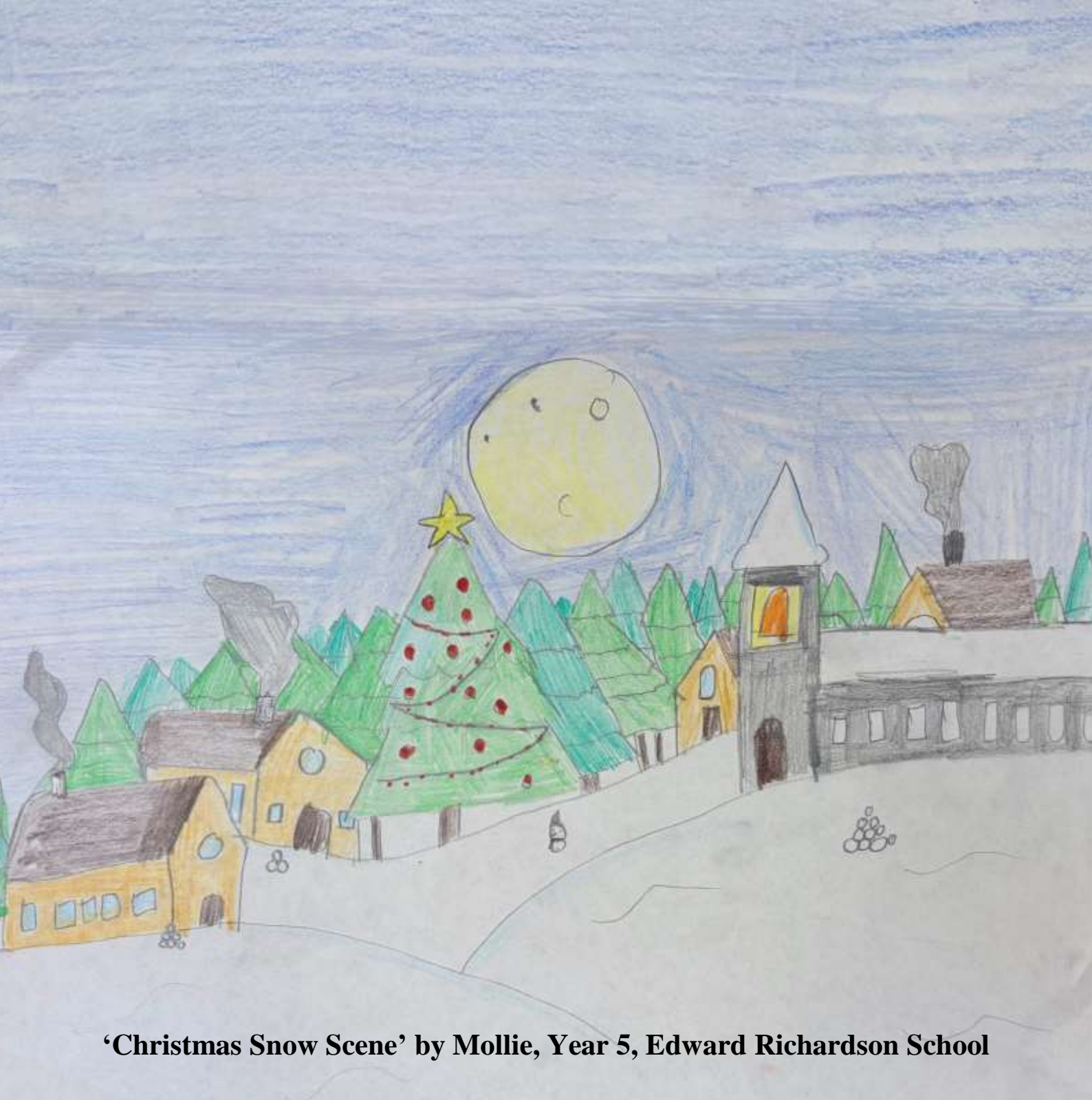


# The Times of Tetford and Salmonby

*Times present, Times past, Times future*

ISSUE NUMBER 47

December 2025



**‘Christmas Snow Scene’ by Mollie, Year 5, Edward Richardson School**

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tea & Chat, Hamilton Hall (back room) every Tuesday afternoon 2-4pm

Tetford Walking Group – every first and third Wednesday of the month

Horncastle Choral Society, Handel's Messiah, St Mary's Horncastle	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm
Hagworthingham Christmas Quiz, Hamilton Hall	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm
Family Christmas Party, Hamilton Hall	Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> December 3-5pm
Access Mobile Delivery/Returns	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December
Carols at Harrington Hall	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 6.30pm
Tetford St Mary 9 Lessons & Carols	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> December 6pm
Tetford St Mary Christmas Day	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> December 10am
Tetford St Mary Informal Service	Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 10am
Parish Council Monthly Meeting, Hamilton Hall	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> January 7.30pm
Access Mobile Delivery/Returns	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January
Horncastle Theatre Company <i>Pantomime</i> , Red Lion Theatre, Horncastle	Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> January to Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> February and Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> to Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm Matinées Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> January & 7 <sup>th</sup> February 3pm
Tetford & District WI 'Forensic Science', Hamilton Hall	Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January 7.30pm
Tetford & District Reading Group	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> January
Tetford St Mary Informal Service	Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> February 10am
TTOTAS Copy Deadline	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> February
Parish Council Monthly Meeting, Hamilton Hall	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm
Brinkhill St Philip Evensong	Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> February 6pm



YOU ARE INVITED TO A

# CHRISTMAS PARTY

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THE TIMES OF TETFORD & SALMONBY

Welcome to the Christmas 2025 edition of *The Times of Tetford and Salmonby* (TTOTAS)  
*The Times of Tetford and Salmonby* is an editorially independent ‘news magazine’, all-inclusive, unaffiliated, unsponsored, apolitical, secular, non profit-making, unfunded, uncorrupted and incorruptible, transparent, benign if occasionally irreverent, impartial except when it’s not, answerable only to the residents of Tetford & Salmonby. And in order to ensure maximum inclusivity we deliver free to every household in Tetford and Salmonby and to many in the surrounding villages, complementing the multitude of online local ‘social media’ sites.

~~~~~

**THIS MONTH.** Lots from the school this month, with the chosen Christmas picture by a pupil making our festive front cover, with more pictures on the back cover. Also on the back cover (because it’s in colour) is a photo of St Mary’s Church lit up for the ‘Light a Light’ ceremony. And was **Sylvia Vickers** hallucinating? Read her Beatrix Potter moment! A couple of extracts from **Eileen Burrell’s** past contributions are followed by a positive cornucopia of multi-varied submissions by local residents, including a look right back to **Neil Parnham’s** evocative surprise as a small boy. The school has had a major setback in preparing for their new ‘pod’ but the regular diary is upbeat as ever. The Walk is back, other regulars too, plus festive events like the children’s party and carols at Harrington Hall, not to mention the traditional church services and a big fat Arts and Culture section.

**Donations** This magazine is partially funded by donations, the rest comes out of the ether. £90.00 in donations this month. Total donations (i.e. income) to date £2713.00. Further donations please put through the Barley Corn Cottage door (postcode LN9 6QH) or by bank transfer a/c **36053762** sort code **30-99-50** account name **The Times of Tetford & Salmonby**.

**Post** your ideas/essays/letters/rants/poems/news through the letterbox of **Barley Corn (aka Barley) Cottage in North Road** or email to [thetimesoftetford@gmail.com](mailto:thetimesoftetford@gmail.com).

**Suggestions** for front cover images for future issues, and requests for back issues please deliver by hand to Barley Corn Cottage, phone 01507 534800 or email [thetimesoftetford@gmail.com](mailto:thetimesoftetford@gmail.com). Back issues can be supplied online (or, if you’re quick, in hardcopy, as we always print a few extra).

**Please continue** to alert us where we print falsehoods, or typos, or any sort of misinformation e.g. if something’s out of date.

**Please keep us up to date** by submitting dates and details of your events **well in advance of our deadlines, usually around the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month**. And please, please bring us NEWS!

*The Times of Tetford & Salmonby* can be viewed (in more colour) on the Parish Council website <https://tetford.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/> Find it under VIEW ALL PARISH INFORMATION.

NEXT COPY DEADLINE

FRIDAY 6TH FEBRUARY 2026 FOR DELIVERY ABOUT THE 12TH

**Eileen Burrell** has been contributing her 'bit' for many years now, firstly for the *Tennyson Chronicle* and when that folded, for *The Times of Tetford & Salmonby*. Here we reproduce two of Eileen's past contributions, pithy and historically first-hand informative, both appearing around Christmastime. Eileen now resides in the Grove Care Home in West Ashby, just ten minutes away from Tetford, and welcomes all visitors. We deliver this magazine to Eileen every month, by hand, and we know that you will join us in wishing her a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. God Bless You, Eileen!



*Tennyson Chronicle* December 2018, Eileen writes:-

It's 7.30am. I am listening to Radio Lincolnshire. Stop knocking the good old Lincs sprouts. People keep ringing in talking about how to 'make sprouts eatable', such as serving with chopped bacon and cream – it's disgusting! What's wrong with this lovely vegetable? At the outbreak of WW2, 70% of Britain's food was imported and our country would have been starved into submission. The farmers' crucial battle to feed the nation was being fought right here in Lincolnshire. Everyone grew greens in the garden, then along came the caterpillars, munching their way through them – oh dear!

So stop moaning about sprouts and think yourselves lucky – you have food on the table. Good luck to the farmers, keep on growing sprouts!

*The Times of Tetford & Salmonby* Dec 2021:-

The run-up to Christmas is so unlike our young days; so many memories come crowding in.

With growing up in Brinkhill, our little shop with Ella and Ruby putting up streamers everywhere. Such a warm welcome, my Daughter recalls the smell of paraffin and boiled sweets, but such a welcome. Late night shopping is nothing new – my mother, who grew up in the City, on coming out of the shop at Christmas in the dark, she was lost. Oh dear, she fell in the ditch, shopping everywhere; rescued by a young man who took her and shopping home. She never lived down the shame!

Great Aunt Edith would arrive, bringing gifts for everyone, including a lovely rag doll she had spent hours making, and much loved for many years. Many hours work by Aunt, and also by Ella from the shop, making wonderful soup which was taken round the village to people of any age not feeling good. I have no doubt it was all organic!

The News at the moment – to party or not to party! (*The world was in the grip of Covid*)

My Parents and I would visit Great Aunt Nellie - who had many cats, twenty or more - very festive. Mother thought the Christmas Cake had a faint whiff of cats, but never mind, it was good to party!

I wish Everyone a Good and Peaceful Christmas. *Eileen*

# NEWS ROUND UP ROUND THE VILLAGES

## TETFORD

**DONNA NOOK GREY SEAL COLONY** with the seal population peaking in early December. On 28<sup>th</sup> November 1815 pups, 1359 cows and 478 bulls. Remember it can get very busy over the weekend so, if you are able to, please try to visit during the week, especially as the main parking field is currently unusable (as of 29/11). An internationally important site just 30 minutes away. An amazing visit for the whole family but most seals will have returned to sea by Christmas. <https://www.lincstrust.org.uk/get-involved/top-reserves/donna-nook>

**MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION** It has been suggested many times that this magazine should be subject to subscription, to offset the cost of its production – say £5 per year per household. Would this work? Would enough households subscribe to make it worth the effort of the additional admin? What about our pledge of inclusiveness? Let us know what you think about the idea.

### **THE PRIDE OF TETFORD – OUR MEN OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR** – *Jonty Wild*

For anyone interested in the Tetford men who are on the memorial, beyond the articles appearing in this magazine, the full-length versions are now in the church (in a binder with the above title). As new ones are finished, they will be added.

Please don't remove the binder or any of the articles, if you want copies or can add any information to those done or that are in progress, just let me know

[jontywild@byacatswhisker.co.uk](mailto:jontywild@byacatswhisker.co.uk), 01507 534075

**THE HONESTY SHOP** outside the Mansion House in Little London opening times include Bank Holidays as well as Friday, Saturday and Sunday 8am 'til dark. Cash or QR Code. Contact: [odile@the-mansion-house.com](mailto:odile@the-mansion-house.com)

**PARISH COUNCIL** The Parish Council is STILL urgently seeking two more volunteer Councillors to fill the vacancies caused by resignations. There is a poster in the Parish Council section of this magazine. As we have said several times before, far be it from this magazine to propose criteria for selection, but a couple of female councillors would address the current imbalance!

**CHRISTMAS CRISIS SUPPORT** Last month we asked who should be contacted by those who were lonely or needed help in distress over Christmas, maybe need medicine collected or shopping done. Telephone numbers for Parish Councillors and other useful village contacts are listed towards the back of this magazine. The Clerk to the Parish Council, Pauline Murray, has also kindly agreed to field such enquiries and do her best to locate help. Pauline can be contacted by email at [clerk@tetfordparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@tetfordparishcouncil.gov.uk). If you don't have access to email ring 07859 901835

**WEST ROAD and SALMONBY BENDS** Did anyone spot the "Emergency Drainage Cleansing in West Road, promised for the 4<sup>th</sup> December? Us neither. However, we can all look forward to the "further work" to be carried out at the Salmonby Bends, "in December!"

**TETFORD QUIZ** previously known as the Wednesday Club Quiz, 5<sup>th</sup> November, Andy Robinson, quizmaster, writes: "Many thanks to everyone who supported the quiz. Thanks to all who donated raffle prizes and the Tetford ladies who provided excellent refreshments as always and sold raffle tickets. £300 was raised on the night and further donations boosted the total up to £350. All proceeds donated to Louth Hospice – many thanks." "P.S. the quiz was won by the 'Travelling Wilburys' with 64 points."

**NEW GARDEN CLUB** Thimbleby Village have just set up a new Garden Club. It's called THIMBLEBY VILLAGE GRAPEVINE and its main man seems to be a chap called Graham Newton. There is a Facebook page under the garden club name, and if you search on this you will be able to join the Facebook group and "buy plants at low prices, use the seedbank, sell or give seedlings etc etc..." It's free, and you can also find a link to joining on the *Tetford Area Community* Facebook page:  
[www.facebook.com/groups/tetfordareacommunity](http://www.facebook.com/groups/tetfordareacommunity).

**TETFORD ST MARY'S BELLS – a bit of back history.** *From Marlene Renshaw.*

In 2002/3 the three original bells in St Mary's were removed and refurbished (*see photographic display in the church*). The cost of this work was quoted at £6969.00 plus joinery works at £795, and included automating the ringing. It was initially hoped that this would not be subject to VAT. In the event Eayre & Smith, the contractors, did the joinery work at a reduced rate but St. Mary's did have to pay the VAT.

The launch on November 30<sup>th</sup> 2001 of Richard Harper-Smith's book 'Paupers, Priests and People' raised over £2000 for the Bell Fund, with publication costs covered by Dr and Mrs Harper-Smith. The publication was followed by a series of illustrated talks by Dr. Harper-Smith on the history of Tetford and Salmonby and, with further book sales, by September 2002 the total raised was £4566. The remainder of the cost was met by individual donations supplemented by St Mary's accounts and the Fabric Fund.

## **AVON CALLING!**

New Avon representative for Tetford and Salmonby  
area.

If you do not already have an Avon rep and would  
like to see a brochure please give me a ring.

Shirley 07505 907169

# PRESS RELEASE

## The Edward Richardson Primary School

### Modular Building Project Impacted by a Withdrawal of Support

We're writing with an update on our modular building project (for our Wellbeing Hub), although it is not the news we had hoped to share. In our previous press release, we explained that MHD Construction, Mablethorpe, had offered to complete the groundwork at no cost to the school, which would have allowed us to progress swiftly with the next stage of the project.

Despite repeated attempts to confirm arrangements, we have not been able to secure a definite start date from the company, and it now appears that the original offer is unlikely to proceed. As a result, we currently do not have an alternative provider in place to complete the groundwork.

This leaves us in a difficult position. While the funding for the building itself remains fully secured thanks to the incredibly generous support from both NFU Mutual and our own PSFA, the cost of the groundwork was not something we had anticipated needing to cover.

Unfortunately, this means our modular building will not be ready by the New Year as previously anticipated, and the revised timescale is uncertain at this stage.

We are exploring every possible option to move the project forward and remain hopeful that a solution can be found, though we are unable to make any firm commitments just yet.

## .HARRINGTON



## My Beatrix Potter Moment *by Sylvia Vickers*

Once upon a time I was a dog walker. Some days I was able to take my own dogs as well, as all of them got on well together.

So with 5 dogs we set off on our walk. At one stage of the walk was a small pond that had been dug out many years ago and a grassy mound was next to it.

The dogs were running free in front of me, chasing each other and having fun. They ran over the mound and I followed after just below it.

Suddenly, out popped a head followed by a small body. I saw she was wearing a mob cap and a gingham pinafore. With her hands (paws) on her hips, she berated me in no uncertain manner. She had just finished her housework and then we thoughtless creatures had stomped all over her roof and brought the dust down and she would have to start all over again. She was very cross. I said "Oh, I'm so sorry". She huffed and disappeared down her hole.

I carried on with our walk thinking, what a strange adventure I had just had.

\*\*\*

I feel readers may not believe me; so here is another version of the story.

The dogs were running free in front of me, chasing each other and having fun. They ran over the mound and I followed after just below it.

Suddenly, out popped a head followed by a small body. It was a bank vole and it swore quite abominably. I said "Oh, I'm so sorry". It then disappeared down its hole. I carried on with our-walk

Which version you believe is up to you. I know what I saw!!

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Urban Frontierz – Because every home deserves the perfect finish.

# Neil Thomson

Neil Thomson died in November after a long struggle with cancer. Residing in Horncastle, he was a keen and supportive member of Tetford Table Tennis Club.'

## So Farewell Then: lines in memoriam for Neil Andrew Thomson

So, farewell then, Neil Andrew Thomson  
You, who flashed the blade at the tables  
and, shouting gently, told me how to stand  
A warrior of grit, and often very audible groans,  
peacefully calm, beatific to the core,  
ping-pong with you was as serious as war.  
Stoic and grumpy, you once shed with me a tear;  
you kbo'd, but now, you're no longer here.  
A warbler, gee-tar plucker,  
bandleader and cakemaker too,  
in late adversity you were indeed very plucky.

When not a songster, you played the engineer,  
a doer, a fixer of things, like our tables  
or, rocking up one day to sort my wobbly loo seat  
(a stupid euro design we peevishly agreed).  
You found your poetry in the pop oldies  
yet, this paeon to a really good bloke  
might also just hit the note;  
husband, player, father, boy  
you were my mate, and you gave us joy.

Alan Lidmila

December 2025

{ With acknowledgement to: EJ.Thribb }

### FOR SALE

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| <b>155 x CD Box 'Brilliant Classics' Bach Complete Works</b> | <b>£35</b> |
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**Selling separately, both items are brand new in original box and original cellophane packaging. The complete list of works in both box sets can be found at <https://www.brilliantclassics.com/>**

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**December 2025**

Christmas can be a very busy time of year. If you are looking for a distraction and something simpler why not step outside and enjoy nature.

Around the village the rooks are already busy, and the rookery is noisy with activity. Another rookery not so far away is Donna Nook with its grey seal rookery. A seal rookery is where females congregate to give birth. At Donna Nook numbers of pups born appear to have revived from last years' drop, we are still waiting for the final figures as it has been known for a late seal to give birth on Christmas day. While numbers to be seen are starting to drop it is still a sight to behold throughout this festive period.

Winter is not renowned for its dawn chorus, which is a shame as it is much easier to get up at first light when sunrise is not until 8:00am, but it is worth standing and listening. My garden last Christmas was quite aptly filled with the song calls of robins, at least four birds were competing for attention. Great spotted woodpecker drumming and tawny owl hooting all add to a winter chorus.

There are some flowers and plants at their best at this time of year too. Mistletoe with its white berries, yellow flowers of aconite and primrose or prima rosa, the first rose of the year, will all make an appearance over the next few weeks. The daisies which have only just gone over, as a result of our false autumn, will be back in late January. The Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland (BSBI) have a New Year Plant hunt, seeking to record wild plants in flower. For more information go to their website.

There will be a range of events held at Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust nature reserves in December and January. From Santa's Winter Quest, talks, book sales and Eco Festive Decoration Making to a New Year Beach Clean. Find out more at [www.lincstrust.org.uk/events](http://www.lincstrust.org.uk/events)

Happy Christmas and best wishes for 2026 *Paul Learoyd*

**FOR SALE**

Electric Coal-Effect Fire. Fits into grate.

£8

Tel. 01507 533769 (Tetford)

# The Men on the Tetford War Memorial by Jonty Wild

**Pte. 43074, Ernest Preston Lancaster, 1st Bn. Lincolnshire Regiment. Died 4/10/1917.**

Ernest was born in Tetford, in 1899 and one of eight children of George and Mary Ann Lancaster (née Colvill). His parents were both born in Lincolnshire, Mary in Tetford.

The birth locations for the children suggest that the family were living in Driby in 1883, then Legbourne by 1885. They moved to Aby by 1890 and then Tetford by 1899.

Of the sons, we know that Ernest, William and Herbert all served in the Great War and only Herbert survived. George Brooker, their sister Grace's husband was also killed.

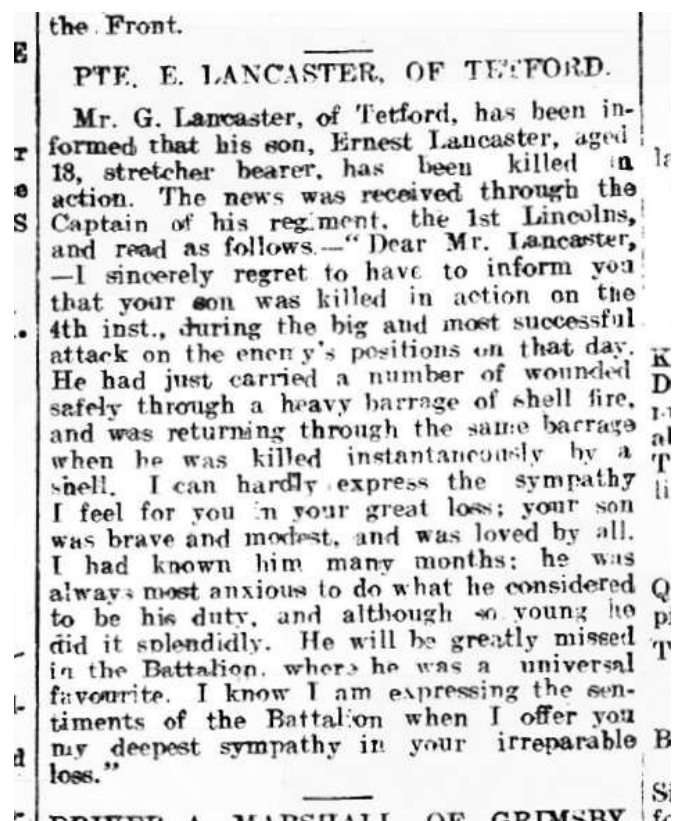
In 1901, the family were living in Ormsby Road, with Ernest's father working as a market gardener and licensed hawker. They were still in Tetford in 1911, when Ernest (11) was at school.

Frustratingly, there is now a gap between 1911 and a few weeks before Ernest's death in October 1917, which is difficult to fill with any accuracy. This is another case for the Tetford men of when a service record might reveal so much, and another when it is just not available. Unless more information is found, all we can try to do is make educated guesses.

He is recorded as enlisting in Horncastle while living in Tetford, but we do not know when. The medals he received confirm that he did not go overseas earlier than 1916. His original service number was 5047 - suggesting he was either serving in a pre-war Territorial battalion or a long serving soldier - but Ernest would only have been about 14 so neither obviously fits. Seventeen was the minimum to age enlist and 19 to serve abroad, and after conscription started in 1916 the minimum age was 18. Given Ernest's young age, he probably served from some time in 1917, but we should also remember that many young men and boys lied about their age. My best guess is that he volunteered and did not wait for conscription, that his training began in late 1916 or early 1917 and potentially was cut short to replace the Army losses during the Battle of Arras or the Third Battle of Ypres. We must rely on his Battalion's War Diary to establish his likely experience of war, but when do we start? His mother died on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1917 and the family believe Ernest attended the funeral and if so he would not have gone overseas until after then.

In August 1917 the 1st Lincolns were billeted in Danville (France) and on the 31st a draft of 78 ORs arrived, possibly Ernest Lancaster was one of them. If so, he had an easy start, with drill, training, football, cricket and other competitions until the 14th. More ominously on the 15th they were practising an attack, including the use of blank ammunition by the 10th Yorkshire Regiment, as they took on the role of the Germans.

On September 16th, 1917, at 2pm they marched from Dainville Wood to Aubigny, about 10 miles, where they entrained for Cassell, arriving there at about 1:40am, and then marched to Borre, before resting for the remainder of that day. On the 18th and 19th they were instructed on attack,



counterattack, meeting counterattack and consolidation. On the 20th they moved by lorry to a camp near Ridgewood - south-east of Etang de Dickebusch (Belgium) - arriving at 3:30pm. There was no rest for 'A' and 'B' Companies as they commenced digging 2000 yards of cable trench and only finished at about 5am. Then, an hour and a half later, 'C' and 'D' Companies marched out to continue the work. During this time one man was killed and 8 wounded when they were shelled.

The Germans suspected that something was about to happen and tried to interfere with preparations. The Battalion either rested or performed fatigue duties until the 25th and then marched to a new camp near Berthen (France) for more training and bathed at Le Besace Farm, before moving three more times before October 1<sup>st</sup>. Then finally to Polygon Wood on the 3rd where they dug in.

The following day they entered The Battle of Broodseinde – part of the Third Battle of Ypres. For this they used the 'bite-and-hold tactics' much favoured by General Herbert Plumer. The strategy was to attack and take only the ground that you were confident you could hold against a counterattack, consolidate, regroup and be ready to go again, when circumstances were right.

*"The attack took place at 6am on the 4th of October and was directed against the main line of the ridge east of Zonnebeke. . . . Two battalions of the regiment - the 1st and 8th Lincolnshire - took part in the Battle of Broodseinde, the former attacking the enemy near the south-western corner of Polygon Wood, the latter south of the Menin road."*

This battle was the most successful of the Allied attacks of the Third Battle of Ypres, with the British devastating the German defence. This mattered little to Ernest as he was killed. The War Diary recorded estimated casualties as 24 men killed, 167 wounded and 36 men missing.

If we guessed correctly and he only joined the Battalion in August, he experienced something less than 24-hours of fighting. Local newspapers reported that Ernest was a stretcherbearer, if so, he probably didn't fire a shot at the enemy and was probably killed by shell or by general gunfire.

His family were notified in a letter sent by his Captain soon after his death: *"Dear Mr Lancaster, I sincerely regret to have to inform you that your son was killed in action 4th inst. during the big and most successful attack on the enemy's positions on that day. He had just carried a number of wounded safely through a heavy barrage of shell fire, and was returning through the same barrage when he was killed instantaneously by a shell. I can hardly express the sympathy I feel for you in your great loss; your son was brave and modest, and was loved by all. I had known him many months; he was always most anxious to do what he considered to be his duty, and although so young he did it splendidly. He will be greatly missed in the Battalion where he was a universal favourite. I know I am expressing the sentiments of the Battalion, when I offer you my deepest sympathy in your irreparable loss."*

Although not the case with many, Ernest's body was found, recovered, and he was buried in Hooge Crater Cemetery (*photo of the cemetery available*).

It was recorded that his father never got over Ernest's and his brother Willie's death and spent much of his later years at the Tetford War Memorial, but he had moved to Horncastle by 1939.

*These are abbreviated biographies. Longer versions ('book' or 'full' versions) are available via [jontywild@byacatswhisker.co.uk](mailto:jontywild@byacatswhisker.co.uk) or are available to read in the church.*

***If you can add anything for the men, such as information/photographs/corrections please tell me. Jonty Wild***

## **Lord Hurcomb** *by Neil Parnham*

It didn't seem possible to me at the time,  
That they could possibly shut the East Lincolnshire Line,  
We'd watch the trains pass by; the Expresses, the Iron Ore and the Fish  
How could anyone possibly bring an end to this?

In 1963 I was an 'ode schoolboy, and an avid train-spotter,  
At collecting steam engine numbers, cabbng them, there was nobody 'otter.  
In the school holidays with a rail Roving Pass in hand,  
I'd start out from Mablethorpe and tour the rails of Lincolnshire's lands.

You would hardly recognise the stations now,  
Ripped up, grown over and the tracks under plough.  
Beautifully kept stations like Firsby, Alford and Withcall,  
That served their townsfolk, the RAF, the tourists and all.

I'd spend many days at Aby with a signalman I knew well,  
Many a tale of railways he'd sit down and tell.  
Under his careful watch, the heavy signals I'd peg,  
Which suited him well as he had a real gammy leg!

I'd be up and down the steps to open the crossing gates,  
Then down again soon after, to close them for a fast freight.  
A code 3-1-1 block bell would ring and tell,  
That a Grimsby Fish Train was on line and was going like 'ell.

By heck they'd rattle the box when they came through,  
A 9F with a hundred waggons behind and that's true.  
Them fillets would be in Kings Cross in 2 hours time,  
Just so long as the signalmen on the way cleared the line!

One day I was in for real treat,  
For destined was I for Lord Hurcomb to meet!  
Not the old Minister of Transport you understand,  
But the Britannia Class loco number 1, green, clean and grand.

For phone rang at Aby, it was Authorpe with information providing,  
Signalman said, "I have just shunted Lord Hurcomb into my siding!"  
If that 'ode boy of y'ourn gets on his bike then maybe,  
He will get a ride back up in the engine cab to Aby?

I was off like a shot, I've never pedalled so fast,  
I skidded into Authorpe yard shouting "I'm 'ere with a gasp!  
There it stood in the siding, simmering, a sight to behold,  
The driver smiled down and beckoned me up, I didn't need to be told!

"Set thee bike there lad, (Driver were a Yorkie!) agin yon bunker",  
"And sit thee sen on my seat; and mind yer don't get oil on yer jumper".  
"Reet, let's be off lad before we're made even later",  
"Put thee little hand on yon regulator."

"Nah move it upards a bit to let some steam in",  
"Not ower much mind or you'll make t'wheels spin"  
We joined the main line and a bit faster he let me go,  
But in no time at all the Distant for Aby said to slow.

Down I jumped at Aby old platform with a ruddy great grin,  
Nearly forgetting me bike, the cab was it still in.  
I thanked him and thanked him the best I ever could,  
Knowing that, to have a chance like this again, I never would.

Those days are gone now, that era too has gone,  
Ode boys today will never know what we'd seen and done.  
But I have my memories of those days of steam and rail,  
And I'm pleased to be able to re-tell this tale.



No. 70001 'Lord Hurcomb' was constructed at Crewe Works in February 1951 and bore the name of Cyril Hurcomb who oversaw the Ministry of War Transport. It was constructed to Order No. E479/220 and completed on 14th February that year.

From Stratford shed, 70001 hauled passenger express trains on the Great Eastern Railway such as 'The Norfolkman'. For over twelve years, the locomotive was in service on the GE section. In 1954, the total mileage was 78,600.

The locomotive was withdrawn from service on 3rd September 1966 and stored at Carlisle Kingmoor Shed (12A) until the end of the year. In January 1967, 70001 was cut up at Motherwell Machinery and Scrap Co in Wishaw, Scotland.

## GROUP NEWS

### **READING GROUP ROUND-UP 2025** *from Karen Watkins*

We have had an interesting and diverse reading list this year, an excellent mix of genres and authors with books from the 1920s to the 2020s; all have provoked great discussion and have taken us all over the world within the informal, friendly environment of our reading group.

As we finalise the 2026 calendar, here's a round-up of the books we read and the places and times they took us to in 2025:

In January we were in rural Ireland in the 1980s with the 'small but perfectly formed' novella, *Small Things Like These*, and the secrecy surrounding the 'Magdalene Laundries'; in March we travelled back a few decades to post-war London and the early days of the NHS for *The Dark Circle*, the story of a brother and sister receiving treatment in a TB sanatorium (more uplifting and entertaining than it sounds!).

In May we were in Brooklyn, New York, for a moving account of a black man's experiences of being raised by a white, Jewish mother in the autobiography *The Color of Water*, exploring themes of racial identity, religion and family; in sharp contrast, August saw us immersed in the English countryside and a woman's unique, and beautifully-written, experience of the Covid lock-downs in the memoir *Raising Hare*, so much more than just a 'nature book'.

18<sup>th</sup> century Australia, and its brutal colonisation, was the backdrop for September's choice, *The Secret River*; and for our final novel, *An Enchanted April*, we joined four genteel ladies, drawn by 'wisteria and sunshine' to a villa in Portofino in 1922 – a real change of pace and a lovely read in the midst of a cold, wet English November.

In December we will meet for our traditional Christmas get-together when, fortified by festive food and drink, the group will share their book recommendations on the theme 'A Journey' – it will be interesting to see where these will take us and what we might discover along the way... Our first meeting of the new year is on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January.

Wishing you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year!

#### **A note on membership**

The reading group meets bi-monthly and has a membership of 12 regularly attending members; meetings are held in our own homes which means we are now 'at capacity', in terms of both physical space and 'air space'!

Following some new enquiries we now find ourselves with a small waiting list - while we're currently unable to accommodate all of those interested in joining the group, it's good to know that 'reading for pleasure' really is still a pleasure here!

For more details on our reading lists please contact Karen Watkins  
Email: [kwatkinshmg@gmail.com](mailto:kwatkinshmg@gmail.com)

**TETFORD WALKING GROUP** *from Jonty Wild*

Walks are usually scheduled for the first and third Wednesdays of the month.

The next walk will be on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December, and is probably Simon Wood's Christmas Walk – Horncastle to Thimbleby as previously published in this magazine – thanks Simon.

The first one in the New Year is on 7<sup>th</sup> January and will probably be about 5m around Aswardby to Brinkhill, but if you want to be certain get in touch – new walkers very welcome. After that, walks are scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup> January and 4<sup>th</sup> February.

Beautiful countryside, friendly walkers and lifts are always available, when the start is elsewhere. We meet at the village hall at 9:50am to leave 10am prompt (Church bell), but if you plan to join us, and you are not already a member, it would be really helpful if you would contact [jontywild@byacatswhisker.co.uk](mailto:jontywild@byacatswhisker.co.uk) or 01507 534075 in advance, as this will save time on the day.

**TETFORD & DISTRICT W.I.** *from Sue Le Page*

Traditionally our November meeting is always a craft meeting and this year was no exception. Lucy Noad guided us through the art of découpage in order to decorate a small vase in the design of our choice. Two hours of painting, drying, assembling and sticking resulted in 15 totally different ornaments. The Phil Doyle Cup presented at this meeting was awarded to Mary Saunders.

Our members and friends will be enjoying the annual Xmas meal at the Blacksmith's Arms on December 5<sup>th</sup> and our next meeting will be on January 28<sup>th</sup> in the Hamilton Hall. Our speaker will be Dr Nicola Crewe who will be talking to us about Forensic Science. The meeting commences at 7.30pm as usual. Visitors are always welcome.

Further details can be obtained from our President, Terri Willings on 01790 612341.

**Dean Wilkinson Decorating Services**

All types of painting and wallpapering

Based in Tetford

Friendly advice and free estimates available

Call 07584 679744 or email [deanwilk28@gmail.com](mailto:deanwilk28@gmail.com)

# CHURCH NEWS – St. Mary’s, Tetford

A Sunday informal worship is held on the first Sunday of the month in St Mary’s Tetford at 10am. The next is on January 4<sup>th</sup> 2026. There is time for coffee and a chat afterwards, all welcome.

The Edward Richardson School’s end of term concert will take place in the church on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December (school only).

## Friends of St Mary’s

The friends help with the upkeep of the Church and Churchyard, many thanks to everyone who cleans, provides the flowers and particularly with keeping the Churchyard tidy, you really are appreciated. Donations towards the upkeep of St Mary’s Church can be made to ‘Friends of St Mary’s’ account number 34267660; sort code 30-99-50. Cash, and cheques payable to “Friends of St Mary’s” please deliver to ‘Hill View’, North Road, Tetford.

## THE SOUTH ORMSBY GROUP OF CHURCHES

For general enquiries contact the Rural Dean Reverend Fran Jeffries 01790 752526

The South Ormsby Group of Parishes, particularly Tetford, are extremely grateful to all benefactors who have allowed the recent installation of the three additional bells to happen and look forward to hearing the bells rung on a regular basis.

MAIDENWELL OXCOMBE RUCKLAND  
SALMONBY SOMERSBY SOUTH ORMSBY  
TETFORD WORLABY

BAG ENDERBY BRINKHILL CALCEBY DRIBY FARFORTH KETSBY HARRINGTON HAUGH

Each month there is a lay-led family service at **Tetford St Mary** on the first Sunday of the month and then two weeks later a further service in one of the other churches in the South Ormsby Group, taken by a member of the clergy.

|                      |     |                           |                         |        |
|----------------------|-----|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| Sun 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Dec | Tetford St Mary           | Informal Service        | 10am   |
| Thu 18 <sup>th</sup> | Dec | Carols at Harrington Hall |                         | 6.30pm |
| Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> | Dec | Tetford St Mary           | 9 Lessons & 9 Carols    | 6pm    |
| Thu 25 <sup>th</sup> | Dec | Tetford St Mary           | Christmas Day Communion | 10am   |
| Sun 4 <sup>th</sup>  | Jan | Tetford St Mary           | Informal Service        | 10am   |
| Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> | Jan | Somersby St Margaret      | Eucharist               | 6pm    |
| Sun 1 <sup>st</sup>  | Feb | Tetford St Mary           | Informal Service        | 10am   |
| Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> | Feb | Brinkhill St Philip       | Evening Prayer          | 6pm    |

BAG ENDERBY BRINKHILL CALCEBY DRIBY FARFORTH KETSBY HARRINGTON HAUGH

MAIDENWELL OXCOMBE RUCKLAND  
SALMONBY SOMERSBY SOUTH ORMSBY  
TETFORD WORLABY

## THE HAMILTON HALL

is available to hire for all events such as private parties or fundraising events. **To book the hall ring Marlene on 07795 662007**

|                                                                                       |                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Hamilton Hall Committee</b><br><br>Kate Stark (Chair)<br>David Needs<br>Pat Sparks | <br><br>Paul Head (Treasurer)<br>Marlene Renshaw (Bookings etc.)<br>Pat Harrison (Secretary)<br>Lesley Harper-Smith |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

- A Christmas Party will be held in the hall for families on Saturday December 13<sup>th</sup>. Please book. Details are on the poster at the front of this magazine. All welcome, free entry.
- The Village Hall committee wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### **REGULAR HAMILTON HALL ACTIVITIES and FACILITIES:**

**Short Mat Bowls**, Tuesdays at 7.30pm Contact Mr D Needs 01507 533705. The Bowls Club re-convened on the first Tuesday of September. New members always welcome and the first three evenings are free. A friendly bunch, will be pleased to see you.

**Table Tennis** Monday evenings from 7-9pm and Thursday afternoons from 2-4pm. Email [tetfordtabletennisclub@gmail.com](mailto:tetfordtabletennisclub@gmail.com) for enquiries. The club has five tables.

**Pilates-Plus** Mondays 09.30am. Contact Debbie Jenner [debbiejenner@outlook.com](mailto:debbiejenner@outlook.com). £9 per class.

**Teas for the Walkers** This service is available for booking in the Hamilton Hall by walkers' groups. Groups should contact Marlene Renshaw 01507 533209

**Parish Council** Usually 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month 7.30pm. Residents welcome to attend. *See feature(s)*

**Tetford and District W.I.** Fourth Wednesday of the month 7.30pm (*see Group News*). Contact Terri Willings (Branch President) 01790 612341

**Tea and Chat** Tuesday afternoons 2 – 4pm except the first gathering of the month which will be on the Wednesday morning of the first week starting at 10am. All welcome.

Pilates-Plus classes in Tetford Monday 09.30 Hamilton Hall  
£9,- per class

Build a stronger core, improve your posture- flexibility, mobility, breathing and circulation. Learn to move your spine in a safe, effective way and all that in a mindful, gentle manner. The 'Plus' comes from extra stretching and mobilising exercises with use of balls in various sizes (can be supplied). You just need your mat.

Classes are for all levels and ages taught by Debbie Jenner a teacher trainer with more than 24 years experience of teaching Pilates to instructors and consumers and 43 years of group exercise teaching.

Contact for more info/questions: [debbiejenner@outlook.com](mailto:debbiejenner@outlook.com)

# ARTS AND CULTURE

## A Collection of Seasonal Haiku With Season's Greetings from the Tetford Area Feral Writers

The Saviour is born  
Season of love and kindness  
Let the bells ring out!

Christmas: a time of  
Peace and good will to all men  
What's happened to that?

Baubles, tinsel, lights  
Twinkle within fir tree fronds  
Christmas is approaching

Thoughts of Christmas past  
Bright paper chains hung up high  
Trifle and circus

The elf on the shelf  
A quite new innovation  
Makes no sense to me

A cold winter's night  
The distant sound of sleigh bells  
Could it be Santa?

Icicles like glass  
Dripping down the window pane  
Drops of water race

Owl hoots in chilled air  
Moon shines through frosted branches  
Waits for the grey dawn

Wisps of blue and pink  
Aurora Borealis  
Paints the evening sky

Beneath pewter skies  
The fields lie barren and bleak  
Awaiting Spring's revival

Frost etches pictures  
Upon icy window panes  
Winter's finest art

Mischievous greedy mice  
Many delicious pies quickly devoured  
Stomachs churning, tiny jaws ached, prostrate they lay

### *Verse 57. Tao te Ching*

*If you want to be a great leader, you must learn to follow the Tao.*

*S t o p            t r y i n g            t o            c o n t r o l .*

*Let go of fixed plans and concepts, and the world will govern itself.*

*How do I know this is so?*

*Because in this world, the greater the restrictions and prohibitions,*

*The more people are impoverished; The more advanced the weapons of state, the darker the nation;*

*The more artful and crafty the plan, the stranger the outcome;*

*The more laws are posted, the more thieves appear.*

*Therefore the sage says: I take no action and people are reformed.*

*I enjoy peace and people become honest. I do nothing and people become rich.*

*If I keep from imposing on people, ....They become themselves.*

---

**A bit of ancient Wisdom from 400bc.**

## CHRISTMAS PAST *Anonymous*

There's snow on the steeple and frost on the ground,  
Sweets for a penny and crackers for a pound.  
And a long woollen stocking at the foot of the sheets,  
Waiting for Santa to fill it with treats.

Downstairs, there's milk and mince pies on the table,  
For Santa to eat, whenever he's able.  
Then sleepy eyes close, an end to resolve,  
The conundrum of Santa, the mystery to solve.

I wake with excitement to early morn light,  
It's Christmas Day, *Christmas!* A feeling so bright.  
In my stocking, an apple, chocolate coins wrapped in  
gold,  
An orange, a spud gun, wax crayons, behold!

There's heat and there's bustle. An enticing scent  
Comes from the kitchen where mother has spent  
The morning chopping and mixing and stirring the  
pots,  
Whilst we sit with comic books, joining the dots.

To shouts of delight, there's present-revealing,  
And a mountain of paper, halfway to the ceiling.  
A train set, Scalextric, Barbie and Ken,  
Rupert and Beano, Dr Who's Cybermen.

Selection Boxes full of chocolate delights,  
Snow falls in the garden, fun snowball fights.  
Coal in the coal shed and ash in the grate,  
Father will riddle it, a sound that I hate.

Then crackers are pulled and jokes, they are read,  
A red paper hat sits proud on my head.  
And Father is ready to carve up the turkey,  
Sharpening the knife, he's looking quite perky!

Roast turkey and sausage and stuffing all abouts,  
Roast parsnips, potatoes, peas, carrots, and sprouts.  
All trimmings are there, bread sauce in a pot,  
Gravy boat full, and all scalding hot.

The Christmas tree stands, with twinkling lights  
wound,  
Baubles of gold, tinsel down to the ground.  
Ribbons and streamers and multi-coloured balls,  
Hang from the ceiling and are stuck to the walls.

In the evening, there's TV and Morecambe and  
Wise,  
Monopole, Cluedo, tea and mince pies.  
And the radio plays carols and speeches and such,  
It's all grown-up talk; I don't understand much.

And Father is chatting with Grandma on the phone,  
She's up in Blackburn, with Grandad on his throne.  
A taciturn man, he never says much,  
Puffing his pipe and talking double Dutch.

And then Father says, 'Now, it's time for bed!'  
And small children's feet up the stairs they will  
tread.  
With heads full of memories of chocolate and fun,  
A life, oh so simple, no idea of what's to come.

### **Piano Tuition available**

**Beginners and early years, any ages accepted.**

**£10 per half hour.**

**Please contact Sue on 01507 534800 (Tetford)**

## **A Christmas Wish**

As Christmas Day draws ever near,  
Excitement fills the air,  
And we are blessed with seasonal cheer  
To lead us to this prayer.

*Chorus:*

Bless us all this Christmas time,  
May all the world hold peace,  
May all the bells so sweetly chime  
To tell us war will cease.

An end to fighting, we implore,  
An end to strife and strain,  
May we as brothers stand before  
Adversity and pain.

*Chorus:*

Bless us all this Christmas time.....  
May all the world hold peace,  
May all the bells so sweetly chime  
To tell us war will cease.

We wish the hungry will be fed,  
We wish the sick be healed,  
And all the world unite instead,  
And so our fate be sealed.

*Chorus:*

Bless us all this Christmas time.....  
May all the world hold peace,  
May all the bells so sweetly chime  
To tell us war will cease.

I am a member of Horncastle Choral Society and, at the end of the summer term, we were invited to submit a Christmas song which our leader, Robert Steadman, would set to music. Alongside another choir member, my song was chosen and we will be singing both carols at our Christmas concert on 12<sup>th</sup> December in St Mary's, Horncastle. Why not come along?

*Kath Thomas*

## **Solace of our time**

Here, the perfect place to seek solace  
For we exist in interesting times  
Our inborn nature tested, perplexed  
Midst veiled humanitarian crimes

Stay true to your intrinsic values  
Look one another deep in the eye  
Seek now the soul that is living  
As others so sleepily pass you by

Dig deep for those inner resources  
Let your heart speak how you feel  
Your meditative mind sees clearly now  
As their synergy shows false from the real

You may take on a lower profile  
Others misled with heads in the clouds  
Your life sustained with just loved ones  
While the masses melee in crowds

Some, sadly will fall by the wayside  
Many more will merge with the machine  
Positive people find this is their hour  
The verge of that utopian dream

The present so fraught with confusion  
The future, for some is not bright  
Now is the time to forget the past  
Walk on, follow the path that is right.

*Man Yarner*

If you don't read the newspaper, you're uninformed.  
If you read the newspaper, you're mis-informed.

*Mark Twain*

## NEW YEAR'S EVE RITUAL ...*Anonymous*

Boxes, special boxes, lie at the bottom of my locked filing cabinet. Deposited there, are letters and cards collected throughout my life. From grandparents, school friends, parents, lovers, wives, children, more lovers, more children. Since the invention of e-mail though, they've been few and far between.

Tonight, it's New Year's Eve 2026 and there's a very special box of letters I want to look at. But first, there's something I have to do - The Ritual.

I go to my trusty computer and start. I'm alone in the house. My partner, Suzanne, is at her parents, the kids are grown up, probably remonstrating with their own kids about coming home at a 'sensible' hour. As if!

I begin to type. Dear —. I leave the name blank for now, anticipating the thrill of typing it in. 'I hope you are well, and I wonder how this will find you. You were talking about moving to a villa in Portugal. Are you still planning to live there? Did you marry Fiona? Is your mother still alive?' Questions surge into my mind.

I take a swig of cider, Weston's Vintage Cider 2025, 8.2% alcohol. Three bottles for a fiver at Tesco, the same as it's been for the last ten years! I swill the amber liquid around my tongue and savour grass, twigs, toffee, leaves, and moonlit apples.

For the next two hours, I sit writing and drinking cider. About what I've been doing myself for the last year, my failing health, my increasing wealth, and my disastrous love life. Then about my goals and aspirations. Maybe they'll be interested? Do that trek up Kilimanjaro, play a recital on the piano, and maybe get that novel published. The one that's been rejected more times than I care to think about. But hey! What about Stephen King, Agatha Christie, and J K Rowling?

Finally, it's finished. 11.30 p.m., half an hour before 'witching hour.' How pleased I am to sit 'in here', writing, rather than 'out there,' getting 'wrecked' and singing *Auld Lang Syne* with strangers!

I fill in the recipient, print my letter, sign, and address it, and then seal it up with tape. Finally, I delete the document and empty the trash folder. That completes the ritual!

I go down to the fridge and take out a bottle of Chardonnay. I pour a large glassful of the lemon-coloured nectar, then go back upstairs to my 'special box.' It contains ten long, white, thick envelopes, all with the same handwriting. I slot the one I have just written in at the back and take out the one at the front. It's dated 2016 and labelled 'to be opened 31st December 2026.'

The cycle is finally complete! I open it, trembling with anticipation. I begin to read, my eyes misting as I do so. Throughout the last ten long, eventful years, of life, death, joy, and heartbreak, it has been waiting patiently in this box for me, though I now have no memory of ever having written it.

## FILM RUNDOWN by James Learoyd and Daisy Samra

Hello all! I have something special for you: a guest contributor! But first, I'll do my usual...

***Bugonia*** is the latest from the prolific Greek provocateur Yorgos Lanthimos. I'm happy to report that this is his most focused and, arguably, entertaining of his recent Emma Stone collaborations. This absurdist thriller about disgruntled conspiracy-theorists who kidnap a businessperson is ultimately arresting. Though ridiculous and pointedly unpleasant, it is well-staged and impeccably performed.

I have now watched ***Wicked: For Good*** three times. I can say with some authority that the first 90 minutes of this movie are flat and incohesive. The final act, on the other hand, is riveting and deeply moving. The two stars are doing wonderful work throughout, but how forgiving you are of the first two acts will be dependent on your investment in the source-material. Now playing at the **Kinema in the Woods**.

***The Running Man*** has not had a great response, but it's good silly fun – and Glen Powell is still on a winning streak. Edgar Wright's latest is deeply imperfect, yes, but next to his previous film *Last Night in Soho*, it looks like a masterpiece. You can listen to more of my Edgar Wright opinions if you visit the **UK FILM REVIEW podcast feed**, where you'll find the debut episode of 'The Films Of...' which I host with journalist Callum Ewing. Now onto the good stuff...

Hello, my name is Daisy, and though from nearby Woodhall Spa, I regularly appear in Tetford round at the Learoyds'. Having been lucky enough to volunteer at the BFI London Film Festival, I asked James if I could guest contribute this month to feature a couple new releases which I have seen early and can therefore confidently vouch for their quality.

***Wake Up Dead Man***: The third contribution to the Knives Out series, director Rian Johnson is again incredibly on the pulse by focusing on themes of religion, politics, and fanatical behaviour. Some have even said this is the best of the three, with a stand-out performance from Josh O'Connor as an ex-boxer turned priest. Lots of fun, lots of mystery, and available to watch at the **Kinema in the Woods, Louth Playhouse** or on **Netflix** (from 12th December).

***Bad Apples***: Though I can't find commercial release information for this film yet, *Bad Apples* is absolutely one to watch out for. Starring Saoirse Ronan as an overworked teacher struggling with a disruptive student, the film takes us to darkly comedic places and is enrapturing at every moment.

***Home Alone***: It's that time of year again, and I for one can't wait to rewatch *Home Alone*! A deceptively well-structured film for what seems like a simple, entertaining kids' film. Look out for certain details, such as Kevin's boarding pass being accidentally thrown in the bin during the pizza clean-up, and you'll realise why it works so well. (Available on **Disney+**.)

HORNCastle  
CHORAL  
SOCIETY PRESENTS

# *Handel's* MESSIAH

PART ONE

Plus the HALLELUJAH CHORUS

with seasonal carols and audience participation

FRIDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025  
7.30 PM



CONDUCTOR  
ROBERT STEADMAN

ACCOMPANIST  
CHRIS HINKINS

St Mary's Church - Horncastle  
**Admission:** £10 pre-paid - or on the door

Refreshments included



SCAN ME



 HORNCASTLE THEATRE COMPANY PROUDLY PRESENTS

# Snow White

and the out of work actors!

Thursday 29th Jan to  
Sunday 1st Feb: 7.30pm

Wednesday 4th to  
Saturday 7th Feb: 7.30pm

Directed by  
**RUSSELL ALDER**

Tickets £10  
£9 Concessions

Saturday matinees:  
31st Jan & 7th Feb 3pm



Written by:  
**GARETH ALDER**

**THE LION  
THEATRE**  
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Scan the QR code to book tickets through our  
website, or visit our box office: Kennedy's (bull ring).

**NODA**  
For every stage

## **CHILDREN and SCHOOL SECTION**

### **ANSWERS TO THE NOVEMBER QUIZ**

(1) Ping pong (2) around 1.3 million (3) true (4) false (5) Russia (6) The Dog Star (7) Tomb Raider (8) gigabyte (9) a nurse (10) immune (11) rice (12) to reproduce (13) water (14) Albert Einstein (15) they push apart (16) Isaac Newton (17) a gas (18) nostrils (19) four (20) molars

### **ANSWERS TO THE NOVEMBER RIDDLES**

- They are both twirly!
- Because 789!
- The electrician and the plumber were man and wife!

### **THE DECEMBER QUIZ**

1. What is the name of the metal that is liquid at room temperature?
2. These brothers were not wrong when they invented the first aeroplane. What was their name? The Yeah brothers/the Wright brothers/the Correct brothers
3. What was the straw first invented for? Blowing bubbles/drinking beer/shooting peas
4. Some dinosaurs had feathers – true or false?
5. People who study dinosaurs are called archaeologists – true or false?
6. Triceratops, a dinosaur, has a name that means ‘three horned face’ – true or false?
7. What is one way people use to calm dogs down in a thunderstorm – (a) by singing to them (b) by dressing them in tight T-shirts (c) by giving them a cup of tea?
8. What desert plant is well-known for its ability to hold water? Marram Grass/Cactus/Gorse?
9. Which of gorilla, orang-utan, chimpanzee is our closest genetic relative?
10. The world’s largest rodent lives in the jungles and wetlands of South America. Is it a coypu? A beaver? A capybara?
11. Which monkey is famous for its multi-coloured nose? Bonobo/Mandrill/Baboon?
12. What type of crab finds shells and other objects to call home? Hermit Crab/Fiddler Crab/Ghost Crab?
13. Which of these animals without backbones is a popular food in France? Ants/Snails/Butterflies?
14. What is the largest amphibian in the world? Giant Salamander/Bigly Toad/Notnarrow Newt
15. Which deep-sea fish has a long bit of bone sticking out of its head like a fishing rod? Angler fish/Fishing fish/Sailor fish
16. Which reptile is known for changing the colour of its skin? Crocodile/Komodo Dragon/Chameleon?
17. Which type of reptile lives the longest? Tortoise/Alligator/Crocodile?
18. How many birds do you end up with in the song ‘The 12 days of Christmas’?
19. Which kind of bird lays its eggs in another bird’s nest? Magpie/Jackdaw/Cuckoo?
20. Which bear likes to eat bamboo? Koala/Polar Bear/Panda?

# The Edward Richardson Primary School

We're well and truly in the swing of December here at school, with all sorts of festive excitement taking place. The building looks absolutely beautiful - decorations, trees and twinkling lights everywhere, and the staff are very much embracing the season with their impressive collection of festive attire! We're also delighted to have, once again, provided the front cover image for this magazine. Staff have just about recovered from the very serious debates involved in choosing the winning picture...

Rehearsals are in full flow for our Christmas Singing Event at St Mary's Church later this month, which seems to be becoming something of an annual tradition. We probably do need to come up with a catchier name for it at some point...Any ideas?!

We also held our first Parent Share event of the academic year, where we invited parents in to join us for a hands-on Science session. All parents were very well behaved, and they definitely left having learnt something new!

Classes 1 and 2 are now putting the finishing touches to their live performances of this year's very special, in-house written nativity: Oh Little Teeth of Bethlehem. This wonderfully quirky twist on the classic tale begins with a crisis in Nazareth, where they've completely run out of donkeys. In their quest to reach Bethlehem, Mary and Joseph must instead rely on the only animal left... Alan, a crocodile. The performance is filled with catchy songs as the pair celebrate the birth of Jesus while doing their best to keep the baby safely away from Alan's rather enthusiastic jaws!

Whatever your plans this season and wherever it takes you, we wish you a very merry Christmas from all of us at school. We feel incredibly proud to be part of such a wonderful community and to play a small part in helping our young people grow into the responsible, caring adults of tomorrow.

***(Christmas pics by Martha from Year 3 on the back cover!)***

*Best wishes,  
Stuart Spendlow  
Headteacher*

*The Edward Richardson Primary School  
W: <http://edward-richardson.lincs.sch.uk/>  
T: 01507 533686*

## CLUBS, SOCIETIES, ACTIVITIES and FACILITIES (1 of 4)

**TETFORD RECREATION GROUND** If anyone feels they would like to make a donation (thank you to those who have) or to support us through our weekly lottery (it's £1 per week by direct debit – cancel anytime) then please get in touch, lottery details below. We continue to seek grant funding where we can to keep the rec going for the next year.

Many thanks to you all.

[www.selcplottery.co.uk/support/tetford-and-salmonby-recreation-ground](http://www.selcplottery.co.uk/support/tetford-and-salmonby-recreation-ground)

Secretary Alison Sparks Email [alisparks@sky.com](mailto:alisparks@sky.com) Tel. 01507 534384; Chairman Paul Learoyd Email [paullearoyd@gmail.com](mailto:paullearoyd@gmail.com) Tel. 07885 135406

**THE MANSION HONESTY SHOP** for homemade bakes in Little London is open Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays 8am 'til dark weather permitting and while stocks last.

**CRICKET** Tetford Cricket Club's home ground is the village recreation ground. The team plays on Sundays in the East Lindsey Cricket League. Information about fixtures, results, teams and stats can be found by searching for **elcl.play-cricket.com** on the Internet. Mark Hughes is captain (07887 750696) and Kai Stephenson is vice-captain (07871 720882). Mark Kelsey (07789 626804) is the face of the team in Tetford, being the local postman! The team has 2 gazebos for them to change in, plus plenty of seating for spectators.

**TETFORD WALKING GROUP** – Jonty Wild [jontywild@byacatswhisker.co.uk](mailto:jontywild@byacatswhisker.co.uk) 01507 534075

**SOUTH ROAD RED TELEPHONE KIOSK** The kiosk acts as a book exchange and tourist information hub

**FISH and CHIPS** The Jolly Rogers Mobile Fish and Chips van stops in South Road opposite the Care Home between 5pm and 5.15pm every Monday.

**HORNCASTLE LIBRARY** is open Monday 9am-4pm; Tuesday Closed; Wednesday 9am-1pm; Thursday 9am-6pm; Friday 9am-5pm; Saturday 9am-1pm; Sunday Closed. Tel. 01522 782010 (Lincs County Council)

**MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE.** The Mobile Library stop at Tetford has been withdrawn due to insufficient borrowers using the service. Borrowers who struggle to reach their local library or community library facilities, due to mobility, age or ill health are invited to use the Access Mobile North home delivery service instead. Contact Graham Owen (Team Leader North) tel. 07483 017085 – email: [graham.owen@gll.org](mailto:graham.owen@gll.org) with your library borrower number and he will add you to the route, all free. Delivery/ Collection is monthly, on Thursdays 2025:- December 18th

**THE HORNCASTLE TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE (Tel. 01507 526065)** is in the Sir Joseph Banks Centre at 11 Bridge Street LN9 5HZ, run by the Sir Joseph Banks Society. Follow the link <https://joseph-banks.org.uk> to start. The centre is also home to the Horncastle History and Heritage Society <https://horncastlejbc.info/horncastle-history-heritage-society>; some battery and printer ink recycling, a natural history museum and Victoria Atkins, our local MP. It is open from 10am-4pm, Thursday, Friday and Saturday (having said that, members of the individual societies and groups are often around outside those hours, so if you are happy to take pot-luck...). The Society is working on creating a digital OS Map of local places of interest.

## CLUBS, SOCIETIES, ACTIVITIES and FACILITIES (2 of 4)

**SURGERY.** The Wolds Surgery in Tetford is open from 8am to 6.30pm Monday to Friday; closed weekends and bank holidays. The surgery is part of the East Lindsey Medical Group (ELMG), Newmarket, Louth Tel. **01507 603121** (**Option 1** Automated system to book, set or cancel appointments/order repeat prescriptions **Option 2** Care Navigation Team **Option 3** Pharmacy/Prescriptions 9am to 1pm and 2pm to 4pm). Dial 999 for life-threatening emergencies. There is a doctor in the practice at least 4 days a week and extra cover is provided by the advanced nurse practitioners. The practice has a Care Coordinator, who in liaison with the hospital can help patients in need to access services such as Macmillan, physio, medication, and has links with the disability nurse. There is a Veteran's liaison and a digital liaison person.

**PRIVATE GP CLINIC** A new private practice is up and running in Louth, a 20 minute appointment is £120, any forward treatments can be continued privately or referred back to the NHS.

The **online** ordering system (mainly for blood or smear tests, ordering repeat prescriptions and viewing your medical record), is at <https://systmonline.tpp-uk.com>.

You will need to register with the surgery before you can log into this online system.

**Also** there is an app – 'Airmid' – which "provides you with existing SystmOnline functionality plus lots more." You can log in with your SystmOnline username and password. However it has received very poor reviews with one reviewer judging it as "about as useful as a trap door in a canoe."

You can also download the **NHS App** which enables you to

- Order repeat prescriptions.
- Book nurse and health care assistant appointments.
- View medical records.
- Access test results and hospital letters.

The main difference between the **SystmOnline** and the **NHS App** is that the NHS App provides access to hospital letters.

The old separate Wolds **pharmacy** number **01507 535001** will now take you to the same options as the surgery number. The pharmacy is Option 3 but the availability of the option to request repeat prescriptions over the phone is under review. The pharmacy is open for collection of medicines from 9am to 2pm & 4pm to 6pm Monday or 9am – 6pm Tuesday -Friday. Controlled drugs must be collected before 5pm.

**The ELMG website is at** <http://www.eastlindseymedicalgroup.nhs.uk/>. The new 'total triage' system is accessed here. Search on 'East Lindsey Medical Group' and select 'Appointments' then you have various options including 'Use our online form' which takes you to 'Medical request/New condition' which takes you into the triage. Operates from 8am to 1pm (hours due to be extended) Monday to Friday.

## CLUBS, SOCIETIES, ACTIVITIES and FACILITIES (3 of 4)

**The Wolds Surgery Patient Participation Group (PPG)** represents patients and ELMG medical staff of the Wolds Surgery Tetford and is scheduled to meet every two months and to deliver a regular Newsletter. Reports from the meetings are, when available, printed in this magazine.

Minutes/Notes from the meetings can be found on the **East Lindsey Medical Group database** under **Online Services/Get involved**: i.e. <https://www.eastlindseymedicalgroup.nhs.uk/get-involved/patient-group/>. If you wish to correspond with the PPG contact the Practice Manager Mickaela Crane at [licb.c83056@nhs.net](mailto:licb.c83056@nhs.net), or call the ELMG (East Lindsey Medical Group) switchboard on 01507 603121 or leave your correspondence at reception or with any PPG Member (names are on the Notes).

**‘LIVES’ First Responders.** For cardiac arrests, phone 999 and report the incident. You will be given a code for either the DEFIBRILLATOR on the Wolds surgery outside wall or on the village hall outside wall by the front door. Follow the instructions and close the defibrillator door (to stop the alarm). An ambulance will have been despatched and a LIVES First Responder alerted.

### LOCAL DEFIBRILLATORS:-

Tetford      Hamilton Hall and the Wolds Surgery *NB. If a defibrillator is used please alert Councillor Julia Larder on 07852 877425 as soon as possible after the event to ensure the necessary used items are replaced.*

Brinkhill      The porch of St Philip’s Church  
Langton      Langton village hall  
Raithby      Red Telephone Box, Raithby Road  
Somersby      Somersby Farm Office

**SOUTH WOLDS NURSING HOME** is offering tea and sandwiches to those who need a bit of company. They also offer, at cost, their chiropody and hairdressing services and will order milk in for you. Contact Linzy Stockdale on 01507 533393

**NEWSPAPERS** The nearest newspapers are at the Shell garage this side of Horncastle, but they sell out early (they don’t get many in of some titles). Later in the day it’s safer to go to Perkins newsagent in the centre of Horncastle or one of the supermarkets

**EDWARD RICHARDSON PRIMARY SCHOOL** Head Teacher Mr Stuart Spendlow. Contact: [enquiries@edward-richardson.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@edward-richardson.lincs.sch.uk) Tel. 01507 533686  
<https://www.edward-richardson.lincs.sch.uk/index.html>

**MILK** is once again being delivered to Tetford, this time by McQueens Dairies who now have a milk round that includes Tetford. They make weekly deliveries on a Monday and Thursday. You can alter your order online and pay via direct debit.  
Tel. 0330 555 5588; website [www.mcqueensdairies.co.uk](http://www.mcqueensdairies.co.uk).

**POSTBOX COLLECTIONS** in Tetford and Salmonby are 9am weekdays and 7am Saturdays from all four postboxes.

**BBC RADIO LINCOLNSHIRE** Tune in on 94.9 to 104.7FM or online via [onlineradiobox.com](http://onlineradiobox.com)

## CLUBS, SOCIETIES, ACTIVITIES and FACILITIES (4 of 4)

**BUS SERVICE 24** between Horncastle and Louth. Bus stop at St Mary's Church, Tetford. 30mins to Louth, 20mins to Horncastle. No Sunday service. **Tel. 0345 234 3344; <https://lincsbus.info>**  
Louth to Horncastle **Mon-Fri** 09.27; 11.57; 13.57. **Sat** 10.17; 13.47 in Tetford  
Horncastle to Louth **Mon-Fri** 10.13; 12.43; 14.43. **Sat** 11.00; 14.30 in Tetford  
Buses leave Horncastle Interchange Shelter at 09.50, 12.20 and 14.20 **Mon-Fri** and 10.40 and 14.10 **Saturdays**

Buses leave Louth Bus Station at 09.00, 11.30 and 13.30 **Mon-Fri** and 09.50 and 13.20 **Saturdays**  
Buses leave Louth Hospital at 10.40 and 13.10 **Mon-Fri**, connecting (sort of) at the Bus Station

There is also a CALLconnect On Demand Bus Service, subject to availability and within a radius of 12 miles (from Louth or Horncastle). You can book by app or by phone at one hours notice or up to 7 days in advance. It costs a maximum of £2 per single journey and can pick you up near your location. It is available to anyone and concessionary bus passes are accepted. The service operates 6 days a week, Monday to Saturday excluding Bank Holidays. Journeys are available to be booked from 7am to 7pm Monday to Friday and 8am to 6pm on Saturdays <https://lincsbus.info/callconnect/more-information/>

**HORNCASTLE POST OFFICE and DELIVERY OFFICE** These are two separate operations, even though they occupy the same building. So if you've missed a delivery you go to the Delivery Office, but to click and collect you go to the Post Office counter. The following opening times may change without notice, especially during pandemics:

**The Post Office** is open 09.00-17.30 Mon to Fri and 09.00-13.30 Saturday.  
<https://www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder/1543245/horncastle>; Tel. 01507 523 520.

**The Delivery Office** is open 08.00-10.00 Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri; 08.00-10.00 & 16.00-19.00 Thursday and 08.00-12.00 Saturday. <https://www.localmint.com/uk/royal-mail-delivery-office-horncastle-hours-615198>;  
Tel.0345 774 0740

**RUBBISH and RECYCLING** collections are on a MONDAY. Household waste (black bins) every two weeks. PURPLE-LIDDED BINS (FOR RECYCLING DRY PAPER AND CARDBOARD) and GREY BINS (other recycling INCLUDING GLASS BOTTLES AND JARS) alternate every two weeks on non-household weeks (so purple and grey are collected every 4 weeks each). Green waste (green bins) Tetford Friday, but Salmonby Monday, of purple or grey recycling weeks (reducing December to March). Apply to East Lindsey District Council for a collections calendar and, if required, a green waste bin (**£52.50 per year**). Ensure bins are available from 5.30am on the morning of your collection.

<https://www.e-lindsey.gov.uk/article/6714/Refuse-Recycling-and-Green-Waste-Collection-Days>

### INTERNET TETFORD INFORMATION SITES

|                                               |                                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tetford & Salmonby Community                  | <a href="http://www.facebook.com/tetfordlincolnshire/">www.facebook.com/tetfordlincolnshire/</a>                             |
| Tetford Matters                               | <a href="http://www.facebook.com/groups/160817426092384/">www.facebook.com/groups/160817426092384/</a>                       |
| Tetford Area Community                        | <a href="http://www.facebook.com/groups/tetfordareacommunity/">www.facebook.com/groups/tetfordareacommunity/</a>             |
| Tetford & Salmonby Recreation Ground          | <a href="http://www.facebook.com/TetfordandSalmonbyRecreationGround">www.facebook.com/TetfordandSalmonbyRecreationGround</a> |
| Tetford Area Crimewatch                       | <a href="http://www.facebook.com/groups/189857514689064/">www.facebook.com/groups/189857514689064/</a>                       |
| Tetford Parish Council                        | <a href="https://tetford.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk">https://tetford.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk</a>                          |
| NextDoor                                      | <a href="https://nextdoor.co.uk/">https://nextdoor.co.uk/</a>                                                                |
| Tetford and Surrounding Area Buying & Selling | <a href="http://www.facebook.com/groups/169398526795061/">www.facebook.com/groups/169398526795061/</a>                       |
| Tetford Memories                              | <a href="http://www.facebook.com/groups/Tetford/">www.facebook.com/groups/Tetford/</a>                                       |
| East Lindsey District Council                 | <a href="http://www.e-lindsey.gov.uk">www.e-lindsey.gov.uk</a>                                                               |
| Tetford & District Flower & Veg Show          | <a href="mailto:tetfordflowerandvegshow@gmail.com">tetfordflowerandvegshow@gmail.com</a>                                     |

## **TETFORD & SALMONBY PARISH COUNCIL** *by the Editor*

The Parish Council for Tetford and Salmonby consists of up to seven local elected members plus the Parish Clerk, who usually meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month in the Hamilton Hall, Tetford at 7.30pm. Members of the public are welcome. Meeting agendas and official minutes are published on the Parish Council website: <https://tetford.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk> or specifically <https://tetford.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/downloads/download/34/minutes-2024---2025> and on the Parish Council noticeboard outside the Hamilton Hall (take your reading specs and possibly a ladder). Parish Clerk Pauline Murray email: [clerk@tetfordparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@tetfordparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026 7.30pm in the Hamilton Hall.**

Your Parish Councillors are:

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ray Whitley (Chair) | Manor Farm, East Road, Tetford, LN9 6QQ Tel. 07831 236766<br><a href="mailto:ray.whitley@tetfordparishcouncil.gov.uk">ray.whitley@tetfordparishcouncil.gov.uk</a>       |
| Julia Larder        | Hill View, North Road, Tetford, LN9 6QH. Tel. 07852 877425<br><a href="mailto:julia.larder@tetfordparishcouncil.gov.uk">julia.larder@tetfordparishcouncil.gov.uk</a>    |
| Don Osborne         | Rye Fields, South Ormsby Road, Tetford, LN9 6QF<br><a href="mailto:don.osborne@tetfordparishcouncil.gov.uk">don.osborne@tetfordparishcouncil.gov.uk</a>                 |
| Richard Hazel       | The Grange, Fulletby Road, Salmonby LN9 6QS<br><a href="mailto:richard.hazel@tetfordparishcouncil.gov.uk">richard.hazel@tetfordparishcouncil.gov.uk</a>                 |
| Bryan Willson       | Brook House Farm, Church Lane, Little London, Tetford email<br><a href="mailto:bryan.willson@tetfordparishcouncil.gov.uk">bryan.willson@tetfordparishcouncil.gov.uk</a> |

## **PARISH COUNCILLORS NEEDED!!**

**Please help us to keep our village a lovely place to live!**

**Join us on the Parish Council**

**We are a friendly bunch who could really do with some help!**

**We are two parish councillors down – could you spare us a few hours?**



**Email:-**

**[clerk@tetfordparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@tetfordparishcouncil.gov.uk)**

**or ring 07859 901835**

Please be aware that these **NOTES FROM PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS** are not official, they are not the minutes of Council meetings, they are compiled by the Editor as a resident and Member of the Public (MoP).

## **NOTES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING THAT TOOK PLACE ON NOVEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> 2025**

Present: All 5 Parish Councillors, the Parish Clerk, District Councillor Simpson, 2 MoPs.

- A MoP reported an ongoing incidence of light pollution. The Parish Council Chair undertook to investigate whether and how the issue could be ameliorated.
- District Councillor Simpson reported that there were funds left in his discretionary allocation. Several uses for this were posited – (1) treat the War Memorial steps against slipperiness (b) further maintenance of the village hall car park (c)replace the Parish Council noticeboard (d)mend the broken bollard in the village hall car park (*d. fund this magazine? – Ed.*)
- It was noted that the salt for use by residents in Winter had been delivered into the village hall car park. Councillor Hazel warned against residents using this in public places for danger of liability in case of consequential accident.
- The (fairly) recently relocated postbox now in Little London may be moved again. A councillor suggested that when or if this happens maybe it could be replaced by a free-standing cylindrical post box (would complement the red telephone kiosk).
- District Councillor Simpson reported that the Local Government reform proposal would be submitted in the next week, leading perhaps to a 50% reduction in the number of councillors from over 400 to about 200 (at least initially!). In 2027 council elections will be as now, in 2028 a mixture of old and new council structure, and in 2029 completely new.
- Planning applications are rarely submitted to the full planning committee but processed by the chief planning officer. This is likely to become even more the case, slowing the process even more.
- Planning. An application is due to be made for an extension to a house in Salmonby. The meeting was alerted to this as the opportunity for submission of comments was likely to be obscured by the festive season.
- A resident raised the subject of the elderly and disabled at Christmas. The clerk to the council volunteered to field requests for assistance in, for example, collecting medication, shopping etc.
- It seems that more builders' rubble has mysteriously appeared in Green Lane.
- West Road has flooded soon after the drains were cleared by the County Council.
- The site maintenance history for the Salmonby Bends over the last 5 years runs into 34 pages(!)

## Walesby-Claxby-Normanby le Wold Walk by Simon Wood

Distance approx. 4.75 miles, time approx. 2¼ -2½ hours. Total ascent 152 metres. Road, bridleway, footpath, farm track. Walking boots essential. Three churches.

Our final walk of 2025 explores the highest area of the Lincolnshire Wolds and requires a degree of walking experience and stamina. However, as long as you can walk up Tetford Hill, you should have few problems.

The starting point, **A**, is reached most simply from Tetford by taking the Caistor High Street (via Belchford and Hemingby) and turning down Walesby Hill north of the Tealby-Kirmond le Mire crossroads ("Jim's Yard"). Alternatively, take the Bluestone Heath Road to the A157, turn left, then right at the crossroads with Caistor High Street, then as above. Either way, about a 30-35-minute drive. At the bottom of Walesby Hill, follow the road to the left and immediately turn right onto Moor Road. In front of you, you will see a long building of brown stone on the right, with about four car parking spaces. In the author's experience, there isn't a huge



amount of car parking space in Walesby, so in the event all the spaces are taken, one option is to continue along Moor Road, where there is parking on the right-hand side between groups of trees.

From the long building mentioned above, you will walk a short distance to a track on the right and the Viking Way sign. Being Viking Way territory, there is ample signage of all footpaths and bridleways hereabouts, and the little Viking helmet sign indicates the official path.

Follow the track, being sure to follow it to the left at **B**. At **C**, you will take the public byway to the left to follow the edge of Claxby Wood. This is an unkempt wood of young trees, with much undergrowth and an impenetrable barrier of bramble, except where there are entrances (with warning signs) for shooting activities. So, not worth bothering with. Just before you turn off the wood towards **D**, at the time of writing, there is a fallen tree right across the track. It is surprisingly obstructive, but the author discovered that the right-hand side had less substantial branches, and it was possible to push underneath to continue on to **D**. Phew! At **D**, you now follow a metalled road to Park Road, and then on to the bend at **E**. Here, the author was surprised to find a permitted footpath not on the OS map! Go through the gate, then follow the edge of the field to the right at the other side and thus to Claxby Church, St Mary's. This is open to the public and is an ancient and well-appointed edifice. A lovely place to rest your bones and say a quiet prayer and/or munch your sandwiches, and a charming churchyard to visit in summer too. A noticeboard tells of an "Evening of Entertainment" by local choirs on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30 pm. "Minced pies and mulled wine".

<https://www.walesbychurches.org/st-mary-claxby.html>.

Having recovered from your exertions so far, leave the church and take the footpath to the right at **G**, almost immediately. Then you will go through a series of gardens, fortunately well signed, so, with luck, expect no protestations, until you emerge on Normanby Rise at **H**. Follow the road for a short distance, then take the footpath to the right.

Here, there is a helpful sign telling you that there is a bull in the field, the last thing you need as you slog up a hundred metre ascent! Fortunately, the author encountered nary a cow. At the top (having recovered your breath), you head through a gate into one of Lincolnshire's smallest fields, then out the other side, and into Normanby le Wold, a tiny village, where you follow the horned helmet symbol of the Viking Way past St Peter's church. To the right here, there used to be a sign on the gate, "Never mind the dog, beware of the owner!" Alas, the sign has now gone, and there was sadly no sign of the little black doggie who used to quietly greet walkers with enthusiasm. Also, the church has scaffolding at one end and black plastic sheeting over the entrance, so it didn't look terribly inviting, though the author has visited it on a few occasions before and found it to be open and a delightful place to look around.

<https://www.walesbychurches.org/st-peter-normanby.html>

So, you pass St Peter's Church and follow the Viking Way path along the edge of the field, where there are dry stone walls on your left, not so common in Lincolnshire. To the left are views across this spur of land to the higher edge, and to the right, views over Market Rasen and on to Lincoln Cathedral on a clear day. Unfortunately, the author chose to doubt the weather forecast and the inclement weather he encountered led to misty views and getting reasonably wet! But in fine and/or dry weather, it is an outstanding route.

At **K**, you can take the right turn and follow the route you took at the beginning, or turn left and follow a narrow footpath down to a farm at **L**. Here, you take the rightmost path, which brings you back down to Moor Road, a short distance from the brown stone building mentioned at the beginning of this walk description.

There is a church in Walesby, St Mary's, which the author has yet to visit, but which definitely looks to be worth a look at, if you are the church-visiting kind.

<https://www.walesbychurches.org/st-mary-walesby.html>

However, above Walesby is a distinctive church, known as the Rambler's Church (actually, All Saints) on account of stained glass windows featuring hikers. It stands on the Viking Way and was described in the walk in the July 2022 edition of the Tetford Times. If this magazine reaches you in time, know that there is a service featuring the Gainsborough Salvation Army Citadel Band, no less, as well as the Da Capo Folk Group, and the Stonestrow Folk Group. That takes place at 7 p.m. on Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> December. It promises to be a lively evening! If not, look out for their next event; the church is a unique part of Lincolnshire heritage.

<https://www.walesbychurches.org/all-saints-walesby.html>

Although not spectacular by national standards, this walk is nevertheless notable in that the highest point in the *entire* Lincolnshire Wolds, "Wolds Top," is slightly north of the route, at **N**; 168 metres. It lies at the edge of a farmer's field, more or less adjoining Claxby Radar Station. The "Golf Ball" is visible for many miles and is now an Ordnance Survey GPS broadcaster, and may or may not be a BT microwave source, among other mysterious suggestions. Whatever, it is NOT open to the public!

Regrettably, neither Walesby nor Claxby have any kind of pub or shop, but you can head to nearby Tealby for the oldest thatched pub in Lincolnshire, the very popular King's Head.

<https://www.thekingsheadtealby.co.uk>

Alternatively, Market Rasen is just a five to ten-minute drive away for numerous pubs, restaurants, takeaways, and shops.

**TETFORD & SALMONBY CONTACTS**

|                                                                                |                                                                                          |                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ELMG Wolds & Newmarket Surgeries                                               |                                                                                          | 01507 603121                 |
| Wolds Pharmacy                                                                 |                                                                                          | 01507 535001<br>Option (3)   |
| Defibrillator & cardiac emergencies                                            |                                                                                          | 999                          |
| 'LIVES' Enquiries                                                              | Parish Councillor Julia Larder-Sargent<br>Lives HQ                                       | 07852 877425<br>01507 525999 |
| Patient Participation Group (PPG)                                              | Marlene Renshaw                                                                          | 07795 662007                 |
| South Wold Nursing Home                                                        |                                                                                          | 01507 533393                 |
| Edward Richardson Primary School                                               | Reception                                                                                | 01507 533686                 |
| St. Mary's Church, Tetford<br>Churchwardens                                    | Marlene Renshaw<br>Julia Larder-Sargent                                                  | 07795 662007<br>07852 877425 |
| W.I. President                                                                 | Terri Willings                                                                           | 01790 612341                 |
| Hamilton Hall                                                                  | Marlene Renshaw                                                                          | 07795 662007                 |
| Tea & Chat                                                                     | Marlene Renshaw                                                                          | 07795 662007                 |
| Short Mat Bowls                                                                | David Needs                                                                              | 01507 533705                 |
| Table Tennis                                                                   | tetfordtabletennisclub@gmail.com                                                         |                              |
| Pilates                                                                        | debbiejenner@outlook.com                                                                 |                              |
| Pilates & Wellbeing                                                            | Pilatinas8@gmail.com<br>www.pilatinas.com                                                | 07896779958                  |
| Tetford Feral Writers                                                          | Stephanie Wilkinson                                                                      | 07725 058959                 |
| Reading Group                                                                  | kwatkinshmg@gmail.com                                                                    |                              |
| Recreation Ground                                                              | Alison Sparks, secretary<br>alisparks@sky.com                                            | 01507 534384                 |
| Tetford Walking Group                                                          | jontywild@byacatswhisker.co.uk                                                           |                              |
| Parish Council (Clerk)<br>Mrs Pauline Murray                                   | <a href="mailto:clerk@tetfordparishcouncil.gov.uk">clerk@tetfordparishcouncil.gov.uk</a> |                              |
| East Lindsey District Council                                                  |                                                                                          | 01507 601111                 |
| Tetford & Donington District Councillor<br>Daniel Simpson                      | daniel.simpson@e-lindsey.gov.uk                                                          |                              |
| Louth Wolds County Councillor                                                  | cllra.mcgonigle@lincolnshire.gov.uk                                                      |                              |
| Lincolnshire County Council                                                    |                                                                                          | 01522-552222                 |
| White Hart                                                                     | Nikki Stockdale                                                                          | 01507 533255                 |
| The Times of Tetford & Salmonby                                                | thetimesoftetford@gmail.com                                                              | 01507 534800<br>07789 485339 |
| East Lindsey Library Service                                                   |                                                                                          | 01522 782010                 |
| Access Mobile Library Delivery<br>Service                                      | graham.owen@gll.org                                                                      | 07483 017085                 |
| The Mansion House Honesty Shop                                                 | Outside The Mansion House LN9 6QL                                                        | N/A                          |
| Locksmith                                                                      |                                                                                          | 07847 849202                 |
| Horncastle Police Station                                                      |                                                                                          | 01507 523332                 |
| Pilgrim Hospital, Boston                                                       |                                                                                          | 01205 364801                 |
| Louth Hospital                                                                 |                                                                                          | 01507 600100                 |
| Grimsby Hospital                                                               |                                                                                          | 01472 874111                 |
| Lincoln County Hospital                                                        |                                                                                          | 01522 512512                 |
| Anglian Water                                                                  |                                                                                          | 01522 341000                 |
| Victoria Atkins MP                                                             | Victoria@victoriaatkins.org.uk                                                           | 020 7219 5897                |
| Horncastle Covid-19 CRISIS                                                     |                                                                                          | 07395 905 352                |
| CALLCONNECT                                                                    | <a href="https://lincsbus.info/callconnect/">https://lincsbus.info/callconnect/</a>      | 0345 234 3344                |
| Louth Riverhead Theatre Box Office                                             | <a href="http://www.louthriverheadtheatre.com">www.louthriverheadtheatre.com</a>         | 01507 600350                 |
| Horncastle Theatre Company                                                     | <a href="https://www.horncastletheatre.co.uk/">https://www.horncastletheatre.co.uk/</a>  |                              |
| Non-Emergency Calls to Police                                                  |                                                                                          | 101                          |
| Life-threatening medical and other emergencies                                 |                                                                                          | 999                          |
| Urgent and Non-Emergency Health Issues Advice Line                             |                                                                                          | 111                          |
| Emergency Ambulance                                                            |                                                                                          | 112                          |
| Electricity Emergency Service – reporting electricity emergencies & power cuts |                                                                                          | 105                          |
| National Gas Emergency Service – reporting gas leaks & emergencies             |                                                                                          | 0800 111 999                 |
| Water Emergencies – reporting water leaks & emergencies                        |                                                                                          | 0800 783 4444                |
| National Floodline                                                             |                                                                                          | 0345 988 1188                |
| Environmental Incident Hotline – reporting environmental incidents             |                                                                                          | 0800 807060                  |
| Horncastle Community Fire Station/ Spilsby Fire Station (central number)       |                                                                                          | 01522 555777                 |

## **UNCLASSIFIED ADS**

**Dean Wilkinson Decorating Services.** All types of painting and wallpapering. Based in Tetford, friendly advice and free estimates available. Call 07584 679744 or email [deanwilk28@gmail.com](mailto:deanwilk28@gmail.com).

**Mowers serviced.** All makes & models. Repairs undertaken. Collection service. Competitively priced. Phone Chris on 07934 467270

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**Art Classes. Oxcombe Arts.** Thursdays 1-4pm. Tel. 07765 992770.

[www.oxcombepottery.co.uk](http://www.oxcombepottery.co.uk)

Email [enquiries@oxcombepottery.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@oxcombepottery.co.uk)

**Indian Ready Meals. Yellowbelly kitchen,** Fulletby. Pre-order or visit.

[www.yellowbellykitchen.co.uk](http://www.yellowbellykitchen.co.uk)

Tel. 07939 902162.

**Garden Machinery. J.V. Services,** Beck House, Salmonby. Servicing & repairs; classic & vintage tractor repairs, servicing & restoration help; experienced in classic cars. 45 years in motor trade. Ring 07803 003047 or 01507 533511.

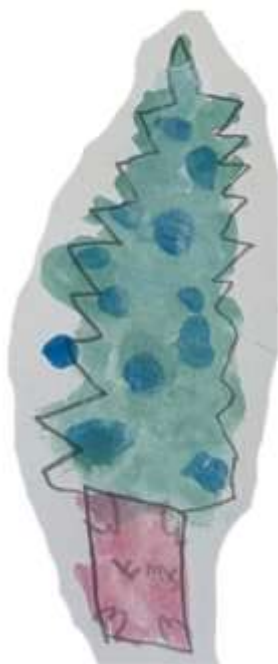
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Mob. 07733 416495. [www.havenfieldpetfoods.co.uk](http://www.havenfieldpetfoods.co.uk)

**Garment Alteration & Repairs.** Soft furnishings. Upholstery renovation. Ring Beryl Baker on 07984 066881.

Email [stitchedup.sewwhat@gmail.com](mailto:stitchedup.sewwhat@gmail.com)

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**Christmas Elf and Christmas Tree**  
*drawn by Martha, Year 3, Edward  
 Richardson School*

**St Mary's Church,**  
*illuminated for the 'Light a  
 Light' ceremony*



*"Merry Christmas Nana and Grandad"  
 with love from Genevieve*