. August was our trip to Calke Abbey in Derbyshire and in September we were entertained with folk singing by Teri and Nigel Creasey. In October Leonard Priestley from Wisbech gave a very interesting talk about his life as a lorry driver and removal man, he certainly had some tales to tell.

We take part in many WI Federation events and we also play darts and ten-pin bowling. Our Christmas outing is to Wicksteed Park Christmas Show and in December will be our Christmas Social. We meet every 3rd Wednesday of the month in the Village Hall, 7.15p.m. to 9.30p.m; come along for a visit, you will be most welcomed.

Audrey Webb,
Secretary, Metheringham WI.
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A family man who loved his sport
A fan of the ‘beautiful game’
A player of distinction
That brought him much acclaim.
And when his playing days were over
Still he could be found
At the heart of ground roots football
He would always be around.
And last, but certainly by no means least
In a corner of the village hall
On a Saturday night of the Metheringham feast
He would welcome one and all.
To stop awhile and reminisce
Recalling days of yesteryear,
Reliving all the laughs
Once again brought back to life
Through countless albums of photographs.
And when at last your own time comes
To transcend the pearly gates
And venture into heaven
Where our Saviour waits.
If you should have a question
To put before our Lord
Don’t be surprised to find yourself
Referred to Peter Ford.

Rodney Garlant 2018
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P61 R.A. Johnson & Son
P76 Steph: Interiors
P77 Stewart Parker
P77 Peter Cross
Pest Control
P31 Bardney Pest Control
Pet Services
P52 Willow Tree Cat Hotel
Physiotherapy
P46 Red Roof Clinic
P56 Navenby Physiotherapy
Plasterer
P53 Tom Deakin
Plumbing and Heating
P54 Ben Gash: BG
P70 M.G.Ford
P77 CM Plumbing & Heating
Public Houses / Restaurants
P6 Star and Garter Pub
P16 Red Lion Pub Dunston
P45 White Hart Pub
Reiki Practitioner
P34 Nicola
Squash
P66 Metheringham Squash Club
Soft Furnishings & Upholstery
P67 Claire’s Designs
P70 Wellhead Upholstery
Stone / Brickwork Specialist
P60 Natural Stone & Brickwork Ltd
Stoves
P58 The Navenby
Supermarket
P77 Nisa – Convenience Store
Transport
P48 Runway Executive Travel
P58 Neil Frost – Frog’s Leap
Travel Counsellor
P20 Lisa Pocock
Van Hire
P55 Man with a Van
Veterinary Surgery
P35 Orchard House
Wills
P75 Make a Will – David Dexter
Windows / Doors / Conservatories
P28 Lincoln PVC
P72 RGL
P76 Nigel Woodhead
Window Cleaners
P27 Eclipse Cleaning
Yoga
P51 The Yoga Hut
### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency (state which service)</td>
<td>999 or 112 (then press 5 if you are unable to speak for any reason)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police (non-emergency)</td>
<td>101</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crimestoppers</td>
<td>0800 555111</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victim Support</td>
<td>01522 511266</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electricity Supply Failure</td>
<td>- 0800 375675 or 105</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gas Emergencies</td>
<td>0800 111999</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Emergencies</td>
<td>0345 6723723</td>
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<tr>
<td>NHS Direct 111</td>
<td>01526 569979</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samaritans</td>
<td>01522 528282</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revd Alan Coates</td>
<td>0800 556112</td>
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<td>Rector, Metheringham, Blankney and Dunston</td>
<td>0800 556112</td>
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<td>Action Fraud</td>
<td>0300 1232040</td>
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<td>Alcoholics Anon.</td>
<td>01472 362058</td>
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<td>Age Concern</td>
<td>0800 0556112</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asthma Advice Line</td>
<td>0300 2225800</td>
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<td>Autism Helpline</td>
<td>0808 8004104</td>
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<tr>
<td>Breast Cancer Care</td>
<td>0808 8006000</td>
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<td>Cancerbackup</td>
<td>0808 8080000</td>
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<td>Childline</td>
<td>0800 1111</td>
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<td>Citizens Advice</td>
<td>0345 4040506</td>
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<td>Consumer Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cruse (Bereaved)</td>
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<td>Drug Addiction</td>
<td>0300 1236600</td>
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<td>Environment Incident</td>
<td>- 0800 807060</td>
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<td>Foreign &amp; Office</td>
<td>0207 0081500</td>
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<td>Heart Helpline</td>
<td>0300 3303322</td>
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<td>Lincolnshire County Council</td>
<td>- 01522 782244</td>
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<tr>
<td>Macmillan Cancer</td>
<td>- 0808808 0000</td>
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<td>Mencap</td>
<td>0808 8081111</td>
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<td>Meningitis</td>
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<td>Mind InfoLine</td>
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<td>National Express</td>
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<td>North Kesteven Council</td>
<td>- 01529 414155 after hours 01529 308308</td>
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<td>NSPCC</td>
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<td>Passport Office</td>
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<td>Patients Assoc.</td>
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<td>Relate</td>
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<td>Royal Mail</td>
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<td>RSPB Wildlife</td>
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<td>RSPCA</td>
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<td>Sane – Mental Illness</td>
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<td>Stroke Helpline</td>
<td>0303 3033100</td>
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<td>Shelter</td>
<td>0808 8004444</td>
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<tr>
<td>Terrence Higgins</td>
<td>0808 8021221</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trading Standards</td>
<td>- 0345 4040506</td>
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<tr>
<td>To withhold your number dial</td>
<td>141 before the rest of the number</td>
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