

# Fiskerton cum Morton

Parish Newsletter

Winter 2023

## Welcome to the Winter Newsletter.



Welcome to another newsletter from your Fiskerton cum Morton Parish Council. As the year comes to an end, it seems timely to reflect on the last few months and bring you up to date with some of the decisions and actions we have been making on your behalf.

We have been working hard on developing a council website that provides information about our meetings, finance decisions as well as useful information on active groups such as the Flood Group and activities taking place across the parish. We have an option for residents to sign up to Parish Information – so if you are reading this newsletter and have yet to sign up, please scroll down on the home page to the sign-up bubble.

Most of us enjoyed at least one of the Coronation events in Fiskerton or Morton – many of us managing both. They were well supported and a great success thanks to the vast number of people who spent a lot of time, planning and effort to bring the community together in such a positive way! Details and pictures further down on this Newsletter and thanks to all those who made it happen.

Future Events: Please look out for the Fabulous Tractor Run through our local villages on the 2nd of December and wander through the Christmas lights on the Village Green in Fiskerton. We had many requests for another Village Mingle Wine tasting event – and we have planned it to take place on March 1st, 2024. More details and how to buy tickets will automatically be sent by email to those who have signed up on the website.

We have dealt with many planning applications this year. We say a fond farewell to The Church Hall (the crowd at the very informative History Society talk would agree) and we look forward to a new era in the building's history. We are also looking in detail at the positioning of a new phone mast in our parish and what is viable to slow down speeding cars entering and exiting the villages. Many hours have been devoted to fine tuning the S106 fund, which helps us maintain Fiskerton Village Green and the playground at Arthur Radford.

As far as administration of the PC is concerned, we now have Brian Powell as Parish Clerk who you can contact via the website. We are working hard to ensure that Parish funds are being managed to take advantage of the increase in interest rates and are using the website to ensure all residents (or those with an inclination to such things) can have easy access to all financial and legal documents relating to our Parish Council.

We hope you enjoy the input of the individuals and groups that have contributed to this newsletter. Once again, please feel free to contact us with any ideas you have to improve our parish, and may we thank all those individuals who make our community such a positive and happy place to be.

**Have a fantastic Christmas and New Year!**

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

### DECEMBER EVENTS

1st Dec

**Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance lights turn on.**

2nd Dec

**4:30 - Christmas Lights** switch on the green.

**5:00 Tractor Run** passes the green.

3rd Dec

**Salvation Army Toy Run** through Fiskerton

Take a look at the detail inside.

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## Parish Updates – Friends of the Village Green (FOG)

Christmas is fast approaching and it's time to start getting into the Christmas spirit.

Hopefully last year you were all able to enjoy the lovely Christmas lights on Fiskerton village green, all thanks to the great effort of "Friends of the Green" (FOG), with the Parish Council making it possible to purchase lights and extend the supply of electricity to the allowing us to expand the lights further around the green.

If you have any spare Christmas decorations, please feel free to put some on our tree in the green, a small Christmas Tree which was planted around 10 years ago by residents.

The village Green lights will be turned on Saturday 2nd December at 4:30 and we would love you all to come down and join us before enjoying the annual tractor run. "

Please support all FOG's hard work and take advantage of the opportunities to help and attend upcoming events.



One wet October morning (last year) a few hardy souls meet on the Village Green (VG), at the invitation of the Chairman, to air their views as to priorities and use of the VG. A small group of residents subsequently formed the Friends of the Green (FOG) and the preparation of the VG structured Maintenance Plan (MP) together with arrangements for a Village music event on Coronation Day soon followed. The initial priority was the removal of the damaged tree located on the corner of Main Street/Station Road. A replacement has yet to be planted.

The MP was prepared with input from the current Contactor and submitted to the Parish Council in April and subsequently agreed at the July PC meeting. The general Green appearance has improved considerably – the grass is now cut regularly accompanied by trimming around the various seats and tables.

Several additional elements are planned – cut back of the hedge adjacent to houses overlooking the Green, trimming of the numerous trees in the grassed area, clearing of the trails in the two spinneys adjacent to Station Road and repair of the fence/ trimming of the hedgerow adjacent to Main Street.

Clarification has also been obtained as to the balance of funds available to the PC for use in maintaining the VG both in the short and long term.

It was planned for a few residents to refurbish the various seats and tables in early October, but the weather intervened and probably best now left for when conditions are drier.

The Christmas Lights beckon on December 2 and the next music event is in the planning stage.

FOG Team.

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## THE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

At our last meeting earlier in November, the Local History Society said farewell to the Church Hall with a talk on its history as a school and as a community centre.

The Society has been meeting every month in the hall since we first started in 2003, but as the hall is being sold, we are looking at various options for where to meet going forward. We are determined to carry on as a society, though we're now having a break until early next year.



We're still, however, constantly adding to our now very extensive archives so if you have anything you think might have historical interest in the future – photos taken in Fiskerton or Morton, leaflets, house details, adverts, anything at all - please don't throw it away, but let us have it!

We're also trying to devise some way of preserving what we have. A vast number of photographs have already been digitized, but there are many still to do and we are very much in need of help with how to handle the documents, maps, and other ephemera.

So, we'd be grateful for any suggestions and ideas. If you think you can help in any way, please contact Jo Blaney 01636830743 joblaney@yahoo.co.uk



### Christmas Gift from F4RN

Dear F4RN customer,

F4RN has had another successful year, with a gradually increasing number of customers, so we would like to recognise this by thanking you for your support and giving everyone December's service free of charge.

You don't need to do anything - we will simply suspend your direct debit payment collection for the month of December. This of course means that your monthly charge for this year will average only £33.

And if you are happy with F4RN, why not tell any neighbours about it who are not yet using our network and make it more successful?

With Best Wishes

The F4RN team.

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## LAMP POST POPPIES FOR REMEMBRANCE DAY

For several years now the Parish Council has displayed Royal British Legion lamp post poppies around the parish during November as a way of honouring those from our parish who made the ultimate sacrifice.



Last year it was decided that we would try to find out as much as we could about the thirteen local men who died in the two world wars and that we would write their name, year of death and their regiment on the poppies.

We have also tried, as far as possible, to place the named poppies near each man's home or somewhere associated with them.



For example, Private Frank Foster was born at Brinkley in 1896 but by the 1911 census his family had moved to Morton Fields where his father, George, was a market gardener. Frank joined the South Notts Hussars in July 1912 and was mobilised on the outbreak of war in 1914. He served in Egypt and then Gallipoli where he was reported as missing, presumed killed in action, on 22nd August 1915. He is commemorated on the Helles Memorial, Turkey.

His poppy is on Wilson's Lane, at the junction with Gravelly Lane, near Morton Fields Cottage.

If you want to find out more about Frank and the other twelve local men commemorated on our poppies, then please see the local history section of the



village website.

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

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## ST DENIS, MORTON

As many of you will be aware, Rev Phil retired last May after – as he was fond of saying – ‘seven years, seven months and seven days’ as our vicar. As a result, St Denis, Morton and the other churches in our Benefice are now in what the Church of England rather grandly calls an ‘inter-regnum’, a time for reflection before a new vicar is appointed.

Inevitably, this has meant a reduction in the number of regular services but, with the support of visiting clergy and our Readers, we do hold an in-person service at 10.30am on the fourth Sunday each month. In addition, there is a well-attended on-line service via Zoom at 9.00am every Sunday which lasts for around half-an-hour. If you would like further details of this, do please contact one of the Churchwardens (see below).



Whilst there will not be a service on Christmas Day this year, our ever-popular Carol Service at St Denis will take place at 6.00pm on Sunday, 17th December, after which mulled wine and mince pies will be served in the Church Hall. We do hope that you will come along – and that you will be in good voice!!

Finally, do make a note in your 2024 diary: our Plough Sunday service will be at 10.30am on Sunday, 7th January. This is a very special service when a plough is carried into church to be blessed at the start of the farming year. Once again, we will be joined by members of Sullivan’s Sword who will regale us with plough songs and sword dancing. Again, refreshments will be served.

So, as we come again to celebrate the birth of Jesus, the world faces profound challenges, not least from the impact of climate change and from the ravages of conflict in Ukraine, in the Middle East and elsewhere. There are deep divisions within our own country too. Injustice, hunger, persecution and abuse are the daily experience of too many. But the message of Christmas is one of truth, of love and of justice. So let us embrace that message and ask what we can do to make the world, our country, our community a better place. Individually, it may not be much but together we really can make a difference.



From all at St Denis, we wish you and yours a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

CHURCHWARDENS: Roger Blaney tel. 830743

[rogerblaney@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rogerblaney@yahoo.co.uk)

Shaun Boney tel. 830178

[shaun.boney@gmail.com](mailto:shaun.boney@gmail.com)

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

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## WI News - Morton, Fiskerton and Rolleston



Throughout the year we have our regular meetings and the occasional special event.

This year our August meeting was a jolly affair of Tea and Lots of cake in a garden of one of our members.

September, we had a visit from the Workhouse story tellers, in character telling the story of days gone by, October had an autumnal feel as we tried our hand at watercolour painting using colours of autumn leaves for inspiration.

We have recently been visited by Redsmith Distillery for an evening on the history of Gin and how Redsmith evolved.... with a few samples for good measure, enjoyed by all present!

We are now looking forward to our Christmas get together to round off another busy year.

Other activities we have enjoyed throughout the year include crafting, walking, book club, Rummikub to name but a few.

For information on our upcoming events and how to become a member do take a look at our website

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



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

## THE BROMLEY

Myself (Damian Bradley) and my team are happy to announce the re-opening of the Bromley arms, in Fiskerton village. We are excited to welcome back all old and new customers, with the added bonus of now allowing dogs within the bar area so why not pop in on your morning walk for a hot or cold drink.

Our newly refurbished bar is open from 11:30 till late all day every day, alongside the restaurant being open for food Monday-Saturday 12-9. And why not come see us on a Sundays 12-6 for our yummy Sunday dinner with our lunchtime menu served alongside it.

We have our festive Christmas fayre menu ready for you all to have parties and gatherings during the Christmas period. For more information or any questions of future plans etc, feel free to visit our Facebook page @The Bromley Riverside Gastro Pub or our email.

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## Flood Group

Storm Babet was a complex weather system which brought heavy and persistent rainfall across the country.

Data from rainfall gauges across Nottinghamshire show an average of 60mm falling across the county in 24 hours. The figures from this intense rainfall event are equivalent to approximately a 1 in 20-year event over the county.

River levels during Storm Babet were exceptionally high, with some peaking at levels never previously recorded. The river Trent experienced a significant peak following Storm Babet, which impacted many nearby communities and low-lying land. Peak levels on the Trent were comparable to the flooding event during 2020.



Fiskerton-cum-Morton on this occasion got off lightly with only a small number of properties affected by the floods from the inland waters not the river.

As a result of this event your Flood Warden Councillor Diana Powell, has teamed up with the local villages, the Flood Resilience Agency and Notts Council to work together to ensure we are all well prepared for any future events. We will be looking for volunteers in the new year, more details will be published on that in the New Year.

### We need you!



As we enter the Winter months, the possibility of snowfall increases, and with it the impacts of snow melt on flood risk. Some of the UK's largest floods have been attributed to snow melt.

Snow melt forecasting models are run across the country which help us to predict the impacts on flooding and flood risk.

To support this system, we need to expand our number of snow observations with help from the general public. Taking a snow observation is a quick and easy task, involving only walking a few steps outside your front door, for each morning there is snow on the ground. All that is required, is to take some snow depth measurements using a ruler and input this information onto the Met Office Weather Observations Website [Met Office WOW - Home Page](https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/observing)

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## **Fiskerton & Morton Sports & Gala, The Arthur, Radford Hall and Sports Ground. Morton**

As is usual for the Arthur Radford, the last few months have been a series of highs and lows. We have had great deal to celebrate, but there have been disappointments too.

Like many others, we are dealing with the challenge of cost-of-living increases, and particularly the high rates of energy costs. The greatest expense for SGA is heating and lighting for the hall, whilst we are managing to control costs, going forward we will need to look at more fundraising opportunities.

Sadly, after over 50 years there will be no Fiskerton Cricket team playing at the ground. The current Fiskerton & Thurgaton CC are no longer able to field the sides that usually play at the ground. Fiskerton Cricket was an integral part of the formation of the ground, so a piece of history gone. We are assured by F&TCC that they will be making every effort to return to play again at the Arthur Radford ground.

### *Hall Activities*

**CHRISTMAS FAIR.** This year's Fair was to raise funds for SGA, the hall and the ground. We had a lovely variety of stalls and games. Our thanks go to great efforts of our team of volunteers for all their work in putting the Fair together, the stall holders for attending, Woodrow Teas for refreshments and all those who came along to support us, and to Anila Boney for giving us the opportunity in taking on the Fair to raise much-needed funds. We raised just under £800, a great result!!! We plan the same again next year and will, hopefully, see more villagers attending.

**POP UP TEA ROOM.** We were approached by Amy Wilkinson, from Woodrow Tea, with her idea of Pop-Up Tea Rooms in village halls. She was familiar with the hall, as her husband is Ian, used to live in Fiskerton. We were happy to support her initiative and provide something different. She even had a message from one of Arthur Radford's grandsons saying how delighted his grandfather would be with the use of the hall!!! Dates were booked for 2 tea rooms and a special pre-Christmas event with afternoon tea, cocktails, prosecco and live music. Unfortunately, due to a lack of support within the villages for the first Pop Up Tea Room, it has been decided to cancel the second Pop Up Tea Room and the Christmas event. Amy assures us, she would like to try again next year, and we will welcome her back.



**Perhaps there is too much happening in the two villages for new events to take place and be successful.**

**We are very lucky to have such a facility that is available for ALL the community,**

**and it needs to be kept being used as fully as possible,**

**If anyone has a spare moment to give feedback, please do so.**

*For more information*

***on any of the activities, to book the Arthur Radford Hall and Ground, or to offer help please contact Caroline Gordon, 07837 924837 or Jacqui Holtam 07792 395511***

***or see Face book, The Arthur Radford Hall and Sports Ground, Fiskerton cum Morton***



## SPORTS AT THE GROUND

**WOW!! What a summer for children's sports.**

**There have been literally hundreds of children at the ground, for either football or cricket.**

- Spring & Summer camps run By Scott Loach Goalkeeping and Tom Crisp Around the Box Academy.
- Tom also ran a football tournament fundraiser for the Arthur Radford, and thank to him, raised £400.
- Scott Loach Goalkeeping uses another ground during the winter, and he is investigating the possibility floodlights which would mean he could use the ground all year, and he plans a summer fundraiser for the ground.
- A cricket themed birthday party, run by ECB coaches, and could result in cricket camps at the ground.
- We welcome Wollaton Cricket Club, who will now be the home team playing at Morton ground.
- Southwell Croquet Club continues to thrive. After delays and difficulties, a new irrigation system has been installed. They are also considering plans to create an additional lawn.

### SOUTHWELL CROQUET CLUB



Do you know we exist? Southwell Croquet Club has been at the Arthur Radford Sports Ground for over 30 years and yet we have discovered recently that a lot of local people do not know we are there!

Southwell Croquet Club is a very friendly club with a current membership of about 40 from all over Nottinghamshire and we play on three half-sized lawns. Croquet is a sociable game and can be played on many levels (competitively or just for fun) by people of all abilities. There is no age limit and for some it is probably one of the last sports that they play because it does not rely on physical strength or stamina but more on accuracy and strategic skills.

So, if you haven't tried it before we are holding our 2024 Open Day on 18 May between 2.00 and 4.00 pm and we would love you to come down and meet our friendly members and have a go.

*SGA wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a  
Happy New Year*

## S&G Bookings 2024

**Saturday 20th January** - Afternoon Children's party

**Friday 16th February** – Evening Croquet Club Games night

**Sunday 18th February** – Afternoon Children's party

**Friday 1st March** – Evening Croquet Club Quiz and fundraiser

**Saturday 18th May** - booked all day Croquet Open Event

**Sunday 2nd June** - hall and ground booked all day for family celebration.

**Saturday 8th June** - booked all day for Croquet Events

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## Future Events

The **Ann et Vin Wine tasting** event will be returning to the Arthur Radford Centre in Spring, ticket information will be sent out via the website contacts list – so do sign up!




**FISKERTON  
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**



*See the Christmas lights:*  
The Old Mill House, Station Road, Fiskerton

IN AID OF  
**LINCS & NOTTS  
AIR AMBULANCE**  
SAVING LIVES EVERYDAY

SCAN TO DONATE:



Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance Headquarters HEMS Way  
Off Sleaford Rd, Lincoln LN4 2GW  
www.ambucopter.org.uk  
Registered Charity No. 1017501

**Please support  
your local  
Charities!**



**The 14th  
SALVATION ARMY TOY RUN  
FOR MOTORCYCLES & SCOOTERS**

**Sunday 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

Meet at:  
**THE WAGGON & HORSES**  
GYPSY LANE, BLEASBY NG14 7GG  
From 9.30am · Ride off at 11am

Bring a gift – **NEW ones only please!**  
- Toddlers to teens -

Ride is to Salvation Army Centre  
Mead Way, Balderton, Newark  
NG24 3GA (11 miles)

07785 185 544 (John F Judson)



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