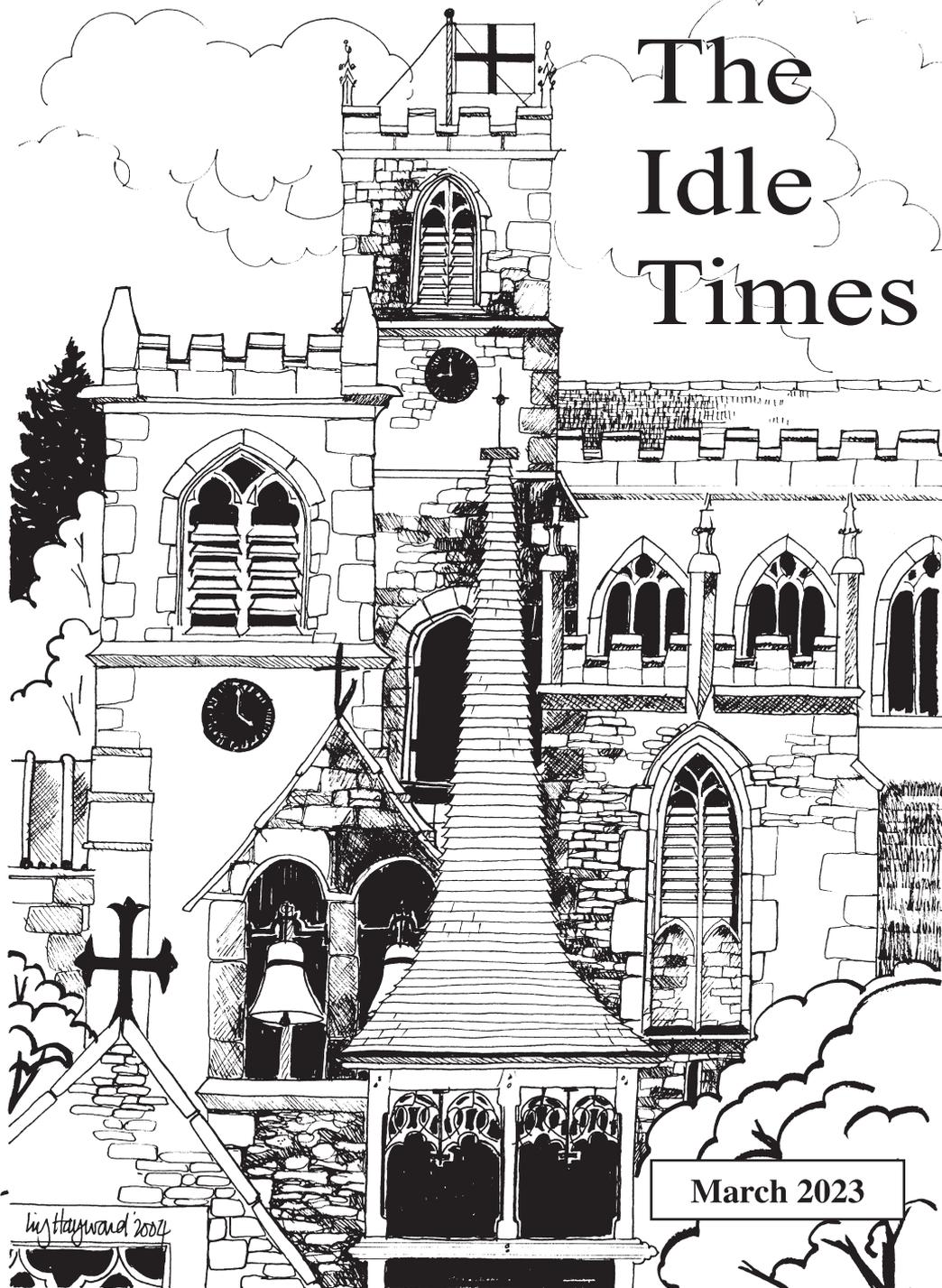


# The Idle Times



March 2023



# THAYMAR

ICE CREAM, FARM SHOP & TEA ROOM

Open 7 Days 10am to 5.30pm

*Thaymar is the home of the award winning ice cream and delicious food which can both be enjoyed in a great atmosphere. We strive on using locally sourced produce for you to enjoy, with meals ranging from farmhouse breakfasts to lamb casseroles made with our own home reared lamb. All our favourite dishes are also available to take home so you can now enjoy them in the comfort of your own home. Lamb and beef packs are available to order also. When visiting the tearoom you will be sure to have a fantastic service and you can treat yourself to homemade cakes and home cooked recipes with a large selection of gluten free meals now available. After enjoying the fabulous food you can then indulge in the famous Thaymar Knickerbocker Glory! Don't forget to pick up your favourite tub of ice cream to enjoy at home for those special treats to!*

## Thaymar Ice Cream, Farm Shop & Tea Room



Haughton Park Farm

Nr. Bothamsall

Retford

Notts DN22 8DB



Telephone: 01623 862632

Email us: [sales@thaymar.co.uk](mailto:sales@thaymar.co.uk)

Visit our website: [www.thaymaricecream.co.uk](http://www.thaymaricecream.co.uk)

## Church Diary for March

<i>March</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Service/Event</i>	<i>Venue</i>
<b>Sunday 5</b>	9.30am	Family Service	<b>Sutton-cum-Lound Ranby</b>
	11.00am	Holy Communion	
<b>Sunday 12</b>	9.30am	Holy Communion	<b>Sutton-cum-Lound Babworth Eaton &amp; Gamston</b>
	11.00am	Matins	
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	
<b>Sunday 19</b>	9.30am	Mothering Sunday Family Service	<b>Sutton-cum-Lound Babworth Elkesley</b>
	11.00am	Mothering Sunday Family Service	
	11.00am	Holy Communion	
<b>Sunday 26</b>	9.15am	Holy Communion	<b>Eaton &amp; Gamston Sutton-cum-Lound West Drayton Babworth</b>
	9.30am	Songs of Praise	
	10.30am	Morning Worship	
	11.00am	Matins	

### Prospect Hill Post Office Worksop (01909 472033)

#### Renew:

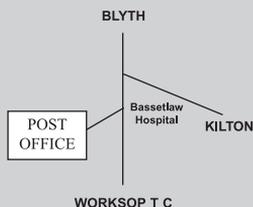
- Your 10 year photo licence (we take your photo)
- Your car tax
- Your adult passport without getting pictures or filling in forms

#### Buy:

- Travel Insurance
- Euros, Dollars etc
- Stationery and Stamps

#### Post:

- Your Packets, Parcels and Letters



## Idle Times Copy Date

Please will you send any articles for the April 2023 edition of *The Idle Times* to **Francis Waite**, preferably by email to [fagrouting@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:fagrouting@tiscali.co.uk) by 21st March 2023.

The postal address for Francis and Alison Waite is:

**6 Main Street, Bothamsall, Retford,  
DN22 8DT**

Telephone: **01623 861579**

## **Gamston with West Drayton and Eaton Parish Lengthsman**

The modern “Lengthsman” scheme is the reincarnation of an old concept - that of a locally employed person who carries out highway maintenance tasks identified by the local community enabling an enhanced local service with local priorities.

Glen Rutherford has recently taken on this role and is contracted for 6 hours per week (flexible over the month) which is paid for through your precept (the portion of the Council Tax you pay to the Parish Council)

He is limited to certain tasks as follows:

### **LENGTHSMAN DUTIES**

Activities can be carried out on land which is under the ownership or responsibility of either the County Council or Parish Council. Landowners’ consent will need to be sought in all other instances.

#### **Minor highways works:**

- Grass cutting
- Bus shelter cleaning
- Siding up; cutting out encroaching grass from footways with a spade
- Rights of way (communicating with land owners)
- Removal of soil/detritus where dropped or washed onto road
- Cutting of vegetation overhanging the road or pavement (or liaising with landowner as appropriate)
- Removing growth from parapets or fences and minor repairs
- Reporting safety defects e.g. potholes etc.
- Maintenance of landscaping features

#### **Signs (including reflector posts):**

- Cleaning (with cold soapy water and a brush)
- Painting of heritage cast iron direction signs
- Minor repairs such as retightening the brackets where signs have slipped

#### **Drainage:**

- Grips; (cleaning existing with a spade) - a grip is a hand dug drainage channel from the edge of the road to a ditch, used where water collects.
- Outfalls; keeping the end of a drainage pipe or culvert clear of obstruction
- Localised ditching, digging out existing ditches where silted up, or digging short stretches of new ditch in the highway verge if needed.
- Cleaning leaves from on top of gully grates
- Rodding of pipes (often leading from a gully into a nearby ditch)

### **Rights of Way maintenance**

- Extra grass cuts on gitty paths (where landownership is not usually an issue and paths are similar to adopted footpaths already maintained by the County Council)
- Clearing around overgrown public footpath signs, stiles or gates
- Minor repairs to gates, stiles and bridges (e.g. replacing broken rails)
- Polite requests to landowners/householders to cut hedges or reinstate cross-field paths (if problems are identified locally)

#### **Referral of work to Countryside Access Team including:**

- Bridge, stile or gate replacement or installation
- Obstructions where the landowner is not contactable or amenable
- Queries about path location
- Request for new signs and way marks

### **Winter weather:**

- Minor snow clearing
- Gritting on footpaths and minor residential roads
- Reporting major problems

### **Reporting**

- Reporting any major highways issues which require action to the relevant NCC District Highways Manager

### **PARISH COUNCIL/OTHER ADDITIONAL TASKS**

Any tasks that the Parish Council determines as a local priority and within their remit, including but not limited to:

- **Noticeboards & Village Entrance Sign Cleaning & Maintenance** - to clean and clear around all noticeboards, clean inside the noticeboards and the glass, clean village entrance signs and reflector posts. To undertake minor repairs and repainting to the parish noticeboards, village entrance signs as necessary
- **County Council Signs and Chevrons & Street Name Plates** – To clean all signs, Chevrons and street name plates.
- **Benches Cleaning & Maintenance** - to clean all benches around the parish and undertake any maintenance/repainting of these as necessary.
- **Bus Stops** - to sweep out all bus stops and ensure any bus stop seating is kept clean. To undertake minor repairs or repainting of bus stops as necessary
- **Parish Bins** – To ensure all parish bins are kept clean on the outside and report any damage to bins to the Clerk.
- **Litter Picking** around the Parishes within the 30 & 40mph zones and on pavements in other zones, and to park up and litter pick in all laybys on the A638 between Markham Moor and the last layby as you come into Retford, the layby on the road leading towards Gamston Woods, the riverbank near the bridge in Eaton and down at the river near the bridge at West Drayton approaching the A1.

- **Bottle Banks** - To report the bottle banks in Markham Moor (car park at the Markham Inn Restaurant) when full to Bassetlaw Council/Bottle Bank Company and ensure the area is kept clean from glass.
- **Fly-Tipping** – Where safe to do so, any fly tip that has gone into dykes/ditches or just within the boundary of private land (woods/fields) move the fly tipping slightly so that it is on the grass verge and arrange for Bassetlaw Council to collect it via the App.
- **Red Phone Boxes** – Ensure all the glass is cleaned inside & out, the insides are clean and where necessary repairs, repainting/maintenance of the boxes
- **Salt Grit Bins** – To clean and carry out maintenance of bins as required, report any damaged bins to the Clerk and to ensure the contents of the bins are maintained (the salt grit within them can become solidified, and needs turning over).
- **Strimming/Grass Cutting** various public spots as designated by the parish council in each village.

As this is a new role it may take some time before there are noticeable changes within our parishes and we are fully aware that six hours per week will not go very far between the five villages. Initially, certain tasks will be prioritised for the Lengthsman to concentrate on and then over a period of time a rota will be formulated to ensure that all items are dealt with. For residents who already voluntarily perform some of these tasks, we are extremely grateful and please feel free to carry on while ever it suits you to do so.

.....

## Eaton church news

We're delighted that to announce that, 7 years after we started fundraising, our project to add a kitchenette and accessible toilet to All Saints church is expected to be completed next month! A huge thank you to everyone who has supported us over the years, and watch this space for news of future events and activities.

We're also running our 100 Club again this year as we continue to raise the final funds needed to complete the building work as well as for phase 2 which will be to improve the heating and lighting. For just £1 per month, you will be in with a chance of winning a cash prize 4 times per year: £30 first prize, £20 second prize, £10 third prize. If you would like to join in, please email us by before the first draw on 12th March: [eatonallsaints@outlook.com](mailto:eatonallsaints@outlook.com)

.....

## Big Eaton Spring Clean

A community litter pick has been organised for Eaton and its surroundings the weekend of 1st & 2nd April – all are welcome to join in. If you would like some bags and to borrow a litter picker, please message us via our village Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/eatonvillage](http://www.facebook.com/eatonvillage)

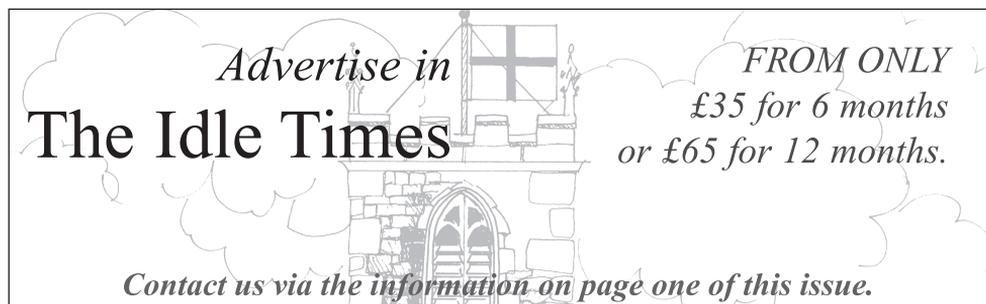
## Elkesley School News

We are excited to announce that we are making ongoing improvements to our Early Year's provisions. We have recently installed a new construction area which will help children to make sense of the world as they develop problem solving and social skills and improve their fine motor development. Our next step is to install signage which will support role play and support children's learning through use of the environment.

We had also had an incredible recent opportunity: to perform in the Sheffield Utilita Arena in front of a crowd of thousands. This is the largest children's choir event in the world and the atmosphere was absolutely phenomenal. Our choir worked extremely hard to be vocally and movement ready, giving up time after school and practicing at home. They were joined by the street dance specialists, Urban Strides, who performed along to each song; the beatbox collective, world beatbox team champions; and also Heather Small. The children formed part of the Young Voices Choir and, along with thousands of children from other schools, harmonised to perform eleven songs. Thank you so much to all of the children who put in an incredible effort and represented the school – displaying all of our Elkesley Values. Thank you also to all of the parents and other friends and family who joined us from the crowd to witness the spectacular event: your beatboxing, dancing and singing was fantastic!

Our children develop our school values throughout their learning and are: happy, welcoming, compassionate, resilient, talented achievers. They also show a good understanding and application of the Fundamental British Values: Democracy, Individual liberty, Respect/Tolerance and Rule of Law. This world book day, we focused on Individual Liberty and the children created some fantastic pieces of work based on this value with a focus on human rights which was based on a beautiful picture book. Along with this, they brought in their favorite books to share with the class and discussed what they enjoyed about reading and why. Teacher's swapped classes and shared their favorite stories with the children.

Remember to check out our Instagram: [@elkesleyprimary](https://www.instagram.com/elkesleyprimary) and/or our FaceBook: [facebook.com/ElkesleyPrimary](https://www.facebook.com/ElkesleyPrimary). For everything else, check out the website: <https://www.elkesley.notts.sch.uk/>



*Advertise in*  
**The Idle Times**

*FROM ONLY*  
*£35 for 6 months*  
*or £65 for 12 months.*

*Contact us via the information on page one of this issue.*

## NOTES FROM THE ELKESLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 21<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY 2023

Items discussed for the diary:

**Litter Pick** - Everyone is invited to join in with the village spring clean and litter pick which is scheduled for the 29th April at 10.00am - meeting at the Memorial Hall. There will be refreshments in the Memorial Hall after the litter pick.

**The King's Coronation** – On Sunday 7th May there will be afternoon tea and games at the Memorial Hall. Please check the Council's website for what will be happening in the village.

**Christmas Tree Lighting Event** - This will be taking place on Sunday 3rd December. The Church will be holding the Christingle at 4pm and the lighting of the Christmas tree will be at 5pm. Food and drinks will be available in the Memorial Hall.

The Chair reported that the Police are investing a lot of money for the rural policing. More 4x4 vehicles have been purchased to work along side their 5 off road bikes and 2 quad bikes. Please keeping reporting any rural crimes.

The Chair of the Memorial Hall reported that bookings are increasing and events taking place – please check their website and the Parish Council website for events taking place.

### **Elkesley Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee.**

The above committee has reconvened to review and revise the Elkesley Neighbourhood Plan (ENP). We would like more members to help the current 6 members.

The remit of the group is to develop policies for the ENP, based on consultation with residents, supported by experts.

It's anticipated you would have to give 2-4 hours per month, attending meetings, support consultation initiative, read documents, deliver leaflets etc.

No knowledge of planning is required but would be helpful. If required training can be available.

You need to be enthusiastic and interested in the development of the parish over the next 15 years and want to contribute positively to the ENP.

Interested, please contact Neil Oldbury Chair ENP steering group on **07859 397179** or Patricia Douglas on **01777 838200**.

## **Gamston CofE (Aided) Primary School News**

### **Academy Conversion**

In May 2018, following an application made by our governing body, our school was approved by the Regional Schools Commissioner to join the Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham Multi Academy Trust (SNMAT). The conversion to academy status has been delayed due to building issues. However, we are delighted that after a number of years, these issues have now been resolved and it is with great excitement that we can inform you that we will finally convert (at time of writing) on 1 March 2023.

As part of the process, the governing body have voted to change the name of the school. Upon conversion, we are pleased to share that we will be known as Gamston St Peter's CofE Primary School.

### **Trampolining at Retford Oaks**

On Wednesday 8 February, all children had the opportunity to go to Retford Oaks Academy to use their trampolines. The children had a fantastic time having a go on their Olympic trampolines and practising their skills. A big thank you to Retford Oaks for inviting us and also to our parent volunteers who helped out on the day.

### **Easter Service**

We are looking forward to returning to St Peter's Church on the afternoon of Thursday 30 March, this time for our Easter Service. On this day, we will be joined by Rev Craig Hunt who will lead our service.

As always, please do (continue to) follow the school's much-loved and well-followed Twitter account @GamstonCofE to see what is happening within the school.

.....

## **Bothamsall Church News**

Thank you to everyone who supported our recent Coffee Morning. The event raised an amazing £275 which will go towards purchasing a new notice board for the church.

.....

## **Bothamsall Pilates Class**

Friendly group in Bothamsall have a few spaces for Pilates on Tuesdays 6pm - 7pm. Spaces are limited so please contact Jill on **07974 955150** to book your place. Beginners and advanced very welcome.

## **Life @ St. Peter's**

It has again been a busy few weeks at St. Peter's in Gamston.

The church has now been open from 10am to 4pm on a daily basis since the beginning of January and we have had a steady stream of visitors.

If you would like to visit outside of these hours it might be possible to arrange this by phoning 07941 353 415.

The church now has a table tennis table thanks to a very generous donation from Sarah and Nick Johns. Please feel free call in for a knockabout and keep a lookout for information about a friendly competition...

Foodie Friday in February had an Indian Theme and the evening was supported by over 20 village residents enjoying conversation over some great food and drink. The next Foodie Fridays is planned for the 14th April.

We have again welcomed the children from our village primary school to St. Peter's. Y6 children took part in a lesson about Baptism, thank you to The Rev'd Craig Hunt for your support.



## **Litter, Litter, Litter Everywhere..!**

Once upon a time...the twigs crunched and snapped beneath their feet.

Once upon a time...they walked through autumnal leaves whilst kicking them into air.

Once upon a time...the view was of the natural world with uninterrupted vistas.

But now...the plastic bottles crunch beneath our feet, hidden under the grass of the previous summer.

But now...we try kicking leaves, but all we see are the multi-colours of discarded food wrappers.

But now...the view across our land is blighted with the waste discarded by those who don't care.

Don't be a litter bug, or even worse a TOS53R!

## Churchyard tidying at St. Peter's, Gamston

Join us on Saturday 18th March from 10am

.....

## Don't be a TOS53R is a campaign being run by Bassetlaw District Council

The council is currently trying to tackle the problem of drivers and passengers throwing rubbish from vehicles. Throwing litter from a vehicle is dangerous for others vehicles, our wildlife and also makes our roadsides and pavements unsightly for all those driving through the district.

Find out more at: [www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/bins-recycling-and-waste/littering/](http://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/bins-recycling-and-waste/littering/)

## St. Peter's Gamston

The Church is now fully open to members of the public  
daily from 10am to 4pm

(At other times by prior arrangement – Please call 07941 353 415)



**FOODIE  
FRIDAY**  
@ St. Peter's

Join us for on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of  
alternating months from 7pm in:  
February April June  
August October December

Get in touch on 07875 109 833 for more  
details and to book a place



Gamston  
Coronation  
Party @ St. Peter's

Save the date...  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Celebrate together the Coronation of our new Monarch  
More details to follow

Songs of Praise  
with Afternoon Tea  
@ St. Peter's



Join us for an afternoon of singing  
some of your favourite hymns  
followed by afternoon tea  
Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2023  
More details to follow



Harvest  
Supper  
@ St. Peter's

Save the date...  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September  
More details to follow

The  
Electoral  
Commission

## Voter ID: A summary

On **Thursday 4 May 2023**, local elections are taking place across 230 councils in England.

At these elections, you will need to bring photo ID to be able to vote at a polling station. A wide range of photo ID will be accepted, including passports, driving licences and cards with a PASS Mark.

If you don't have an accepted form of photo ID, you can apply for a free voter ID document known as a Voter Authority Certificate. Visit **[electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID](https://electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID)**, call **0800 328 0280**, or scan the QR code below to find out more, including:

- **Whether elections are taking place in your area in May**
- **The full list of accepted forms of photo ID**
- **How to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate (if you need one)**
- **What will happen at the polling station**



**CARE VISITS AT HOME**  
Good Old Fashioned Service



Call our professional team on 01636 673920

## Alternative

Bluebird Care offers a realistic cost effective alternative to residential care. With familiar friends, relatives and possessions around, Bluebird Care 'just happens'.

## What we offer

We offer everything from personal care to shopping, cleaning or social visits. In fact everything you need to stay in the comfort of your own home.



## Our Staff

Our staff are caring, trained to give medication and police checked. Live-in care is available and each customer has a named contact in our office

Visit us online at: [www.bluebirdcare.co.uk/newarkandsherwood](http://www.bluebirdcare.co.uk/newarkandsherwood)



- Lawncare
- Hedge cutting
- Decking and sleeper work
- Regular garden maintenance
- Flatpack furniture assembly
- Handyman services
- Free no obligation estimates

Call 07817 425 922

Email [service.harding@gmail.com](mailto:service.harding@gmail.com)

Find us on Facebook & Yell.com

## RGP Building Services

Offering friendly and professional services in;

General Building Work

Repointing

Joinery

Sandblasting

Welding

Small and large projects

**07901583909**

**[rgpwelding@gmail.com](mailto:rgpwelding@gmail.com)**



### NORTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE PHYSIOTHERAPY

Providing Physiotherapy services:

Advice and Education

Exercise Therapy

Manual Therapy

Acupuncture

Electrotherapy

Aquatic Therapy

78 Thrumpton Lane

Retford

DN22 6HQ

Tel: 01777 703001

Mobile: 07400 092268

Email: [info@physionotts.co.uk](mailto:info@physionotts.co.uk)

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

Home based appointments can be provided upon request  
but could be subject to additional costs

## ASHVALE AERIALS

All types of aerial,  
satellite & F.M.

work carried out

Local, reliable service

No call out charge

**Tel. 01623 863566**

**Mob. 07778 360260**



**CLIFFORD**  
Heating Limited

**Platinum Service Plan**  
Fixed cost boiler maintenance.

Peace of mind from **as little as £11 per month.**

Annual service, Parts, Labour and unlimited call outs.  
Gas, Oil and LPG boilers undertaken subject to our terms & conditions

Our team are here to help.  
To get the boiler cover that's right for you, simply;

Call 01777 872391  
info@cliffordheating.co.uk  
www.cliffordheating.co.uk





**CLIFFORD**  
SWEEPS

**Chimney Sweeping Services**

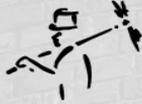
**Certificates Issued**

Member of **The Guild of Master Sweeps**

- Stoves, Open fires, Oil & Gas chimneys swept
- Clean Brush & Vacuum Sweep

**T. 01777 872391**  
e. info@cliffordheating.co.uk  
www.cliffordheating.co.uk





### Fond Memories Digital Transfers

Don't lose those cherished memories!  
Have your old cine films or videos  
professionally transferred  
to DVD

Formats include  
9.5mm film  
8mm film  
16mm film  
VHS Video  
S VHS Video  
VHS C  
Hi 8mm Video  
Digital 8mm  
Sony Umatic  
Betacam Sp

Call today for a quote,  
Film transfers from as little as  
£15.00 per 400 ft. Plus DVD  
authoring  
Video from £5.00 per hr.Plus  
DVD authoring

Other services include:

DVD authoring, editing, DVD duplicating,  
Photographic restoration.

Now Transfer your old vinyl and  
cassette tapes to CD or MP3.  
Keep those treasured memories alive

Call George on 07745010611  
Local collection available (Retford area)

Fond Memories is operated by:

**POSH  
SHED  
media**

## LOCAL ELECTRICIAN

30 years experience.

All locations covered.

No job too big or too small.

Friendly, efficient service.

Call Tim on 07970 198791  
for free advice & quotation

# LUCY USHER AGGREGATES

- Sand
- Gravel
- Decorative Gravel
- Limestone
- Topsoil
- Bark Chips
- All Groundworks Undertaken
- Digger & Driver for hire

**COLLECTION OR FREE DELIVERY IN THE RETFORD AREA**

**For enquiries please call:  
07880 732 907/07530 286 227**

Find us on  
Facebook

