

the Rolleston Junction

Edition 42 - Autumn 2025



In this issue...

- VILLAGE DAY PHOTOS
- TRIBUTE TO JULIAN ELLIS
- TRIBUTE TO ELEANOR BRETTE

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Dates for your Diary

13th September • 6.30pm	Crack the Code Evening including supper. Tickets £10 from Laura Bosworth laurabosworth22@hotmail.co.uk	Rolleston Village hall
14th September • 10.30am	Harvest Festival: Your items of food will be donated to Caudwell House	Holy Trinity Church
18th September • 7.30pm	Book Club	TBC
23rd - 27th September 7.30pm Matinee 2.30pm final day	Black Adder by Richard Curtis, Ben Elton and John Lloyd. Adapted by Andrew Bacon for tickets visit www.rhtc.co.uk or call 07733 179986	Robin Hood Theatre, Averham
26th September 2.15pm - 2.30pm	Mobile Library	Outside Willwys, Station Road
3rd - 27th September timed tickets	The Longest Yarn 2 - Britain at War www.southwellminster.org	Southwell Minster
6th October • 7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	Rolleston Village Hall
15th - 18th October 7.30pm Matinee 2.30pm final day	Calender Girls the Musical by Gary Barlow and Tim Firth for tickets visit www.rhtc.co.uk or call 07733 1799 86	Robin Hood Theatre, Averham
21st October • 7.30pm	Book Club	TBC
24th October 2.15pm - 2.30pm	Mobile Library	Outside Willwys, Station Road
25th October	Bramley Festival	Southwell Minster
3rd November • 7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	Rolleston Village Hall
6th November • 7.30pm	Martyn Joseph Live for tickets visit www.rhtc.co.uk or call 07733 1799 86	Robin Hood Theatre
7th - 8th November	Winter Craft show	Southwell Minster
20th November • 7.30pm	Book Club	TBC
21st November	Mobile Library	Outside Willwys, Station Road

* Check latest times and venues on the Book Club meetings:
Contact Ron Burnett: **07843 7745286 • RonBurnett1956@gmail.com** All are welcome

IMPORTANT CHANGE: The Junction magazine is now a digital publication. To ensure you are on the village email list (and to receive future copies of the Junction magazine as a PDF) contact: **rollestonjunction@gmail.com**

Hello again

from the Junction Team!

Well, summer went by in a flash - and what a hot summer it turned out to be!

Depending on whether you are a fan of the heat or not, we hope you were able to enjoy the tremendous abundance of flowers, fruit and birdsong in the countryside and were able to give a helping hand to local wildlife to help it survive such searing temperatures.

Speaking of which, Graham Osborn's article focuses in on the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust and the tremendous work they do for wildlife.

As mentioned in the last edition, we are able to feature full tributes as a celebration of life for two of our cherished residents: Eleanor Brettle, and Julian Ellis.

Under News in Brief, we have welcomed some new residents to Rolleston and mention some long standing villagers who have left for pastures new. (See pages 31 and 32).

Many of us in passing, have noticed the major renovation work being undertaken on the cottage on Staythorpe Road, (18 The Holdings - the house with the Kate Greenaway blue plaque on it). So, this issue we interviewed the new owner, Gary Milton, about his exciting development project (see page 28).

We are also pleased to welcome our new vicar, (see Church News on page 4).

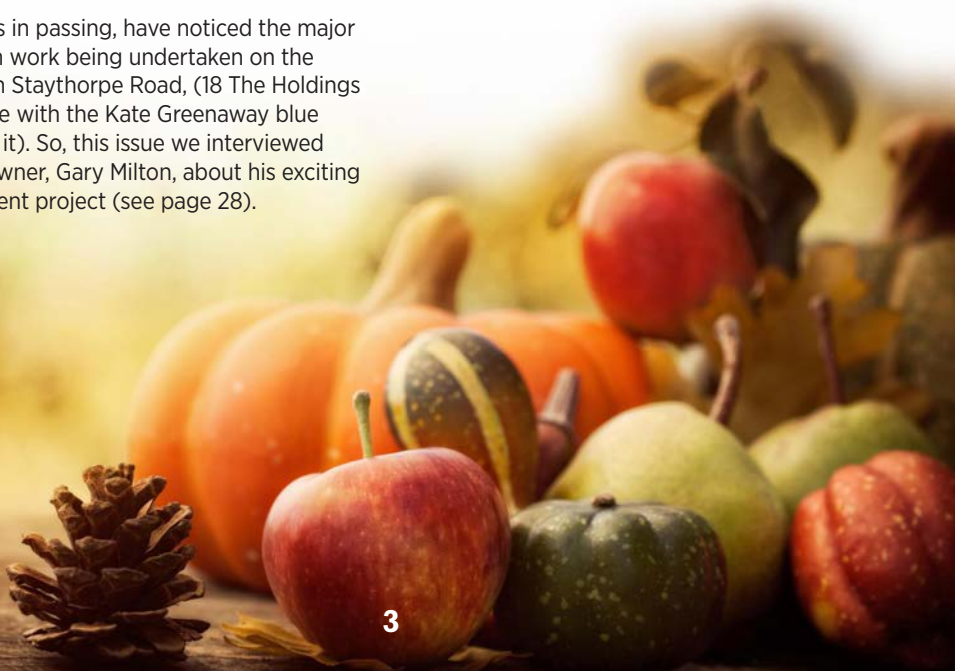
As autumn begins, there's still time for a last glimpse of summer as we publish the photos from a very enjoyable Village Day in July.

Some of us will no doubt look forward to a cooler spell and some rain to refresh our gardens!

As the season of 'mists and mellow fruitfulness' approaches, there's still plenty of social events to entertain us, so watch out for emails about events at the Village Hall or cosy evenings at the pub.

Best wishes.

Carole, Gill and Beth



Church News

James Moring has now been officially Licensed by the Bishop of Sherwood as Priest in Charge of the Benefice of West Trent of which Rolleston is one of the seven parishes.

We are indeed fortunate and welcome James, Joy and their young family. It is hoped that the move into the Thurgarton vicarage will be in September.

James will lead a service of Holy Communion at Rolleston on Sunday, 21st September at 10.30am.

Here is some information about the Reverend James Moring:

James is married to Joy and they have two young sons. He was ordained in Southwell and Nottingham Diocese in 2018 and served his curacy in the city, before moving to Tamworth four years ago.

Joy is embarking on her final year of ordination at St Mellitus College, based in the city, and they are looking forward to lead in partnership, serving the benefice together as Joy finishes her training and heads towards curacy.

James enjoys cooking, rugby, reading and is looking forward to getting fixated on the mowing of the vicarage garden!

Joy loves being with people, being outside, particularly near water, and being in coffee shops. Their boys are very excited about the prospect of sheep, cows, tractors and the wide expanse of open space that this beautiful part of the world offers them to explore!

Peter Salter

Churchwarden

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News from

Cllr Keith Melton

As I write this, we have heard that the Rolleston Plant-a-tree project has been a success in terms of confirmation of funding from the Trees for Climate Change budget which sits within the County Council budget. As you might imagine, I am personally delighted as it was a personal initiative to get more tree cover in the five parish Councils (covering the seven villages) which I represent on Newark and Sherwood District Council. Bleasby is the other tree project that is getting close to being progressed, hopefully for this next planting season.

The plan is to organise the purchase of the trees and associated items like tree guards and watering pipes in time to start planting towards the end of 2025 and I am hoping we will have a volunteer tree-planting group so that it is truly a Community project. There will be more about this from Bob Steele, as Chair of the Parish Council – and I have offered my services to help do the planting – I have had plenty of practice with my own personal woodland project between Fiskerton and Bleasby... picture below (from a couple of years ago, the trees are quite a bit bigger now!)

Local Government Reform

Probably many of you will be aware that the Government is proposing a shake-up of local government which would get rid of county councils and also district and borough councils and replace these with so-called 'Unitary Authorities' - smaller than a county, bigger than a district - that encompasses the responsibilities of both sorts.

This is all happening quite quickly and proposals on how to do the reorganisation in outline have already been discussed and submitted. And now we are moving onto the next stage of sorting out the details of which authorities will be put together and where the boundaries will be. For Nottinghamshire, the most likely final outcome will be to group the Northern Districts (including NSDC) of the county with half of the Nottinghamshire county council area. So, Newark and Sherwood would be grouped together with Mansfield, Ashfield, Gedling and Bassetlaw to create one larger 'Unitary' area.

Continued...



Neighbourhood plans

One of the key problems with this reform is that planning applications for many places will be dealt with by officers and councillors who may be much further away from, and with much less knowledge of, the local area than is currently the case. One thing that might help our rural villages in these circumstances is for all areas to have a community-led neighbourhood plan, which can be consulted if/when a planning issue is raised that may change the local area.

Such a 'solid' piece of evidence would then probably carry more weight in any final decision-making process than a verbal objection or suggestion. So, talking of neighbourhood plans, I have been pushing for us to have an official briefing for our villages in Trent Ward and one has been

arranged for Monday 28th July at 6.30pm – to be held in Rolleston Village Hall. Planning officers from NSDC will be doing the briefing.

That meeting may have happened before you get to read this in the Rolleston Junction – but you can find out more from your Parish Councillors and I know at least some of them will be at that meeting. I also know that volunteers will be needed if your village decides to go ahead with a Neighbourhood Plan. And there will be all sorts of ways you may be able to help, either with your special local knowledge, or specialist subject knowledge – I hope to see you involved if you are!

My very best regards for a contented summer!

Cllr. Keith Melton



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• Trent Ward - NSDC



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Village Hall Lotto

Here are the winners to date from the last edition.

Steve Rowles (twice), Richard Thackeray, Michelle Hillary (twice), Carole Chandler, Lucy Kyte, Mark Sanders, June Smith, Sue Reedman (twice), Sandie Pearson, Lisa Osborn, Trish Steele, Peter Salter (twice) and Steve Bosworth.

The Village Lottery raises funds towards the running and upkeep of the Village Hall.

Last year it raised £3681. This is a substantial sum and a very significant contribution to the Village Hall funds. Thank you to everyone who participates.

We currently have two vacant numbers - 27 and 55. If you would like to join the Lotto, please get in touch. A £50 cash prize is awarded every week.

Angela Sanders

☎ 01636 815045

✉ angela.sanders@btinternet.com



News from

Cllr Bob Steele

Rolleston Parish Council News

Seems funny to be writing this in mid-July for the Autumn edition of the Rolleston Junction. It is the middle of heatwave season with talk of hosepipe bans and autumn seems a long way off. We don't even have a PC meeting until September. But where do we start?

Well, the N&SDC submission of their appeal against the planning refusal to allow building at the village hall site is still sat in an office somewhere in the government's Planning Inspectorate. No response as yet. Let's hope that the Inspectorate have the sense to see what a waste of time and money their appeal is and throw it out.

The attitude of the N&SDC is very hard to understand and we will have to continue to fight them over this issue.

The other planning/licensing matter exercising the PC involves the racecourse. The management of the racecourse have applied to make a 'minor variation' to their licence to allow them to significantly increase the number of people allowed to attend events at the racecourse. This would enable them to allow external events companies to rent the space to run large events without any definition of plans for traffic management and general security arrangements being defined by the racecourse. We have made strong representation ourselves and through our N&SDC member, Keith Melton. N&SDC have responded to our request to consider their allowance of the minor variation by adding the following text to their existing premises licence.

"The licence holder shall provide the Safety Advisory Group (SAG) with an Event Management Plan (EMP) at least six weeks before an event where it is expected that more than 4,999 attendees is due to take place."

As a village we will need to keep a close eye on these events and the likely impact they will have on our environment.

Turning to less contentious matters: the Tree Planting project... We have received the contract for planting and managing 21 trees on PC managed land in the village. You can see the proposed locations for the trees on the concept plan. We will be organising a tree planting weekend sometime between November and March. Look out for further information and an invite to join us for the planting weekend. Help and equipment will be provided by experts from N&SDC but it will be a great opportunity for you to help improve the environment in the village.

The neighbourhood planning project is still active and is going regional. N&SDC have organised a meeting of planning groups from villages in our immediate vicinity, including Rolleston, to pool our resources and ideas on planning. I look forward to reporting on further progress in future editions of Rolleston Junction.

Regarding neighbours: Gill Rowles and Carole Chandler have proposed to take advantage of the magazine going digital to make it available to neighbouring villages. The idea is that Rolleston Junction can extend its readership, and we can share the content of our neighbours' newsletters by sending them to our readers. I think that it's a great idea and fits nicely with plans for neighbourhood planning. It's always nice to find out what's going on next door.

Continued...

Some of you will have noticed the traffic lights and people working on the main road near the village hall recently. This was evidence of Severn Trent water company fixing a broken drainpipe which has caused problems for a long time.

There are mixed views on whether this work will have provided an effective long-term solution to the problem. I guess that time will tell, but it is reminder that the weather is not always sunny and dry and that we will be possibly responding to flood water affecting the village again sometime.

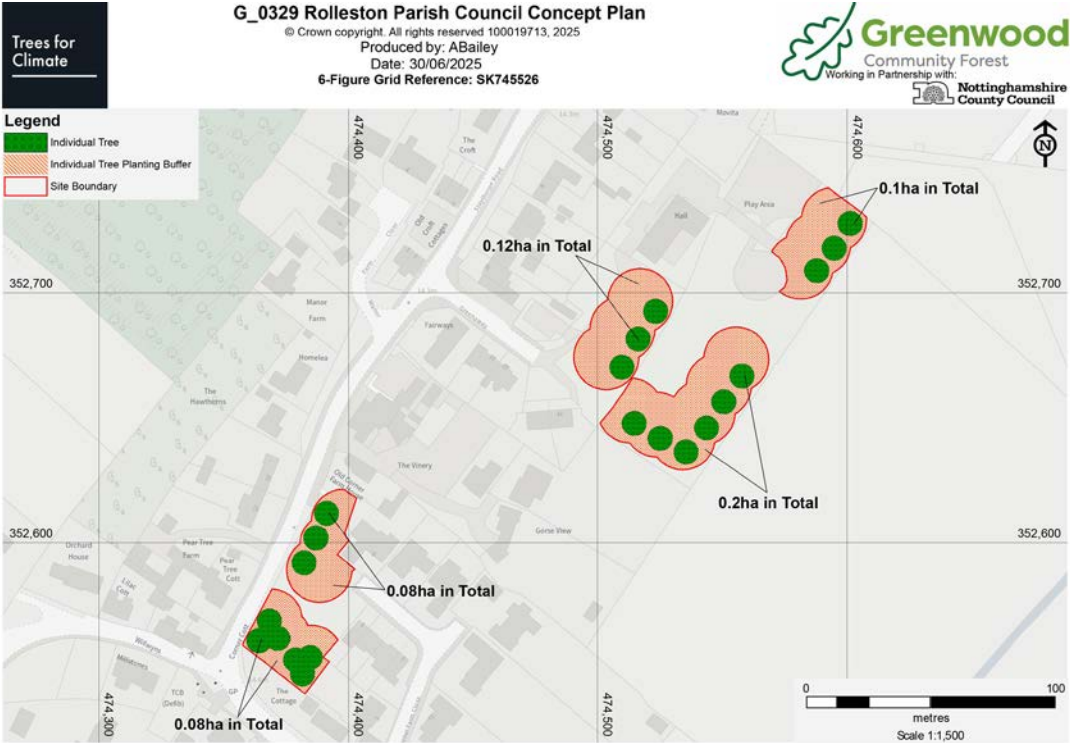
Clr. Bob Steele

Editor's note: Since this article was written, NSDC's appeal has been turned down and thanks to Chris Baillon-Saunders for all his hard work and help with the appeal on behalf of the village.



Chair, Rolleston Parish Council

✉ bob.steele@rolleston-pc.gov.uk





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Cllr Sue Saddington

In touch with Council news

The longest day and Midsummers Day has now passed, but let's hope Summer is not over yet.

Rolleston had the most beautiful day for the Village Fun Day, sadly though, it appeared it was too hot, we are never happy!!

The Bouncy castle gave up its bounce and the Dog Show was cancelled to avoid burning the doggy paws. I have to say they were safer at home in the shade, as it was very hot.

Thank you as always to the Volunteers, who had worked tirelessly in the heat to get the day ready for everyone to enjoy.

Lovely cakes had been made, the wonderful smell from the BBQ wafted across the patio, the coffee and tea bar was busy, also the drinks bar.

Well done everyone!

We had a County Council meeting at Oak House on July 19th, whilst there, I received a text to say the crossing barriers were down at Newark for 2 hours.

On Friday, From Newark to Nottingham, the barriers appeared to be stuck down in turn making it impossible for residents to travel through the villages.

I decided - enough is enough!

We have tolerated this problem for 9 years, every time I write to Network Rail they say the barriers are operating correctly, I say they are not!!

So, I have written to them to say they have a choice - hold a public meeting so residents are able to put concerns to them, or I will give out the email address and residents can write and tell them when the barriers aren't working. They will soon have full in boxes!!

They have replied to say they are thinking what to do.

At the Council meeting, our Group put forward a motion regarding bus services. Residents travelling by bus has grown by 7% in 2024 compared with 2023. We are proud of our record. Recently, the £2 bus fare limit set by the previous Government has been increased to £3 by the current Government. We hoped that the current Administration Reform Leader at County Hall would approach the Mayor, who has been given funding to support transport, to ask her for funding so the bus fare could be kept at £2. Unfortunately, Reform did not support us, so the fare will rise to £3.

Breaking News:

A reply from Network Rail...

Dear Sue

Thank you for your emails highlighting level crossing barrier faults.

I have looked into the concern raised and must put them in the context of the unseasonably warm weather which these incidents occurred in.

Fiskerton and Morton were the same incident on 11 July. CCIL incident 3089716

13.02 – report of axle counter failure affecting Fiskerton and Morton level crossings. Axle counters are part of the train detection system in the track. If they fail signallers do not accurately know where trains are within the system so crossings come down as a safety precaution. So, in this case the crossings operated entirely correctly. We're sorry it took some time to get 'local control' to allow road users to safely cross the railway (14.10 @ Morton and 14.18 @ Fiskerton) which was due to heavy traffic in the area. The crossings remained under local control until 20.23 when axle counter repair was complete and crossings resumed normal working.

Newark Castle level crossing 10/7/25 CCIL incident 3088978.

This was a treadle failure (part of the system which detects the train and activated the crossing). The failure was picked up by our Shift signalling manager at 13.54. Our own response teams and Nottinghamshire police were advised. Our team took the crossing under local control at 14.16 and police arrived on site at 15.28. The crossing remained under local control for the remainder of the day and the treadle was replaced overnight allowing normal operation from the early hours of 11 July. The treadle has been replaced and is under close supervision and monitoring to prevent further incidents occurring.

There is a road closure at Newark Crossing, Thursday July 17th, 22.30-05.30 to change the hydraulic packs on the barriers, which is part of the maintenance programme for the crossings.

If members of the local community which to raise their concerns over the barriers they can do so by contacting Network Rail and the following website, Contact us - Network Rail. Attention Jonathan Boot.

I hope this response is helpful to you.

No! I actually don't think this is a helpful response. We have leaves on the lines, frozen points and now the weather is too hot. Why is it other countries which experience colder and hotter weather than here, can cope?

I will deal with their reply shortly.

However, in the meantime should there be barrier failures please contact them, giving as much information as you can.

Enjoy the remainder of summer, I will see you in the Autumn.

Thank you everyone,

Cllr. Sue Saddington



📞 0115 977 4158

✉ cllr.saddington@nottsc.gov.uk

- County Councillor for Farndon and Trent Division, Nottinghamshire County Council
- Vice Chairman of the Pension Fund Committee, Nottinghamshire County Council
- District Councillor for Muskham, Newark and Sherwood District Council

Lentils with Roast Squash and Feta Yoghurt

A friend cooked this dish for us the other evening and it was so delicious that I asked for the recipe. It's perfect for a vegetarian main that everyone can enjoy, easily made vegan too and gluten free.

Serves 4...

Ingredients:

- 1 small butternut squash, halved lengthways, seeds removed, flesh and skin cut into ½ cm slices (650g approx.)
- 3 tbsp olive oil. Fine sea salt. Black pepper.
- 1 onion finely chopped
- Seeds of 5 cardamom pods crushed
- 2 garlic cloves, peeled and crushed
- 1 tbsp tomato paste, ¼ tsp ground turmeric, 1 ½ tsp ground cumin
- 2 x 400g tins beluga lentils
- 1 x 400g tin borlotti beans
- 70g chopped kale (tough stalks removed)
- 100g Greek- style yoghurt
- 200g feta, ½ crumbled and ½ broken into 2cm pieces
- 1 lime, ½ juiced and ½ cut into 4 to serve
- ¼ tsp chilli flakes

Method:

Heat the oven to high 220 - 240°C. Roast the squash with 2 tbsp oil and ½ tsp salt on a tray lined with paper, toss to coat and cook for 15 - 20 mins.

Meanwhile cook the onion with 1 tbsp oil, the ground cardamom, ¾ tsp salt and a crack of black pepper in a medium saucepan over a high heat, stirring until the onion softens and starts turning golden.

Turn down the heat and add the garlic, tomato paste, turmeric and cumin, fry for a minute then add the lentils, beans and all the liquid from the 3 tins.

Cook, stirring often for 15 minutes until the liquid has thickened and coats the pulses. Take off the heat and cover to keep warm.

Shake the kale with a tbsp oil and a pinch of salt then once the squash is cooked, tip it into a bowl and put the kale on the now-empty tray and roast for 5-7 minutes until it crisps up. Remove from the oven.

Combine the yoghurt, crumbled feta, lime juice and 3 tbsp water until you have a 'spoonable' consistency, add more water if needed.

Now assemble, either on one large plate or four bowls. First the lentil mixture, top with the squash, kale and pieces of feta.

Dollop the feta yoghurt on top and drizzle with more olive oil if liked, finish with a sprinkle of chilli flakes and serve with a wedge of lime.

Claire



TOM GERAGHTY

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Tribute to Julian Ellis

3rd October 1946 - 16th May 2025



Editor's note: The following extracts are taken from a eulogy delivered by Richard Buller, with kind permission of the family.

They give us an insight into Julian's amazing achievements and his volunteering work.

We will miss Julian for his many contributions to our community: his keen participation in village events, his knowledge of local history, his active roles on the village hall committee and at the church. We will miss his friendship, words of encouragement and his sense of fun.

Julian was a remarkable man. It is a privilege to be asked to say a few words in memory of him. I first met Julian nearly 60 years ago when he was 18. We were students together in Coventry and remained close friends ever since.

Julian was born in Southgate in 1946 to Bernard and Peggy Ellis, a little brother to his sister Diana.

Julian's schooldays were spent at Enfield Grammar School. In his student days Julian made an immediate impact on everyone and had an inimitable sense of humour.

Whilst at college, Julian became a guide at Coventry Cathedral where he subsequently married his first wife, Margaret in 1969. Julian had a curious, imaginative mind and a wide range of knowledge covering many subjects. However, after finishing his studies at Coventry he found a subject which he did enjoy - textiles. His accomplishments in the textile field were remarkable and extensive.

Julian started his career as a research assistant with Courtaulds developing nylon and polyesters. During his time there he was sponsored (with Margaret) to join Voluntary Service Overseas and became vice-principal of a college in Uganda for a couple of years.

He later worked for various other textile companies during his career, but in 1984, he started his own company, Ellis Developments Ltd.

The company was involved in both contract research and in-house product development in the field of textile material science for engineering. Examples included the development of inkjet printing technology for tissue engineering, the development of spider-like silk for surgical applications, managing the development of fibre placement techniques for reinforced plastics, increasing the life of artificial hip implants and improving textile vascular implants for invasive surgery etc.

Julian was very skilled in securing funding. Ellis Developments invented and filed many patent series and licensed technology for the manufacture of surgical implants by embroidery methods.

Julian gave various conference presentations in this country and internationally, including India and Belgium. He authored or co-authored well over 25 scientific papers.

Julian also became a freelance technical consultant in textile technology, mainly investigating and reporting on matters related to litigation both in the civil and criminal courts.

Julian was awarded the degree of Master of Philosophy for research into the technology of fabrics and became a Fellow of the Textile Institute in 1985, the fellowship being internationally recognised as one of the highest qualifications in textile technology.

He became an honorary professor in the faculty of engineering and textiles at the University of Nottingham from 2011-2021 and before that a lecturer involved in many projects.

He was also a member or Chair of many other textile committees and a member of the Royal Society of Chemistry .

You cannot be a friend of Julian and know nothing about the subject of framework knitting, which started in Nottinghamshire and has an amazing social history. There is an award-winning museum at Ruddington where Julian was trustee and Chair of trustees for many years. Julian was successful in fund raising for the museum and was proud of what has been achieved there.

Continued...

He also took great pleasure in being a liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Framework Knitters where he was master from 2021-2022. He really enjoyed being called 'master'. He was installed as Master at the Museum and this during Covid times, the ceremony was videoed and played at the Installation Dinner which was also held virtually a day later.

He enjoyed the social aspects of being a liveryman and was a member of its Education and Bursaries committee. He remained involved for as long as his health permitted.

He was also appointed as a freeman of the City of London which carries with it many privileges such as the right to drive sheep over London Bridge which, being Julian, he did!

Julian's interest in textiles wasn't his only passion. He was a visitor at Nottingham Prison and served on the Independent Monitoring Board for 22 years and also on the Board at Doncaster prison. He was on the Local Review Committee of the Parole Board and a trainer and organiser for Monitoring Boards nationally. In view of his interest in the criminal justice system Julian was invited to a reception at 10 Downing Street where he had a chat with John Major among others.

As a result of his achievements, Julian was awarded an OBE in 2004 for services to the technical textiles industry and for services to the welfare of prisoners.

It was a source of great pride to his parents and family.

So, from being a hesitant student at 18, we arrive at Honorary Prof. Julian Ellis OBE, M.Phil. C.Text, FTI, MRSC, MAE. Quite a journey.

Julian was a great friend, loyal, helpful and considerate to all. He was a very kind man. Even after 60 years his sense of humour was undiminished.

Philippa and Caroline would like me to emphasise, above all, what a wonderful and supportive dad Julian was. He fully supported their life and career choices, was always there to talk through problems and help them make decisions and was always so proud of their achievements.

Julian loved being a Grandad to Harriet and Ben and enjoyed teaching them new things and learning things from them too.

He also remained close to his stepchildren, Chris and Stephanie, after the end of his marriage to Amanda.

When Julian was diagnosed with terminal cancer, he was determined not to let the illness define him despite the challenging treatments. He would often say that he had had a full and interesting life, had achieved many things and above all he had 2 wonderful daughters.

He remained remarkably upbeat and positive. He continued to enjoy his Sunday evenings with friends at the village pub whose companionship he valued.

He carried on socialising as a liveryman often accompanied and supported by his sister, Diana.

He remained an active member of this church where he was Churchwarden. He often talked about the successful battle to extend the churchyard and said that as he had worked very hard for this extension he intended to be buried there. He was lovingly cared for throughout his last few weeks by Diana, Pippa and Caroline.

He passed away peacefully, at home, surrounded by his loved ones. It is what he would have wanted.

Rest in peace, Julian - we'll miss you.

Richard Buller

Rolleston Village Day

The annual Rolleston Village Day took place in July on one of the hottest days of the year. But this didn't deter people from coming along and having a great time as the photos show.

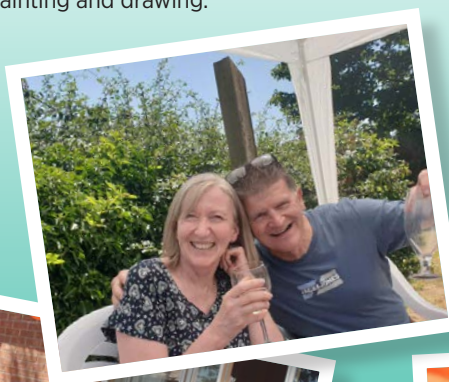
There was plenty of shade for those who wanted it, and some fabulous food from the Crown, plus Victoria sponge and fruit scones to go with the tea and coffee, or even with wine or beer depending on your preference! The band Off-licence played for us again this year and were as excellent as ever, and the little ones were well entertained with the bouncy slide and castle as well as cake decorating, painting and drawing.

It was as always, a lovely day and a fantastic opportunity to bring people together to enjoy one of the best things about living in Rolleston – the community spirit.

Thank you to all the volunteers who yet again worked their socks off to make sure the day was success. Without help from members of the community, events like these just simply wouldn't happen.

We look forward to seeing you all again next year, whatever the weather.

Gill Rowles





Tribute to Eleanor Brettle

3rd March 1929 -
26th April 2025

Editor's note: The reading on page 21 was delivered by David Hanson at the memorial service for Eleanor.

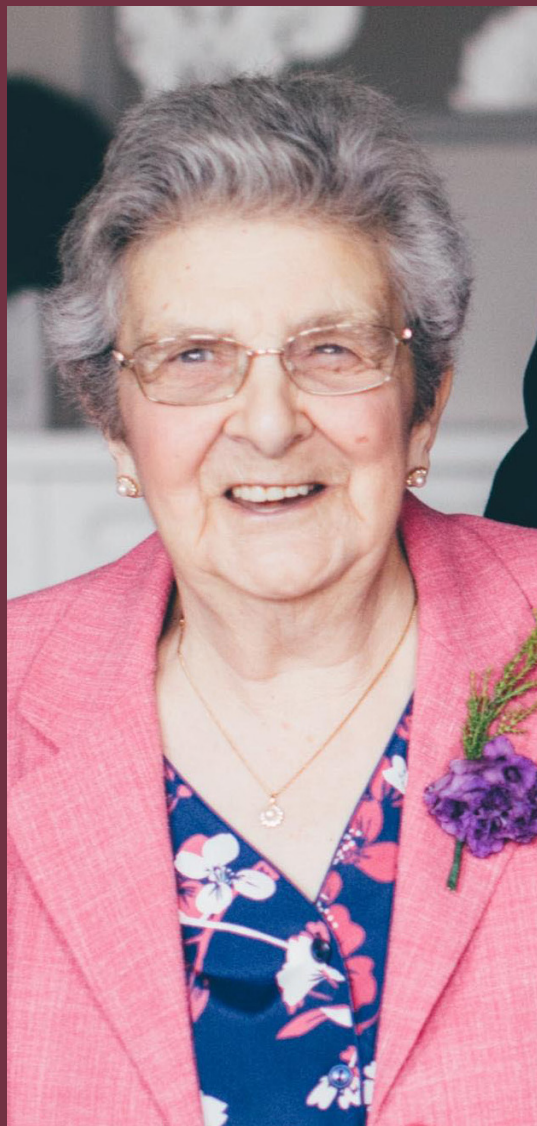
The book written by Eleanor that was referred to during the service, is called, 'In Those Days.'

It presents a warm and inspiring memoir of Eleanor's school days in Nottingham before the Second World War, her time working for The Minister of Agriculture in the 1950s before her marriage to a farmer, Dick Brettle, (also fondly remembered by many) and farming the land here in Rolleston and raising their three sons here. She became a Sea Scout leader and no doubt inspired and encouraged many young people in her time in that role.

Her later life involved considerable travel throughout the UK and Europe, including many commemorations of the D-Day landings in Normandy, in which her husband had taken part.

'In Those Days' was published in October 2023 and is available from Amazon.

Eleanor will be greatly missed by her family, including all her grandchildren, and by all who knew her in this village and further afield.



Reflection on bible reading 1 Corinthians 13.4-13

It had to be this reading. It's the one the family had at their father's funeral service, some years ago. And the subject makes sense.

This is Saint Paul talking about love. It's often heard at weddings when people are looking forward to so many good things. But it makes a different kind of sense when you've been through the hard yards of a whole life and all its complications.

Because St Paul is saying love isn't easy, it takes work, it needs a lot of patience and forbearance and forgiveness and all those difficult things. He's writing to a new church, new followers of Jesus because - here's an open secret - churches sometimes need to hear that message too. They did then, they do now.

And he's saying unless you've got that, unless love is at the heart of who you are, then all the other things, all your knowledge and your skills, don't add up to that much.

It's a good message to hear when we're thinking about Eleanor, because I think that was true for her. That comes across in the book - did you know she wrote a book? - where you see the love that motivated her life as a home maker and in raising the family and as farmer and scout leader and in all that she did for this village and church - flower festival, Sunday school - and so much more.

She was practical and creative too and always trying something new. I just have to read you this, it's from her book. She started a course in basket weaving and it went well. She writes: 'After making a few smaller items, I decided to make a cradle for the baby I was expecting. This turned out very well and I won a prize with it. It was used for all three of our baby boys and I used it as a carry cot. It was also used several times at Christmas in our church nativity play. We still have it after more than 60 years.'

I love that the basket provided a home for all three of the boys, and for Jesus. Several times. Home making inspired by love doesn't get better than that.

On the subject of love, let me just add, from independent sources - this is not in the famous book - that Eleanor had a generous and forgiving character. The proof is in the innocent-looking figure of Rob, sat playing the organ behind me, who thinks no-one can see him. Did you know that it was he who, as a childhood friend of the family, threw a cricket stump with such force that it landed and burst their inflatable paddling pool. Turns out it was also a deflatable paddling pool. Mrs Brettle must have had something to say about that. But look, here he is, still welcome, still looking after the music for today, like it was nothing. Love bears all things.

A friend in the village says that Eleanor was the most positive person they've ever met. She was always a joy to visit. 'She could talk and talk' but she would listen too; she was interested in everyone and everything, and she never lost that. Even in her last weeks she was making plans to be in touch again, and emailing friends - in French, because her social circle was international.

Behind that kind of attentiveness and interest and wide curiosity there is love, and I think St Paul would approve. In building an extended family and being its 'social glue' and keeping all those contacts and friendships live, there is love.

David Hanson



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WI News

The May meeting of MFR WI took place at Thurgarton Village Hall. We had a talk by a lady from The Dogs Trust, who told us about their work and how they help rehome the dogs in their care.

In June we returned to Rolleston Village Hall for our meeting and we heard from Claire Douglass about her role as a fire fighter with the Fire Service. She talked about the stringent recruitment and training regime that each fire fighter has to go through to finally qualify. This training is continuous so as to keep the fire fighters up to date and fit for their roles.

The July meeting of MFR WI was back at the Arthur Radford Hall with a totally new floor and a complete re-decorate. Our speaker this month was Mo Cooper telling us about the Nottingham Lace Market and its interesting history.

In August we have a break from our meetings, but it is hoped to organise an outing for any interested members.

The MFR WI meetings recommence on Tuesday 9th September, 7.30pm at The Arthur Radford Hall. We start with 'Passions, Potions and Poisons', a talk by Tracy Akehurst.

Visitors are welcome at our meetings with a £5 charge for refreshments.

Other events include a coffee morning at Southwell Garden Centre (monthly), Book Club at The Full Moon, (2nd Friday of the month), Craft and Chat in an evening at a members' house (venue changes each month). 'Pub Club' at 7pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. This is a social get together at The Bromley in Fiskerton.

Pilates Classes, with Cat Bagley (a qualified fitness instructor), are organised by MFR WI, but are open to everyone, male and female. The classes have now returned to the Arthur Radford Hall on Thursday morning, 10am to 11am. The cost is £6 cash payable as you attend. For further information contact Susan Bosworth on 07733 135175

Visit the MFR WI website: www.mfrwi.co.uk

Susan Bosworth

Contacts:

Jeanette Brownson: 07816 609913

Beryl Northcote: 01636 812579

Helen Boffy: 07515 280707

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Robert JENRICK

MP FOR NEWARK

It's now Parliamentary summer recess, and with the sun out, I've been enjoying spending more time here in Newark and our villages, and less in Westminster. It's always a pleasure to get out and about, meet constituents face-to-face, and hear directly about the issues that matter most to you.

Two concerns I wanted to update you on are: the repeated failure of the level crossing barriers, and the threat of vast solar farms covering our countryside.

Recently, I was contacted by a local resident whose whole family was left stranded across the region because the barriers at Newark Castle and in the villages failed again. They were forced to abandon their car and walk home in 30-degree heat after a long shift at work. This is not a one-off. These failures are becoming a real risk. I will be writing to Network Rail asking for a meeting so that I can convey the concerns of residents, like you, who deserve better.

The second issue is the vast solar 'farm' being proposed around Newark. Over recent months, I've repeatedly requested a meeting with Ed Miliband, the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, to raise your concerns about the growing number of industrial-scale solar farms around our villages. He has refused to meet - or even reply.

Enough is enough. I've now secured an adjournment debate in Parliament to raise this directly on the floor of the House of Commons on 2 September. I'll say what many of us are thinking: we all want clean energy, but not at the cost of our countryside, our food security, and our way of life.

If there's ever something I can help with, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me or my office.

Robert Jenrick

📞 01636 612837

✉️ robert.jenrick.mp@parliament.uk

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Discover the Wild Side of Nottinghamshire

Did you know that the UK is one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world? According to the latest State of Nature report, nearly one in six species assessed in Great Britain is at risk of extinction.

Since 1970, the abundance of UK species has declined by 19%, with some groups like birds and amphibians seeing losses of over 40%. In England alone, the relative abundance of over 1,100 monitored species has dropped to just 67% of 1970 levels.

These figures are sobering, but they also highlight how vital local conservation efforts are. That's where Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust comes in.

So, if you want to listen to the song of a skylark, see a dragonfly skim across a pond, or wander through a wildflower meadow in full bloom, then we need to act. These magical experiences are part of what makes our countryside so special - but they're also under threat.

The Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust (NWT) is working tirelessly to protect nature across our county and they need your help.

As a trustee for the wildlife trust I thought I would encourage people to join and help this wonderful charity. By becoming a member of NWT you're joining a passionate group of people who care about wildlife and the natural world. Members help protect over 40 nature reserves across Nottinghamshire, from ancient woodlands to wetland havens.

You'll be supporting vital conservation work, including creating habitats for rare species like water voles and turtle doves. The Trust also stands up for nature in planning decisions and campaigns for stronger environmental protections as well as inspire the next generation of nature lovers through education.

When you join, you'll receive the Nottinghamshire Wild Life magazine, featuring wildlife news and information about local reserves and forthcoming events like local talks, walks, and hands-on conservation days. Family memberships also include a Wildlife Watch pack for children, which includes four issues of Wildlife Watch magazine each year.

Members also get free parking at the Attenborough Nature Reserve for up to two vehicles – always a good day out for exploring.

There are membership options for individuals, couples, or families; you can join for as little as £5 a month. From restoring wildflower meadows to protecting nesting birds, your support ensures that our local landscapes remain rich in biodiversity and beauty for future generations.

To find out more about joining, visit www.nottinghamshirewildlife.org

Graham Osborn



National Medal for Zoe



Rollestonian and Newark Athletic Club member Zoe Smith, has rounded off her season with a Bronze medal in the Senior 400 metre hurdles at the English School Athletics Association 100th anniversary games.

As Zoe has been at college in Loughborough, she represented her school county of Leicestershire but was also well supported by the Nottinghamshire Team. This event was the 5th and final time that Zoe could compete at the championships, three of which were representing Nottinghamshire and two with Leicestershire.

2,000 athletes competed at Alexander Stadium in Birmingham, and 6,000 fans supported the athletes on two of the hottest days of the year.

Zoe progressed through to the final finishing in 2nd place in her semi-final. The final was a tight event with Zoe finishing extremely strongly for the Bronze medal and narrowly missing out on a silver. Her time of 61.16s was a personal best and new Newark AC under 20 and senior record.

The Bronze medal has concluded a successful season for Zoe who returned from a stress fracture in her foot curtailing her last two seasons.

Two golds with championship best times at the county championships in May followed by a 2nd place in her Loughborough International meeting and a 5th in the UKA under 23s European qualifier event demonstrated that Zoe was getting back to her best.

At 18 years old she holds a top 25 UK ranking out of all female athletes and was also invited to compete at the Senior UK Athletics Championships, but sadly has had to decline the invite as it clashes with a fairly major move away from the area.

Zoe jets off to Troy in Alabama for the next phase of her education and athletics development where she has gained a full scholarship to the Division 1 University. Jo and Kev (Mum and Dad) are naturally proud of her achievements in her track performances, but also gaining a scholarship to the USA. 'She'll be missed immensely but we recognise that if she wants to take her sport to the next level that we all have to make sacrifices'.

Editor's note: We wish to congratulate Zoe on her tremendous achievements here and wish her continued success in America.

Meet Gary Milton



Last issue we welcomed Gary Milton to Rolleston, the new owner of 18 the Holdings, the cottage on Staythorpe Road.

In mid August, we arranged to catch up and see how he is getting on with restoring the cottage and making it into an inhabitable home.

Gary originally bought the cottage in January 2025 and we were impressed with how much he has achieved so far.

No stranger to building work, and with the help of his two brothers, who are both architects, Gary has ambitious plans in place to extend the building to create more usable space which is more in keeping with modern day living.

Many aspects of the major structural work on the existing house have been tackled by Gary himself, with the occasional help of family and friends.

Continued...

For instance, the whole roof has been replaced and retiled and existing interior walls have been rescued from damp and taken back to the bare brick which has revealed a couple of original fireplaces.

It is a labour of love to bring the fabric of the building back to what it was, but also to create a newly configured 3-bedroom home, with a kitchen diner and a large master bedroom with ensuite housed in the new 2-storey side extension. One of the smaller bedrooms in the existing cottage will be converted into a family bathroom. Downstairs will feature a study as well as a living room.

He will be reroofing the brick outbuilding opposite the main house (used for budgie breeding) by the late and well-remembered former resident, Eric Ulyatt. He is not quite sure what he will using it for when completed but thought it would make a good workshop/storage area.

His current prediction is that the cottage will be ready to move in around April 2026.

Originally from Aspley, Gary has lots of links with the Nottinghamshire area; he has lived in Gedling and later Burton Joyce for a number of years where he built a family home from scratch there in 1992. He is currently living in Calverton while he travels most days to work on the house.

He recently retired from his main occupation as an owner of a car mechanics business in Nuthall about 18 months ago. As a young man, and before starting up his mechanics business at the age of 21, he served a 5-year apprenticeship training to become a mechanical engineer at the Royal Ordnance factory in Nottingham.

Gary says, "Having worked 12-hour days all of my working life, I really enjoyed my first summer of retirement. But after that was over, I felt I really needed a project to keep me occupied.

My nephew who lives in Thurgarton spotted this cottage and after a couple of viewings, I was lucky enough to acquire it by sealed bid."

Before he acquired the cottage, Gary already had some family connections with Rolleston.

Coincidentally his sister, Tracey Milton, had acquired a house on Corner Farm Close quite some time ago. Tracey will be moving in after some repair works are undertaken - which of course brother Gary is helping her with!

Gary commented that he has never lived in a small village before and at first had concerns about shops and doctors surgeries not being on the doorstep which he was quite used to. But his decision to move was based on his love of this part of rural Nottinghamshire and wanting to enjoy the countryside and the space. Having chatted to the locals he firmly believes he has made the right choice.

Gary said, "I am quite overwhelmed with how everyone has been so welcoming and friendly, and taking such a keen interest in the work I'm doing."

Gary pointed to the blue plaque on the wall, which marks the building's connections to Kate Greenaway, the famous Victorian illustrator and author of children's books. "I've even polished the plaque," he said.

Gary is certainly applying more than a lick of polish to the cottage as he continues with his sensitive restoration project; we look forward to him eventually moving in and being part of our community.

When the cottage is fully rescued and back to being a much loved home in Rolleston again, maybe it's a case of 'Paradise, Lost and Found' to misquote another man called Milton.

Carole Chandler





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Farewell to the Staffords

We say goodbye to Julie and Andrew as they leave Rolleston after 24 years. During their time here we have watched Holly, Megan and Jack grow up and have appreciated all the support the whole family have given to the village. They have been a strong part of our community and will be sorely missed. We wish them every success as they head off for a few months of world travel - before settling down in their new home in Portugal.



Welcome

A warm welcome to our new residents: Robert Tuffly and Anna Keighly who have moved into the White House on Staythorpe Road, and also to Lydia and Robbie Joiner and family who have moved into Manor Farm Close. We hope you enjoy life in Rolleston and are looking forward to meeting you.

5 Star Reviews for Music Festival 2025

'Southwell: a Festival that brings the best live music to the heart of Nottinghamshire.'

The Southwell Music Festival has just celebrated its 11th anniversary.

"Director Marcus Farnsworth writes in the festival programme about talent, energy and commitment and that the festival offers audiences the chance to experience the best possible live music in the beautiful surroundings of Southwell Minster and elsewhere in the town.

All those who attended will have enjoyed their own individual Festival, perhaps choosing the jazz, the musical picnic, Kathryn Tickell's folk music, instrumental and vocal recitals, the Minster services, the come-and-sing performance... and many other things which will have moved and thrilled them."

(Reviewer: William Ruff of reviewsgate.com)

To see the full review, visit the Reviews Gate website or check out what other festival goers said on Trip Advisor.



Photo Credit: Tom Platinum Morley

Kate Greenaway Action Group

Please note the contact person for the time being until a new Chair is elected is Christine Salter. Contact details: **01636 819197**
chrissalter2000@yahoo.com

Quiz Winners at The Crown

Congratulations to Dan Blanshard and Steve and Amanda Hobbs, winners of the recent pub quiz and the first to guess The Crown Challenge Question netting them £250.



Crack the Code Event! 13th September • 6.30pm

Get a team together and join us at the Village Hall and see if you can crack the code! £10 per person including a jacket potato during the evening - bring your own drink. Tickets from Laura Bosworth on: **07821 900838**
laurabosworth22@hotmail.co.uk

See poster on page 33.

Farewell to the Colmans

It's a fond farewell to Arne and Pati Colman after 48 years in Rolleston. We will be sad to see them go as they have been such wonderful contributors to the village in so many ways as well as being active members of local charities. Pati has also been a member of our Parish Council for a number of years.

At time of writing, they haven't got a firm date for their move to Surrey, but by the time the next Junction is published, Pati and Arne will have left the village.

We are hoping to feature an article in the future with their reflections about their time in Rolleston. Their many kindnesses and their participation in our community will always be remembered and appreciated. In the meantime, we wish them every success with the move and we know they will look forward to spending time with their family, including their grandchildren, in the Surrey area.

Times Gone By... 25 Years Ago

In case you missed it, here is an article published in the Newark Advertiser this August under their 'Times Gone By' series of articles.

The original article which was published July 28th 2000, with the wording below:

"In a move reminiscent of an Ealing Comedy, the villagers of Rolleston declared independence from the UK in a fun event on Saturday.

The Independent State of 'Rollestonia', population 280 – introduced its own passport and controls around the parish boundary. Anyone who failed to support Rolleston's Independence was placed in the stocks and pelted with sponges.

Rolleston Crier, Ross Thackrey, is pictured at the passport check with Ben Birch, 8, and Amy Hart, 6."

Editor's Note: Ross still acts as our Town Crier - whenever we need his fine voice to provide announcements at various village events. I wonder about Ben and Amy... where are they now? If you know, send us an email: **rollestonjunction@gmail.com**



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Useful contacts

Flood Warden - Steve Bosworth

01636 815542 • 07976 894449

Parish Council - Bob Steele

01636 812463 / 07971 028801

Village Hall Management - Mark Sanders

mdsanders@mac.com / 07825 204936

Village Hall Bookings - Lucy Kyte

07398 670139

Holy Trinity Vicar - James Moring

(Contact details tbc)

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01636 704550

Member of Parliament - MP Robert Jenrick

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- The Rolleston Junction - **rollestonjunction@gmail.com**
- We are a quarterly magazine dependent on our advertisers and sponsorship.
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