

The Plough

Averham, Kelham and Staythorpe
Community and Parish Magazine



DECEMBER 2023

The End of another Year

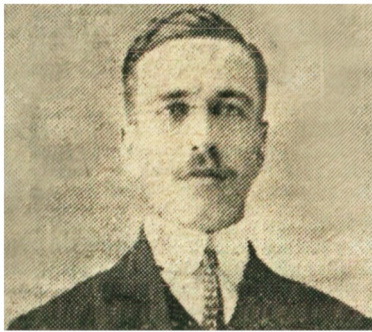
What a November! Warmest on record, a bit DAMP here, power cuts and plans to turn the area into an industrial site, albeit for the 'benefit' of the nation,

December brings the season of giving with plans and resolutions for a better 2024. A level of better understanding and tolerance is needed to limit religious intolerance that I hope this will start to prevail

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS
ploughmageditor@gmail.com

In Memory of Private George W Smith, one of our fallen in World War 1

Iris Piper would like us to remember her uncle George.



The annual Service of Remembrance was held at St Michaels church in Averham. As is tradition, to show respect, the names of the fallen from our villages and the Society of the Sacred Mission were read out.

George was born in Averham to George and Elizabeth Smith in 1890, he had a brother, Edward, and two sisters, Ethel and Mabel. Mabel was Iris's mother.

George attended St Michael's choir in 1899 and was chorister for eight years.

When 18 he joined the Sherwood Foresters and first quartered in Ireland before joining the British Expeditionary Force on 5th November 1914.



LE TOURET MEMORIAL AND CEMETERY, FRANCE

MIND THE GAP!

In October this year the women of Iceland (working and non working) went on strike for better equality in pay and treatment.

This caused huge disruption to business, government, transport and homes.

An interesting point is that the World Economic Forum has for the last fourteen years placed Iceland at the top of the gender gap list ahead of ALL other countries at 91.2%! Rwanda was 12th, Britain 15 and Afghanistan at the bottom of the 146 countries taking part in the survey.

A reflection of the improvements, but equally a measure of how far we have yet to go.

The measures included:

- ◇ Economic participation and opportunity
- ◇ Educational attainment
- ◇ Health and survival
- ◇ Political empowerment

Further reading:

https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GGGR_2023.pdf

**DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES FOR THE
FEBRUARY EDITION IS:
20TH JANUARY 2024.**

**There is no publication in January or August each year.
ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR JANUARY WILL
APPEAR IN THE FEBRUARY EDITION.**

Southwell Music Festival returns this Christmas

Southwell Music Festival is back this December for not one but two festive musical offerings at Southwell Minster.

A Christmas Celebration on Monday 18 December, sees the **Southwell Festival Voices** join forces with director **Marcus Farnsworth** and narrator **Simone Ibbett-Brown** to share carols old and new in a stunning and atmospheric sequence of poetry and music celebrating the joy of Christmas.



Audiences are promised an evening of intimate music and words reflecting the themes of hope and peace central to the Christmas story. The festive programme features classic carols and seasonal works from composers, including Errollyn Wallen, Jonathan Dove and Cecilia McDowell, alongside the poetry of Carol Ann Duffy, Maya Angelou, Thomas Hardy, and Emily Dickinson.

This year the Festival team will also host its first ever **Festive Family Carols** on Sunday 17 December. This relaxed, interactive, daytime concert features a 50-minute programme of popular carols and music performed by a quartet of Festival Voices. Host Marcus Farnsworth will be leading proceedings, including the opportunity to join together and sing along to a few much-loved Christmas songs.

Christmas jumpers and festive wear are very much encouraged, with prizes for the best dressed.

Festival Director Marcus Farnsworth said: *"Following a brilliant 2023 Festival, we are delighted to extend our Southwell Christmas offering. We look forward to welcoming the local community and music-lovers to one, or maybe even both events to share some seasonal joy".*

The Festival is led by former Southwell Minster Head Chorister, now award-winning international baritone **Marcus Farnsworth**. As well as leading the Festival, Marcus is also Head of Vocal and Choral Studies at Chetham's School of Music and Music Director of Southwell Choral Society.

Buy your tickets for **A Christmas Celebration** and **Festive Family Carols** online at southwellmusicfestival.com/onlinebooking or call the Box Office on 01636 330014.

Parish Council Meeting Report

At the November meeting the location of future meetings was discussed. It was agreed that while the offer of a free meeting room was available at Kelham Hall, meetings would continue to be held there.

The Parish Council have a very small precept and they have a duty to spend it in a prudent manner.

A number of residents were present who wanted to discuss access to Kelham Hall grounds. Following the recent meeting with Stuart Downham from Kelham Hall, a small resident's group will form with the aim of continuing the dialog with the Hall. A report of the meeting is available on the Parish Council website with the November Meeting Agenda

The Planning Application for the solar farm and BESS on land in Kelham was also discussed, it was agreed to object to the application.

The Parish Council are in contact with other parishes in the area who are affected by the GNR Solar Farm proposal and will work together to gather information and respond to the scoping consultation on the Environmental Impact Assessment sent out by the Planning Inspectorate.

The commemorative tree outside Staythorpe Power Station has died, this will be replaced in the very near future and the plaque installed at the same time. The 3 commemorative planters will also be replanted with winter flowering plants and spring bulbs and the plaques installed at the same time.

The next meeting is Monday 15th January at 7:00pm at Kelham Hall; deadline for items to be included on the agenda is 5pm on the Tuesday before, 9th January.

Sue Jackson

Clerk

aksparishclerk@outlook.com

Enjoying Photography in the Digital Age

2023 is proving to be a great year so far, for Newark and District Photographic Society (NDPS) members and guests. The club arranges for experienced photographers to give a variety of talks, aiming to improve our photos and encourage us to keep taking pictures of all the things which interest us. One of the benefits to photographers of this digital age is that it allows us to happily take many images of our favourite subject, with no need to worry about the cost of film or developing! We can easily review them at home if not at the time, and delete all those which don't fit the bill.

So perhaps it's apt that some of our guest speakers this season have given talks encouraging us to do a bit more forward planning, and maybe some lateral thinking, before we take our cameras out to an event.

Opportunistic photography is certainly fun, and some great images can be achieved – even that rare special one when you just happened to be in the right place at the right time! And of course many an opportunistic image can be improved, or even rescued afterwards using one of the image processing programs around.

However, our speakers this season have been demonstrating how, by giving ourselves more time to think before-hand, getting the right settings in the camera, and doing some creative



Photo: Joan Would Owl coming in to land

planning on what pictures we want to take and how best to organise ourselves to achieve this, we increase our chances of producing better photos of the subject that interests us.

As a novice photographer, the chances of me being able to capture a photo of an owl flying towards me would be very slim, had I not been able to take advantage of some serious planning before-hand.



Photographer: Keith Pettitt

While one of our more experienced photographers produced the photo below – being in the right place at the right time! Opportunistic - or was that planning?

Our weekly meetings are not confined to club members, so if you're interested, please have a look on our website. If a talk interests you, you would be very welcome to join us as a guest.

<http://newarkphotoclub.com/>

"So I told him this race was tomorrow!"

A DAY TO REFLECT

Some folk may recall previous 'Quiet Days', in pre-Covid years, focusing on a variety of Christian topics. Planning is under way for another one early next year, to be led by Bishop John Finney and Canon Felicity Lawson, a former colleague of his at Aspley, entitled

"FOR YOUR AGE"

Topics include the world's and the Bible's view of age; different attitudes to ageing; some interesting facts and figures; living by faith as we grow older; and what God may have in mind for us. By all accounts this has been well received in a few Churches, so far in Yorkshire.

We are hoping that this may be something for Lent, to take place on Saturday 17th February, 10.0 for a 10.30 start, until 3.30, at North Muskhams Methodist Schoolroom. Cost to be finalised. Booking forms will be available in the New Year. If this interests you, make a note of it, and/or express an interest to Jennie and David Bartlett.

HANDS ON HISTORY EVENT

On the 20th January beat the winter blues and celebrate local history.

Collingham and District Local History Society are hosting a heritage day where there will be a show and tell of objects from Heritage and Cultures reserve collection by Becky, our Open Doors Heritage Officer.

MINI MUSEUM

In the New Year we are taking our Mini Museum on tour across the district. Donna our Learning and Participation Officer will be visiting several venues with different themes each time. So if you want to discover the Stone Age, Ancient Egypt, the Romans and Medieval Times through learn and play then keep an eye out on our website and socials to see where Donna is heading.

PALACE PLAYERS

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

This year's Christmas Carol Service will be held in the middle of Pinfold Lane, Averham at 5:30pm with *Singing* of carols, *eating* of mince pies and *drinking* of mulled wine.

Our hosts this year are x and y supported by Muriel Keene who shall lead the service.

ASK About will, as usual, provide the song sheets, wine, cups and mince pies.

Come along, bring family and friends and join the pre—Christmas merriment





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UPCOMING EVENTS



HANDS ON HISTORY EVENT

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PALACE PLAYERS

Our free early years music and movement sessions are back for 2024. These fun filled sessions will be more frequent in Newark in the New Year and Milly will also be out and about across the district with her magical wheelie case full of music and fun activities!

Follow us for all the latest information!



@nationalcivilwarcentre @palacenewark



NEWARK &
SHERWOOD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Book Club

The first book for the village book club had a rather negative review.

'The Figurine' by Victoria Hislop, is set largely in Greece during the political period of unrest and dictatorship or the 1960s and 70s. \It tells the story of Helena: a lady of mixed birth having a Scottish father and a Greek mother.

Helena is sent to stay with her Greek very wealthy and influential grandparents during school holidays. The family troubles begin to be realized by Helena over several summer vacations. Her grandfather is a grandiose of the far right regime. He is a brutal and vengeful man and Helena takes an immediate dislike to



him, but loves her grandma. The story follows Helena through coping with the estrangement of her mother with her grandfather and was the cause of her mother leaving home and moving to England. The story gradually evolves through a doomed love story, (she picked a real no good'n) to her finding a love of archaeology and finally making her life in Athens.

The general consensus was that the style of writing is rather basic and somewhat naïve. We agreed that it took a good 50% of the book to get any real meat on the story bones so to speak but when it it did it was a page turner. Not a book for my Christmas list, but that's not a problem as we have two books to read before our next meeting on January 11th A seasonally topical 'The Christmas Guest' by Peter Swanson and The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides. Hope I get time to read them as I am wading through 950 pages of the latest Cormoran Strike!

Jenny Quickmire



December Report

Members had some very sad news from earlier in November that Anne Miller had died rather suddenly. Anne had been a very active member of AKS since moving to Kelham after her marriage to Bill in 1963. She had been president for many years and had been involved all her life in the many different activities offered by the WI.. she had been a very keen whist player and had won the league championships in 2019 She will be keenly missed by those who knew her.

In contrast, the November meeting was a jolly affair as we made decorative rag wreaths for Christmas aided by mince pies , mulled wine and a good old natter! Our December meeting will be held on December 11th 7pm for 7.15 at the Robin Hood Theatre when we will be holding our Christmas Party with all the usual daft games and general jollyment and party fare.



Looking to the future: in January we will be welcoming the officer for Associated Country Women Worldwide to let us know about the funded project for the upcoming year. In the past we have helped women in the 3rd world buy pigs, access clean water and even buy pick axes to break up gravel for a living. Hearing about these women it really makes you realize just how lucky we are.

If you would like to drop in and check us out you are most welcome. Just come along and try it out.

It could be your new thing for 2024. You never know!!

Nottingham Piscatorial Society

No stranger to some, NPS member and traveling angler Stu Walker kept us all thoroughly entertained by his Mahseer talk, many of us will consider ourselves truly blessed with 1 trip to the Himalayas, when Stu has made numerous return trips, and the success speaks for itself. Stuart's talk, slides and video footage was excellent and kept us all thoroughly entertained with photos and stories of several different Mahseer species he had caught in the remote areas close to Nepal.



Stu with a truly stunning Mahseer.



From Right to Left: Stu Walker, Jamie Cook, Kevin Stephenson, Mark Morris, Martin Saiter, Julian Barnes.

NPS Guest Speaker Evening Report Weds 1st November 2023. Well even the threat that evening of Storm Ciaran hitting our region on Wednesday 1st November couldn't keep

NPS members, their guests along with local anglers away from Newark Showground on our 10th Anniversary NPS guest Speaker Evening. Two great talks

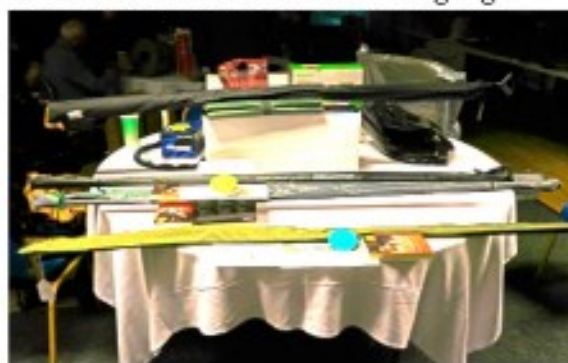
by experienced anglers, an update on the Angling Trust and the current work it's involved with and a great variety of stalls to stock up on virtually anything an angler needs make this a unique evening for all those attending. On top of this we aim to raise funds for our Junior Section encouraging you anglers into the sport and help maintain their interest.

Kicking off the evening with a talk about the exceptional season he had in 2022/23 was Julian Barnes.

Julian is an angler whose dedication to our sport is second to none. An angler who will drive on a 300-mile round trip on a hunch that the water conditions may be right to catch a big crucian carp. An angler (and don't ask me how) managed to catch a 13lb barbel every month of the season. Julians talk being both inspirational and entertaining in equal measures. Julian also commented on the tremendous amount of very large crucian carp he caught in that season, so much so that most would think he is a full-time angler when the truth is he is out on the bank only a few times a month like the rest of us.

Julian demonstrates how successful his approach has been to barbel fishing.

After the break Martin Salter and Jamie Cook from the Angling Trust gave an up-to-date account of the work of the Angling Trust and some of the projects they are currently involved in. From trying to get sensible discussion on cormorants, to an update on the river pollution monitoring.



At the end of the night the all-important raffle draw, 10 fantastic prizes won in the evening, and in excess of £1,600 in raffle takings, some of which will go towards the NPS Junior Section.

Kevin Stephenson
NPS Assistant Secretary.

Services for Kelham, Averham and Muskham Churches

	St Wilfrids	St Michael all Saints	St Wilfrids	St Wilfrids
	Kelham	Averham	North Muskham	South Muskham
3 Dec			09:30 Morning Prayer	
8 Dec				5:30 - 6:30 Carol Service
10 Dec				09:30 Holy Communion
17 Dec	09:30 Morning Prayer	4:00pm Messy Church - Christmas Fun	3:00pm Messy Church - Christingle	
21 Dec			7:00 pm Carol Service	
24 Dec			11:30 Holy Communion	
25 Dec		09:30 Holy Communion		
31 Dec	09:30 Holy Communion			
7 Jan			09:30 Holy Communion	
14 Jan				09:30 Morning Prayer
21 Jan	09:30 Holy Communion			
28 Jan		09:30 Holy Communion Archdeacon		
28 Jan		4:00 pm Messy Church		

ASK Garden Club- AGM October Report



A trip down memory lane.... Well things didn't quite go according to plan.

Photos selected from our past years meetings and garden visits, on the night would the projector work even after three practice runs! Not to be outdone, our members

viewed the photos on the small computer monitor as Janet talked us through the club's year. This started with our Christmas Party at The Fox then onto Judith's garden creations, Nigel's kick start to spring, Neil Timms passion for ferns and Roger Merryweather's history of the Bramley Apple.

The pictorial continued with garden visits to The Old Vicarage Halam, David and Jenny's garden at Averham Park and Clyde House in Southwell.

In August we visited Brian Jobling and Janet and Steve's gardens in Kelham and watched the sun set over Kelham Hills with a glass or two of Pimms. September was the culmination of our potato, bean and dahlia competitions held at Southwell Garden Centre.



ASK Garden Club- AGM October Report

Janet thanked the members individually for their help and support, and to Steve, our treasurer.

Special thank you's to Roger Merryweather and Dan O'Neill for their contributions to the club.

The committee was then dissolved and re-elected including two new members, with the exception of Janet Emeny who stood down as Chair and committee member. Nigel thanked Janet for being a fantastic Chair, committee member, navigating us



through the Covid years and leaving the club in the best of order. This was followed by a load round of applause from the members.

And guess what? The projector came to life (having swapped a lead) and we all enjoyed a rerun of the photos during our refreshment break.

Our next meeting is our 'Christmas Party Fuddle' on December 19th and then on January 16th it's Nigel's 'Kickstart to Spring' talk/demo, both to be held at the Robin Hood Theatre.

Don't forget guests are welcome to all of our meetings for just £3 admission or why not join, a year's membership remains at £10.

Nigel Britton - Club Secretary



Church News

The 'Messy church' afternoons continue to be well supported. Many thanks to Anne Pirisi for her input. The next one will be on Sunday 17th December 2pm at St Michael's when a Christmas activity is planned. Prior to that there will be a Christmas decorating session on December 7th at 11 am. It would be great to have the children along if they are around to help and there will be coffee and home made mince pies as a reward.

Don't forget we will have Holy communion on Christmas Morning at 9.30am. Cleaning and flowers will be done by the decorators on December 7th.

January cleaning and flowers Jenny Quickmire. If anyone would like to help clear the Christmas decorations before January 6th please contact Jenny (07890641102) to arrange a suitable time.

Just a word of thanks to all the ladies who have helped out with their cleaning and flowers over the year. My appreciation for your services cannot be overstated!

Hope you all have a very Joyous Christmas and exceptional New Year. x

Church Bellringing

On Monday 1st January Kelham St Wilfred church hosts the Leeds University alumni from 10:30—11:00.

On Saturday 13th January they host The Society of Raving Ringers from 10:30—11:10 also at Kelham church.

Martin Cooper



Church News Continued

It was a Remembrance Service with a difference that we held actually on November 11th. Different because it is usually held on the Sunday nearest 11th November as part of the morning worship but also because the life history of George Smith, (page 2) one of the fallen from the village and the only regular soldier to die from the village in the Great War was shared with us.

Hilary (Snell) read his life history out from an account given to Michael Staff by his now 90 year old niece. It was so sad that this young man who had worshipped at Averham Church and been so much a part of village life, before joining the army as a teenager died within the first couple of weeks of being in France . Hilary had brought a book that he had been awarded for his attendance at Sunday School along as well as family photographs and mementos which really brought him back to life. A very moving experience. Many thanks to Susan Twemlow for taking the service over the year. My appreciation for your services cannot be overstated!

Hope you all have a very Joyous Christmas and exceptional New

Village WhatsApp Groups

Did you know that our villages have their own WhatsApp Groups?

Well, we do. They're used to keep us in touch with what's happening around us and share community news. If you'd like to join, here are the 'Administrator' details:

- ◇ **Averham:** Tracey Carlisle 07970 179755
- ◇ **Kelham:** Judith Mills 07775 781591
- ◇ **Staythorpe:** Debs Storey 07974 957684

MAY I WISH YOU A VERY BLESSED CHRISTMAS

Yes, I realise that in the Church we have Advent first (the time of preparation for the great Festival). But may it be CHRISTmas that we celebrate, not Xmas. Even though originally that X was short for “Christ”, today it stands more for something unknown or anonymous. So, I invite you to make something of the CHRIST aspect of the Festival (even if you may not be a profound believer), because much that is good and that we take for granted in our society stems from Christian, or certainly Biblical, origins. This reflects the primacy of the Christian Faith in our nation’s history. Yes, there have been failings, disputes, divisions, etc. over the centuries, all very regrettable but sadly very human. But the Christian ethic is based on belief in the God of the Bible and Jesus Christ’s understanding of this, with its emphasis on “God loves YOU, and if you know that, you will want to “love God and your neighbour as yourself”. This is at the root of our society, its development, its laws, its improvement over the generations - to be lost at our peril.

We are developing into a “secular society”, with declining religious belief and affiliation, and this will bring its own problems; society will be much affected, because we human beings are naturally self-centred, and a Christian faith helps to counter that. The Ten Commandments (are children taught about them these days?) still represent the best way of conducting human living, with the emphasis on fair treatment for all and the sharing of good things for others’ benefit. Yes, we have not got it all right by any means, either in the church, in society, or in government, but at root this has a sound basis. Central to this is the life and the ministry of Jesus Christ - and we mark the start of this with Christmas. So do celebrate CHRISTmas - it would be lovely to see you at a Christmas Service in one of our Churches (details are included in this Magazine).

But above all celebrate CHRIST in your heart, your family and in your life and work generally. We can all benefit from focusing on this, and so can those around us. It can make a real difference.

May your Christmas be richly blessed
with Christ’s presence and influence.

by Revd. David Bartlett



Anne Miller

(17 th October 1937 -30 th October 2023)

Over 200 people attended the funeral of Anne Miller at Kelham church recently which was a fitting tribute to a lady who had helped so much in our villages.

Anne came to Kelham in 1964 when she married farmer Bill Miller at Manor Farm. She was so proud of her family , daughter Jane and son John and their families.

Anne was also a farmer through and through – originally qualifying at Harper Adams College in Poultry Husbandry & Management but this eventually diversified into many other aspects of agriculture especially when marrying a dairy farmer!

Mrs Miller went on to take a keen interest in many aspects of our communities being a parish councillor for over XX years, member of Women's Institute as well Treasurer for St Wilfrid's Church, Kelham for over fifty years. She also had an encyclopaedic knowledge of the history of the villages of Kelham, Averham, Staythorpe as well as the surrounding area.

Anne enjoyed being apart of organising events whether it be the Queen's Silver Jubilee Celebrations in Kelham Hall Grounds, Horse Racing Evenings, Christmas Tree Festivals, other exhibitions in the churches and even Ferret Racing! Her approach of 'get on and do ' was infectious and be sadly missed.

Our Churches were fortunate of have Anne as a part of the Team as she took interest in all the Churches and supporting of all the Vicars , some YY in total.

To those of us who have known Anne she will missed yet it was a privilege to have known her and we have the memories.

Philip Staniforth

Averham Church



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Kelham Church



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WHAT'S ON?

Southwell Country Market:


Just a reminder to everyone that the Southwell Country Market is still being held every Saturday morning in the WI hall in Southwell from 9am to 11am. It's the place to be if you want locally grown seasonal fruit and veg, a variety of home made cakes and proper homemade curries and nibbles, jams and pickles, eggs and all things crafty, not to mention the cheapest cuppa in Southwell. Entry is **FREE** so why not pop in???

Robin Hood Theatre:

Flint Street Nativity;	5 th December to 9 th December
Ladies Unleashed;	30 th January to 3 rd February

Palace Theatre:

Pantomime; Snow White;	8 th to 31 st December
The Magic of the Bee Gees	19 th January
Think Floyd;	20 th January
An Evening with Laurel & Hardy;	21 st January
Dirty Dusting;	25 th January
Vampires Rock;	27 th January



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01636 703 289

Treasurer: Steve Emeny

07889 486 260



AVERHAM CHURCH

Warden: Vacant

All enquiries to:

Treasurer: Hillary Snell

01636 672 640

Parochial Church Council Secretary: Carol Binks 01636 816 343

AKS Parish Council:

Chair: Andy Fereday (t) 07752 265 081 (e) cllrfereday@gmail.com

Clerk: Sue Jackson (e) aksparishclerk@outlook.com

Website:

(w) <http://www.aksparishcouncil.org.uk/community/averham-kelham-and-staythorpe-parish-council-15064/home/>

Gardening Club: Nigel Britton (t) 07929 367 461

Bell Ringers: Martin Cooper (t) 07810 658 627 (e) mlcooper@gmail.com

Womens Institute: Linda White (President) (t) 07930 344 558 (e) whiteid@hotmail.co.uk

or Nicola Walker (Secretary) (t) 07930 344 558 (e) nicolawalker7@gmail.com

PCSO Contact Details: Richard Dunn (t) 07595 074 292

Staythorpe Power Station: (t) 07810 658 627 (e) mlcooper@gmail.com

National Grid: (t) 105 (w) <https://www.nationalgrid.co.uk/power-cut-information>

Environment Agency Floodline: (t) 0345 988 1188

(w) <https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/alerts-and-warnings>

Laytham Farms: (t) 07966 382 781 Steven Gill or

(t) 07818 171 689 Stuart Perkins

NCC Potholes: (t) 0300 500 80 80

(w) www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/potholes/report-a-pothole



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Have a wonderful Christmas and a FABULOUS 2024