

Geocaching

If you enjoy getting out in the fresh air and like a treasure hunt, then geocaching could be for you. Geocaching is an outdoor adventure game where you set out to find cleverly hidden containers called geocaches. These come in all different shapes and sizes and are hidden in both rural and urban settings.

To get started, you need to create a free basic account using [geocaching.com](https://www.geocaching.com) or the [free geocaching app](#), both of which will give you all the information you need to search for and hopefully find geocaches in your area. Follow the instructions on the app, and they will lead you to geocaches nearby and give you clues as to where to find them. Once you find a geocache, you open it up, add your name to the list, and then place the container back where you found it. If you wish, you can then share your experience online with the rest of the geocaching community.

There are a surprising number in the parish, and if you are looking for a place to start, you may be lucky enough to find several on Holme Lane, Holme Pierrepont. Remember to take a pen and happy hunting!



Footbridge repairs

On approaching Holme Pierrepont along Adbolton Lane, as the road nears Blotts Country Club, two small wooden footbridges can be found on the right, tucked away amongst the trees.

Walkers will discover that these bridges take them over the brook into the Skylarks Nature Reserve with the first leading to a viewing screen and the second to a footpath that directs them between the lakes, up to the A52.

Following concerns that the second bridge was unsafe, Nottinghamshire County Council has recently undertaken major repairs, ensuring the scenic path remains accessible for all.

Flooding on Holme Lane

In the last twelve months, following prolonged periods of rainfall, the road between Holme Pierrepont and Radcliffe on Trent has become impassable twice, as water from the saturated fields and Polser brook has flooded the lane. On both occasions, the volunteer flood wardens at Holme Pierrepont have had to put out signs warning of the danger, temporarily closing the road until the water subsides.

The decision to close the road is not taken lightly and is only made in consultation with the Nottinghamshire County Council's Emergency Planning Duty Officer. The three wardens in Holme Pierrepont, who have all received some basic training, have to adhere to the council's procedures, using appropriate signs, bollards and warning lights.

The experience of last year demonstrated to the Holme Pierrepont wardens the problem of having to drive through the water that they were warning others not to access, in order to put out warning signs at the Radcliffe on Trent end of Holme Lane. This led to discussions with Radcliffe on Trent Parish Council about the possibility of more coordinated action between the flood wardens from both parishes.

Though a plan has yet to be agreed and the exact procedures clarified and adopted, it is hoped that in the event of future flooding, joint action will ensure that any road closure is effectively signposted from either end of Holme Lane. Additional signage is also to be added at the beginning of the unmade section of the road at Holme Pierrepont to warn drivers of the closure much earlier.

Hire Gamston Village Hall

An ideal venue for Party Events and Celebrations!

- Well-equipped kitchen facilities
- Indoor tables & chairs available
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Please contact Rebecca on **07786 141066** or bookings@hpgpc.org.uk

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parishNEWS



Holme Pierrepont &
Gamston Parish Council
Newsletter

Summer 2024

A few words from the Vice Chair

Welcome to the Summer 2024 edition of the Holme Pierrepont and Gamston Parish Council Newsletter.

While the weather may not be a good indicator of the season, we are hoping that our Summer Play Day on Wednesday 21st August at Ambleside Play Park will be a bright and fun afternoon for everyone who comes along. This year, in celebration of the Paris Olympics, the theme is, **Children's Sports for All**. Activities will include an inflatable climbing wall, a children's 'have a go' games area and a football shoot-out, plus much more.

Councillor Andy Brown, the Mayor of Rushcliffe, will be opening the Play Day and this year will be accompanied by representatives from Rushcliffe Borough Council to officially launch phase 1 of our inclusive play project. The parish council was recently awarded UKSPF funding through Rushcliffe Borough Council for new equipment and in the past few weeks a bucket swing and trampoline have been supplied and installed by Proludic Ltd. It is exciting to see the project progressing and we will keep you informed of all future developments.

There is plenty of other news from around the parish so please read on.

Cynthia Stacey

Working with the Parish Council

The parish council is always active on behalf of the community. Not only is it responsible for maintaining both Gamston Village Hall and Ambleside Play Park, it also oversees and comments on planning applications, maintains parish-owned verges and woodland, provides strategically placed benches and dog bins and actively supports the collection of litter. Much of this work is undertaken quietly and without fuss and often goes unnoticed.

While this work is ongoing and routine, the council is always keen to listen to the community regarding other ways it can help.

If you do have any new ideas or want to express your views there are several ways to do so. You can contact the parish

clerk at clerk@hpgpc.org.uk, or reach out directly to your local parish councillor (their name and contact details can be found on the parish council noticeboards). Additionally, you can contribute to the council's Facebook page or attend a parish council meeting. Meetings take place on the second Monday of the month at Gamston Village Hall. In July, the meeting is held at St Edmund's Church in Holme Pierrepont and there is no meeting in August. Public contributions are always welcome.

Alternatively, you could seek to become a councillor yourself. The parish council currently has two vacancies so if this is something that may interest you, please contact the parish clerk.

WED 21 AUG | 2PM - 4PM
CHILDREN'S SPORTS FOR ALL!
AMBLESIDE PLAY PARK
GAMSTON NG2 6NA

INFLATABLE CLIMBING WALL
CHILDREN'S HAVE-A-GO GAMES AREA
HULA HOOPS, SKIPPING, BEAN BAGS,
TENNIS, CRICKET, BADMINTON, GOLF

Notts County Football Foundation FOOTBALL SHOOTOUT
BALLOON MODELLER
SAND PIT
BOUNCY CASTLE & SLIDE
STORY TELLING & MUSIC
ICE CREAM VAN
AND SO MUCH MORE! COME JOIN US!

FREE EVENT
Organised by Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Parish Council

A Golden Orchard at the Village Hall

As part of the Tree Council's 50th Anniversary celebrations, Gamston was one of fifty locations in the country chosen to create a 'Golden Orchard'. In mid-March, five fruit trees were delivered and with the help of Tree Surgeon James Harrison at the 'The Treecology team' and the 2nd Gamston Brownie Group the orchard was planted the following month.

The parish council would like to say a massive thank you to James for spending several hours preparing the site and actively engaging with the enthusiastic Brownies. James ensured everyone got involved, teaching the Brownies the Latin names of the trees and supervising their use of a giant lump hammer to secure the tree support



posts. James also brought along his dog, Betsy, who proved to be extremely popular. Both James and Betsy were absolute stars, as were all the Brownies who got involved.

Fortunately, there were five trees and five Brownie Sixes so each group was allocated a colourful watering can and over the summer term have been taking care of the tree they planted.

James has been caring for the parish council-owned trees in the play park, the village green and in the hamlets of Holme Pierrepont and Bassingfield for many years. He regularly monitors the trees to ensure they are healthy and safe, and as a local resident can react quickly to any concerns.

James Harrison, Cert. ARB

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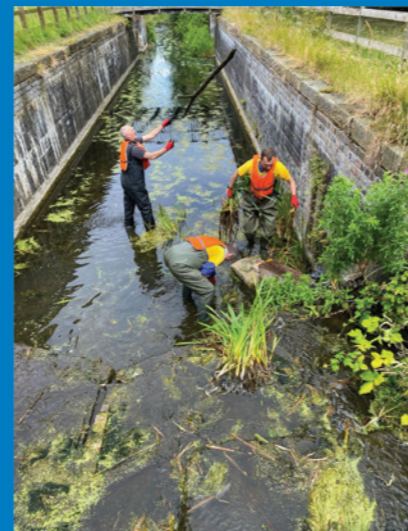
City Guilds
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L.O.L.E.R.

Grantham Canal

As part of St Luke's Church Community Action Day on Saturday 6th July, volunteers from both the church and the West Bridgford Canal Group (WeBCan) cleared an enormous amount of rubbish from the Grantham Canal at Gamston.

A big thank you to everyone involved.

WeBCan have their own Facebook page where there is lots of information about the work that they do plus many photos of the wildlife that live on and around the canal.



Reverend Lauren Simpson

Lauren Simpson joined St Edmund's Church as a curate a year ago and has recently played a key role in launching a new monthly service called Sanctuary. The parish council asked Lauren to introduce herself and explain what Sanctuary is about:

"It was eleven years ago that I made the move up from Hertfordshire to study engineering at the University of Nottingham and since joining St Edmund's Church at Holme Pierrepont, it has become a very special place for me. It is a place of beauty and history - somewhere I often find myself uncovering old memories in my mind.

Fifty years earlier, my grandparents moved from Jamaica to the UK, to serve this nation and build a new life. When I look back, I am reminded of all that has happened in my life, and the lives of those who came before me. I am so grateful to the older generations in my family for their sacrifice, resilience and hope. Their Christian faith was their foundation and even though they were far away from home they found a loving community in their church.

To me, this is what the church is for. It is both beautiful and historical, and it is where people have gathered over generations to worship God.

Recently, I have been involved in the launch of a new monthly service at St Edmund's Church called Sanctuary. Sanctuary is a space to spend time in God's presence, worshipping and praying through scripture, silence and song. It is a place for the soul-searching, peace-seeking and home-longing to rest in the presence of God. It is a community for those looking for spiritual anchoring in a busy world.

Sanctuary meets on the third Sunday of every month, at 6.30pm. Everyone is welcome to join us."



Revd. Lauren Simpson

Remembering the troops

On Sunday 10th September 1939, as the congregation left the Methodist Church in Radcliffe on Trent, they encountered a group of servicemen milling around outside. The soldiers were Territorials, who had been called up immediately war was declared and instructed to report to Holme Pierrepont Hall which had been requisitioned to house infantry troops. Having travelled from towns as far afield as Sutton in Ashfield and Ilkeston, the men arrived at the hall to find that there was no heating or supplies. Aware of their plight, the Methodist Minister immediately opened up the schoolroom, acquired bread from the local shopkeeper and with the help of the congregation prepared corned beef sandwiches and tea to feed the cold and hungry troops.

For the next couple of years, Holme Pierrepont Hall became a holding station where servicemen were assembled into battalions and shipped out, often with very little notice. New soldiers arrived on a Thursday and, in the short time they had in the area, were invited to weekend dances in a room above the Radcliffe on Trent Co-op on Main Street.

By 1941, Holme Pierrepont Hall was no longer in use by the military and the occupation of troops ceased. However, the reminders of that time and those young men are still visible in the pencilled graffiti they left behind on the doors and walls of the upper rooms.



At 6.30pm on the 6th June this year, bell ringers from around the area came together to ring out from St Edmund's Church in Holme Pierrepont to mark the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings in Normandy. A commemorative flag was also raised and flown for the week on Gamston Village Green, marking the day that many historians regard as the beginning of the end of the Second World War in 1944.

Whilst it is not known if any of those who came to Holme Pierrepont Hall at the start of the war took part in the Normandy landings, the faint pencil marks they left behind are a tangible reminder of their presence in the area and those extraordinary days.



David Litchfield retires

After many diligent years assisting the parish council with varied jobs across the area, handyman David Litchfield finally hung up his toolbelt and retired in April this year.



David always approached work with a can-do attitude and cheery smile and nothing was too much trouble. His work included the maintenance of Gamston Village Hall and Ambleside Play Park and invaluable help with setting up and dismantling the summer and Christmas events organised by the council, including positioning the Christmas Tree.

For his retirement, David was presented with garden centre vouchers, a 'Happy Retirement' rose and a 'Passport to Retirement' signed by everyone he worked with, as David plans to use his newfound freedom to travel widely. The parish council would like to thank David for all his hard work and wish him a very

long and healthy retirement.

As a result of David retiring, the parish council is now looking for a self-employed handyperson to take over this role, helping out on an ad hoc basis. The work will be the same as mentioned above, as well as occasional indoor and outdoor painting tasks. The person must have their own public liability insurance plus a trailer or large van to transport the gazebos, chairs and tables to Ambleside Play Park for the summer event. If you are interested, please contact the parish clerk on **07432 620 204** or email clerk@hpgpc.org.uk for further details.

Parish Council Contacts

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