

April 2026

# HEDS

Issue No. 451



## Everton: Respect – Let's Take Pride in Our Village

Everton is a village with a proud history, strong community spirit and beautiful surroundings. But recently many residents have said the village is starting to look tired; and we agree!

In May, the Parish Council is launching "Everton: Respect", a year-long initiative to help restore pride in our village and encourage everyone to play their part in keeping Everton clean, welcoming and enjoyable for all.

Across the year we'll highlight simple actions that make a real difference, tackling issues such as litter, dog fouling, overgrown areas, poor parking and respect for shared spaces. Each month will focus on a different theme, with updates, activities and opportunities for residents to get involved.

### Your Village Needs You

Small actions make a big difference. You can help by:

- Picking up litter when you see it
- Always cleaning up after your dog
- Keeping verges, hedges and frontages tidy
- Parking considerately
- Respecting neighbours and community spaces

We'll also be organising community clean-ups and improvement days throughout the year.

Everton belongs to all of us. Let's work together to take pride in our village again.





## The Vicar Writes..

Dear Friends,



Spring is a season of renewal - nature's reminder that life has a remarkable way of beginning again. After the long grey months of winter, we see signs of life everywhere: buds on branches, daffodils brightening gardens, lambs in green fields. The world slowly wakes up, and with it comes a quiet sense that new beginnings are possible.

Yet this spring many people carry heavy thoughts. The news around the world can feel troubling, and in our own lives there may be worries about family, health, finances, or the future. At times it can feel as though uncertainty and anxiety are never far away. It is into a world like this that the message of Easter speaks.

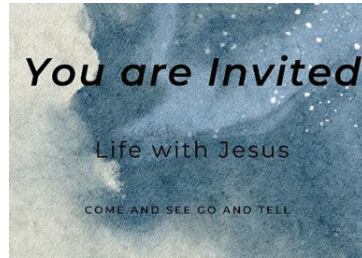
At the heart of Easter is one of the most powerful moments in history: the resurrection of Jesus Christ. After the sorrow and darkness of the crucifixion, the story does not end in defeat. Instead, it bursts open with hope. The empty tomb becomes a symbol of victory over death, and a reminder that love and life are stronger than despair.

The resurrection is more than a moment in history; it is a message that still speaks today. It tells us that darkness does not have the final word. Just as winter gives way to spring, Easter reminds us that renewal is always possible. Where there has been loss, healing can begin. Where there has been fear, hope can grow.

Perhaps that is why Easter feels so perfectly at home in springtime. Everywhere we look, the natural world echoes the same promise. Tiny shoots push through the soil. Flowers open their petals toward the sun. Life returns in quiet but powerful ways, reflecting the deeper spiritual story at the centre of Easter.

For many people, Easter also brings memories of church - perhaps from childhood, or from seasons of life when faith was closer than it may feel now. If you have not been to church for a while, Easter can be a wonderful moment to return. It is a time when churches are filled with music, celebration, and a message of hope that speaks to every stage of life.

Church is not a place for perfect people; it is a place where ordinary people gather to find encouragement, to pray, to sing, and to support one another as a community. In uncertain times, being part of a church family can be a real source of comfort and strength. Spring invites us to pause and notice the signs of life around us. To breathe in the fresh air. To watch the world turn green again. And perhaps also to rediscover the deeper hope that Easter brings.



As the story of Easter is retold in our schools, in our churches and in Christian communities across the globe - even in a worried world - hope rises again. Why not look up the services at your local church and discover or rediscover living hope in Jesus for yourself. We'd love to welcome you.

Every blessing for a peace-filled Easter,

Becky

River Idle Benefice of Churches

### EASTER SERVICES

**Palm Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March**  
10 am - Family Communion and Sundayz  
Cool, St Nicholas Church, Bawtry

**Maundy Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**  
9.30am - Holy Communion, Bawtry  
7.30pm - Tenebrae Service, Everton

**Good Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April**  
10.00am - Messy Easter - Bawtry, St Nic's  
10.30am - Messy Easter - Misson Parish Hall  
10.30am - Messy Easter - Everton Church  
2.00pm - Hour at the Cross, Mattersey

**Easter Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April**  
6.30am - Sunrise Service, Everton Church  
10.30am - Easter Day Family Communion  
with Sundayz Cool, Bawtry, St Nic's

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# Metcalfe Update

## **Village Hall Refurbishment**

We thank all our users for making alternative arrangements during the refurbishment.

The ceilings in the main hall and snooker room have been replaced and new lighting installed. Paneling and radiator covers have been fitted in both rooms. The snooker room has new carpet tiles, the main hall floor has been sanded and resealed- it looks fantastic and the new door onto High Street is now in place. The main rooms all need redecorating, this is planned for April/May, but in the meantime, the hall is now open. On that note....

## **Village Hall Online Bookings**

We have a new system in place for booking the village hall, this should make it much easier for users to book. Please go to [www.metcalfect.org.uk](http://www.metcalfect.org.uk) and click 'Book the Village Hall', this will bring up the calendar so you can check availability and enter all of your requirements to make a provisional booking. The new booking secretary will confirm this booking and send your invoice via email. Regular users are able to set up an account to make multiple / repeat bookings. If you encounter any issues with this please contact [bookingssecretary@metcalfect.org.uk](mailto:bookingssecretary@metcalfect.org.uk).

## **Changing Room Refurbishment**

This work is in progress, we already have a new roof, the whole space is being rewired and the works to improve the existing toilet cubicles and add an accessible toilet with a baby change unit should be finished in March. Once these works are complete, new flooring will be fitted the space redecorated throughout. Subject to planning permission we will also be adding a solar power system with battery storage to provide most of the power needs for this building.

## **SCARECROW AND FLOWER FESTIVAL – 16TH & 17TH MAY**

Plans are progressing well for this event, we are looking forward to lots of scarecrows around the village, in the Churchyard and in the Church. There will be an entry form for them in the May edition of HEDS, but it would be helpful if you could let either Ann or Sid know if you are thinking of displaying one so that we can send the Judges to the right venues.

If your firm or any individual would like to sponsor a flower arrangement in the Church,

that would be great. Again, please let us know.

On Sunday, the Garden Holders will hold their usual plant sale and craft stalls. And bacon butties, of course.

All the profits from the event will go to the Church Tower restoration fund - we are still working out the details of the event, but hope the village will support us as usual.

Further information from Sid (07745 533216) or Ann (818993 or 073777 94790). All offers of help and ideas are very welcome.

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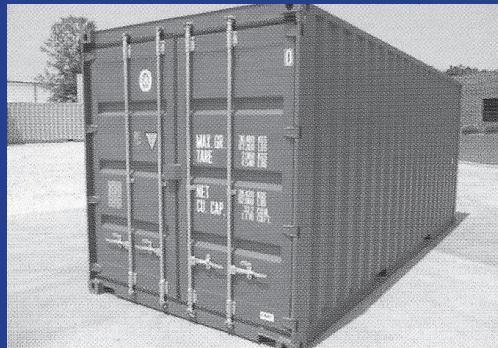
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# EVERTON Primary School

"Everton Primary is a supportive learning environment. The teachers really care about the children's well-being." Parent View. Ofsted 2023

"Pupils and staff get on well at this school. Relationships are consistently positive." Ofsted 2023

What an incredible month we have had at Everton Primary School!

At Everton Primary School we think it is incredibly important to learn through real life experiences. With this in mind, this last month our children have taken part in a Holi Colour Run; a wedding and baptism at Holy Trinity Church; been to Haughton Farm Park; and enjoyed a Pinocchio Dance Workshop on World Book Day!

Firstly, the children in years 1 and 2 had their very own wedding and baptism at Everton's Holy Trinity Church. Thank you to Rev. Becky and Di Grice for leading and supporting this idea. It was wonderful to see the children dressed for both of the occasions, where they played out their given roles and responsibilities of two separate ceremonies in full length services. They then returned to school for the wedding breakfast – thank you to all the parents and carers who supported this with food, cake and decorations.

On the same day, our Nursery and Reception children went on an education visit to Haughton Park Farm. There the children learnt about life cycles, different animals and life on a farm. They also took part in educational workshops, fed the animals and held them too.

A new idea that I had for this year was to take part in a Holi Colour Run. Again, this was to complete real-life learning in a fun way, this time regarding the Hindu festival of Holi. Therefore the whole school, alongside Mattersey Primary School, had the marvellous experience of being coated in powdered paints of different colours as they ran around the school field. The children learnt that paints represented the vibrant arrival of spring, the triumph of good over evil and the joy of social unity: green for new beginnings; red for love, yellow for knowledge; green for the crops and land; pink for youth; orange for joy; and blue for the Gods.

As mentioned in previous articles this year, it is the National Year of Reading during 2026. Our March reading challenge is to 'Read around the world!'. Last month

the children took photos of all the different places they could read, but now we have asked them to show us the different places that they can read about. We will then be filling in a map to see if the EverTeam can read around the whole world! There will also be a prize for the class that collectively reads from the most different places.

As part of World Book Day, the children across school dressed as a character from a book whilst also taking part in a Pinocchio dance workshop. Each class focused on their individual 'Pinocchio Dance', before all coming together at the end of World Book Day to bring the dances together for a whole school performance.

Still staying with reading, thank you to Mrs Dunn for being our 'community reader' this month. Mrs Dunn read to the whole school and answered questions regarding her favourite book from the children. If anyone else in the local community would feel able to share their favourite book and discuss it with our children, then please get in touch.

As you can see, Everton Primary School is a fantastic school which gives opportunities for a wide range of activities and positive experiences. As a small school it is imperative that we fill our school to continue to be able give these wonderful opportunities to the children of Everton and the surrounding villages. Therefore, if you, or anyone you know, needs a school place then we have spaces in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 that need to be filled. If you would like to arrange a school visit or ask any questions about school admission, then please feel free to call or email school on 01777817350 or office@everton.notts.sch.uk

**Andrew Green**  
Headteacher

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# TONY'S TOPICS

## **WATER**

The inflation rate in the UK is presently 3.3%. Is this reflected in your Anglian Water bill that you have just received? No, mine has increased by 11.7% and similar increases are already authorised, every year, until 2030.

More water. Apparently, reservoirs are 90 – 95% full after the wet winter. Good news for the water industry. Perhaps! The chance of a hosepipe ban for southern areas is still rated at 44%.

## **UNDER OUR FEET**

Thankfully, our drinking water is drawn from boreholes, so we won't die of thirst. Starvation, possibly. Anglian Water draws our water from an aquifer of Sherwood Sandstone. Lying at a depth of 200 meters, beneath our feet, the site at Everton is one of many in the East Midlands area.

In addition to water, there is a plentiful bounty of natural gas lying under our feet. Covering an area of 50 square miles, the Gainsborough

Trough is estimated to hold approximately 480 billion cubic meters or 16 trillion cubic feet of recoverable gas. For purposes of scale, the reserve is large enough to power the WHOLE of the UK for a decade. If developed, the field is projected to produce gas for 36 years.

Development of the field would contribute up to £140 billion to the UK's GDP and generate £40 billion in tax revenues.

Modelling by Deloitte on behalf of Egdon Resources suggests the project could support 250,000 direct and indirect jobs. However, the Country prefers to buy LNG from Qatar ( currently unavailable)

## **SHIPPING**

For energy and emissions comparisons, let's

consider shipping and the curiously named Merchant Vessel "EL BOATA DEL GRETA" (with apologies to Ms Thunberg). The vessel is a Post Panamax container ship carrying 15,000+ containers. Fuelled by low-quality bunker fuel, these ships emit massive amounts of Sulphur Oxide. A mere 15 of these behemoths emit more sulphurous gas than the 1.5 billion cars on the planet combined.

The typical British family pictured could drive for a thousand years and not emit the amount of noxious gases produced by a single cargo ship carrying solar panels from China to the UK.



## **TOP TIP (Viz style)**

Instead of buying an expensive personalised registration plate, why not buy an ordinary one and change your name to YO26 JXR?

## **OIL**

The April order will be subject to sanity returning to the marketplace. However, if you are desperate, please let me know, and I will seek the best price. March's order went ahead at half the current price. Normality will return

**Tony**



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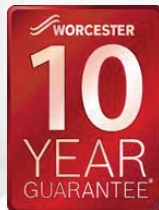
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# LOST GARDEN

Our weekly volunteer meetings have resumed on Wednesdays for now, 4-6, with cake and a cuppa to keep us going.

Our pond dipping equipment, thanks to the Friends of Idle Valley, has arrived but the pond is too new to dip for a while yet.

The hedgehogs are extremely lively at night and we have seen three together from time to time.

We are gradually weeding an area to plant wild flower seeds and Class 1 will be planting pots of wild flower seeds to care for at home over the Easter holiday and then plant in the space created.

The bird life in the garden is impressive. It is a real haven with wild habitat deliberately left/created to encourage wildlife. In only a few minutes a wide variety of birds can be heard, such as robin, blackbird, blue tit, great tit, goldcrest, blackcap, goldfinch, rook, jackdaw, carrion crow, stock dove, siskin, greenfinch, starling, wren, song thrush, chaffinch, collared dove and several more.

Come down and spend a few minutes soaking up the calm, peace and quiet.

**SUE HUGHES**



**The Carpenters Arms**

## POP UP PUB QUIZ Night

**at All Saints' Church Hall  
Mattersey at 7.30pm**

**13 Apr, 11 May  
8 June, 13 July  
10 Aug  
14 Sept, 12 Oct  
9 Nov, 7 Dec**

**Bring your own drinks and nibbles and join us each month for a fun quiz and traditional pub games**

**Hosted by All Saints' Church, Mattersey**



## ST HELENA'S ANGEL FESTIVAL

**Save the Dates:**  
**Sat 15<sup>th</sup> & Sun 16<sup>th</sup> August**  
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# CELESTIAL

Since humans of all branches of the tree of life, from homo Erectus, Heidelbergensis, Neanderthal, Denisovan to we Homo Sapiens have probably looked at the dark night sky and wondered.

There will have been crystal clear nights when the day has gone well the night is secure and all is peaceful, that time to think and wonder at the sky would have been cherished.

The clear night sky is awash with bright pinpoints of light and Sirius, in the constellation Canis Major the brightest of all stands out above all others.

Perhaps the most beautiful of all in the night sky is the Milky Way what we now understand is the ark of the galaxy we inhabit on its outer edges.

This connection to the celestial sky and its effect of wonder and grounding has for many of us been sadly lost.

I first understood this loss when as a teenager I visited Herefordshire along with my friends for a weekend. We arrived at our destination at night in a small rural village, in what seemed like

the back end of nowhere to we town dwellers. Getting out of our cars and with the lights turned off we were astonished as the darkness seemed absolute. As our eyes adjusted we looked to the sky and stood in bewilderment at the display of celestial might. We had never seen the night sky in such clarity.

Science now understand some of what happens in the cosmos and in our skies but I wonder what our ancestors thought as they watched 'shooting stars' traverse the sky and witnessed the 'slow' progression of comets.

Light pollution in our environment, it seems, is now manifest in many rural locations. Security lights and brickwork illumination lights contribute to the light pollution we now experience. This has, in part, been shown to cause problems for nature and denies us the connection to the night sky that our ancestors took pleasure from.

Our lights may be necessary for security in this our insecure world but do we really need to light up everything we own?

***NAME OF AUTHOR KNOWN TO EDITORIAL TEAM***

# Everton and Scaftworth War Memorial

**Mattersey Road Cemetery.**

**Rededication Service**

**Tuesday 28th April 1:30pm**

Two years ago funding was sourced from Bassetlaw District Council Heritage fund to restore the original decorative features on the war memorial. Over time these had be lost but now, due to voluntary effort they are restored. The names of the fallen men are inscribed on our fine grade two listed war memorial.

As a mark of respect and recognition for those 18 local men from Everton and Scaftworth parishes who fell in the first and second world wars and with the restoration work completed the Friends of Everton Cemetery Group, of Everton Parish Council have organised a rededication service. Led by Reverend Becky Hancock, Everton Primary School Council will lay crosses in memory of those fallen local heroes.

After the short service around the war memorial there will be a general invitation to go back to the Sun Inn for a hot drink and a chat.

You are all welcome to attend and support this community event.

***Steven Wiles***





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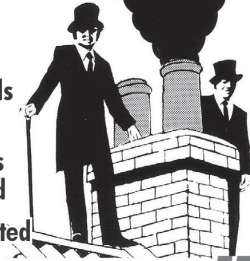
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## DINGBAT PUZZLE

from Bryan Atkinson

Tunnellight

5-2-3-3-2-3-6

Preist

8-5

Answers are elsewhere in the magazine



# STEP Fusion Public Consultation

Perhaps as many other local people did, I attended the STEP Fusion Public Consultation event at Gringley on the Hill on the 30th of January 2026.

As invited to by the STEP Fusion Representatives hosting it, I read each of the pop-up poster panels as I went around the room, taking note as I did so of the strategic use of words and well managed presentation of concepts, the precise way in which things were expressed, the reference points provided to the audience and where the focus was being directed to in terms of what the 'Public' might need to be interested in. And of course, I took note of what was not mentioned that I really thought should have been, of which there was really quite a lot.

As someone who has worked in and among Marketing and Public Relations professionals, I recognise a spun story when I see one, by which I mean a carefully constructed narrative intended to influence people's thinking, usually towards buying a product or service, buying into ideas, or at another extreme, providing damage limitation to counter a negative situation.

So what was happening here? This was surely a Public Consultation intended to inform and encourage genuine feedback about local people's concerns in a democratic society. Except no, something was being sold it seemed to me, a very positively positioned concept involving a glamorised view of the technology, while the negative possibility

was already being countered by not even mentioning that it might exist.

Then next, again as I had been invited to do on arrival, I spoke with the representatives of the STEP Fusion Technical Team who wanted to show me an innocuous looking cutaway model of their wonderful gismo. I explained that I already knew how nuclear fusion worked and asked why did it not say anywhere in this Public Consultation presentation that nuclear fusion technology was used in bombs? In fact it is the basis of second generation thermonuclear weapons, the most powerful and destructive in existence.

I had to ask this question three or four times very directly and persistently, because initially I was given a set-piece pitch about how this 'environmentally friendly' and 'sustainable' technology was going to work miraculously and solve everything, until at last it was conceded that yes I was correct and a STEP Fusion Technical Representative acknowledged that it was used to trigger bombs. Except that is not the case, a fission bomb is used to trigger a fusion bomb. The nuclear fusion event is the actual bomb. I had hoped that the STEP Fusion Technical Team people would know that.

Then I asked if there had yet been anything more convincing than a few limited laboratory experiments that showed that this could work, or work safely; and if there was any example anywhere of a commercial scale application of this theory. Again there were some apologetics and fudged replies, although essentially the answer seemed to be no.

At this point I made it quite clear that I was not saying that this technology would not work, or was definitely a bad idea; and would





like to emphasise this essentially neutral standpoint to whoever reads this. I would wish my view to be an informed one though and that everyone else that might be affected by these proposals could understand the potential benefits and possible negatives too of what is being put forward when arriving at their conclusions and giving feedback.

However, when I asked where the publicly available risk assessment was, the answer appeared to be that there was not one, as in no risk assessment full stop. And why the potential radius of harm should there be an incident, was not present on the maps that only demonstrated how possible transport and construction impact would be mitigated, because that was surely the bigger and more permanent concern of Public Interest?

In short I was criticizing the entire Public Consultation presentation for not being sufficiently transparent. And when I put it in those terms having said what I had, one of the seemingly more senior STEP Fusion Representatives present agreed that this was a fair comment that would be taken on board and that I was probably right.

There is a swish artist's impression of the proposed prototype Tokamak power plant on the STEP website, for example, which is a half-Gotham-City, half-Manga-Cityscape inspired creation, fitting for the pages of a fantasy graphic novel perhaps, which would be much more useful if it had a numbered key explaining the parts and what their functions were, including the purpose of the thick wall surrounding it, an interesting feature.

Disappointingly just 1 page out of 28 in the lavishly produced takeaway brochure is about the actual thing that they are intending to do. On page 6 of it and on the pop-up poster

panels we are told in awe-inspiring terms that 'Fusion is the process that takes place within the sun and the stars...' and we are shown a cute picture of Tritium, Deuterium and Helium pretending to be snooker balls.

Here is an alternative description: A fusion reaction is what takes place in thermonuclear weapons where two wonky types of Hydrogen are converted into the completely different element Helium. Good news for party balloons, except one of those wonky Hydrogen atoms is radioactive and very expensive and likes to escape; and to do this requires a massive input of energy. Where will that energy come from?

Hence the careful use of the term 'net energy' in how this process is being described, meaning that the 'fusion energy gain factor' exceeds 1, as in you get more energy out of the reaction than has to be put in to make and maintain it, although theoretically this has to reach 5 to be viable. I am not sure if that has been achieved yet, because most of the energy released by this process goes into a hyped up neutron. That's the blue snooker ball on the right.

Ignition is where the concept becomes self-sustaining, which means arriving at the point that would trigger a nuclear bomb and then keeping that situation stable.

Oddly enough the words 'nuclear' and 'radioactive' do not feature very much in the Public Consultation presentation materials, the pop-up posters or slick brochure, although the word 'safe' appears, along with 'could' and 'potentially', which by inference may also mean 'might not'. That a fusion reactor also produces radioactive waste and suffers radiation damage to components gets glossed over lightly on page 12.



Whether STEP Fusion's Spherical Tokamak thingamajig will be able to overcome all of the technical considerations involved and turn the science-fiction-like theory into reality has yet to be discovered. Personally I would rather they found this out somewhere else. Preferably in an unused HS2 tunnel. And is there not something disingenuous in the storytelling? The earth is approximately 93 million miles from the sun and even further from the stars, where fusion takes place providing heat and light to our corner of the universe. West Burton is just over there.

As for the rest of the brochure guff: Do large Civil Projects really create local jobs? Rarely: They typically involve massive multinational construction companies, Canadian and French ones are among the shortlisting process for this one, then layers of industrial subcontractors and highly skilled mobile workforces that are brought in to do the job and then go away to another. With regard to the promise of long-term job creation, there is an obvious use for AI in fusion technology to take human error out of the equation, so for future jobs how many, doing what? Suppliers and service businesses in a trickle down economy might benefit, maybe.

Still, 'Walking, Cycling and Public Rights of Way', which get 2 pages might be improved, making it easier to get to Gainsborough, which is a blessing obviously.

The second pop-up poster panel begins by saying 'This Stage One consultation...' hold onto that thought and then continues with: 'The need for the Project is established in the Government's NPS EN-1, and its intention to designate NPS EN-8. These policies are supported by the Government's 2025 Infrastructure Strategy. Therefore the

need for the prototype fusion power plant is outside the scope of this consultation.'

NPS EN-1 is a Policy Statement, the updated version of which came into force just 24 days before the Gringley on the Hill event, while NPS EN-8 looks very much like a done deal that this is happening at West Burton whether local people want it or not, based on a consultation that ran for less than three months in 2024 and received a glorious total of 46 responses. Although not all of these answered every question.

The analysis of this data then produces outcomes based on a majority percentage of these, such as 76% of the 38 that answered agreed, or 43% of the 37 that answered did. This one in NPS EN-8 is interesting because only 24% agreed whereas 34% did not:

'Question 6. Do you think the definition of a fusion energy facility, as provided in the Energy Act 2023, is suitable for distinguishing between a fusion energy facility and/or fusion research facility for the purpose of this NPS?'

If there is to be informed Public Debate and a genuine and valid Public Consultation there needs to be open, honest and transparent information available about what is intended here and full disclosure of anything and everything that the Public has a right to know, to include making a compelling case for this, even though 'the need for the prototype fusion power plant is outside the scope of this consultation', as this topic is still relevant to peoples' understanding of the project; as well as presenting the factors that are potentially reassuring in relation to those that are not; and what the evidence-based expectations really are in every respect.

Plus what choices local people actually have should be set out with clarity.



The STEP Fusion Public Consultation event at Gringley on the Hill was a long way from being that, although need not have been.

After absorbing all this I am left with these thoughts:

Surely more than 5 private individuals would have responded if this short lived 'Consultation' had been widely enough circulated among local people? Of the 46 responses that NPS EN-8 is derived from, only 5 were from individuals and none of the questions specifically ask should West Burton be used for this.

And hang on a minute did not the second pop-up poster say this was the 'Stage One consultation...' happening now?

In which case I think I understand what this means: 'Therefore the need for the prototype fusion power plant is outside the scope of this consultation.' The most fundamental questions for local people have already been overridden, unless 'alright, except not here' is an option.

What sort of National Nuclear Power Strategy for a population of almost 70 million is based on a majority percentage of 46 replies?

Therefore if none of this is up for discussion, what exactly is this present STEP Fusion Public Consultation about?

Or for £2 billion we could put ground source heat pumps under all the public parks in the UK and get lots of clean cost-efficient energy from the world beneath our feet.

NPS EN-1 is described as the 'Overarching Policy Statement for Energy' and at clause 3.3.60 this well established technology appears in it called 'Geothermal'. It is listed directly underneath 'Large-scale nuclear, Small Modular Reactors, Advanced Modular

Reactors, and fusion power plants', which evidently has more flag-waving appeal.

The Government Office for Science produced the research and analysis document 'Future of the subsurface: geothermal energy generation in the UK' in 2024, which includes this sentence 'There are significant benefits of geothermal energy compared to other forms.' As well as this one 'Although GSHPs generally have higher upfront costs than air source heat pumps (ASHPs) which extract heat from the air, they are more efficient and therefore tend to have lower running costs.'

It is already operational globally and it works. France and Germany have similar geology to us and are way ahead of the UK in their use of geothermal energy.

'Tokamak' is a Russian acronym for a nuclear fusion thingamabob that was first built in 1958. The largest of them is currently in Japan. None of them have yet delivered on the theory. To contextualise this 1958 is when Elvis had a hit with 'Jailhouse Rock' and Gerry Lee Lewis rocked the world with 'Great Balls of Fire'. The snappily named 'Spherical Tokamak for Energy Production (STEP)', which has an acronym, a logo and branded fleece jackets already, aims to have a prototype that could support the development of a commercial fusion industry in the UK by around 2040.

One way or another I might have left by then. Food for thought though.

**Jonathan Stephenson**

*31st January 2026*



# North Notts Ploughing Match

**Sunday 08 March, 2026**

A very big thank you to all local residents who attended the Ploughing Match at Scaftworth on 08 March.

We had a really good match with just over 100 ploughmen taking part including four teams of horses.

This event and other Ploughing Matches held across the country help to keep the art of ploughing 'through the ages' alive and thriving.

Any money raised at our events goes to the running of the events and any excess is donated to charity.

At this match we were able to present the Bassetlaw Hospice with £1000.00 donation, the Farming and Community Network with £1000.00 and provide £500.00 towards the cost of local Ploughmen representing the Country in the European Vintage Finals in Denmark and the World Ploughing Championship in Croatia.



**MESSY EASTER**  
**FRIDAY 3 APRIL**

Explore the real meaning of Easter with  
**CRAFT - FUN - WORSHIP - FOOD**

**BAWTRY 10 - 12 noon**  
meet in Church

**EVERTON 10.30 - 12.30 pm**  
meet in Church

**MISSION 10.30 - 12.30 pm**  
meet in the Parish Hall

Illustration of children holding hands at the bottom.

# SPRING MINI CRAFT MARKET

10.00 AM TIL 2.00 PM

SUNDAY 26TH APRIL 2026

Plants - Flowers - Pottery - Wood Turning  
Willow Baskets & Sculptures  
Hand Drawn Pyrography - Original Art

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THURSDAYS

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OF HOUSE RED WINE**

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# Parish Council

## **Parish Council and Village Website:**

**<https://evertonparishcouncil.uk>**

Please visit our website for latest information and village news.

## ***Have your say: Everton & Harwell Speed Reduction – Twenty is Plenty!***

The Parish Council are reviewing a proposal to reduce the speed limit in Everton and Harwell, north of the A631, from 30 mph to 20 mph. More information on this can be found at [evertonparishcouncil.uk](http://evertonparishcouncil.uk) and any initial comments can be sent to the clerk at [theclerk@evertonparishcouncil.uk](mailto:theclerk@evertonparishcouncil.uk).

## ***Village Walkabout***

Members of the Parish Council recently welcomed Cllr Mike Robertson for a walk around the village to discuss local matters and ongoing priorities. These visits are a valuable opportunity to highlight issues directly and we look forward to continued positive engagement on behalf of Everton residents.

## ***New Parish Council Website***

The Parish Council's refreshed website is now live. Residents can find agendas, minutes, news, and useful information about village services and activities. Please take a moment to explore the site and stay up to date with local matters.

## ***Village Litter Pick – 29 March***

The community litter pick took place on 29 March 2026. It was a very successful community effort and a great opportunity for residents to work together to keep the village tidy. More information on how to take part in future community activities, as part of Everton: Respect, will follow soon.

## ***Friends of Everton Cemetery***

Friends of Everton Cemetery supports the parish council by helping maintain the cemetery on Mattersey Road through tidy-up

sessions, minor repairs, signage, and safety checks. New members are welcome, with no special skills required. To get involved, please contact the parish clerk.

## ***Everton Village Neighbourhood Plan***

Work continues on the Everton Village Neighbourhood Plan. The first draft is currently being prepared and is expected to be ready for discussion at the May Parish Council meeting. Further updates will be shared with residents as the project progresses.

## ***Rural Watch Scheme***

There continue to be reports of increased illegal and antisocial motorbike and quad bike use on local footpaths, bridleways and restricted byways. This is dangerous, causes environmental damage, and puts pedestrians at risk. These routes are for restricted users only and any illegal use should be reported by calling 101 or by logging a report on the Notts Police website.

## ***Considerate Parking***

Residents and visitors are reminded to park considerately around the village and ensure that pavements remain clear. Obstructed footways can create difficulties for pedestrians, pushchairs, and those using mobility aids.

## ***Dog Owners***

Dog owners/walkers are asked to be aware of the countryside rules, including keeping dogs on leads especially where there is livestock nearby. They are also reminded of their legal requirement to remove all dog waste from public areas, including pavements, public rights of way and public green spaces. Sufficient bins have now been placed around the village, and these must be used. There is no excuse for leaving dog waste in our community and the

PC will seek enforcement when required.

### **Bassetlaw Mobile Community Shop**

The Everton Mobile Shop calls every Thursday between 12:15 and 13:15 and is located on the Metcalfe playing field car park. The shop is open to everyone.

### **District Councillor's Surgery**

District Councillor Steven Pashley is now running a surgery. The surgeries are to take place on the 3rd Thursday in the month, between 10-12 at Misson Village Hall (drop-in)

### **Useful Contact Details**

#### **Speeding Issues/Inconsiderate Parking**

These can be reported to the Police on telephone number 101

**Highways Issues** (for example potholes, road defects, overgrown hedges, damaged signs\ overgrown public footpaths).

These can be reported Nottinghamshire County Council via their website [www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk) or by using the 'MyNotts' App. Or by contacting your Councillor Mike Robertson: cllr.mike.robertson@nottscc.gov.uk.

**Environmental, planning and planning enforcement issues** can be reported via the Bassetlaw District Council website [www.bassetlaw.gov.uk](http://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk) or by contacting your District Council, Steven Pashley Email [steven.pashley@cllr.bassetlaw.gov.uk](mailto:steven.pashley@cllr.bassetlaw.gov.uk)

#### **Upcoming Parish Council Meeting Dates**

Monday March 30th – Everton Village Hall.

Monday May 11th 2026 – Venue TBA

Monday June 1st 2026 – Everton Village Hall.

Contact Details for the Clerk, Callum Bryant:  
Email: [theclerk@evertonparishcouncil.uk](mailto:theclerk@evertonparishcouncil.uk)  
Tel: 07362 287146

Parish Council documents including minutes, agendas and other local information can be found on the Parish Council's website:  
<https://evertonparishcouncil.uk>

Parish Council meetings are normally held in the village hall and usually start at 7.15pm. Members of

the public are always welcome to attend. Meetings normally take place on the first Monday in the month except when there is a bank holiday when the date will be scheduled as soon as possible after that date.

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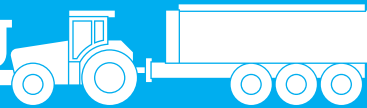
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# Rob's Agri-Blog

*'Farming all around us'*



Well, we are well into March now and we have finally had a spell of dry weather and this has allowed us to progress well with the first spring field work. We are currently just drilling the last of our spring barley, which has been a bit stop/start due to the showers. All the land for vining peas has now been ploughed – again, a bit stop/start due to a couple of tractor breakdowns this time – nothing we couldn't fix ourselves, but as with so many modern machines, diagnosing the problem and then getting the parts held us up for a couple of valuable dry days! We have also managed to apply all the first application of nitrogen to the winter wheat and manganese too, so I'm feeling a bit happier now than I was 10 days ago when we hadn't really done much due to the weather.

At the moment the big factor affecting farming, and for that matter, most other industries is the ripple effects of the middle east war in Iran. Fuel prices have rocketed, so pushing many other input prices up. What puzzles me is that diesel prices at the roadside have risen by around 10-15 pence per litre, but red diesel prices have risen by about 40 pence per litre! – and that's bought in much larger quantities – we usually order about 5000 litres at a time! That I can't understand!

Also, fertiliser prices have made a huge jump already. Nitrogen fertiliser is very energy intensive to produce, so cost of production has immediately increased; also mined fertiliser, such as potash and phosphate is more expensive to get out of the ground. Then all these products are bulky materials to transport, so shipping costs have increased considerably – which all results in more huge cost increases to the end user – at a time when agriculture can least afford it!

You may be forgiven for thinking that the price of agricultural commodities has therefore

increased pro rata – not so – the price of wheat has hardly moved over the last couple of weeks; the wheat futures have increased a little for, say, October shipment – but by only a few pounds! C'est la vie!

Hopefully, oil shipments will begin to flow through the Middle East shortly, one way or another, and then oil prices will (hopefully!) return to reasonable levels again and input prices for all industries will reduce. Fingers crossed!

Looking to the month ahead on the farm, we will be busy with spraying cereals for weeds and disease prevention, finishing the spring barley drilling and doing a lot of grassland management for our hay business. Also, with the financial year end looming shortly, a bit of desk work to do!

*So, on that unenticing thought – let's shift focus to a bit of rural humour...*

*A local farmer was speeding down the A631 very late one night, when he was pulled over by a police car. The police officer came up to the farmers window and said "do you realise what speed you were travelling at Sir?" The farmer replied "I'm so sorry officer, I was rushing to a lecture on the negative impacts of drinking alcohol, keeping late hours, and the importance of a healthy, clean-living lifestyle..."*

*Smiling knowingly to himself, the Officer said "Really Sir? And who might be giving a lecture like that at this time of night?"*

*The farmer smirked and replied "My Wife!!!"*

**On that note... until next month.**

**Robert Troop**

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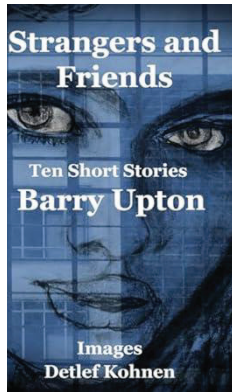
**CONTACT US**

**01302 492315**  
Info@pinnaclecareprofessionals.co.uk





## BOOK LAUNCH EVENTS: Strangers and Friends



“The Art and Craft of The Short Story.” This collection of mysterious, sometimes bizarre tales is enhanced by the images created by Hanover photographer Detlef Kohnen. The author will share ideas behind the creation of the book which explores the nature of friendship, giving readings, and answering questions. The stories and their accompanying images have a surreal element which gives the reader food for thought. Together, images and text open new and imaginative ways to explore the meanings of each story.

Retford Library, Thursday 24 May 6 pm, Bassetlaw Museum,  
Saturday 16 May 10 - 3 and Bawtry Library, Friday 26 June 2 pm.

## The Conquest Trilogy

*“King and Conqueror: Characters behind the BBC series”.*

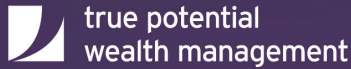
The recent BBC series has seen a renewed interest in the characters, the men and the women, that lie behind the most famous date in English History – 1066, characters who are also depicted in the Bayeux Tapestry soon to be seen in The British Museum. Author of the **CONQUEST TRILOGY**, Barry explores the characters that make this one of the most fascinating periods in our history - the last invasion of the British mainland - and how they have shaped the nation we have become today, including how the conquest changed the role of women in Medieval England.



**Crown Hotel (Ledger Suite), Bawtry, Monday 15 June 2pm.**

Barry will also have a stall on Friday 15 May in Retford Market and on Sunday 28 June in Bawtry Town Centre where books and photographs will be available for purchase.





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as of December 2025





## CONTAINER GARDENING

Garden Holders' April meeting will be a wonderful opportunity for us to have even more amazing containers this year as our speaker is Rachel Barrowcliff, an expert on them. So come along to the Village Hall on Monday 10th April at 7.30 p.m. and get more ideas for your containers this year. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Looking ahead, we have a trip to Giddy Kippers in May, also the Scarecrow and Flower Festival that month, all the programme is on the Everton Facebook page.



## Village Coffee Morning

The dates for April coffee mornings are TUESDAY 14th in the Church and TUESDAY 24th in the Village Hall

We look forward to seeing you all then. Times are 10.30 – noon in the Village Hall – everyone welcome.

See you there. **Ann 818993**

## DANCING THE NIGHT AWAY

Is what Everton WI did to celebrate their 77th birthday. We were joined by the Ragglegag Morris Dancers for an excellent evening. A history of how Morris dancing evolved, a guided tour of all the instruments and wonderful intricate dances. We were very impressed by our President taking the floor too!! All so enjoyed by us all. We ended with one of our famous buffets. Many thanks to the Morris Dancers and all who helped with the buffet.

Our April meeting will be more sedantary as we make poppies for the poppy display in the village this November. It is a chance for all of us to contribute, so please come along and join in and make your contribution to this amazing event. See you on Monday 20th April – 7.30 in the village hall, Visitors and new members very welcome.

**ANN 01777 818993**

## Long time since you played table tennis or snooker on full size table?

Why not give it a try at Everton village hall, Thursday evenings 7.30 to 9.00 pm..

Info available from Mick Boulby, "Northville", Church St. 817761.

## May deadline

The deadline for the May 2026 issue will be 14 April.

Thank you to you all.  
**Editorial Team**

Dingbats: LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL,  
CLERICAL ERROR

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## Useful phone numbers

ART GROUP	Penny Harley	<b>07826 689339</b>
BASSETLAW HOSPITAL	Main Switchboard	<b>01909 500990</b>
BELL RINGERS	Christine Dunn	<b>818732</b>
BLUE SKIES (Community Orchard)	Sue Hughes	<b>07921 132889</b>
BOWLS	Pauline Harris	<b>817375</b>
CHOIR	Paul Sydney	<b>07852 952217</b>
CHURCH WARDEN	John Dunn	<b>818732</b>
CHURCH Weddings, Baptisms, Funerals	Rev Becky Hancock	<b>01302 218308</b>
CRICKET - Seniors	Steve Blackburn	<b>07771 390907</b>
CRICKET - Juniors	James Doody	<b>07714 488333</b>
COUNTY COUNCILLOR	Michael Robertson	<b>07483 996723</b>
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR	Steve Pashley	<b>07920 542067</b>
DONCASTER ROYAL INFIRMARY	Main Switchboard	<b>01302 366666</b>
EVERTON LOCAL HISTORY ARCHIVE	Sue Hughes	<b>07921 132889</b>
EVERTON PRIMARY SCHOOL	Office	<b>817350</b>
FLY TIPPING REPORTING	BDC	<b>01909 533533</b>
FOOTBALL	Chris Rowe	<b>crowe10291@aol.com</b>
GARDEN HOLDERS	Val Kirby	<b>816840</b>
HEDS	Ann Hickman	<b>818993</b>
JOHN COUPLAND HOSPITAL Gainsborough	Minor Injuries	<b>01427 816500</b>
KNITTING GROUP	Sue Ross	<b>01777 816142</b>
KNITTING GROUP	Angela Harrison	<b>07784 056808</b>
METCALFE RECREATION COMMITTEE	Sue Ross, Secretary	<b>816142</b>
METCALFE TRUST SECRETARY	Rachel Hyland	<b>07595 932307</b>
NEWSPAPERS	Mattersey Post Office	<b>817231</b>
OIL SYNDICATE	Tony Richardson	<b>817617</b>
PARISH COUNCIL & CEMETERY	Callum Bryant	<b>07362 287146</b>
LITTLE LAMBS	Di Grice	<b>07748 804080</b>
POLICE	Worksop	<b>01909 500999</b>
POLICE - Claire Walker PCSO	Harworth Police Station	<b>07525 226626</b>
POST OFFICE	Mattersey	<b>817231</b>
PTA	Sarah Chadburn	<b>07951 712556</b>
SNOOKER/TABLE TENNIS	Mick Boulby	<b>817761</b>
TENNIS	Mick Boulby	<b>817761</b>
VILLAGE HALL Bookings	Rachel Hyland	<b>07595 932307</b>
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE	Ann Hickman	<b>818993</b>

If you wish to be inserted in our local contact list then contact us:

**email: [vivienne.preece@outlook.com](mailto:vivienne.preece@outlook.com) // telephone: 01777 818180**



# April 2026

Weekly Meetings - All Village Hall unless otherwise notated

**THURSDAY** - TABLE TENNIS,  
SNOOKER, VH - 7.30pm  
- BASSETLAW MOBILE SHOP  
12.15PM - 1.15pm

**FRIDAY** - LITTLE LAMBS  
9.30-11am term time - VH

**2nd** HOLY TRINITY  
MAUNDY THURSDAY  
7.30 pm Tenebrae

**3rd** HOLY TRINITY  
GOOD FRIDAY  
10.30. a.m. Messy Church

**5th** HOLY TRINITY  
EASTER DAY 6.30 a.m. Sunrise Service  
St Nicholas, Bawtry  
11.15 a.m. Holy Communion

**6th** OIL ORDERING

**7th** KNITTING GROUP  
10.00 a.m. – noon VH

**13th** HOLY TRINITY – 9,00 a.m.  
Prayers for the Village  
GARDEN HOLDERS  
7.30 p.m, VH – see note

**14th** VILLAGE COFFEE 10.30 - VH  
DEADLINE FOR HEDS

**20th** WI – 7.30 p.m. VH - - see note

**21st** KNITTING GROUP  
10.00 a.m. – noon VH

**24th** VILLAGE COFFEE 10.30 VH

**28th** DEDICATION OF WAR MEMORIAL  
1.30 p.m – see note

**30th** BOWLS v. Tuxford – Away

## HEDS Editorial Team

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<b>Adrian McGuigan</b> - Design and Production	studio@mcguigandesign.co.uk	07858 207756
<b>Jean Winder</b> - Distribution		01777 817777
<b>Mike Harrison</b>		07732 956097

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Although we always try to ensure that our advertisements are well presented, unfortunately from time to time, some of our advertisements may be a little faint and lacking definition or clarity. This is because the printing process we have to use to produce HEDS Together works better where the original document is solely in black and white and with no background colouring.

It would greatly assist the editorial team if, when submitting advertisements for publication, advertisers are able to use black and white with limited use of background wherever possible.

May we thank you for continuing to support HEDS Together and should you need any assistance we will be only too pleased to help.

## The Editorial Team

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