



‘ONE NEWTON’

ISSUE 2 WINTER 2017

Newton news in brief!

This is only the second full edition of our Newsletter and we are already receiving lots of positive input and interesting content from residents and others living or working in and around Newton – Firstly, thanks are due for the festive pictures shown in our Newsletter page ‘banners’ this month to:

1. The Leaders and children of St Peter’s Pre-School at East Bridgford who have built a gingerbread house and have decorated it with ‘sweets’ to play in during December – Check out the great photo they shared above!
2. Young Newton residents, Sam, Alex, Mycah and Joshua, who produced some lovely festive drawings (top of Page 2), albeit they were quite insistent on using lots of black and white!

Featured are articles and photos from the children of ‘Pupils Parliament’ at St Peter’s Church of England Academy; local businesses, Home Instead Senior Care and Mind & Body Consultants; and seasonal farming news from Newton House Farm. Bella and Felicity McCormack (aged 11 and 9) joined forces and put together their questions for an insightful and fun interview with our Parish Council Chairman, David Simms and Councillor Janet Dobson. Finally, if you’re about to purchase a new calendar, you’ll also find dates and details for what promises to be some fun community events in 2018!

Subscribe to your free copy of the Newsletter. If you are resident in Newton, request it by:

- Email – Please provide your email address (contact methods below)
- Mail – If not online, give us your Newton address and we’ll deliver one through your letterbox or,
- Find it on the Newton Parish Council website at www.newtonparishcouncil.com

Our ‘One Newton’ aims are to:

- Appeal to residents across many age groups and help to build our community
- Share creative, fun and informative articles, news, mutual hobbies and interests
- Provide welcome publicity for local events, activities, services and small businesses

We’d love to hear from you!

Remember, if you like what you see and would like to contribute content for the spring edition, or have something for our back page ‘Advertisement Wall’, please make contact in good time.

****Deadline for spring edition – Friday 23 February 2018****

Meanwhile, enjoy the read and have a fabulous festive season!

With best wishes, Yvonne Stephenson, Editor

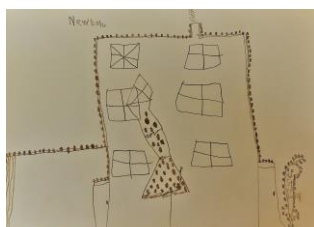
How to make contact:

Telephone: 01949 21133

Email: newtonnottingham@outlook.com

Post: 15 Dakota Road, Newton, NG13 8ZY





'ONE NEWTON'

ISSUE 2 WINTER 2017

Newton residents get planting for spring colour!

Meadfleet are the company responsible, on behalf of Newton Park residents, for maintaining the open space in and around the Phase I development on the site of the former RAF base.

Last month, Yvonne and I were delighted to receive an email from Paul Miller, Managing Director of Meadfleet with a donation of over 2,000 spring bulbs. We wasted no time in gathering a team of willing residents and their families together for a spot of weekend bulb planting back in November!

Fortunately the weather was dry, albeit a little chilly, and it was fantastic to see such great community spirit and a willingness to enhance our open space for everyone to enjoy. Thank you so much to those who gave up their free time to help with the planting. Here are just a few photos from the day...

Fingers crossed, next spring and in the years to come, we will be rewarded for our efforts with the sight of snowdrops, daffodils and also our woodland paths, surrounded by gorgeous scented English bluebells!



More nature projects to follow in 2018!

Watch this space for another family-friendly community event as we'll have our 'potted up' snowdrops to plant out early in the New Year and some bird boxes (also donated by Meadfleet) to install in the surrounding woodland.

Cheers, Paul Stephenson

Please respect our village speed limits ...

There are growing concerns regarding the speed at which motorists drive in Newton, notably along Main Street and Wellington Avenue. The 30mph speed limit and 'Children at Play' signs are there for a reason and we have three very simple requests before there is an accident:

1. **PLEASE** observe the speed limits and signage
2. If there is someone impatient behind trying to harass you into speeding up – Ignore them. They are at fault, not you!
3. Encourage your visitors to respect our speed limits too!





'ONE NEWTON'

ISSUE 2 WINTER 2017

Autumn Report from St Peter's Pupil Parliament

Welcome! This term we have been considering the question:

How can we help others in our 'Take Care' church school in East Bridgford?



As a 'Take Care' school, we take care of ourselves, each other, the world and with our work. So for this reason, we decided to 'Take Care' locally, nationally and internationally through events organised by our Pupil Parliament.

Locally:

Within our school, we 'Take Care' of each other through the Rock Solid Crew. Rock Solid is where volunteered crew members from Key Stage 2 spend their playtimes helping and supporting other children who might be feeling upset or in need of a friend. They also try to keep the playground as safe as possible to ensure that everybody has a happy and fun playtime. Rock Solid is aptly named because of the Christian link, having firm foundations which ties in with the parable of the man who built his house on the rocks. If we are solid, we can help others to be as strong as a rock. Rock Solid Members apply for this role and get to wear super hats if they are employed so that they are easily identified by other children.



Nationally:



We held a special fund raising day called the 'The Big Spotacular' for Children in Need. This event helped children learn about the lives of disadvantaged children throughout the UK, whilst developing communication, teamwork and decision-making skills. We aspired to raise money to support underprivileged young people across the UK. During the day, we held and judged a Pudsey Art Competition and the overall winner was Matthew Dougall. His Spotacular entry of Pudsey won because it linked to the ethos and badge of St. Peter's. Before school, we organised a jam-packed Teddy Bear's Breakfast Picnic when families could read a story to a teddy whilst enjoying a sausage cob and cereal. Children donated money to wear funky yellow or spots to celebrate Pudsey Bear. Thank you to those who donated. This was a memorable event and we raised a massive £625.12 in a St Peter's 'Take Care' way!



Internationally:

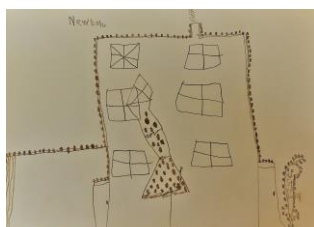
To help those who are less fortunate than us and bring a smile of joy to lots of faces, we organised a Shoe Box Appeal. We realised that a small Shoe Box can have a big impact. We packed the boxes full of fun stuff that can bring happiness and allow children to have a Christmas present instead of having nothing. We played a big part in changing children's lives all over the world in Jesus' name, through the power of a simple gift with Operation Christmas Child and we collected over 100 Shoe Boxes!



Thank you for reading our first report.

We really hope you enjoy it and like our pictures!

PUPIL PARLIAMENT



‘ONE NEWTON’

ISSUE 2 WINTER 2017

Save the date for ‘Right up your Street Fest’!

**** Saturday 16 June 2018 ****

Venue: The Barn at Newton House Farm, Main Street

We are delighted to announce that with the support of our Parish Council and a small team of residents, we are busy organizing a community event for Newton residents and their families which will take place next June.

James and Carole Fisher have kindly offered the use of their grain storage barns at the farm whilst they are empty before harvest so, it's great to know that we can go ahead with this event, whatever the British weather throws our way!

Activities will kick-off with an afternoon event for children (with something to appeal to all ages) until 5pm. Later, from around 7-11pm, there will be an evening just for the grown-ups, with live music and entertainment – Parents and carers, don't forget to book your babysitters early!

There will be a licensed paying bar. Food and entertainment will be provided as part of the ticket price and these will go on sale for both the children's event and the evening party early in the New Year. Numbers will obviously be limited by the size of the venue so, if you'd like to attend what promises to be a fun-packed day, or just come along to the evening for... ‘Right up your Street Fest’... please make contact using the details on the front of this Newsletter!

On the day, we will have a raffle in aid of Trent First Responders, a local charity staffed entirely by volunteers who provide vital emergency response paramedic services in our rural community. The raffle will be drawn during the evening of 16th June.

Call for volunteers and raffle prize donations!

Of course, these events don't just organize themselves, so, if you can spare some time to help in any of the areas below, we'd love to hear from you! Let's join together and make this a fantastic event for Newton:

- Event and raffle ticket sales
- Trent First Responders Charity raffle prize donations – Products, services or gift vouchers from residents and local businesses... All gratefully received so that we can handover a fantastic donation to our chosen charity!
- Venue set-up (Friday 15th June)
- ‘On the day’ support (final set-up on the morning and also to support the children's event)
- Venue take down and tidy up (Sunday 17th June)

We look forward to seeing you at ‘Right up your Street Fest’!

Yvonne Stephenson & Izzy Shouler





‘ONE NEWTON’

ISSUE 2 WINTER 2017

Winter on the farm at Newton

December is here and it heralds a quieter time on our arable farm, unlike a livestock farm, which has animals to attend to 365 days of the year. This is due to the fact that the crops don't grow in the colder weather and the ground is too wet to carry the machinery onto the land.

You may have noticed that the sugar beet crop in the fields at the end of the village has recently been harvested. These parsnip-like roots, which contain 20% sugar when processed, have been delivered to the sugar factory in Newark and will produce approximately 150,000 bags of Silver Spoon Sugar in 6 hours of processing. You can see the factory on the left as you drive round the Newark ring road and also note the strange sweet smell of the sugar being processed. We harvest and deliver the sugar beet on a rota basis with other farmers in the area as the factory requires an even supply from September to March. The harvesting period (or as the factory calls it 'the campaign') involves the processing of sugar 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for over 6 months.

The ground where the sugar beet has been harvested has since been worked and sown with winter wheat for harvesting next summer. Traditionally we had to bring the beet crop onto hard standing that could accommodate the weight of a heavy lorry. However, the mud carried out on the wheels of the trailers onto the roads became unacceptable to today's level and speed of traffic and a wonderful new machine manufactured by the German company MAUS (commonly known as 'the MOUSE') is now available. The machine picks up the harvested beet in the field, elevates them over the roadside hedge and ditch and conveys them into the waiting lorries, loading 30 tons in 3 minutes. Apologies to anyone held up by the waiting lorries and for the mud on the road recently but it is a better system for all concerned than the previous method. The harvester of the crop and the MAUS costs the contractor well over £0.5m so the machine moves from farm to farm, working up to 15 hours each day, 7 days a week to justify the investment.

Our main task now is 3 weeks of intense cutting and selling of the Christmas trees. We buy in some of the trees from a plantation near Lincoln and also have 2 plantations on our farm here in Newton. The traditional variety of Christmas tree is the Norway Spruce and many associate this variety with needles dropping all over the carpet! Many trees sold in the UK (although not ours) are actually grown in Europe, harvested in November and transported here in time for the busy Christmas period. When brought into the house and decorated, the trees are often placed near a radiator where they start to shed their needles very quickly. Another variety is the Nordman Fir which does not drop its needles and has become a popular alternative. A Nordman will reach a height of 2 metres in 12 years, growing approximately 150mm each year. We grow and sell both the Nordman and Norway Spruce varieties here on the farm. The Norway Spruce grows more quickly at around 300mm a year which is one of the main reasons why the Nordman Fir is so expensive! It's strange that when we are completely metric on the farm using hectares (10,000 square metres), litres, kilograms, tonnes (1,000kgs) and we use satellite navigation in our machines but the Christmas tree industry still sells trees in feet and inches!

This week we have had our annual compliance audit. It ensures that every input to the crops and our records of this are maintained so that the crop leaving our farm is compliant and receives the RED TRACTOR mark. Any chemical we use must be recorded and the agronomist who suggested the chemical is required to have the relevant certificate of competence. We note which machine is used, its annual MOT type certificate, the date, time, wind speed and direction and weather conditions all have to be tracked from start to finish. Our produce then leaves the farm with a 'passport' allowing all compliance details to be transferred so that if there is a problem with your bag of crisps it can be traced right back to the field the potatoes were grown in.

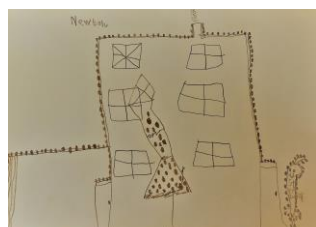


Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

With warm regards,

James and Carole Fisher and the team at Newton House Farm

Locals were out in force early in December choosing their Christmas trees and here at Newton House Farm, we received an early visit from Father Christmas!



'ONE NEWTON'

ISSUE 2 WINTER 2017

Help yourself to a more joyful and relaxed festive season ... Here's how!

In reality you might be thinking 'fat chance' and, as joyful as this time of year is meant to be, stress definitely has a knack of building up. From worrying about the lengthy shopping and to-do list and whether you've bought the right presents for everyone, to planning the perfect meal and hoping the family all keep it together. So, what can we do to get through the holiday season without blowing a fairy light? Well, we can't change other people, but we can plan how we manage and respond to additional pressures. Here's our top tips:

Make time just for you:

Don't put yourself last! Shopping for gifts, planning, entertaining and making endless meals, on top of the normal daily routine can drain energy levels and that's how we end up running on empty and maybe catching a cold. If you don't look after yourself then how can you care for others? Make a little time every day to do something just for you. Go for a walk, meet a friend for a chat, have a relaxing bath, do some exercise, a little yoga or relaxation! Doing something small every day that makes you feel good will help you to relax, leaving you more energised and positive.

Stay in the present:

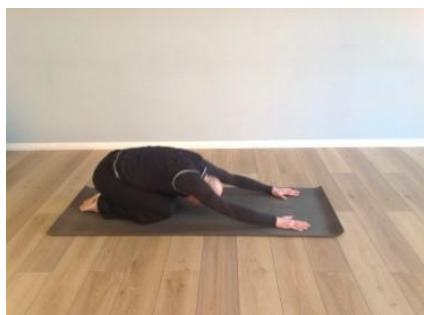
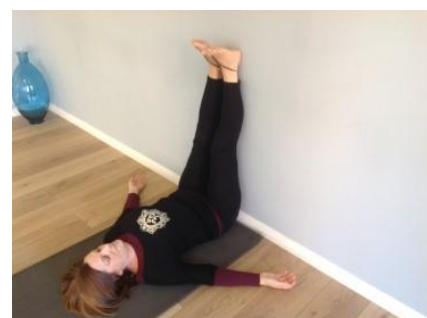
Worrying about what might happen in the future causes stress and anxiety, especially at holiday times. If you practice being present in the moment, you will start to realise that most of your stress hasn't actually happened yet! Like sitting in a rocking chair, it gives you something to do but doesn't get you anywhere! Try focusing on the NOW and not the future!

Be still:

When we're frazzled, it's like being on a merry-go-round – So what's the answer? ... Get off! It's that easy, you just have to do it. Take a few minutes to be completely still and quiet. Resist the inner voice saying 'I might just finish that one job first'. When the body is still and the breathing slow, the mind has a chance to rest. Try these two easy yoga poses to help!

Legs up the wall – This calms the nervous system and brings fresh blood back to the heart and brain:

- Lie on your back with your sitting bones close to the wall and your knees tucked up (you might find it easier to start on your side and wriggle into place)
- Carefully extend your legs up the wall, placing a folded blanket under your lower back and head if needed
- Place one hand on your heart, the other on your belly. Feel the rhythm of your breathing. Remain so for 5-10 minutes



Child's pose – This is a calming and restful pose, especially good at the beginning and end of the day:

- Kneel on the floor
- Push your sitting bones back towards your heels, arms either in front or down by your side, or rest your forehead on your fists
- Knees can be together or apart, whichever feels most comfortable
- Take very slow deep breaths and remain so for 5-10 minutes

We are specialists in helping people deal with stress and pain – Your health and wellbeing is the most important thing. Do get in touch for a chat and to see how we can help you. Call us on 01949 829311, email us at info@mabconsultants.co.uk or visit our website at www.mabconsultants.co.uk.

With our best wishes for a relaxing Christmas, Karen & Kevin Green



**MIND & BODY
CONSULTANTS**
you, only better!



‘ONE NEWTON’

ISSUE 2 WINTER 2017

There's no place quite like home...

Have you ever wondered who you might call upon if you or someone close to you needed care in their own home, a little help to stay independent, or company to break up a long day and prevent loneliness? Finding a good source of help can be difficult, more so if you live in a rural village or small community.

My name is **Sam Eves** and I work for Home Instead, a small local business based in East Bridgford. As the name suggests, we strive to enable people to stay in their own homes for as long as possible. Being part of a franchise, we benefit from the support and governance of a larger group, but with the values and personal touch of a small family run firm – So, you could say the best of both worlds!

We have been rated ‘outstanding’ by our independent regulators, the Care Quality Commission (CQC), and were the first home care provider in Nottinghamshire to receive this award. With 60 care givers and close to 100 clients, we have gone from strength to strength since we first began just a few years ago. We are immensely proud of what we do and what we have achieved.

The area we cover really is a lovely part of the world, extending from Newark in the north, to East Leake in the south, Nottingham in the west, and Bottesford in the East. The relationship between client and care giver is crucial to wellbeing, we like to provide consistency and individually match care givers to clients in terms of hobbies, interests and personalities. With this in mind, we have care givers throughout the region, so that the clients they serve are never too far away. Each home visit is for a minimum of one hour, always allowing time to do things properly and without the need to hurry.

We're giving something back to the community!

At Home Instead, we firmly believe in supporting the communities in which we operate and we'd love to do even more in 2018! We often use local village halls to host get-togethers, coffee mornings and other events, with all the proceeds going to charity. We work with local people to develop memory cafés, which provide a relaxed yet stimulating environment for people with dementia and their families, so they have a social place where they feel welcomed and appreciated. We also offer a series of talks about getting older and how to face the changes and challenges that this may bring.

Get involved!

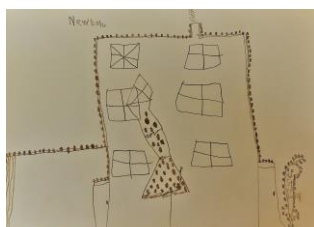
We have trained with the Alzheimer's Society to become Dementia Champions, enabling us to deliver free talks to groups of any size and any age about becoming a Dementia Friend. This is part of the Society's work to build dementia friendly communities so please do get in touch if you or someone you know might appreciate such a talk.

Or, if you know anyone who might benefit from our services, or you would like to know more about us, either as a potential client or care giver, we would be delighted to hear from you!

Find out more...

Speak to myself, Sam Eves, or a member of the team on 01949 480480. Check out our website at www.homeinstead.co.uk/eastnottingham or search 'Home Instead Senior Care East Notts' to find us on Facebook.





'ONE NEWTON'

ISSUE 2 WINTER 2017

Parish Council news!

Draft minutes from the November meeting are available on the NPC website at www.newtonparishcouncil.com and will also be posted on the village noticeboards.

Residents are welcome to attend these meetings and there is an open session early in the agenda when members of the public are invited to raise matters of interest, so please do come along when you can!

Next meeting: Wednesday 24 January 2018 at 7.30pm

Venue: Security Building, Wellington Avenue, Newton

**Councillors would like to
wish residents of Newton
and their families a very
happy Christmas and
New Year!**



A new children's play area for Newton:

If the news hasn't reached you via the Newton grapevine as yet, then the Parish Council are delighted to announce that WREN funding has been awarded!

As advertised in the last Newsletter, the NPC Play Area Committee were able to go ahead with a workshop on Sunday 3 December held at the Security Building. The event, particularly aimed at providing local children with the opportunity of viewing the various designs submitted by 8 different suppliers and highlighting their Top 3.

The session was a great success and we are also pleased to report that Meadfleet, the company who manages the open space around the new play area location, has kindly donated 50 bird boxes and some bug boxes which we hope to install in the surrounding woodland early in the New Year as part of a family-friendly community event.

New Minerals Plan for Notts – Public consultation open now ...

At the November meeting, the Parish Council announced that the Planning Policy Team within Notts County Council are to draft a new Minerals Plan to replace that withdrawn in May 2017. The first important stage in this process is the Issues and Options Consultation, which allows members of the public to contribute their views for consideration when the new Minerals Plan is developed. You have until **14 January 2018** to submit your feedback so please don't miss this important opportunity! The consultation document is available online at www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/127419/issues-options-2017.pdf. Or you can request a copy through the post by telephoning the NCC Customer Contact Centre on 0300 500 80 80.

Government guidance relating to gypsy and traveller encampments ...

Newton residents will no doubt have noticed the increase in gypsy or traveller encampments visiting our area. The Government has recently issued guidance to Police and local councils outlining key facts and the law on these matters. Visit the Newton Parish Council website at www.newtonparishcouncil.com to find a link to the document on the Home page.

Dog patrols in operation at former RAF Newton site ...

Some of you may have noticed a new sign on the gates at the top of Wellington Avenue. Due to trespassers from outside of Newton onto the private land earmarked for Phase II development, the landowners (Newton Nottingham LLP) have recently introduced trained dog handlers to their existing Security Team who will be patrolling the area periodically with their hounds. Please be mindful of this when out walking with your families and pets and do stick to the designated and approved public rights of way.



'ONE NEWTON'

ISSUE 2 WINTER 2017

Councillor Question Time with Bella & Felicity McCormack (11 & 9 years)

Interviewees: NPC Chairman, David Simms & Councillor Janet Dobson

Also with: Mum, Nicola McCormack & Yvonne Stephenson



Bella: What is your role on the Newton Parish Council?

Janet: Well, I'm a member of the Council and I get involved in some of the sub-committees. I was recently part of the Play Area Committee and we worked to build public interest in developing a new children's play area for Newton and identifying potential suppliers to come up with some designs.

David: I'm the Chair of the Council and it's my job to facilitate the meetings and make sure that they are run correctly. I also manage the Parish Clerk who is employed by the Council to support us on administrative matters.

Felicity: Do you have a real job? If so, what do you do?

David: I'm Managing Director of a Risk Management and Paralegal company. We deal with legal compliance for businesses and I have a team of people who provide legal advice to companies on matters such as Health & Safety, Human Resources and Fire legislation. I'm also a Magistrate which means I adjudicate when people who do things wrong are brought into the courtroom. I listen to what is said and must then make a decision on what sentence, if any, the person will receive, whether it be a fine, community service or even a prison sentence.

Janet: I'm the Office Manager at a primary school in West Bridgford. So, I do the same job as Mrs Hampson does at your school, St Peter's Academy in East Bridgford.

Bella: My Mum used to be a Parent Governor at our school and they had free biscuits at meetings. Did you join the Parish Council for the free biscuits?

Janet: Actually, we don't get any biscuits at our Parish Council meetings, neither free nor paid for... No biscuits whatsoever... Not even a cup of tea!

David: Janet's right, we don't... *(sound of violins playing)*... Unfortunately as the Council has no real home here in Newton currently, we meet at venues belonging to other people. We are working hard to secure a more permanent place to meet though and then we'll hopefully have kitchen facilities so that we can have drinks and biscuits at meetings... won't we Janet?

Janet: I very much hope so!

Bella: You can have one of our biscuits if you like! *(offers plate containing rather a lot of biscuits!)*

Felicity: Where do you see Newton in say 5 years' time?

Janet: That's quite a difficult question to answer! If there were no constraints at all and we didn't have lots of formalities to wade through and funding to wait for, then I'd like to think we'd have a few more houses built and we'd have some community facilities, maybe a shop and a community centre. As you know at the moment, it's quite hard because there's nowhere in the village for people to gather. Even if we just had a village shop, people would meet and chat to each other there. In fact, I always say it's easier for people with children or dogs to meet people. My own children have all left home now and I don't have a dog either, which can make it quite difficult to meet new people in Newton.

David: You can always come and walk my dogs Janet, if you'd like to!

Janet: Actually, I borrow my son's dog sometimes and having one is certainly a sociable thing!

David: I totally agree with Janet's comment about having a dog. It makes you get out in the local community and meet people. It does have its downsides though, picking up dog poo is not very nice! But, we dog owners have a responsibility to pick up after our dogs. Aside from that in 5 years, I see a bridge over the A46 linking us to Bingham. I also see a community hall and I think the start of the plan to build more houses on the rest of the old RAF land here (known as Phase II)

Janet: What we do know that much quicker than that now, we're going to have a new children's play area... Next spring!

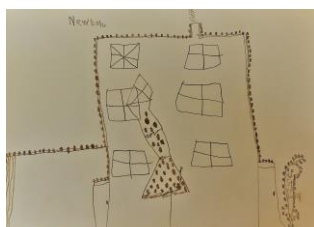
Bella: What is top of your priority list for Newton?

Janet: There's quite a lot at the top of my list. I'd like a place for the community that incorporates lots of things in one building, perhaps a shop, somewhere to have parties and somewhere to do activities, such as yoga. I'd also like to make it safer to walk in and around Newton

David: My priority now that we've managed to get the play area funding, is to help Newton get a much-needed community hall. Also, I'd like better signage, maybe with flashing lights that encourages people to obey the speed limits when driving in Newton.

Janet: Yes, safety for both of us is an important priority.

Continued overleaf...



'ONE NEWTON'

ISSUE 2 WINTER 2017

Councillor Question Time (continued)

Felicity: I'd like a Sweet Shop and my Daddy would like a pub here in Newton! What would you like to see?

Janet: I'd like both of those things actually or at least something that incorporates both!

David: Unfortunately, I don't think we'll get a pub in Newton anytime soon as lots of pubs are shutting down these days. I agree with Janet. As a Council the way we can help build a sense of community is by providing a central facility, perhaps one with a licence so that we can host occasional pub nights! We've earmarked the old white building, just inside the big white gates on Wellington Avenue on the right-hand side, for our community facility.

Yvonne: Do you think your Dad will want to move house now that David says we might not get a pub here?

Felicity: No, I think he'll be OK, so long as the community place sells beer sometimes!

Janet: Shall I tell you what else I'd like? I'd love us to have a Christmas tree with lights so that people can gather there at Christmas!

Bella: I enjoy taking part in athletics in my spare time. What do you enjoy doing?

Janet: Well I do quite a lot of things actually! I often go to the cinema with my friends. We also have a book club, although we're not very active at the moment so I'm not doing much reading! I also like doing crossword puzzles and I've started making Christmas cards, but I've only made 2 so far!... Mostly, I love spending time with my friends.

David: I have a 6-year old, Frederick, who plays football. He's been scouted for Forest so he plays there and also for Lowdham. We're also big Leicester City supporters so we try to see them play whenever we can. I also coach football at Lowdham where Frederick trains. I love to ride my motorbike and also have a nice little sports car that I like to go out in. As a family, we do a lot of snowboarding, although Frederick skis as he's too young to snowboard yet! We do lots of mountain walking and go over to southern Germany sometimes to do that. Otherwise, I like to socialise and see family and that pretty much fills my time, other than working and my job as a Magistrate.

Felicity: My favourite pop band is Little Mix. If you were in a band, what type of music would you like to play?

David: There's 2 instruments that I've always wanted to play. The first is the acoustic guitar as I'm quite a romantic and it's always been a fancy of mine to play the guitar on a nice beach! I also like the saxophone, but I don't think I will get round to learning to play one now.

Janet: What type of music would you play David?

David: Well I really used to be into R&B but as I've got older, my musical tastes have changed a bit. I listen to Capital Radio, so I like a lot of pop music and I really like some of Stormzy's stuff! What about you Janet?

Janet: Well, I'm just a little bit older and I don't have a television at home so I listen to the radio, especially Radio 2. I've discovered unexpectedly that I quite like jazz, country & western and also a bit of blues! I've recently started going out to see some jazz musicians play, especially at the library in West Bridgford where they have all sorts... It's quite mainstream and I also enjoy some pop music!

Nicola: What did we get Daddy for Christmas girls?

Bella & Felicity: Oh yes, a guitar and lessons!

Janet: Is he still having his lessons now?

Bella & Felicity: No, he stopped them as it was too difficult! (laughter)

David: Well it does get harder to learn things as you get older!

Bella: You're planning to build a play area for younger children. I'm getting older now so what could you get for teenagers?

Janet: What sort of things do you like to do Bella?

Bella: I do lots of sports, I like running but as we don't have a lot of things to do in Newton, I also stay at home quite a lot.

Janet: If we get a community hall, we'll be able to host lots of things there as it will have various rooms where people can meet. I've just started yoga, so I'd love to be able to go to a yoga club in our new hall. What sort of clubs would you like for teens?

Bella: I like the idea of a yoga club for younger people. We've also got lots of routes for running round here, so maybe a teen running club and a dancing club...

David: Ideally in the future, the Parish Council will be able to employ a Youth Leader for a few hours each week to coordinate activities for younger people. I used to be a Youth Leader, so I'm really passionate about making this happen.

Janet: We might be able to get a Youth Leader funded for a year through Sport England perhaps? Something for the Council to look into.

Nicola: Like Bella said, I think it's all about having somewhere for older children to meet together and socialise...

Continued overleaf...



'ONE NEWTON'

ISSUE 2 WINTER 2017

Councillor Question Time (continued)

David: Yes, teenagers really are quite isolated here. When we first moved to Newton, a Youth Bus regularly visited Newton and my older children used it regularly but sadly, that was axed. This is another reason I wanted to become a Parish Councillor, to help make things better for Newton. The Parish Council is pretty new and considering we've only been in operation for nearly 3 years, it feels as though we are making positive progress now. The Council is made up of residents from both the established and newer parts of Newton and we've needed to work together as a team. We don't always agree, but that's just part of being on a Parish Council.

Janet: It's healthy to have disagreements sometimes, because then we get what everybody wants and not just what members of the Parish Council think that the people of Newton want. It's very important that as a group, we discuss and challenge each other.

Yvonne: Going back to David's comment about the Youth Bus, why was it axed? Was it under-utilised?

David: No, the budget for it was just cut unfortunately. From what I saw, the Youth Bus was always busy.

Yvonne: Is there any possibility of a turnaround on that? If the Youth Bus is still in operation, could we bring it back as an interim measure until we get our community facility? I'm sure other rural communities would feel the same.

Janet & David: We're not sure if the bus even exists anymore, but it's definitely something we can ask our new County Councillor, Neil Clarke. Let's at least ask the question at our next meeting in January!

Janet: When I moved to Newton, the RAF base was still just about operational and planes were flying here. Back then, everything was always done for Newton because we had the RAF here. It's not like that anymore and it's taken a long time to turn that around... Girls, you look to be getting a bit fidgety now so let's move on! (*giggles*)

Felicity: There are some groups of people who help keep Newton clean and looking nice, such as picking up litter and dog poo and planting spring bulbs. What else do you think Newton people can do to help?

David: At the moment, there's a small minority of people who do lots of good things in and around the community, so we need to build on that and find ways to encourage people to help. It would be great to see more residents at the monthly Parish Council meetings so that they can learn about what we're working on, especially now that we meet in Newton at the Security Building on Wellington Avenue!

Janet: I agree. We also live in a village where different parts of the open space are owned and managed by different people. So sometimes in order to do something, we must ask the landowner's permission and that can take time. We've just planted lots of trees on the green space on Wellington Avenue. These were kindly donated to us by the Woodland Trust and are very tiny at the moment, but we hope that they will survive and grow to be beautiful trees in years to come.

Yvonne: One more thing to tell you about is that Meadfleet who manage the open space here in the newest part of Newton, have donated lots of bird boxes which we'd like to install in the trees in the woodland earlier in the New Year. We'd love to organise another family-friendly event to build a big bug hotel that we can put in the woods, perhaps when we're ready to open the new play area next spring. It would also be great to have some young 'Roving Reporters' at the Grand Opening who can ask the people (and especially the children of Newton) what they think of our new play area! Is that something you and your friends would like to get involved in?

Bella & Felicity: Yes definitely!

David: Have you asked all your questions and would you like to ask any more while you have the opportunity?

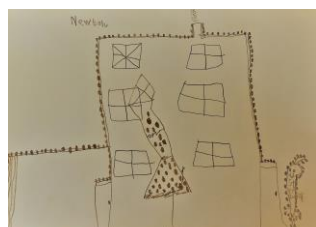
Bella: No, we haven't got any more questions to ask!

Yvonne: So, do you think you've learned quite a lot about Newton and our Parish Council today?

Felicity: Yes!! ... Can we have a biscuit now?

Thanks all for taking the time to do this interview and to the McCormack Family for hosting us!





‘ONE NEWTON’

ISSUE 2 WINTER 2017

‘Advertisement Wall’

Below is your space to promote local events, clubs and small businesses to Newton residents. If you would like us to include something, please send us your requests. Space is limited, but there is no charge for advertising at this stage, however that may change in the future, or we may request a charitable donation, if appropriate:



East Bridgford

St Peter's Church of England Academy
Pre-School

Quality local childcare for children aged 3 & 4
15/30 funded hours available

For further details telephone 01949 20226 or
Email us eb.stp.preschool@st-peters.notts.sch.uk



Impromptu selfie opportunities were not wasted in Newton when the Vale of Belvoir Rotary Club brought Father Christmas to our village on his sleigh ahead of schedule on 6th December! Pictured above & below with the man himself: Yvonne, Freya & Georgie!

